



6 November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Tour of the First World War Battlefields at Ypres

I am pleased to offer your child the exciting opportunity to participate in a visit to Belgium and France to explore the battlefields, cemeteries, museums and memorials of the First World War. The visit will take place over two days from **21 May 2026 to 22 May 2026**. The purpose of the visit is to gain an insight into the nature of warfare from 1914-1918 and an understanding of the conditions endured by millions of men on the Western Front. The trip will enhance work undertaken by Year 9 students in the autumn term. Below is an itinerary for your interest:

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| Day 1 | Leave SVC early morning (approximately 05:00) on Thursday 21st May for the journey by coach and Channel Tunnel to Ypres in Belgium. Visit 'In Flanders Field' museum in Ypres town, Tyne Cot and Langemark cemeteries. Dinner at the hotel (Ypres Lodge - full board) in Ypres and a visit to the Menin Gate. |
| Day 2 | Leave the hotel after breakfast and drive to Thiepval Memorial to the Missing in the Somme area of France, then to Lochnagar Crater. Finally we will visit Wellington Quarry. Journey home in the afternoon with arrival at SVC late (approximately 23:30) on Friday 22nd May . |

The tour is organised by Halsbury Travel. The price of the tour is **£290 per student**. This price includes transport, hotel accommodation, meals (except breakfast and lunch on day 1 and dinner on day 2), insurance cover and entrance fees to sites. Your child can bring money for souvenirs, breakfast/lunch on day one and snacks and drinks. You will also need to provide a passport for your child, which will be looked after by staff during the trip. Passports should be valid for at least 3 months after the departure date of the trip, and must have been issued within the last 10 years. A valid GHIC card will also be necessary in case medical treatment is required on the trip (these are free, and should be requested via the NHS website). **All non-EU citizens will also be required to register at the EU border with biometric data as part of the Governments new Entry Exit System (EES).**

Places for the trip are limited to 65 and, therefore, will be allocated by random selection. To ensure that your child is eligible for selection please return your expression of interest by **Sunday 16th November** by completing this form: [Battlefields Trip 2026 Expression of Interest Form – Fill out form](#) or by the QR code below. If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium support then please indicate this on the form, as there may be some financial support available for this trip.

If your child has been selected for the trip, the deposit of £72.50 will be due by Monday 1st December. The rest of the cost will be in three further instalments of £72.50 on 1st January, 1st February and 1st March 2025.



Soham Village College
Sand Street, Soham
Ely, Cambridgeshire
CB7 5AA

Tel: 01353 724100
Email: svc@soham-college.org.uk
www.sohamvc.org

Other schools in our Trust:
Kennett Primary School
The Shade Primary School
The Weatheralls Primary School

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.



Yours sincerely

Mr Z Huggins
Teacher of History