



LOST LIVES: The Gresham's School roll of honour.

Picture: SUBMITTED

Stories about school's war heroes go global online

A £10,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant will help a north Norfolk school honour the memory of its First World War dead.

Gresham's School, Holt, will use the cash, from the fund's "First World War: then and now" programme to create an interactive website which will include profiles and other information on the 110 pupils and three staff who lost their lives in the conflict.

It will also contain a database of information on the 500 from the school who served.

And Gresham's hopes its wealth of historical information will help pupils from other schools with their researches.

Some of the cash will also be used to carry out essential conservation work on important sources, such as the school's roll of honour and photograph albums, to make sure they are available for future generations.

Academic deputy head, Simon Kinder, said he was delighted with the grant.

"The archive resources relating to Gresham's during the First World War are an extraordinary educational and community resource and it is tremendously exciting that the HLF grant will make this material fully accessible to a national and international audience for generations to come," he added.

The school archive includes letters from the front and obituaries published in the Gresham Magazine, as well as photograph albums, a vellum roll of honour, home front accounts, and biographical material donated by family members.

Liz Larby, school archivist said: "The new website will provide digitally-recorded materials which will give access to schoolchildren, historians, people researching their family histories, and the local community to study the conflict and its impact on the school.

"Pupils will be involved in researching information for the website and members of the public will be invited to contribute their own family photographs and documents to add to our knowledge."

The public will be able to view some of the school's archive collection at a family history day on the afternoon of May 5.