

5th November 2018

Year 9 History Trip to the Imperial War Museum, London

November / December 2018

Dear Parents,

In order to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War this year, we are taking the Year 9 classes to the Imperial War Museum in London on 27th November / 5th December / 18th December 2018, depending on which class your son is in. Students will visit the First World War galleries which will not only put their current learning into context, but also provide an engaging and poignant environment to find out more about this devastating conflict. We think this is particularly relevant in the context of the centenary commemorations that will be held across the country this year. Students will also visit the Second World War and 1945 - 2015 galleries to gain an overview of subsequent conflicts. To allow for some reflection of the day's impressions, we will then visit the cenotaph to give each class a chance to say a few words and lay a wreath.

Visit Days

Classes 9V & 9W	Tuesday, 27 th November
Classes 9X & 9Y	Wednesday 5 th December
Class 9Z	Tuesday 18 th December

Students should wear **school uniform** for the trip and be aware that they are representing the school at two places of commemorative significance. We will rely on the medical information already held by the school for this trip and the boys will need to bring any medication they need for the day.

On the day your son must go to his form room as usual in the morning to be registered by his form tutor and then make his way down to the school gates to meet us at 9:00am. We aim to return by 3.45pm so that the boys can make their way home as they would on a regular school day. All students must bring a packed lunch, plus any drinks and snacks they require as there may not be an opportunity for them to purchase any food at the venue. Please can you ensure that all food complies with the school's 'nut free' policy and that only non-fizzy drinks are brought. A full itinerary for the day can be found below.

The school is covering the cost of the train fares and entry to the Imperial War Museum so there is no cost to parents for this trip.

Yours sincerely,

Miss K Hoyer
Head of History

Imperial War Museum Centenary Visit Itinerary

- 9.00 Leave school and walk to Tonbridge Station
- 9.31 Train from Tonbridge to Waterloo Station
- 10.18 Arrive at Waterloo and walk to IWM
- 10.50 Enter IWM. Students will be guided around the museum in groups.
- 13.00 Packed lunch
- 13.30 Leave IWM and walk to cenotaph
- 14.00 Arrive at cenotaph - students give short speeches and lay wreath
- 14.20 Leave cenotaph and walk to Charing Cross
- 14.45 Train from Charing Cross to Tonbridge
- 15.28 Arrival in Tonbridge and walk back to school
- 15.45 Dismissal from school

Note

1. There is a fair bit of walking to and from stations and sites during the day. Students should take this into account and wear comfortable footwear.
2. It may be cold and/or rainy – please make sure your son brings a coat and possibly raingear.
3. There might not be an opportunity for students to buy food and drink during the day – please ensure your son brings enough of both to last for the day.
4. I will try to make some time for students to visit the gift shop and the book shop at the IWM. So if they wish, there should be an opportunity for them to buy a souvenir or a book.
5. It might be worth having a conversation with your son about remembrance. Perhaps there is a personal family connection with the First World War or subsequent conflicts? Some boys have told me already about relatives and their stories, which is always fascinating and an excellent way to give focus and a personal perspective to the wealth of information in the museum.
6. I want to stress that I expect all boys to behave appropriately throughout the day. As always, they represent the school when using public transport and when walking in public areas, so their behaviour should be considerate of other members of the public especially as we will be in a large group. On this particular trip the standard of behaviour should be even higher as both the museum and the cenotaph are places of respectful commemoration and our conduct needs to reflect this. I will speak to the boys about this myself but would appreciate it if you could also talk to your son to support this important issue.