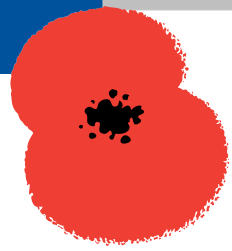


A week learning and Remembering the First World War

Introduction – the five assemblies here can be used for the week before Remembrance Sunday. The poem currently listed as day 5 can be used on Armistice Day (11th November) if you wish. After the first days assembly the assemblies for days 2, 3, and 4 can in fact be used in any order.



DAY 3: THE PEOPLE WE REMEMBER

In preparation:

- Show the picture from the CD Rom of Walter Tull – first as a footballer and then in uniform.
- Have the case study of Walter Tull ready to use.
- Option - Use the second half of the film entitled “The Somme In The Great War” on the Legion DVD

Start

Script

This is Walter Tull.

The people who fought for Britain in the First World War came from lots of different walks of life. This is a picture of Walter Tull. In 1914 when war broke out Walter was a footballer. He had already had a difficult life before he joined up, as someone who was black and British he had experienced a lot of racism. Despite that, he still chose to fight for his country and to challenge racism at the same time.

Ask 3 – 4 pupils to read out the story of Walter Tull from the case study.

Walter reminds us of the diversity of the people that fought for Britain in that war and all the wars the British forces fight in. In the First World War, people from lots of different ethnic backgrounds and religions fought for Britain and its interests. As well as people from different ethnic backgrounds from Britain itself fighting, we also relied on the support from what was then the Empire and Commonwealth. Men from India, African and the Caribbean all fought to save Britain and its interests. They fought for us even when we were not always fair to them.

Moment of Reflection

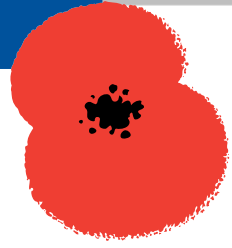
Walter Tull reminds us of the bravery of those who fought in the First World War. He also reminds us that those who fought came from lots of different ethnic backgrounds and religions. Some were Christians, others were Jewish, Muslim, Hindu and non- believers. But no matter what their background, in death they were all equal, and they all deserve to be remembered.

Prayer or Poem:

Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967) was born into a wealthy family on 8 September 1886 in Kent. He survived the war having fought in many battles, but he lost many friends who he mourned for the rest of his life.

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Does it Matter?

by Siegfried Sassoon

Does it matter?—losing your legs?...
For people will always be kind,
And you need not show that you mind
When the others come in after hunting
To gobble their muffins and eggs.
Does it matter ?—losing your sight?...
There's such splendid work for the blind;
And people will always be kind,
As you sit on the terrace remembering
And turning your face to the light.
Do they matter?—those dreams from the pit?...
You can drink and forget and be glad,
And people won't say that you're mad;
For they'll know you've fought for your country
And no one will worry a bit.