

Carlton Road JIN School November 2018



Suzanne's Report of her visit to the School

I attended Carlton Junior and Infant school on the 26th and 27th November and spent both days working with the Year 4 class and their teacher, Andrew Owen. During my visit the school had invited parents to come in to class to see their children and we had a few sit in on our lessons. One parent told me an interesting story that we shared with the rest of the class. Her grandfather was an Indian soldier in WW2 in the British Army and was taken prisoner by the Japanese. After the war he and his friends made the journey back to India on foot! The class teacher Andrew Owen also brought in some medals to show the children which his Great Grandfather had won in WW2.

We looked at the profiles of Thomas Sheldrake and William Preston, in detail. The children were surprised to learn that William Preston had lived on Pickles Street, which is close to their school. They were sad to learn that he was killed in September 1918, so close to the end of the war and they were shocked to learn that he was only 19 when he died. A few of the children said that they had cousins of that age. It was good to be able to share a cutting from the Dewsbury District News as this really helped to bring his story to life.

The class were interested to learn that Thomas Sheldrake was one of the first men in Dewsbury who enlisted in the KOYLI, when war broke out on 5th August 1914. They were fascinated to read the clipping from the Dewsbury Reporter which reported that Thomas was 'wounded and missing' and had last been seen suffering from shellshock. We discussed what 'wounded and missing' meant and about the causes and symptoms of shellshock. It was good to be able to share this cutting as it also included some nice comments about Thomas from the letter writer, who knew him well.

The children were shocked to learn about the harsh realities of trench life and they responded with some thoughtful questions. They produced some wonderful booklets full of information and drawings. They then took on the role one of the soldiers and wrote some fantastic postcards from the trenches.

Extract from the School's letter of satisfaction

I am writing to inform you about the World War 1 Workshop that took place in November 2018 at Carlton Junior Infant School. I apologise for not writing sooner.

Suzanne Hudson delivered the 2 day workshop and she was brilliant. The resources and her valuable knowledge really assisted the children's development in topic this year. She also assisted towards a class assembly that was presented to the whole school and parents who attended. Without this workshop the children wouldn't have had the opportunity to discover all the rich history that surrounded Dewsbury and our school. With the help of Suzanne we could link soldiers to our school. This was excellent because the children could be immersed with their local history. All staff members was impressed with her services and dedication to improve pupil knowledge. We would love to have her back in the future and hope that this a regular occurrence. There are some pictures below of the workshop that was delivered.

Kind regards, Andrew Owen (Year 4 Teacher).

