

Bottesford Primary School World War 1 Day 25th September 2015 Feedback

Collated and Summarised by Joyce Slater, Volunteer Bottesford Parish WW1 Centenary Project¹

As homework, all the children and staff who participated in the day were asked to complete a luggage tag with their comments. 83 luggage tags were completed and all were positive. Many contained more than one comment.

The feedback was captured as written. It was then sorted into the relevant elements of the day and corrected for spelling. Where the children's feedback was in a complex sentence or referred to different elements the relevant comments were separated to make the feedback coherent and meaningful.

It was particularly pleasing that so many children really enjoyed the day and said so. They also recognised and acknowledged the contribution of others for the work done.

Enlistment was the first activity of the school day, and all children had to sign up for the WW1day. 2 children commented that they enjoyed that part of the day.

The outdoor physical activity of marching, training, crawling under a cargo net etc. was very popular and 24 children gave very positive comments. Getting dirty was an important part of it. As well as an appreciation of the activity, it also prompted reflective comment:- "I really enjoyed the army training because it made you think about how little practice they had".

Enjoyment of the trench cake dominated the feedback regarding the home front and staff appreciated knowing about the alternative recipes using vinegar and bicarb.

15 children rated the first aid activities as fun. In the comments it was also clear that they recognised the nature of the injuries treated in the field, that soldiers gave first aid to each other and that it was a pressured environment.

The remote controlled replica tank was really appreciated as were the extensive range of artefacts brought by the Western Front Association. The replication of the sounds, in a dark room, clearly raised awareness of the impact of the volume and range of noises at the front and again prompted reflection – it made them think about the reality of war. 15 children commented on this activity.

The life of a soldier was rated by 10 children, particularly the costumes and the size and weight of a pack. The gun (with bayonet) was of particular interest, as was the details of the toilet arrangements on the front line.

The activity making poppies, and the rationale behind it was appreciated by 8 children.

Staff, visitors, volunteers and children dressed up on the day. Some were in authentic kit, others in replica costumes. Most of the children came in a wide range of outfits in keeping with the day. 4 children made specific comments valuing everyone "dressing up".

There were 25 very appreciative comments on the feedback tags. They ranged from a simple "Thank you XXX" to comments like "The best day ever" and "My favourite theme day while I have been at

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primary". "Thank you for doing that. It was AMAZING". The children were saying thank you in general terms and thanking the staff and visitors for organising the day. Within the enjoyment of the day there was clearly a recognition of its purpose and a maturity of reflection e.g. "It made me realise they should never be forgotten" and "The soldiers were very brave of what they did"

Enlistment

My favourite bit about World War 1 was with Mr Andrew where we signed up to be in the World War 1

I enjoyed signing up for the army

Marching and Training Outdoors

I like marching a lot, singing songs with Mrs Harris .Thank you.

I've learnt to march

My favourite activity was marching because I marched to music

My favourite activity was marching with Miss Harris because we sang songs to go with it

I liked Mr Andrew's activity because it was fun

I enjoyed the challenges we had to do to be a soldier. That includes the commando roll, bridge building and rescuing the injured.

My favourite activity was pretending to be a soldier. I like the marching and crawling under the net

I enjoyed army training on the field

I enjoyed the army training because it showed you what it would have been like to be a soldier in WW1

I really enjoyed doing the crawling across the grass even though we got dirty

My favourite activity was the assault course because it was fun, dirty and challenging. Thank you

I really enjoyed the army training because it really made you think about how little practice they had

I enjoyed being hit by the cannonball. Also I dodged some

My favourite activity was army training because you were crawling under a cargo net and you had to get across a river

I enjoyed the outdoor activity

I loved training up for the army!☺

I enjoyed pretending to be a soldier

I liked training

My favourite activity was the army training course because we had to go through a challenging but fun obstacle course

I really enjoyed pretending to be a soldier in training because I enjoyed what type of basic training the soldier undertook

I enjoyed marching like a soldier

The assault course lots of fun. I would like to be a soldier

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I liked Mr Andrew's game because we were pretending to be soldiers wanting to go to war

I really enjoyed doing the outdoor games

Home Front and Trench Cake

I have learnt how to make trench cake

My favourite activity was trying the trench cake and I thought it was very nice

Thank you Mrs Totham for the lovely trench cake

I really enjoyed doing about rationing and eating trench cake. Yum!

We ate trench cake!

The cake was yummy

I learned that eggs were sent to the troops so people used vinegar and bicarbonate of soda instead to make trench cake

First aid

I really enjoyed the nursing activity and learning how they fixed broken bones in WW1

I now know what to do if I need a splint on my leg

I loved acting as a WW1 nurse

I loved it when we learnt how to treat injuries because it was fun to be treated and treating other people so I know what to do in the future

My idea of a great day was learning how to treat quick bad injuries

I enjoyed the injury room because I liked to know what injuries the nurses would have dealt with.

I learnt that soldiers gave first aid to each other

I enjoyed the session about nursing and practising how to bandage injuries

I really liked doing the nurse learning. I could feel the pressure there going through

I liked learning practical skills in the first aid activity

The thing what I really liked about World War 1 day is that we learned what they used to heal injured soldiers in 1914

I have enjoyed World War 1 day and now I have learnt how to help the injured in the war

I really liked the first aid because it was really fun

I learnt to put on a World War 1 splint

I really enjoyed doing the injury games

The tank, Artefacts and Sounds

I also like the sounds because I realised how deafening it was. Oh and the tank 😊

I really enjoyed hearing all the different sounds of cannons and tanks and finding out lots of interesting information about them

My favourite activity was the dark room because I liked all the noise of the tanks

I really enjoyed today because we saw artefacts from WW1

I liked watching the big tank and going into different classrooms to do different activities

I really enjoyed the WW1 artefacts. They were interesting especially learning how many horses fought and died. Where did all the items come from? Did anyone from Bottesford get the Victoria Cross? How many soldiers died from Bottesford?

My favourite activity was when we listened to the tank sounds in the K2 quiet room because it made me think about the war. Thank you

I really liked watching the army tank!

My favourite activity was the tank because it. I liked watching the tank and learning about it

It was fun

I enjoyed the tank

I liked the tank

Wonderful to experience such knowledge and genuine artefacts

I liked watching the remote control tank

I also liked watching the tank

Being a Soldier

I loved it where in cedar, he picked two people and got them dressed and he had a rifle too. He showed us a rucksack and it was very big.

I learnt when they went to have a no.2 they flicked it into no man's land and the dead bodies.

I liked the bit when we were pretending to be a soldier

I enjoyed getting to hold and shoot a real gun and traveling back to WW1 😊😊😊

I really enjoyed firing the rifle in Miss Moore's class because it was very elegant

I learned about how the soldiers used to carry 6 stone of equipment on their backs in a rucksack that contained ammunition, weapons etc.

I liked pretending to be a soldier in world War One

I enjoyed putting the equipment on

I didn't know soldiers had their own sewing kit to mend uniforms.

I really enjoyed seeing guns

Poppies & Singing

I like making the poppies to remember the people that died

I loved making the poppy. I had a fun day.

My favourite part was making the poppy and singing "it's a long way to Tipperary" and "Pack up your troubles in old kit bag"

I also enjoyed making the poppy

I enjoyed making my poppy

I really enjoyed what the poppies were used for.

I really enjoyed making poppies

Thank you for bringing the 41 poppies for us to look at.

Dressing Up

I liked getting dressed up and seeing everyone's costumes

I liked seeing everyone dressed up

I enjoyed WW1day as I saw everyone dressed up.

I thought everyone looked great dressed up.

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Thanks and Compliments and General Comments

Thank you to world War One day for a lovely absolute surprise

I really enjoyed the whole atmosphere and learnt some brilliant new facts. Thanks

Thank you to the men for coming and showing everyone all of the different equipment they use.

I would like to say thank you to Mrs Moore 😊

The WW1 day was truly amazing

Thank you XXXX

A fantastic trip back to life in WW1

Thank you, it was brilliant

Thank you to Miss Moore and Miss Stevenson for the best day ever 😊

I really enjoyed today because we learned things about the war we didn't already know.

It was really great and a big thank you to all the staff and members who made it what it was.
Thanks!!! 😊

I had a brilliant day! Learning many facts and taking risks and just having fun and seeing the things they used

Creative

Thank you to Miss Moore for organising the day

Amazing

It made me realise how they should never be forgotten

The soldiers were brave of what they did

Thank you for a great day

My favourite theme day while I've been at primary. Thank you for doing that. It was AMAZING

I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who made this day happen

We had a super day learning about WW1

Thank you Mr Andrews for making the day so fun

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I have really enjoyed seeing all the children have a fantastic day throughout all the activities. I know many of them gained lots of knowledge about WW1. Thank you to all involved for their effort in making today so memorable and fantastic.

Interesting to see how the school kids helped with the war effort

The school has been transformed for the day to give the children a flavour of life in the early 20th century. I have loved every moment of today.

Luggage Label Comments

1. I like marching a lot , singing songs with Mrs Harris .Thank you. (Mia year 2)
2. I've lunt to mack. I have learnt how to make trench cake
3. My favourite activity was marching because I marched to music (Lewis)
4. I loved it where in cedar, he picked two people and got them dressed and he had a rifle too. He showed us a rucksack and it was very big. (Daisy)
5. I learnt when they went to have a no.2 they flied it into no mans land and the dead bodys. My favourite bit about World War 1 was with Mr Andrew where we singed up to be in the world war 1.
6. I really enjoyed the nursing activity and learning how they fixed broken bones in WW1 (Georgina)
7. I enjoyed putting the equipment on and I now know what to do if I need a splint on my leg. (Martha)
8. I loved acting as a WW1 nurse (Freya)
9. I loved it when we learnt how to treat injuries because it was fun to be treated and treating other people so I know what to do in the future.
- I also like the sounds because I realised how deafening it was. Oh and the tank ☺ (Ross)
10. I liked the bit when we were pretending to be a solder
11. My idea of a great day was learning how to treat quick bad injuries (Darcey)
12. I ejoyed the injury room because I liked to know what injuries the nurses would have dealt with. (Jessica)
13. I learnt that soilders gave first aid to each other (Anna)
14. I enjoyed the session about nursing and practising how to bandage injuries (Zoe)
15. I really liked doing the nurse learnse. I could feel the pressure there going through
16. My favourite activity was trying the trench cake and I thought it was very nice (Ava)
17. Thank you Mr Andrews for making the day so fun. Thank you Mrs Totham for the lovley trench cake. (Love from Bradley)
18. I really enjoyed doing about rationing and eating trench cake. Yum! (Floss)
- 19 We ate trench cake! (Charlie)
20. I liked learning practical skills in the first aid activity
21. I like making the poppies to remember the people that died (Lilly)

22. I loved making the poppy. I had a fun day. (Darcey)
23. My favorite part was making the poppy and singing "it's a long way to Tipperary" and "Pack up your troublous in old kit bag"
24. I liked getting dressed up and seeing everyone's costumes. I also enjoyed making the poppy (Samual Varley)
25. I enjoyed Making my poppy (Sophie)
26. I really enjoyed what the poppies were used for. My favourite activity was marching with Miss Harris because we sang songs to go with it. Thank you to world War One day for a lovely apsolutly surprise (Love Eliza XXX)
27. I really enjoyed making poppies (Sophie)
28. I really enjoyed hearing all the different sounds of cannons and tanks and finding out lots of interesting information about them (from Lewis)
29. My favorite atverty was the dark room because I liked all the noise of the tanks (amy-ann)
30. I really enjoyed today because we saw artifacts from WW1 (Polly)
31. The thing what I really liked about World War 1 day is that we learned what they used to heal injured soldiers in 1914 (by Stephanie)
32. I enjoyed getting to hold and shoot a reall gun and traveling back to WW1 😊😊😊
33. I liked watching the big tank and gouing into different clsrooms to do different activities
34. I really enjoyed the whole atmosphere and learnt some brilliant new facts Thanks, (Daisy-Kate)
35. I liked the tank, trainig and seeing everyone dressed up. Thank you XXXX (Isaac)
36. I really enjoyed the WW1 artefacts. They were interesting especially learning how many horses fought and died. Where did all the items come from? Did anyone from Bottesford get the Victoria Cross. How many soldiers died from Bottesford? (Jonathan)
37. I enjoied the tank and being hit by the cannonball. Also I doged some. (Thomas)
38. Thank you to the men for coming and showing everyone all of the different equipment they use. (Oliver)
39. I really enjoyed firing the rifle in Miss Moore's class because it was very elegant (Jacky)
40. I really enjoyed doing the indary games and see guns (from Elise)
41. I have enjoyed World War 1 day and now I have learnt how to help the injured in the war. My favourite activity was when we listened to the tank sounds in the K2 quiet room because it made me think about the war. Thank you (Mollaigh)

42. I really liked watching the army tank!
43. My favourite activity was the tank because it was fun (William)
44. The kioqe was yummy. I liked watching the tank and learning about it. (Ben Kay)
45. I learned about how the soldiers used to carry 6 stone of equipment on their backs in a rucksack that contained ammunition, weapons etc. (Amelia)
46. I liked pretending to be a soldier in world War One (Lucas)
47. I liked Mr Andrew's activity because it was fun. I would like to say thank you to Mrs Moore ☺.
(Bethan ☺)
48. I enjoyed the challenges we had to do to be a soldier. That includes the commado roll, bridge building and rescuing the injured. WW1 day was truly amazing. (Ethan)
49. My favourite activity was pretending to be a soldier. I like the marching and crawling under the net (Hannah Smith Chestnut)
50. I enjoyed army training on the field and I learnt to put on a World War 1 splint.
51. I enjoyed the army training because it showed you what it would be like to be a soldier in WW1 (Jonathan)
52. I really enjoyed doing the crawling across the grass even though we got dirty (Poppy B Drew a picture of a pinafore before and after)
53. I enjoyed signing up for the army and pretending to be a soldier (from Rosa)
54. My favourite activity was the assault course because it was fun, dirty and challenging. Thank you (George)
55. I really enjoyed the army training because it really made you think about how little practice they had (Leona)
56. My favourite activity was army training because you were crawling under a cargo net and you had to get across a river (by Ethan)
57. Thank you, it was brilliant and I loved training up for the army!☺
58. I liked watching the remote control tank. The assault course lots of fun. I would like to be a soldier. (Oliver)
59. I enjoyed the outdoor activity and I also liked watching the tank (Beth D)
60. My favourite activity was the army training course because we had to go through a challenging but fun obstacle course (Freya)
61. I really enjoyed pretending to be a soldier in training because I enjoyed what type of basic training the soldier undertook (by Andrew)

62. A fantastic trip back to life in WW1. Wonderful to experience such knowledge and genuine artifacts (Sharon)

63. Thank you to Miss Moore and Miss Steavansun for the best day ever ☺ (from Jessica)

64. I really enjoyed today because we learned things about the war we didn't already know. (Georgia)

65. I enjoyed WW1 day as I saw everyone dressed up. (Francis J)

66. It was really great and a big thank you to all the staff and members who made it what it was. Thanks!!! ☺ P.S. I thought everyone looked great dressed up. (William)

67. I really liked the first aid because it was really fun (Tia)

68. I had a brilliant day! Learning many facts and taking risks and just having fun and seeing the things they used (Millie)

69. I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who made this day happen (Daisy)

70. Creative

71. Thank you to Miss Moore for organising the day. (Rufus)

72. Amazing

73. It made me realise how they should never be forgotten (Charlie)

74. The soldiers were brave of what they did (Will)

75. Thank you for a great day. I enjoyed marching like a soldier (Joshua)

76. My favourite theme day while I've been at primary. Thank you for doing that. It was AMAZING (Polly)

77. I liked Mr Andrews game because we were pretending to be soldiers wanting to go to war. (Molly)

78. I have really enjoyed seeing all the children have a fantastic day throughout all the activities. I know many of them gained lots of knowledge about WW1. Thank you to all involved for their effort in making today so memorable and fantastic. (Miss Moore)

79. Interesting to see how the school kids helped with the war effort

80. I learned that eggs were sent to the troops so people used vinegar and bicarbonate of soda instead to make trench cake (Mrs Tothan)

81. The school has been transformed for the day to give the children a flavour of life in the early 20th century. I have loved every moment of today. I didn't know soldiers had their own sewing kit to mend uniforms. (Mrs Barker)

82. We had a super day learning about WW1. Thank you for bringing the 41 poppies for us to look at.
(Miss Taylor)

83. Careful observations from the trainee first aiders. Working well in teams to treat the wounded-taking care of each other. Ready to help each other heal then back to the trenches. (Reflections from Nurse Stevenson).