

Wow– What an amazing first term our community has had! It has been a joy to bring our Forces community together for some wonderful events in school. The Autumn term saw our Forces pupil's engaging in a Remembrance workshop, Forces Family Breakfast and a poignant Remembrance Day Service we were able to welcome parents and carers to. In Spring term, we have got lots of exciting events to look forward to.

Remembrance Workshop with North Kesteven Council.

In October, we were visited by Angela Riley and her team to bring us an informative and exciting workshop on Remembrance in WW2.

We learned all about those who were awarded medals, including animals too! Then we had a go at designing our own medals and decided how we would award them.

Then, we heard all about the story of a soldier who lost his fingers in an accident. We used special finger bandages whilst writing a telegram to experience what this truly would have felt like.

Finally, we looked at what life would have been like as an evacuee, thought about what we would take with us, wrote some poetry and even tried on some costumes!

This was an amazing morning and we can't wait to see the North Kesteven team again for more workshops!



Forces Family Breakfast

In November, we were lucky enough to host our Forces Family Breakfast for a second year. This provided a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and share stories. Our Forces lead, Miss Grimley, really enjoyed the chance to meet families and talk to them about support they may need.

We're excited for our next chance to come together!





Remembrance Day

Building on last year, our Forces pupils led a whole school project to add 420 poppies to our display.

This year, we were delighted to be able to welcome parents and carers to remember with us.

During the Remembrance Day service, Miss Grimley gave a speech on the sacrifices our military, both past and present have made. A group of children from Y3-Y6 read poems to provide our school community with a time of reflection. Mr Stock also gave a wonderful rendition of the last post. Well done and a big thank you to all who took part.

Our Remembrance video is available to view on the Witham St Hughs Academy Facebook page.



Support available for our Forces pupils:

The Spring term will see the launch of the new 'Forces Book Club' on a Friday lunch time. KS2 pupils are invited to join Miss Grimley to read a book linked to military life. This will give the opportunity to chat about our own experiences, or, just enjoy a lovely story!

We are currently working on a grading system for our pupils in order to assess their needs and organize sessions with Ms Ford of differing frequencies. All pupils will of course be supported throughout the year, but this will allow us to focus our support for the needs of each child. Support can range from regular sessions to once in a while 'chats' to catch up. We are aware that military life is ever changing and these groups can change as often as they need to.

If you can provide any information or advice regarding your current family situation, please do direct an email for the attention of Miss Grimley through the school office so we are able to provide the best support for our Forces pupils. Alternatively, catch Miss Grimley on the door at her door around the back of the school, at pick up or drop off times.

Upcoming Events

- February– STEM workshop.
- April– IBCC trip
- Spring term Family event TBC

Did you know? - Little Troopers

Little Troopers is a charity that support all children who have a parent serving in our British Armed Forces. <https://www.littletroopers.net/>

