Pupils to take part in war experience

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Pupils were given the chance to go back in time 100 years and experience what life was like for those who had to face the horrific scenes of the First World War.

More than 100 children from across Norfolk took part in the event hosted by Gresham’s School, near Holt.

Activities included marching and taking part in drills, digging a trench and learning what life was like in the trenches and a recreation of a field hospital.

Pupils also sang songs from the First World War and recited war poetry. They also listened to a talk from Duncan Slater, a member of the charity Walking with the Wounded. He served in Afghanistan and lost both his legs when his vehicle was blown up.

Tom Appleton, music outreach director at the school, said: “Here at Gresham’s we have a remarkably sad history with the First World War as we lost 111 pupils and staff. Our chapel was built during the First World War and is a reminder of their sacrifice.

The pupils have been able to get to know all about the First World War and its importance to our community and it is important to share our story with some of the other schools and learn about their experiences and knowledge of the war.”

Chris Woodhouse, 17, from the school’s Combined Cadet Force, said: “I have studied for a first aid qualification and it has been interesting seeing different things they used, like leg splints.”

Right, pupils from Gresham’s School Chapel Choir will be singing ‘Eventide’ by Patrick about First World War British Edith Cavell, with the Sheringham and Cromer Choral Society in St Peter’s Church in Sheringham from 7.30pm.

Pupils will also be paying their respects in a Remembrance Service in the school chapel today and on November 11. On Sunday, members from the school’s Combined Force (CCF) will be leading the Remembrance Day parade in

Tales from home

An author hopes her latest novel will reveal what life was like in the Brecks during the First World War.

Tessa West, from Glemsford in Suffolk, has set her fourth novel, As Best We Can, in a village near Bury St Edmunds at the outbreak of the Great War.

Chronicling the lives of the fictional Bailey family during the conflict, Ms West said she hoped the split narrative would cast light on what families would have gone through.

Having carried out extensive research using local newspapers from the time, Ms West said she discovered a number of recurring themes which influenced the book.

“I wanted to know what was going on in the area during the war, rather than the western front, and look at themes like the

Lilly gives poppies a glitzy tw

Flower girl Lilly Bennett is making poppies with more dazzling appeal than most.

For the caring seven-year-old is choosing to support the armed forces the family of Fastolf Avenue Gorleston, were very proud of who has so far transformed the raising £75.

Mrs Bennett, a health care assistant, said: “I thought it would be a nice project to do in memory of the

Picture ANTON

Woodhouse helping out wounded cadet Rufus Fox at the First World War Day.

Picture MARK

Lilly with some gillytery poppies.