



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

13th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

WW1 Day and Remembrance

This week, the school has been remembering the members of the armed services who have died in the line of duty. On Wednesday at 11 a.m. the school fell silent for 2 minutes and the following lines were read out:

Remembrance transcends all boundaries. In addition to the casualties of the two world wars, more than 12,000 British servicemen and women have been killed on active service or in peace-keeping duties since 1945. During the silence we remember these people. If we are to maintain our peace and freedom, we must always remember.

As we are not able to sell / buy poppies this year, we've been encouraging the school to donate to the British Legion Poppy Appeal: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

All Year 9 pupils will also be participating in WW1 day today, looking at the war from a range of perspectives, with a lecture from a battlefield guide, making memorials and researching local men from our community who died in the war.

Example of Service to the Community

I am proud of the work of Nadia in 9F who has been working with a local charity, Hand on Heart, to put together winter warmer backpacks, which were distributed to people sleeping rough over the weekend.

The packs include a hoodie, T-shirt, hot water bottle, thermals, hat, gloves and PPE. You can see here some of the 1,000 rucksacks that were distributed.



Well done to former 'Watford Girl'

Jasmine Velani, who was in Year 12 at the time of lockdown in March, has been using the power of technology to bring about positive change during this difficult period. Early in lockdown, she used her skills with a digital printer to produce PPE and then supported others across London who wanted to do the same.

More recently, along with her family, she has been looking at how the 'digital divide' can be addressed. She has set up a charitable interest company, Encouraging Equality, which is working to raise funds to provide students in need with devices. We have been very grateful to Encouraging Equality for support with providing devices to a number of our students so do have a look at her website: www.encouragingequality.org.

Congratulations

Well done to Lucy in 8D who won an art competition on Mental Health that was launched by Dean Russell MP. Once COVID conditions allow she will be visiting the House of Commons to have afternoon tea as her reward.

Supporting parents to support their daughters

I know that many parents are working hard to support daughters who are feeling stressed and anxious at the moment. **Supporting Links** are offering a very timely workshop on this in December; please see the letter and flyer attached to this week's Parentmail.

Best wishes,

Sylvia Ta