

## Reverent Remembrance

Monday 11th November marked the 100th anniversary of King George V issuing a proclamation which called for two minutes silence on what was then known as Armistice Day; now known as Remembrance Day. This year we particularly remembered men and women who have lost their lives throughout the four corners of the world and of course civilians affected by the horrors of war.

Pupils, staff and visitors observed the silence impeccably – preceded by a fulsome rendition of The Last Post by Barnaby Warrillow. As is normally the case we heard poems that have become famous by the passage of time. However, a self-penned piece from Dexter Percy did not seem out of place next to one from John McCrae – I am sure you will agree. (Poem on following page)



## **Home**

**by Dexter Percy**

**I am writing to you today  
To sadly say that your son is missing off a French bay.  
No word just yet, I have others to write  
So I'll hurry up and tell you I wasn't right.**

**I thought we'd be done, going home next June,  
Not writing this letter, readying to fight by noon.  
How's home? The same I'll bet; those gorgeous rolling hills.  
Just yesterday, I did a tally, another thousand are ill.**

**I can picture you now, distraught. Sobbing yourself to sleep.  
While we are here, digging their graves some 5ft deep.  
In the trenches we are out of tissues  
And right after this, I will go fix another horrifying issue.**

**Your Ben was charming, young and kind.  
All the things he could have achieved with his intelligent mind.  
With his boat, his happiness sunk only a few days gone.  
Oh what I would do for the comforts of home.**

## Year 3 Stone Age workshop

YEAR 3'S HISTORY LESSONS HAVE BEEN FOCUSING ON PREHISTORIC BRITAIN THIS TERM. ON TUESDAY MORNING YEAR 3 BOYS JOURNEYED THROUGH A MILLION YEARS OF PRE-HISTORY AS THEY EXPLORED THE STONE AGE, BRONZE AGE AND IRON AGE, DISCOVERING HOW HUMANS FIRST CAME TO BRITAIN, HOW THEY LIVED AND WHAT DEVELOPMENTS WERE MADE DURING EACH ERA.

THE BOYS WERE VISITED BY AN ANCESTOR FROM JUST AFTER THE ICE AGE WHO EXPLAINED THEIR HUNTER-GATHERER LIFESTYLE. LATER THEY EXPLORED THE TOOLS THEY MADE AND TALKED ABOUT THE ANIMALS THEY HUNTED AND THE VARIETY OF FOODSTUFFS THEY GATHERED FOR THE TRIBE. THERE WAS DISCUSSION ABOUT THE OTHER GROUPS OF HUMANS THAT LIVED ALONGSIDE THEIR PEOPLE AND ED, FINLEY, BERTIE, BRON, CHARLIE AND ETHAN WERE CALLED UPON TO REMIND US OF THE TIMELINE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION, THE PROCESS BY WHICH HUMAN BEINGS DEVELOPED ON EARTH FROM NOW EXTINCT PRIMATES.

AT THE END OF THE SESSION THE BOYS WERE ASKED WHAT THEY HAD LEARNED DURING THE MORNING'S VISIT. RAFFY SAID HE HADN'T REALISED PEOPLE DIDN'T ALWAYS HUNT IN PACKS, WHILE THEO SAID HE WASN'T AWARE THAT HOMO SAPIAN SIMPLY TRANSLATES TO "WISE MAN".

MRS BARNETT



## Guest Speaker to Junior Assembly Trees for Cities

The Junior School welcomed Chris Malla, from their chosen charity 'Trees for Cities', to their assembly on Thursday morning.

Chris came to tell the Junior boys all about the charity, which started in 1993, and what the boys' fundraising would help to achieve. He told them that their aim is to plant as many trees in towns and cities as they can and that they have already planted 1 million! We learnt that London's most common tree is the London Plane and that its bark breaks away in large flakes to dispel pollutants, hence the tree's ability to cope with high levels of air pollution and the reason for the trunk's distinctive camouflage pattern.

The Junior School told Chris that they have already raised money from their Halloween Cake Sale last month and look forward to more fundraising events this year, including the sponsored cross-country in March.

## WARHAMMER CLUB

The addition of lunch time Warhammer club to the extracurricular program this term has been driven by some enthusiastic Year 4 boys and run by our Year 8s. This week saw the arrival of the much anticipated school supply of Warhammer pieces and the picture shows just how much the boys enjoyed the creative process of building the figures and planning their games. Let the battles commence..... next week!



# Zoolab workshops

Today boys from Reception up to Year 5 took part in Zoolab workshops. The sessions focused on the classification of vertebrates and invertebrates and the boys were introduced to a snail (which could grow to the size of a football!), a scorpion, a Pacman frog, a giant cockroach and a snake! The workshops were extremely interesting and a great time was had by all. Thanks to Heather and Liorna from Zoolab.



# Music Department

## *Christmas Concert*

On Thursday 28th of November Tower House School will be holding their annual Christmas Concert at 6:00pm in the school hall. The following ensembles have been selected to play:

**String ensemble**

**Rock bands**

**Woodwind ensemble**

**Swing band**

Instrumental teachers at Tower House School have selected a number of pupils to perform solos at the concert. Boys chosen to perform at the concert are either taking ABRSM music exams the next day or have been selected to gain more performance practice. If your child has been selected to perform in the concert then your Instrumental teacher should have contacted you already. There will be a rough draft of the concert programme in the school hall and with Mrs Markwell in the office. All parents are warmly invited to attend the concert, even if your son is not performing.

## *Bank of England concert*

I would like to congratulate the 12 boys from the Senior Choir who performed at the Bank of England Christmas Fair in aid of Cancer Research UK. The choristers sang three carols acapella beautifully. Well done all.

Miss Whittingham

## Primary Maths Challenge

On Monday, Years 5 and 6 sat the 2019 national Primary Maths Challenge. The questions were complex, and tested not only the boys maths knowledge but also their comprehension skills. As such, the boys performed exceptionally, to secure four gold certificates and seven silver. This is a record result for Tower House and means that 10 boys will be progressing on to the Bonus Round in February. Many congratulations on this achievement boys.

So as to give you a taste of the level of difficulty of the challenge, one of the questions is below. Can you crack it???

A three and two digit number are multiplied. Four of the five digits are the same and the answer is 11655. What is the sum of the missing digits?



# Football

In the penultimate week of football fixtures boys across the school have been very busy with 13 matches played; some excellent games and some really good results once again. Hornsby House proved a little too strong for our U11s as well as the U10 A team who lost their unbeaten record but played some really good football and should be very proud of their spirit. The U9s had another good day last week against Willington and finally the 1st-4th teams produced 2 wins and 2 draws from their fixture with Falcons on Wednesday.

One week left of school football fixtures and lots still to play for. Then it's the excitement of house matches before the oval ball will see its first light of day of this academic year!

MrP



# FOTH notices

## Easy Fundraising

Did you know?  
Your shopping can raise money for FOTH at no expense to you. Every time you shop online through [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), they'll donate to FOTH. Choose from all the big names including:



## Christmas Fair

Just a reminder that we are still looking for more toys, jam jars and bottles to make our fair a success!

The boxes outside the school office are crying out to be filled.

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far.

## Nativity DVD

Rehearsals have started for the cutest event of the year...The Junior School Nativity on Friday 6th December.

Great news! The multitalented Mr Geary has kindly agreed to film it again this year, so we get to enjoy it for many years to come with all the family.

Order your DVD now at [FOTH.org.uk](https://www.FOTH.org.uk) for just £12.



## Beat the winter chill

Wrap up warm and beat this cold weather with your very own Tower House snood! If you would like to purchase the THS snood (£12) please contact the FOTH Secretary at [secretary@FOTH.org.uk](mailto:secretary@FOTH.org.uk)



## Forthcoming Events

Mon 18th	- Book week workshops for Years 5 - 8 led by Matt Whyman, author <b><u>NO YEAR 5 PE</u></b>	All day
	- Dr Padley visiting Reception 'People who help us' topic	9:00 - 9:30am
	- Whole school book week assembly	10:30am
	- 1st/2nd/3rd v Willington (H)	2:30pm
Tue 19th	- Book week workshops for Reception - Year 4 Led by Karen Inglis, author	All day
	- U9 A/B/C and U10 C v Wetherby (A)	2:30pm
Wed 20th	- Book week - Boo Theatre entertainment Junior School	Morning
	- 1st/2nd 7-a-side v Kensington Park School (H)	2:30pm
	- U11 A/B/C v Surbiton (A)	2:30pm
Thur 21st	- U8 A/B/C/D v The Mall (A)	2:30pm
	- Book week - Alligator's Mouth Book Shop sale Split set classroom	3:30pm
	- Staff play (Father Ted/ Only Fools and Horses)	7:30pm
Fri 22nd	- DRESS UP CHARACTER DAY Dress as your favourite historical hero or heroine	
	- Whole school book week prize giving assembly	10:30am
	- Book week - American diner theme	Lunch
	- U10 A/B/C v The Mall (H)	2:30pm
	- Staff play (Father Ted/ Only Fools and Horses)	7:30pm



Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster

Have a lovely weekend!