



# Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

The biggest news is clearly the final of the House Bake-Off competition, but that wasn't all that happened this week. The history department Battlefield's trip returned with the travel company singing the praises of Lady Lumley's students. On Thursday, Lorraine Phippen, Debbie Smith and I went to the fourth roadshow of the year at Thornton Dale School. This brought back happy memories to our Year 7 students **David Corney, Hannah Dring, Charlotte Hall** and **Lauren Hinchcliffe** who accompanied us. On Tuesday we held the latest Parents' Forum meeting looking at school policies. We thought the house system (after its recent re-vamp) would be an interesting topic to talk about at the next meeting. It is half-term next week and I hope this will be a productive week as students in Years 11, 12 and 13 get down to active revision.

Richard Bramley

## Year 10 History students experience the First World War - Front Lines in Belgium and France

### Day One

After setting off from school late on Friday night, and spending the night and day travelling to Belgium, we finally reached our hostel and got a good night's sleep before starting the first day of our Battlefield's Experience. After being loudly woken early by our guide Sam, this first day made us really understand, and put into perspective, the conditions and experience that the soldiers in the First World War endured.

We started at 'The Pool of Peace' a small lake created by the crater of a mine detonated during the British Assault on Messines Ridge, before travelling to Messines Church to visit the crypt, which had been used as a dressing station and where Adolf Hitler had been treated when he was a soldier in the First World War.

We then visited the trenches at Sanctuary Wood where the original trenches have been maintained. The conditions on the day really helped, as it had rained during the night making the floor of the trench a mass of mud and puddles. It allowed us to visualise it easier and sympathise with them, because we had seen and experienced just a small bit of it for ourselves. The trenches really showed us what conditions they had to endure, dealing with trench foot and other personal physical consequences of war.

It was also here that we first heard about the soldiers of the Green Howards, Yorkshire Regiment, from Pickering and the surrounding areas, some of whom we had researched in the months leading up to the Battlefields Experience.

**Sophie Costello**

### Day Two

We were awoken bright and early at the unholy time of 6.45am. After a hurried breakfast, we travelled to the Somme in France, to Newfoundland Park the site of the monument to the Canadians who fought at Beaumont Hamel on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 and who suffered 90% casualties on that first day of the Battle of the Somme. We then heard about the Scottish soldiers who died on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1916 towards the closing months of the battle, capturing the heavily defended German frontline. After a quiet ceremony of remembrance at the Black Watch Memorial we travelled on again.

Our next stop was the monument to the 'ghosts' at Thiepval, where 73,000 soldiers missing at the Somme are commemorated. The memorial is currently being renovated in time for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this year (and a royal visit) and the huge memorial is surrounded by scaffolding. The wind was very strong and blew through the scaffolding creating a sound and feel that these 'ghosts of the missing' were crying out to be found. After hearing about a selection of the missing soldiers who came from Pickering and Scarborough, we moved on again.

On our way to Dartmoor Cemetery we stopped off briefly at Bell's Redoubt, the memorial to Donald Simpson Bell, a schoolteacher and professional footballer, who served in the Yorkshire Regiment and who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery in singlehandedly taking out a German Machinegun post in 1916 shortly before he died. Dartmoor cemetery was remarkable because it contained the grave of the oldest man to die in combat (67), a winner of the Victoria Cross and also the only father and son to be buried side by side.

Our day continued our day with a visit to Lochnagar Crater, the site of a huge mine explosion. We were all astonished by its sheer size; the howling winds made us all worry about venturing too close to the edge for fear of being blown in. Our day was rounded off by a true spectacle, Canada's national memorial at Vimy Ridge. The sheer size dwarfed everybody around! A truly remarkable site.

Throughout the day we were told stories of many soldiers; three VC winners, but also two brothers buried together, the inscription on their headstone reading 'Together in death as they were in life'. All in all, it was a day full of emotion.

**Sam Penny**

*continued overleaf...*



## Year 10 History students experience the First World War - Front Lines in Belgium and France *continued*

### Day Three

Our third day of the experience was very full. The first place that we visited was Essex Farm Cemetery. While we were there we visited a memorial to John McCrae the Canadian Soldier who wrote 'In Flanders Fields'. He had served at the site as a Field Surgeon and was inspired by the death of his closest friend, Alex Heimer, and the many others whose lives he tried to save. We then saw the grave of Valentine 'Joe' Strudwick who was killed in action at the age of just 15 (We had now visited the graves of the oldest and youngest soldiers on the Western Front). We all stood in silence for a moment to pay our respects.

The second place that we visited was Poelkappelle Cemetery where 80% of the 7,500 graves within the cemetery walls are of unknown soldiers. We all took a poppy and stood beside an unknown soldier's grave. We were asked to picture what we thought the soldier would have looked like and laid the poppy at the foot of the grave, before having a minutes silence in the pouring rain for our own personal soldier.

In the afternoon we visited Tyne Cot Cemetery, which is the largest cemetery of British soldiers in the world. After being marched to the cemetery by Sergeant Cornforth, we spent time finding the memorials and graves of Green Howards soldiers from North Yorkshire who we had previously researched.

The final place visited during the day was Langemark Cemetery, a German cemetery. It was a shocking and sad place to see, so many German soldiers in such a small place, including the mass graves of over 20,000 men. It was upsetting to see how badly remembered the German dead were, as really they were no different from any other soldiers serving their countries.

We returned to the hostel for dinner, before venturing out again in the evening to see the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres. It was a short but very emotional ceremony. When it had finished we travelled back to Essex Farm Cemetery for our own personal ceremony.



We had written a message on a wreath to be laid at our ceremony, which read as follows;

*Dear Tommy,*

*We thank you for your service, for your courage and commitment. Forever in our hearts you will not be forgotten. From, one generation to another. Lady Lumley's 2016*

We all lit candles, whilst **Emma Batty** and **Sam Penny** laid the wreath, **Martha Mills** carried a candle and **Dan Tomlinson** read part of the poem 'For the Fallen'. Many a student and teacher shed a tear; it was a poignant and fitting way to end our Battlefields Experience. **Matthew Lowe**

**Plea to save the environment...** Whilst drinking water is important, we are going through a large number of plastic cups. Can students please bring a water bottle with them.

## Lady Lumley's School Bake-Off Final

On Tuesday the final of the LLS Bake Off took place and was tenses than ever. This time our fearless bakers were accompanied by the wonderful teachers also baking for their house. Each team of bakers were required to make a show stopper cake and six yummy cupcakes that followed their chosen theme. Every team worked their hardest and were pushed to their limits. Despite spillages, panics and decreasing time each team presented wonderful, creative and truly show stopping bakes. Well done to every student and teacher that took part in both the final and previous rounds!



The house media teams were also present collecting footage and interviewing the bakers, the judges and eager supporters! Well done to Ellie Taylor (Highfield) who produced the above report. We look forward to seeing the bake-off VT very soon!

Overall Show Stopper Winning House: 1st - Hainsworth, 2nd - Highfield, 3rd - Feversham & 4th - Acland. Thank you to all parents and carers who supported their children with this competition.

*Further details and photos on the school website.*

**Word of the week: Malicious** - motivated by wrongful, vicious, or mischievous purposes. *Malicious* is the adjective based on the noun *malice*, which means the desire to harm others. Both words come from the Latin word *malus*, for bad. If you're writing a book about good and evil, you'll want to come up with a truly *malicious* character to do all the bad stuff (example from [www.vocabulary.com](http://www.vocabulary.com)).

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Monday 22nd February

Students return to School  
U13/15 District Hockey Training

### Tuesday 23 February

Y10 Mock Interviews am  
Y10 & 11 Hockey Cup Matches  
Y8 7-a-side Football, Ryedale 1pm  
Youth Speaks Out 6:30pm

### Wednesday 24th February

U14 Partnership Netball, 1:30pm  
Y7/8/10 Football v Norton, LLS 3pm  
Y9 Options Evening 6:30pm

### Thursday 25th February

Y10/11 Netball, Y8 Hockey, Malton  
Rugby Finals, Scarborough RFU

### Forthcoming Event...

1st -2nd March - AS Unit 2A Drama Prep/Exam Days  
3rd March - Y6 Roadshow, PCJS 7pm  
9th March - Lady Lumley's Education Foundation Meeting  
10th March - Y9-13 Apprentice Event  
10th March - Y10 Consultation Evening