

Gowerton School
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Ysgol Tregŵyr
Gowerton
School



Gowerton School



@gowertonschool

November 2018

FROM THE HEADTEACHER'S DESK

This year, to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War 1, we have held a number of events. I was fortunate to accompany the Senior Prefect team to lay a wreath at the Menin Gate ceremony in October. It was a privilege to remember the 35 young men from Gowerton School that lost their lives in World War 1. In all our events pupils have shown respect and dignity. Each event has been particularly poignant. The newsletter this month is dedicated to Remembrance.

THE WORLD WAR 1 MEMORIAL PLAQUE

In our main hall the memorial plaques are displayed on either side of the stage. The fallen of both world wars are remembered. Here are some examples from the World War 1 plaque.

Lance Sergeant John Emlyn Rees, Belgrave Rd, Loughor

He had been the Secretary of Loughor Rugby Club prior to the war and enlisted at Gorseinon into the 1/6th Battalion, Welsh Regiment. The battalion was one of the first territorial units to move to France in August 1914. The battalion was in the trenches, but also doing work repairing trenches Emlyn was mortally wounded and died in February 1916, aged 24. He is buried in Maroc British Cemetery, Grenay, France.



Memorial Plaque: World War 1 (1914-1918)



Private David Lewis of Duffryn House, Penllergaer.

After leaving Gowerton School he became a clerk, and enlisted at Swansea into the 28th Battalion, London Regiment (Artists' Rifles) on 11 December 1916. David was wounded and was carried aboard Hospital Ship SS St. George in order to be taken to a specialist hospital in England but died of his wounds aboard the ship on 25 August 1917, aged 21. His body was taken home to be buried with full military honours in St. David's Church, Penllergaer.



A moving moment within the service which culminated in an emotional poem read by Mr Bryan Bevan, a member of Duvant Male Choir. Mr Bevan joined the Royal Navy at the age of 18, served in the North Atlantic, the Russian Convoys and at the D-Day Landings. It was a memorable event and a fitting tribute to the fallen. Our Head boy, Head girl and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan, Mr Byron Lewis, laid the wreaths at our school memorials. Pupils from the cadets helped to sell poppies.

Newsletter

NOVEMBER

Right of the month:
Article 19 - Right to be safe



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PENCLAWDD CONCERT

During the week an evening concert was held at Penclawdd Primary school in which our pupils performed a selection of songs for Remembrance. The choir consisted of pupils from each of our partner schools. The North Gower Partnership choir of 60 pupils sang beautifully. A particular favourite with the audience was a beautiful, a cappella item from Josie, Maisey and Caitlin from year 11. Penclawdd Brass Band also performed and the evening ended with community singing.

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM VISIT YPRES

Four pupils from our 6th form accompanied by our Headteacher, deputy Headteacher and resources' manager visited Belgium for a weekend of commemoration. A commemoration plaque had been made and this was placed at various graves and memorials of the Gowertonian fallen. At the beautiful, poignant 8pm Menin Gate ceremony head boy, Aidan, head girl, Heather and Mr. Jones placed a wreath of behalf of the school. The following day we visited the Welsh Memorial on Pilkem Ridge to lay another wreath and then we visited the Passendaele museum, which was both educational and enjoyable.



GOWERTON CHEER WALES ON TO SUCCESS

The Autumn internationals saw 90 pupils and staff travelling to Cardiff from Gowerton School on the annual pilgrimage to the Millennium Stadium to support the national side in their game against Tonga. It was the 11th occasion the school had made the trip since their inaugural visit in 2005 to watch Wales take on Fiji.



YEAR 7 SMASH THE RICKSHAW CHALLENGE

Year 7 pupils have been completing their own version of the One Show Rickshaw Challenge the past week. Pupils have been logging up the miles this week by rowing cycling and running in the Fitness Suite at lunch time. They have shown considerable commitment and effort. The Challenge was 423miles (681km). Year 7 completed an outstanding 649 miles (1046 km). Well done to all involved!



ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE

Year 11 students took part in a Road Safety initiative today at Reynoldston Fire Station. The initiative, the first of its kind, was designed to improve awareness of road safety as well as educate students on the hazards and misconceptions around safe driving. The initiative was created through collaboration with the local Fire Service as well as charity funding with the aim of reducing casualties on Gower roads. Students were given training about how best to lower risk of RTA's while driving, used virtual reality headsets to demonstrate what happens in the aftermath of an RTA, as well as given a tour of the station and it's equipment. The initiative was a huge success and further dates have now been given which will be opened up to students after the Christmas break. We would like to thank Mid and West Wales Fire Service and Swansea Council for facilitating the event and special thanks to Fiona Hughes, a volunteer, who obtained the funding for such an event to take place.

