«Parental\_addressee»

«House\_name»

«Street»

«District»

«Town»

«County»

«Postcode»

16 September 2016

Dear «Salutation»

This year the year 9 English curriculum has started by taking students back in time to the 19th century. The history department is also exploring this fascinating time of rapid development and change.

The 19th century features heavily in the new 1-9 English Literature and Language GCSEs where students will be expected to respond to extracts from unseen 19th century fiction and will also study a nineteenth century novel. When responding to these texts students are expected to demonstrate a thorough understanding of their social and historical contexts. In preparation for this, this term we are exploring issues such as: poverty, class, living conditions, exploration and many more, through a study of 19th century fiction. As such, both departments would like to provide the opportunity to the boys to really bring this period of history to life.

In order for students to fully appreciate life in the 19th century, the English and history departments are proposing a trip to the Ironbridge museum in Shropshire on the 6th October 2016. Here students will be able to experience life as it was over 100 years ago through the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a recreated Victorian Town. As well as this, Victorian characters will give them a fascinating insight into Victorian life as they go about their daily lives in their cottages, shops and places of work.  Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a brick making workshop whilst exploring the harsh realities of child labour during the 19th century.

In order for the trip to be able to run we would ask for donations of £24.00, this includes all travel and entry fees. Students will be departing school at approximately 8.45am and returning by 6.30pm. Boarders will be provided with pack lunches, please be advised that out boarders will need to order a packed lunch or bring their own with them (unless entitled to a free school meal). Students may also like to bring a small amount of spending money with them. Uniform will not be required yet smart casual clothing is expected.

As ever, thank you for your support at this important time in your son’s education.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Craig

**English Teacher**