Remember, Remember

By Caitlin

Last Friday, a liturgy was held for Rememberance Day, led by Miss Courtney. After all the classes congregated in the hall at five minutes to eleven, Miss Courtney introduced Rememberance Day, which is when everyone commemorates those that have died in wars - specifically World War One. A minutes silence was held, in which the pupils and teachers gathered their thoughts about the ultimate sacrifice courageous citizens of England and other nations have given in war: their lives. When asked what she thought of during the minute silence, Merine, in 6P, commented, “It made me feel people’s struggles, and how much they fought for what they believed in.” Mr Housden, a teaching assistant, later told a story to the Y6s from the perspective of a Sri Lankan that fought during the First World War, named Raj. A tea planter, he wanted a new daily scenery, and decided that joining the British Army would allow him to see new lands, experience new climates and meet others from foreign nations. Known for telling amazing stories to the pupils, all of the Y6s agreed that they not only enjoyed the story, but also connected with the meaning behind it. “For a long time,” Mr Housden stated, “people in the Carribean and other places in the British Empire weren’t given credit for fighting, even though they made up quite a large part of the army. I wanted to tell them about it, because many don’t know about what they did.” A massive thank you to Miss Courtney for organising and presenting the Rememberance Day liturgy, and to Mr Housden for telling the story of Raj.

A-mass-ing at the Church

By Mattia

A very important moment in the school’s calendar took place last week: Diocesan Schools’ Day. The day involved the coming together of the Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers of all the schools across our fantastic Portsmouth Diocese in order to celebrate our successes and focus our thoughts for the future. Part of the day involved a Mass at St. Bede’s Church, in which the Year 6s from St. Bede’s were specially invited to attend and sing at. When the Year 6s arrived they immediately knew it was a big occasion as Bishop Phillip himself, as well as several other prominent clergy, were leading the sacrament. The Mass started with the St. Bede’s pupils blowing the church’s roof off by superbly singing the opening hymn: “This Little Light of Mine”. This was followed by the very approachable Bishop welcoming everyone before reading and explaining the Gospel. The attending Priests then did a wonderfully created blessing of the Eucharist; they were turned into the body and blood of Christ. Once again, the Year 6s wowed everyone with their final hymn, ‘. Finally, the Mass ended with the Bishop blessing everyone and calling them to go forth and spread the Good News that we had heard. The day was once again a huge success and many of the attendees left in a revitalised mood. Mr Carroll told us, “ It was truly wonderful and great.” We know that the Year 6s will not forget this moment in a hurry, and hope it has inspired them to live out God’s Word to the fullest.

Big Question

This week’s big question is: What do you have to do to get to Heaven?

If you think you know, make sure to say your answer to one of our journalists, and you might end up in the next edition!
On 31st October, 2017, the Year 6s held a special day called Africa Day, where they participated in activities to do with the continent. As it was their current learning topic, Mr Parry and the teachers from St Anne’s and St John the Baptist thought it would be a great idea to get together and celebrate the people and culture of this amazing nation.

The day began with the children being split into groups. The Year 6s had a talk with Chris Lubbe (a former bodyguard of the famous Nelson Mandela) about his life in South Africa, living under apartheid and how he became a bodyguard. After that, they went into the DT room and painted pitch black masks with paint. They had to use colour to create patterns synonymous with South African culture, using a special tool called a dabber to put the paint on the masks. Each of the colours they used stood for different things. Blue; innocence, green; life of South Africa, Gold; fortune, red; war and blood and finally white which represents spirituality.

Soon after, they entered class 6C in which they created and performed praise poetry: a form of writing and speaking that celebrates the traditions and heritage of Africans. The children had to describe themselves, using nature, movement, colour, their heritage, animals and their height in order to do so.

After lunch the day culminated with African dancing in which everyone from all three schools had an amazing time.

After speaking to Riyong and Ruetendo from 6C, they were able to articulate that the best part of the day was the thrilling talk with Chris Lubbe as it was so engaging and thought-provoking. Overall the day was a huge success and a wonderful opportunity for all those in Year 6 to develop their knowledge of Africa.