

# GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL



## PRESS RELEASE

### Green Oak School Remember the Fallen

On Friday, 9 November 2012 Green Oak School marked Remembrance Day with a reflective visit to Eashing Cemetery organised by Reverend Beverley Hunt and the Godalming Joint Burial Committee. The whole school had been learning about the priceless value of peace and they created tokens of thanks for people buried in the cemetery whose lives had been offered to maintain peace in our country. The children wrote poems and prayers, sent messages of thanks and thought about parts of the world where children do not know peace and security in their lives.

One of the children wrote "Dear Mr Collyer, You fought bravely for us in the war. No-one will forget the moment of victory and you made that happen. Thank you for our freedom and for peace." Frank Collyer served in the Royal Horse Guards and was injured at Ypres in May 1915; he died of his wounds in October 1915 aged 25. Each class visited the cemetery, stood in silence to think about the learning that built up to the visit and offered a prayer of thanks for the people buried there and the peace that we enjoy.

The whole experience was enhanced by a bugler, Mr Ray Pont of the Godalming Band, who played The Last Post at the end of each visit. The children now have a special respect and a newfound pride for the cemetery as an important feature of their community.

The Mayor of Godalming, Councillor Liz Wheatley, and the Chairman of the Godalming Joint Burial Committee, Councillor Andrew Wilson, joined the children and also unveiled a plaque to commemorate the planting of a Liquidamber (Worplesdon) tree to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Speaking on the day, the Mayor of Godalming said "Sad though it is to think of wars and the losses incurred, it is vital to remember that we all owe so much to those millions who have given their lives for

us. I am very impressed by what the children are learning. It is important not to take our valuable way of life for granted.

Ends

In case of query please contact:

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