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Letter 96

11th January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Holocaust Memorial Day visit

Following the success of several previous visits, the History department has successfully secured sixty spaces for students to attend the Watford and District Synagogue for a series of talks and activities as part of anniversary commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. This commemoration is part of a series of wider events in conjunction with the annual Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January.

Students will be given a talk by the Synagogue's Rabbi and will be taught about the Holocaust and other genocides. They will participate in workshops discussing the experiences of Jewish people 1933-1945 and then hear from one of the few remaining survivors of the Holocaust. The opportunity to participate in such an event is not only educationally relevant, as Year 9 will study the Holocaust later on in the school year, but also serves to experience the study of History outside the classroom and raise awareness of an extremely important historical event.

The visit will take place on Tuesday 5th February. Full school uniform must be worn. We will be leaving school at 11.45am and expect to return at approximately 3.45pm. Students will need to bring a packed lunch. On the morning of the trip students will also be taught about the key aspects of the Holocaust by myself and Mr Farmery to prepare them for the visit.

The cost of the trip is £11 to cover the cost of insurance and coach transport to and from the Synagogue. Please note that we can only take sixty students owing to limited space. Please access the online system to pay and give your consent. In exceptional circumstances payment may be made over the phone by card.

If a student will miss a Music lesson due to a school trip/event it is vital that they inform their instrumental Music teacher at least two weeks before in order to avoid the lesson being forfeited.

Your child will also have received a letter inviting them to attend a day trip to the Somme battlefields on Friday 15th March. I would like to advise you that neither trip is compulsory; we run these visits to enhance students' understanding of History. Your child will not be at a disadvantage if they do not attend either of the trips. In order to ensure that as many pupils as possible are able to take part in a History trip this year we will prioritise those students who are unable to go on the Somme Trip for the Holocaust Memorial Day visit.

If you have any questions regarding the visit, please contact me.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Williams
Head of History