

# Who do we 'remember'...

## Ideas for school assemblies and pastoral sessions

Remembrance isn't the same everywhere, or for everyone. It can mean different things to different people. It is also something that changes over time, especially as those we 'remember' are no longer in living memory. This year the Commonwealth War Graves Commission want schools and their communities to explore the idea of 'who do we remember'?

### Who do we remember?

At different times throughout the year, different countries will remember those who fought and died in the world wars.

In Australia, 25 April is ANZAC Day, a significant day of 'remembrance' linked to the landings in Gallipoli in 1915.

On 11 November every year, countries across the Commonwealth mark 'Armistice Day'. On this day in 1918, the guns fell silent on the Western Front, starting to bring the First World War to an end. In the UK, the nearest Sunday is known as 'Remembrance Sunday', when many will pause to remember those who died in the First World War and in all conflicts since then.

However, in East Africa, they 'remember' on 25 November – the date on which the First World War ended there in 1918.

This year, we want school communities to consider who do we remember. We have created a short animation to explore the theme of who do we remember, while posing a flipped question, of **who might we have forgotten?**

These suggested activities encourage young people to reflect on who we remember today.

These activities can be differentiated by the class teacher to be suitable for pupils of all ages.

## Remembrance Assembly

The animation can be used as an element of a remembrance assembly on the theme of **Who do we remember...** To introduce [the animation](#), you could talk about:

<p><b>Who do we remember?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do we mean by Remembrance? We have lots of things that we do for 'remembrance'</li><li>• Poppies are worn as a symbol of 'remembrance'. These had been amongst the first flowers to grow on the former battlefields of France and Belgium after the First World War. It was first suggested as a flower of remembrance in 1918</li><li>• At 11am on 11 November the nation stops and 'remembers' those who had died in the World Wars.</li><li>• On the second Sunday in November, parades, church services and acts of remembrance take place on 'Remembrance Sunday'</li><li>• A two-minute silence takes place to 'remember' all those who served and died in the World Wars and in wars and military operations since then</li><li>• But who do we 'remember'? The CWGC maintains a database of more than 1.7 million people who died in the world wars.</li><li>• The animation introduces a story previously 'forgotten'</li></ul> <p>The CWGC database can be searched via <a href="http://cwgc.org">cwgc.org</a> You can discover those from your community and those from across the globe who died during the world wars.</p> <p>Our <a href="#">'How to research...' guides</a> will help you or your pupils discover more about these individuals and who they were.</p> <p>Use the CWGC <a href="#">For Evermore: Stories of the Fallen</a> portal to explore stories of those we commemorate and find stories to share over the remembrance period.</p>	KS 3/4
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## Pastoral Sessions

These can be used either as a follow up to an assembly, or as a stand-alone activity.

1. Think about and discuss what the word 'Remembrance' means.
2. Consider what and who do we remember at this time of year. This could be introduced by the teacher or take the form of short discussion in small groups, depending on the age and awareness of the young people.
3. Play the [CWGC Animation](#) video. This will introduce the idea that we might not always remember all of those who died in the world wars.
4. As a class, or in pairs or small groups, reflect on the key messages of the animation. This may provoke conversations surrounding:
  - Who do we remember?
  - How do we remember those who died in the world wars?
  - What issues are there with 'remembrance'?
  - How can we remember all those who died in the world wars in the future?
5. Give each pupil a CWGC Tribute wreath (see image below – printable version on the final page) or pupils could draw a version themselves. These wreaths are made of the flowers of remembrance from each of our member governments.
6. Each pupil should then record the name of the individual they are remembering with a short summary of who they were. They might also add a picture of them.
7. Create a display on a noticeboard or window in the classroom with all the different images as to who we remember.
8. This could also be set as a homework task to research a family member, or local person who died in the World Wars. Students can visit the CWGC [For Evermore: Stories of the Fallen](#) portal to explore different stories of those commemorated by the CWGC.
9. Simple use the hashtag #Remembrancel to share the tributes and displays with CWGC on social media or email your pictures to [education@cwgc.org](mailto:education@cwgc.org) We will be creating a collage of the tributes created by young people from across the globe on our website.

*The animation has been created for CWGC by students from the Technical University of Kenya (TUK) in partnership with students from Central St Martin's AUL in London.*