



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

19th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is unfortunate that we have had to report ten positive cases of COVID-19 amongst the students and staff since the start of term. Having spent a lot of time discussing the cases with Public Health Hertfordshire, we have concluded that these reflect the current prevalence in the local area and are not connected.

However I was shocked by a recent statistic published by Hertfordshire County Council that only 20% of people in Hertfordshire are complying with the requirement to self-isolate. As a consequence they have published the following guide to self-isolation; <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/news-archive/play-your-part-important-information-about-how-you-can-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus>

Whilst the national restrictions are in place, I think we need to remind our girls of how they can also play their part in protecting themselves and their community.

Celebration of Diwali

Diwali is the Hindu festival of light, which celebrates the triumph of good over evil - light over darkness.

Here are some pictures of today's Year 12 RS lesson outside the Tennyson Centre, which are related to the story of Diwali - after Rama and Sita defeated the demon Ravana, they returned to their village with their pathway lit by lamps. Every year, around the world, Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs decorate the entrances to their homes with Diya lamps and rangoli patterns.

The RS Department

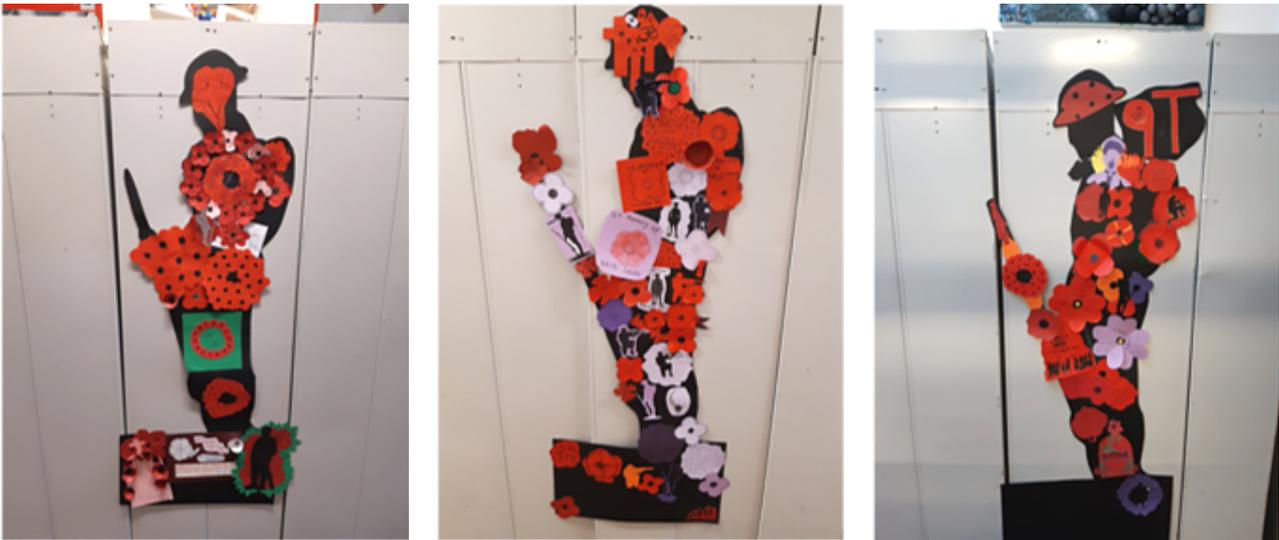


WW1 Day

On Friday 13th November, Year 9 were taken off timetable by the History department to participate in a special WW1 activity day. In the morning, the students heard from WW1 battlefield guide expert Tom Morgan, of whose company we have had the pleasure on our trips to Belgium and France for many years.

He talked to the students about some of the key features of the war and how it affected the lives of everyone at the time. Students were particularly thrilled when he pointed a WW1 rifle at the screen and proceeded to display his personal collection of weaponry from the conflict! The girls also had the opportunity to ask him some interesting questions about the war, such as what soldiers would eat and how they would be rewarded for their bravery.

After this session, the girls helped to create our annual memorial to those who lived, fought and died during the war. Each group made a personalised memorial on an individual group of their choice, which was then placed on a silhouette of a 'Tommy'. You can see the amazing work they produced for this in the attached photographs and they are now proudly on display in the upstairs corridor in the Year 9 zone.



In the afternoon, students were treated to the deeply moving movie 'Journey's End', following the experiences of a group of soldiers struggling with life in the trenches and their preparations for a forthcoming German attack.

It was great to see how well students engaged with the activities on the day, especially in such exceptional times, when it is much harder to arrange these type of enrichment events. We hope the students got a lot out of the sessions and look forward to the work they will be producing for their forthcoming WW1 projects in their history lessons.

The History & Politics Department

Best wishes,

Sylvia Tai