

Remembrance Day 2022



On 11th November, Governors, staff and students joined members of The Old Wyggestonian Association to honour the fallen. Of over 1,000 former students and staff who fought in the Great War, 235 did not return.

Their names, along with those who fell in WW2 and subsequently, are inscribed on the beautiful War Memorial which stands in the centre of the College. Wreaths were laid by the OWA, staff and students, the Last Post and Reveille were sounded, and 2 minutes silence was observed.



It is always a very moving occasion for everyone, whatever their age. For me it was particularly poignant as my own Grandfather was one of those who returned. He had left the School in 1912 and joined up in December 1915. He returned in 1919 having survived The Battle of the Somme and suffered several wounds and mustard gas attacks. The exposure to mustard gas affected his health for the rest of his life and contributed to the fatal heart attack on Christmas Day 1964.

His experience, like that of so many others, was rarely discussed. The pain was too great. My Grandmother kept the postcards he sent from the front. They show the devastation caused by the ferocious artillery bombardments but not the horror of the trenches. Many had the locations obscured by the field censor.



We remember with gratitude all those who served, those who did not return as well as those who did.

Words by Philip Parkinson, Chair of Governors