

## Remembrance Day 2023

In this year's Remembrance Day assembly on November 10th, 2023, Villiers High School came together as a community to pay our respects and honour the brave soldiers who have served during times of conflict. While we always remember the sacrifices of the many individuals who fought in conflicts since WWI, this year, we took a moment to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of Indian and Black soldiers. These courageous individuals played a crucial role in the conflicts, and it is imperative that their stories and sacrifices are also remembered and acknowledged.



Indian Soldiers in World War One

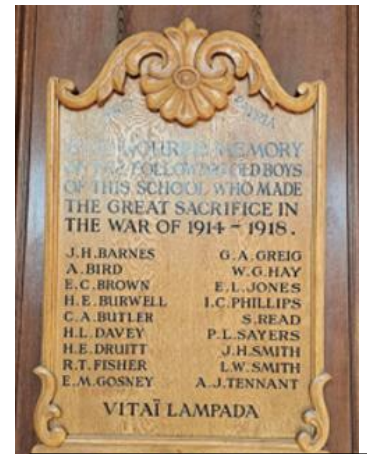
In the assembly personal stories, shed light on the remarkable journeys of these unsung heroes. We remembered young men from our school, who sacrificed their lives for their country in the First World War of 1914-18, students like Cyril Butler and Eric Gosney. We also remembered Sukha, an Indian soldier, from the British Empire who illustrates the 1.5 million Indian soldiers who fought in the British Army, many like Sukha died fighting for the freedoms we enjoy today.



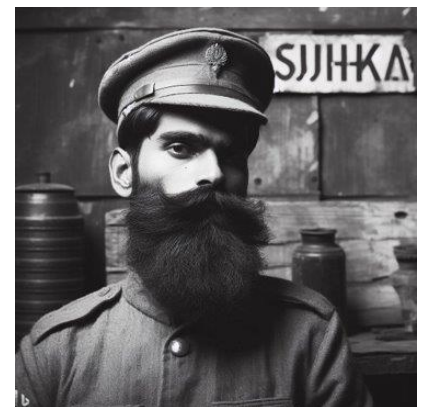
Walter Tull

We also remembered Walter Tull, a Barbadian footballer, who gave up his promising football career for Tottenham Hotspur to join the army. We know a lot about Walter Tull, due to his fame as a footballer, his story has often been retold. We gave a moment in the assembly to remember all the black soldiers who were paid less, given no pensions and even banned from recreational activities with white soldiers but who still gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Our students also participated in a 2-minute silence which was a moving and important tribute to these often-forgotten soldiers, and a reminder of the importance of acknowledging diversity and inclusivity in our shared history. Above all, the students gave a thought to those who are still fighting and still giving their service to our country, in order to maintain the peace, we all enjoy.



Villiers High School Plaque



Sukha (artists impression)