



Remembrance Day

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Additional Resources

PowerPoint presentation

Poppy, doughnut, needle and thread, paper, pen, bar of soap, blanket, luggage tag, an object with the Red Shield on it (cup?)

Aims

To learn about The Salvation Army during war time.

To reflect on how everyday objects can bring hope and comfort.

To reflect on how we can help others

You may wish to give each pupil a small piece of doughnut as they leave the assembly, if the school feels it is appropriate.

Introduction

Welcome children and teachers to assembly and introduce yourself. Start with a general chat to ensure pupils are aware already of the significance of Remembrance Day and to clear up any misunderstanding. We are here today to talk about the 11th of November. Does anyone know what is special about the 11th day of the 11th month? What is Remembrance Day? What is it that we are remembering? Take a variety of responses.

We spend time on Remembrance Day thinking about people who have been hurt or who have died during war - any war. It could be a World War or a more recent war. Remembrance Day is a serious time which we do not want to forget, so we do things to help us remember. Does anyone know what we do to help us remember? *Take a variety of responses. For example - We have a time of silence, wear a poppy... Why do we wear a poppy? Explain about the field in Flanders.*

Main Talk

I'm here today to talk about another army that gets involved in wars. But it doesn't hurt people and it doesn't carry guns. It's called The Salvation Army. We take part in wars by helping people who are involved in fighting or have been affected by war.

So I have brought some items that help us remember some of the things The Salvation Army has done to help others during war. They may seem a bit unusual or they may seem everyday objects. *Bring out the objects one by one, encouraging the pupils to name them and to give ideas as to how the objects were used, before you tell them. After each object ask the children to think why each object could be important, what it could mean to someone who receives it during wartime. For example - giving hope, making you feel better, feeling less alone*

Doughnut - A doughnut! Yum! Doughnuts are sweet, easy to make and cheap to make too. During the First World War, women from The Salvation Army went out to help soldiers who were fighting by making sure they had enough food to eat. Some of the soldiers called the women 'doughnut girls'. The 'doughnut girls/lassies' gave the soldiers mugs of tea, homemade doughnuts, meals and a smile to help keep up their spirits.



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Needle and thread - The doughnut girls did a lot for the soldiers. For example, they helped sew up the soldiers' clothes when they got damaged. You can't get new clothes when you are fighting a war.

Paper and pen - The Salvation Army gave the soldiers paper and pens so they could write home to their families.

Soap - The Salvation Army helped by giving out soap to the soldiers so they could keep themselves clean.

War doesn't just affect soldiers in the war zone. It can affect families at home too. The Salvation Army has done work during wartime in this country too. *(Older children may hopefully be more aware of these events.)*

Blanket - During the World Wars people lost their homes because of bombings. So The Salvation Army helped them by giving food and shelter. During the Second World War some people had to leave their homes and take shelter underground when it became too dangerous to stay at home. Salvation Army people visited the shelters and brought the people help.

Luggage tag - The Salvation Army helped children to move away from dangerous cities during the Second World War. This was called evacuation. We helped to make sure children were not lost and found a new and safer home to look after them during the war.

An ear (cup own ear) - The Salvation Army is here to listen. People share their stories and experiences of war. They are glad when there is someone to listen.

Red shield object (cup?) - When people see this sign they know that The Salvation Army is here to help. The Salvation Army tries to help people who have been affected by war.

Christian Perspective

Why do we help people during wartime? Christians believe that we should help others. *Read Matthew 25:35-40.* During war time so many people need help. They need comfort, shelter, food, and hope. The Salvation Army believes that we serve God by helping others.

The objects I brought in today were not expensive; they are the kind of objects you might have in your home already. But for the people who needed them it represents so many different things. *Draw on the responses from the children throughout the assembly.*

Reflection

We look at the poppy and remember people who have been affected by war. We think about the people who have been caught up in wartime. I would like you to take a moment now to think how little things can help others. *List some of the objects, click to show the other objects on the screen presentation.* The next time you see one of the objects I have shown you today, I would like you to think about how it helped to improve someone's life during wartime. They are symbols to help us remember how war affects people. *Pause for short reflection time.*

Thank the school for inviting you to be a part of their Remembrance Day assembly.