

# Festival of Remembrance

## An invitation to join the exhibition & learning activities

As we commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day and the end of World War II the Cathedral is inviting schools to contribute to a **Remembrance Exhibition** which will be on display in the spectacular surrounds of the Chapter House from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November. We invite your school to design an exhibition board on the theme of remembrance which will be placed in the niches of the Chapter House. This will be similar in style to the Poppy Display of 2018 (image below).



During the same time period another exhibition, the **Tapestry of Black Britons**, will also be on display. The 4m long tapestry pays tribute to the overlooked role of Black and Asian servicemen and servicewomen in World War II, and forms part of the Tapestries of Black Britons.



*“Altogether, over three and half million Black and Asian service personnel helped to win the fight for freedom but despite the courage and bravery they showed in volunteering to fight, once the war was over, they found that old suspicions returned...To all the men and women from the West Indies, Africa and the Indian subcontinent, who volunteered to fight in the first and second world wars, we owe a debt of gratitude and respect.”* Broadcaster Sir Trevor McDonald, The Forgotten Volunteers, BBC Radio 2.

Schools can also book during November for a short visit or a full programmed day that can include:

- Remembrance tour of the Cathedral including the Remembrance Exhibition, Tapestries of Black Britons and view the ‘Roll of Honour’ for Somerset based soldiers in St Martin’s Chapel
- Take part in a creative workshop with the creator of Tapestry of Black Britons, Paula Ogun Hector
- Options to link this topic to a wider look at hidden histories in relation to Wells and its links to transatlantic slavery or to book a visit to the Bishop's Palace to view their spectacular Remembrance Poppies display.

Short visits and tours cost £2.75 per pupil (including VAT) with accompanying adults free. The cost of a programmed day is £5.50 per pupil (including VAT) with accompanying adults free. We plan the day to suit your arrival and departure times (approx. 10-2pm) and tailor the activities to suit your objectives. Please get in touch with [education@wellscathedral.org.uk](mailto:education@wellscathedral.org.uk) to book your visit.

# How to be part of the exhibition

Your task is to design an exhibition board on the theme of remembrance. There are no restrictions on how you approach this, except for the final dimensions of the piece (see details below). The media used, the delegation of tasks (individual, group, class), and the presentation are left to your discretion. You may like to link the project to curriculum studies in history, RE, PSHE, English or Art & Design.

Some examples might include:

- **English:** compose poetry and creative writing on the topic of remembrance
- **History:** research and present facts about the people we remember at this time
- **Local History:** research and celebrate local people who contributed to the war effort
- **RE:** write thoughtful prayers of remembrance or prayers for peace
- **History/RE/PSHE:** explore the symbolism of different coloured poppies – red as a memorial to WWI and other conflicts that have followed; the black poppy rose to commemorate the contributions of black, African and Caribbean communities to the war effort; the purple poppy to remember animals that have been victims of war; and the white poppy to remember people who have died in conflict, with a focus on bringing about peace.
- **Art and DT:** explore the most effective ways to portray remembrance. Work can be 2- or 3-D and use any media including paint, collage, photography or textiles.

## Important information about the exhibition boards

- The display must fit in a niche in the Chapter House, so should be 65cm wide by 130cm high.
- With no fixings possible, schools should be wary of making anything too high which might fall, i.e. the display needs to be able to lean against the wall (or be self-standing) and not top-heavy.
- The Cathedral can display up to **49** exhibition boards and spaces will be filled on a **first come first served basis**.
- Submissions may be delivered to the Cathedral during the week commencing **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October**, and after the Festival they will be available for collection in the week commencing **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December**.

To book your free exhibition space please contact the Cathedral Learning Department by **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September**. We hope you enjoy the project and look forward to seeing your pieces for the exhibition!

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