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ear 9's trip to Ypres started very early on a Friday morning. We got on the coach and set off for Dover, where we would be catching a ferry to Calais.



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ows and rows of head stones were at the cemetery of Lijssenthoek. Here we saw the grave of Nellie Spindler, who was a nurse in the war. We also saw graves of Chinese, German and British soldiers.



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renches during the war were 9ft wide and 7ft tall, but were often filled with mud. At dawn and dusk the men had to "stand to"; because it was the most likely time for attack.



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ight away we went to the German cemetery. This was very different as the atmosphere had changed. Over 40,000 bodies were buried here as they were stacked underground.



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felt amazed as the tour guide told us that Hitler gave a speech on the very spot that *he* was standing on. There were also 4 statues at the back of the graveyard. Rumours were spread that these statues moved.



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oppies are laid in remembrance of those who died in the Great War. In the German cemetery there was a big poppy wreath.



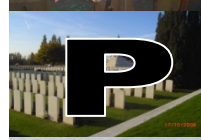
O

he next stop was Passchendaele Museum, but on the way we passed Vancouver Corner which has a statue of a soldier looking down at the sword he is holding. The trees around the statue represent bombs going off.



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ther items we saw at the Museum were things such as different bullets, letters home and we could smell the different gases which we thought smelt like fried onions.



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robably most of our year found the last cemetery the most moving one because if you looked hard enough you might have been able to see your surname on one of the walls around the graves.



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emembering the soldiers that died there we offered a wreath of poppies.



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veryone was getting excited after we had visited the cemetery as it was some peoples favourite part of the day, going into the town of Ypres and visiting the chocolate shop.



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oon after it was time to get back on the coach, go over the English channel and go home. We were all tired but had a great and interesting day! By Olivia Hayman & Helen Middleton (9M)