



Year 6 Residential Visit

Year 6

Ypres, Belgium

Tuesday 21st May to
Friday 24th May 2024

Ypres, Belgium

The Ypres Salient, set in the landscape of West Flanders, and surrounding areas offers a range of possibilities to consolidate the children's prior learning during the curriculum topics, 'War of the Worlds' and 'Peace at Last'. The numerous cemeteries, battlefields, hills, bunkers and museums that dominate the landscape all tell their part of the story of First & Second World Wars.

Staff

- Tanja Doig (Trip Leader)
- Lisa Francis
- Sarah Barber
- TBC
- TBC
- TBC



Passport and Travel Documents

Action to be taken immediately:

Check your child has the relevant valid travel documents they need. We strongly recommend you check the latest government advice – from both the country you're departing from, and the country you're travelling to.

Children must have their own valid travel documents.

Visas for Non EU passport holders:

<https://www.eurostar.com/uk-en/travel-info/your-trip/travel-documents>

- **PASSPORT (to be brought to school by Monday 13th May)**
- **GHIC Card (to be brought to school by Monday 13th May)**

This can change, please keep checking.

Medication

Where possible we will be collecting in all other medication on Monday 20th May at the end of the school day (staff will be in the school office from 3pm). Please ensure that it is **clearly named**, with precise **instructions attached**.

Please remember that all medication handed in must also have been detailed on the medical information form.

These will be our point of reference on the visit.

Please ensure, if required, that all **TRAVEL SICKNESS TABLETS** have been taken before we depart. Any extra tablets for other journeys should be given to staff in a clearly named envelope and should be included on the medical questionnaire.

Accomodation

We will be staying in a designated school group hotel consisting of 2 purpose-built annexes.

Facilities include free WiFi in the reception area, pool tables, table tennis, TV lounge, football pitch, table football and a basketball court.

All bedrooms are en-suite.

The hotel has a self-service restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and evening meals.

There is a swipe card system to gain entry to floors, rooms and lifts for extra security.



Example Daily Routine

- Wake Up & Dress - 7.15 – 7.45am
- Set up Breakfast - 7.45am
- Breakfast - 8.00am
- Leave accommodation - 9.00am
- Morning Activity - 9:00am – 12:00pm
- Lunch - 12.00pm
- Afternoon Activity - 12.30pm
- Return to accommodation - 4.00pm
- Free Time - 5.00pm
- Evening Meal - 5.30pm
- Evening Activity - 6.30pm
- Story/Room Inspection - 9.00pm
- BED!! - 9.30 – 10.00pm

Activities

Sights of Interest:

- Thiepval Memorial & Museum, France
- Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, France
- Menin Gate, (Last Post Ceremony), Ypres
- Wormhout Massacre Site, France
- Bayernwald German Trenches, Belgium
- Hill 62 (English Trenches), Belgium
- Museum Passchendaele, Zonnebeke, Belgium
- The Tyne Cot Cemetary
- Langemark German War Cemetery
- Vimy Ridge Memorial (on route home)

Evening Activities:

- Bowling
- Last Post, Menin Gate
- Tour of Ypres and visit to the chocolate shop!!

Day of Departure - Tuesday 21st May

All children are to arrive at school by **4.45am** via the Ashridge gate where they will be met and registered and medication checked. All luggage will be loaded directly onto the coach. We will be leaving **promptly at 5:00am**. Parents may say goodbye to the children once they have been dropped off or wait to wave the coach off.

PLEASE ensure all medication requests/needs are discussed staff prior to departure (you will be sent a form to complete nearer the time). Travel sickness pills must be specified on their medication questionnaire and consent.

Please can you ensure that the children have the following with them on the morning:

- **Sports Bag/Holdall** packed with kit list (see below).
 - **Packed lunch – NO lunch box** (completely disposable packaging please)
- Day Bag containing:** waterproof coat/sun hat, snack & lunch plus any items for the coach.

Day 1

The Thiépval Memorial, Memorial to the Missing of the Somme



This memorial bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, France

The Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial is a memorial site in France dedicated to the commemoration of Dominion of Newfoundland forces members who were killed during World War I.



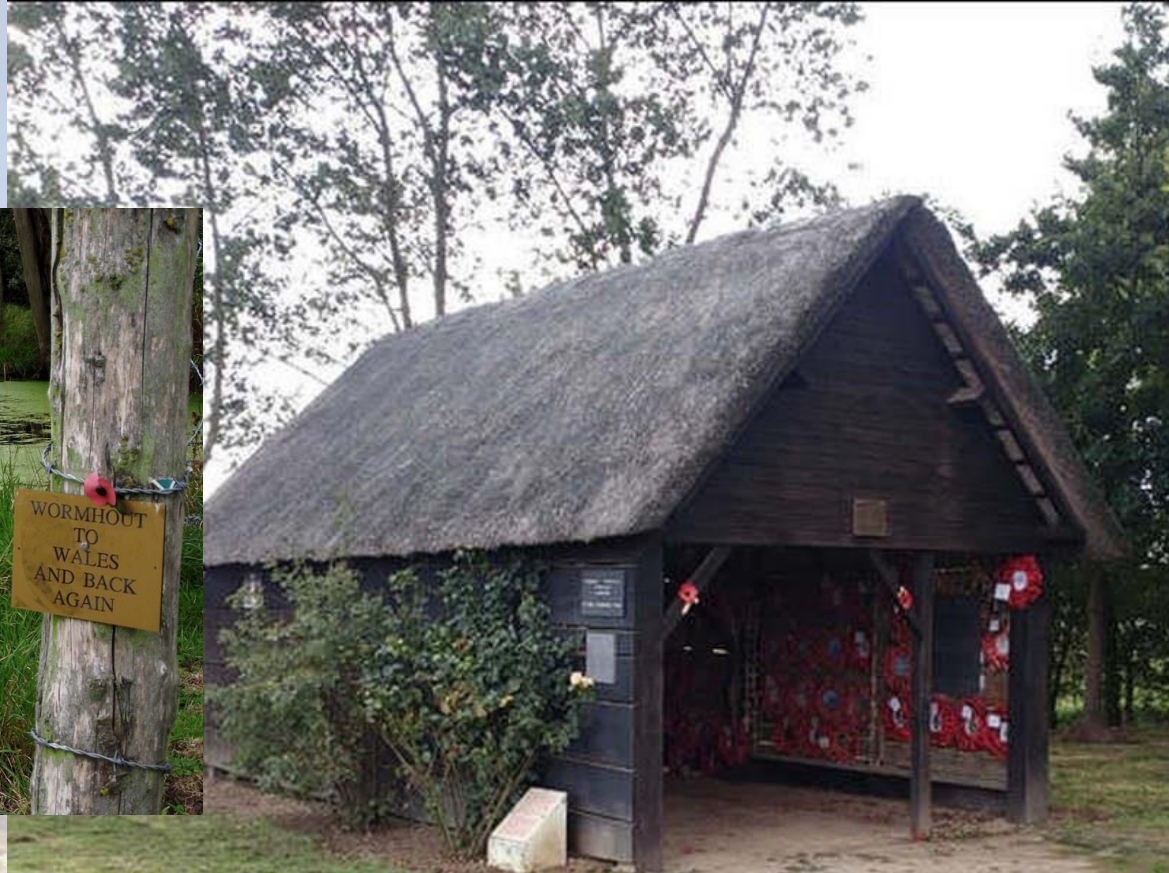
Menin Gate, The Last Post

This is the Missing in a war memorial in Ypres, Belgium, dedicated to the British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown. The memorial is located at the eastern exit of the town and marks the starting point for one of the main roads out of the town that led Allied soldiers to the front line.



Day 2

The Wormhoudt Massacre Sight Memorial



The **Wormhoudt massacre** (or **Wormhout massacre**) was the [mass murder](#) of 80 British and French [POWs](#) by [Waffen-SS](#) soldiers from the [1st SS Division](#) [Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler](#) during the [Battle of France](#) in May 1940.

The Bayernwald Trenches



The Bayernwald Trenches are a carefully restored section of an original German trench system dating from 1916. The reconstruction was carried out in the original trench section under archaeological conditions.

Hill 62



The Canadian Hill 62 (Sanctuary Wood) Memorial is a war memorial that commemorates the actions of the Canadian Corps in defending the southern stretches of the Ypres Salient between April and August 1916.

And tonight folks... bowling



Day 3 Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917

Also known as the Third Battle of Ypres, where in 1917 in only 100 days, almost 500,000 men were killed for only eight kilometers gain of ground. The museum is housed in the historic château grounds of Zonnebeke and focuses on the material aspects of World War I.



Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves



Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery and Memorial to the Missing is a Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) burial ground for the dead of the First World War in the Ypres Salient on the Western Front. It is the largest cemetery for Commonwealth forces in the world, for any war.

Langemark German War Cemetery



More than 44,000 soldiers are buried here. The village was the scene of the first gas attacks by the German army in the western front, marking the beginning of the Second Battle of Ypres in April 1915.



Leonidas Chocolate Shop and walk around the town



Day 4

Vimy Ridge Memorial



This war memorial site in France dedicated to the memory of Canadian Expeditionary Force members killed during the First World War. It also serves as the place of commemoration for Canadian soldiers of the First World War killed or presumed dead in France who have no known grave.





Homeward bound...

Expected time of arrival on Friday 24th May, 18.00. However, when we arrive at Folkestone we will confirm a more accurate estimated arrival time, and provide any necessary updates, via Parentmail so please keep checking.

Food

The food will be home cooked and plentiful and there will always be a choice available at breakfast and lunch times. Please inform the staff of any dietary requirements/allergies.

- **Breakfast:** Selection of cereals / Toast
- **Lunch:** Baguette, crisps, biscuit, fruit & water
- **Dinner:** Evening meals will be provided at the accommodation for on all 3 nights.

Pocket Money

There are not many gift shops available at the sites visited, however there will be an opportunity to buy some souvenirs when we have our tour of Ypres. We ask that that the children bring **no more than €20.00** with them – this will be ample to satisfy all shopping urges! Please make sure that all money is in a named purse/wallet of some description.

- The children will be responsible for their own money and should consider carefully what they would like to spend their money on.
- The chocolate and ice-cream shops are always a firm favourite so they should save their money if this is what they want to spend their money on.

Health and Safety

A full, comprehensive first-aid kit will accompany us, along with the relevant medication for individual children, e.g. inhalers. Should it be necessary to seek further medical advice/treatment, parents will be informed.

Behaviour

In order for the visit to be enjoyable, we expect the usual high standard of behaviour from all children, at all times. Although the facilities are purpose built, we are guests and the children will be expected to behave accordingly.

The children will be responsible for keeping rooms neat and tidy.

Keeping in Touch

Upon arrival at Thiepval Memorial, the school will be telephoned and updated. The school will then send out a ParentMail to all parents to let them know of our safe arrival. There will be no further Parentmails sent until the return journey home.

We will update our Twitter feed with photos and videos throughout the trip. Follow us on **@HillcrossPS** so that you can see what we are up to. If your child does not have permission to be on social media sites they will not be visible in the photos. We will be focussed on the children so please don't worry if your child does not appear in any/many photos.

Children will not be able to bring mobile phones or any other smart devices.

No news is good news!!



Kit List

Please bear in mind this is a very active visit; children will need to be dressed appropriately for taking part in the range of activities – remembering they may get muddy and/or wet!

Item to pack	
<u>Essential items:</u>	
· PASSPORT (to be brought to school by Monday 13 th May)	
· GHIC Card (to be brought to school by Monday 13 th May)	
· Night clothes	
· Underwear	
· Socks	
· Tracksuit	
· 2 pairs of trousers (not jeans, as they get very uncomfortable when wet)	
· 2 sweatshirts/jumpers/fleeces	
· 2 T-Shirts	
· Waterproof coat/cagoule	
· Pairs of comfortable shoes/trainers for walking	
· WELLINGTON BOOTS – these are essential for exploring the trenches!!	
· Slippers/indoor shoes	
· 1 bath towel	
· Hairbrush/comb	
· Wash bag (containing toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel, soap (in a container), deodorant, shampoo)	
· Handkerchiefs/tissues	
· Black plastic bag(s) for dirty/wet clothes	
<u>Optional:</u>	
· Camera (at own risk) – disposable might be a good idea!	
· Watch (at own risk) – no smart watches including Fit Bits.	
· Purse/Wallet for money	
· Torch and Reading Book	
• A teddy or comforter if your child has one. Most people tend to, so your child will not be alone!	

Not Allowed

- Mobile Phone
- Personal Stereo/MP3 Player/iPad
- Electronic Games

All items must be labelled clearly with your child's name. There is not a lot of storage space, so please do not send large suitcases.

Payment Schedule

You have already paid a £50 deposit.

- The next instalment of £100 is due by 22nd September 2023.
- The next instalment of £120 is due by 1st November 2023.
- The final instalment of £120 is due by 1st March 2024.