

Hawkinge Primary School

Miss A Ward
Headteacher
Tel: 01303 892224
www.hawkingeprimaryschool.co.uk



Canterbury Road
Hawkinge
Folkestone
Kent
CT18 7BN

10th November

Dear Parents,

This week we have had a focus on Remembrance Sunday in school – why 11th November is such an important date. The week started on Monday morning with an assembly about why we wear poppies and people who work in a range of ‘services’ (including the emergency services and Armed Services) and how they help us today. It was great to see that so many children knew all about this year’s poppy being the first plastic free poppy to be made – which is very different to the first poppies in the 1930’s made from silk!

Throughout the week all children have had different lessons connected to Remembrance in 2023. The children in the Reception classes each made a poppy and read stories and poems about the service of soldiers in World War 1. They also learnt about Walter Tull, a famous soldier who was born in Folkestone. Years 1 and 2 children have been learning about National Service when thinking about Remembrance. This year marks 60 years since National Service ended so the children found out what it was like for the men who conscribed. They now know that people who conscribed learnt many new life skills. Therefore, the children in Years 1 and 2 learnt a life skill - tying shoelaces - that soldiers would have needed to know. Please ask them to show you over the weekend.

Year 3 and 4 have been learning about the Korean War, also known as the forgotten war. The children learnt about how it is the 70th year since the war and designed poppies in memory of all the lives lost. In Year 5 and 6, the children learnt about the theme of service and have researched ways in which different charitable organisations help people affected by conflict. They learnt about how they can help refugees who have to flee their homes as a result of conflict as well as ways in which they help people who have been injured. Children researched a selection of charities and produced posters to share what they had learnt about one of the charities roles and the importance of their work.

A big thank you to Luca and Eleanor who have braved a range of different weathers to sell poppies (and associated merchandise) this week before school.

During next week we will be supporting Children in Need. Last year the John Harvey Driving School took part in the ‘Big Learner Relay’ in support of Children in Need and kindly came into school for the afternoon with his fleet of cars.

This year Hawkinge Primary School is going to be involved in supporting Children in Need again but a few days earlier than the main event. The proposal is that we will give each child a ‘sticky’ spot at the beginning of next week on which they can either draw a picture, write their name etc.

On Wednesday 15th November, John and his team of instructors will then drive his fleet of cars to the school site and children can place their spot on one of the cars, where they can have their photos taken. The spots have been purchased from the Children in Need site and all we ask is that children bring in £1 sponsorship next week for their spot, that will then be donated to Children in Need. The cars will be on the roads so keep an eye out for your spot!

FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER is

ODD SOCKS DAY!

for

Anti-Bullying Week & Children in Need

Next week, 13th - 17th November, is **Anti-Bullying Week**. Our pupils will be taking part in activities to highlight what bullying is, understand why people bully and to remind them what they can do if they or their friends are being bullied.

This year's theme is "Make Some Noise!" so children will be thinking about what they could say if they are being bullied, who they could talk to if they are being bullied, what they could say to a friend who is bullying others and what they could say to help someone who was being bullied to feel better.

Children at Hawkinge Primary generally report feeling safe in our school and say that adults deal with incidents of bullying as soon as they are reported (*Ofsted, 2019*). However, we know that 1 in 4 children aged 10 to 15 years in England have experienced bullying at school and 1 in 5 have experienced online bullying behaviour (*ONS, 2020*) with 26% of those children saying they did not report their experiences to anyone. That is why it is so important for us to regularly highlight the issue of bullying at the primary school level so children learn early on that it is never ok to bully someone and that there is help if they are being bullied themselves.

Then on Friday, we are inviting all pupils and staff to wear brightly coloured and/or mismatched socks to school for **Odd Socks Day** - An event run by the Anti-Bullying Alliance as a way of celebrating our differences. We will be using the event to raise money for **Children in Need** so it would be wonderful if children could bring in a donation of 50p, or whatever you can afford, to support vulnerable children across the UK.

Children will also be completing the Project Salus Anti-Bullying Survey between now and the end of term, along with 60,000 other pupils in Kent. This is something we do every year and when the results come back, it is a great way for us to take stock of children's experiences with bullying at our school and ways we can continue to improve this for them.