

# REMEMBRANCE DAY – IDEAS BANK

A continuous collection of classroom and whole school ideas to explore remembrance, history and reflection. Suitable across primary and secondary phases.

## About Remembrance Day

- Observed on 11 November each year
- Commemorates the end of the First World War in 1918
- Honours members of the armed forces who died in wars and conflicts
- The red poppy became a symbol of remembrance after the poem In Flanders Fields
- Schools often use the day to explore themes of sacrifice, peace and historical understanding

## Whole School / All Through Ideas

- Introduce the day through an assembly explaining the meaning of Remembrance Day
- Observe a short moment of silence to reflect on those who lost their lives
- Explore the symbolism of the poppy and why it is used for remembrance
- Display student work exploring themes of remembrance and peace
- Discuss how remembrance helps societies reflect on the past
- Watch a short historical clip explaining the significance of the First World War
- Reflect on how communities remember important historical events
- Link discussions to themes of peace, conflict and responsibility

## Primary Ideas

- Create poppy artwork using painting, collage or paper crafts
- Learn about the story behind the poppy symbol
- Write short sentences describing what remembrance means
- Create a classroom display using poppy artwork
- Read a simple story related to remembrance and discuss its message
- Write thank you messages recognising people who help protect communities
- Explore the idea of peace and why it is important

## Secondary Ideas

- Research the causes and consequences of the First World War
- Analyse historical sources such as letters, photographs or poetry from the war
- Explore the role of remembrance in modern society
- Investigate how different countries remember historical conflicts
- Analyse the poem In Flanders Fields and its symbolism
- Debate how societies should remember difficult moments in history
- Research local memorials and their historical significance
- Reflect on how remembrance can promote discussions about peace

## **Cross Curricular Links**

- History, the First World War and historical remembrance
- English, poetry analysis and reflective writing
- Art, symbolism and commemorative design
- Citizenship, responsibility, peace and historical understanding
- Geography, exploring locations connected to historical events