Monday 11 November 2019

It was lovely to see former Year 11 students last week, as we celebrated all that they accomplished in their time with us. With thanks to Councillor Gordon Jones for his reflections on learning and for presenting the students with their prizes.

Our current Year 11 students start their Mock Examinations this week, with their French Speaking Assessments. This starts the process of assessments that will help them to understand where they are at this stage in the GCSEs and what they will need to do as they progress in the final stages. As part of this preparation all Year 11 students will hear a talk by Maximise, helping them to consider their revision strategies and how they best prepare.

This week, along with many across Europe, will be taking time to remember those who have fought and given their lives for the freedoms that we enjoy today. We will be taking our Act of Remembrance in school on Monday and in St Mary's church on Tuesday. Ruby Kanwara and Hayden Scanlan-Baker will lead Year 7 and 8 students in prayer at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 12 November. I share with you, for your own reflection, their prayer.

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace: for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God;

May God give peace

for all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;

May God give peace

for civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity;

May God give peace

for peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace

for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.

May God give peace

O God of truth and justice,

we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.

Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.

As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever.

Amen.

Julia Upton