The bloodswept land and seas of red where angels fear to tread.

On Friday, 12 December Holy Trinity school for the first time is supporting Save the Children’s Christmas Juniper Day and everyone is being asked to ‘Make it Better with a Sweater’. We all get to wear our own decorated Christmassy sweatshirt or festive jumper to school in return for making a donation to the charity.

We’ve all heard of Save the Children but what do they do? Like the name suggests Save the Children is a charity that aims to save children. They work all over the world, mainly in Africa and southern Asia, helping children who live in poverty or are in danger.

Last year they saved the lives of 15.4m children in total throughout the 120 countries they work in.

Save the Children has a special emergency fund in case anything really sudden happens and there is not time to build up enough money for example the Ebola or Syria crises. In 2013 they helped with 119 emergencies in 48 different countries; giving well needed food and water, healthcare, protection and education to just under 3.5m children.

Education is the key to coming out of poverty. This is because if you do not have an education you will not be able to get a good job and that will mean that you will not have enough money to buy a house so you will end up living in the slums.

During natural disasters or conflicts children are often taken out of school and the thing that they wish for the most is to go back.

Throughout the school everyone came together to make a Remembrance Day display of poppies (photograph above). Each class made their poppies using different materials, for example: scrunched tissue paper balls, paper, paint and pastels and several others.

For the Love of Art

Poppies were created using authentic World War I techniques. During the war the Tower of London was used as a recruitment base for soldiers. One of the more grisly uses of the Tower was a prison and execution ground for German spies. Around 4 million people visited the poppies memorial following their installation in August. The display was taken down at the end of November and will tour the country until 2018 when the poppies will be permanently displayed in the Imperial War museums in London and Manchester.

Every November we have a day when we dress up for school to support BBC Children in Need and give money to support this worthwhile charity. Kingfisher Frenzy reporters decided to find out what it was all about.

In 1980, the first Children in Need programme was broadcast on the TV. It was made of lots of short segments and was intended to raise money for charities working with children in the UK. Then in 1988, it finally became one whole programme dedicated to Children in Need. In 1988, BBC Children in Need became a proper charity for raising money for children who need it all around the world, not just the UK.

The programme features many performances such as top singers and bands and also many celebrities appearing on the seven-hour long broadcast across BBC TV and radio. They perform lots of different activities like sketches and songs.

The BBC Children in Need mascot is a yellow bear created and named in 1985 by a graphic designer named Joanna Ball. The bear was named after her hometown Pudsey, West Yorkshire where her grandmother was the mayor. A new version of the mascot made out of vegetation now stands in Pudsey Park near the town centre.

Last year Holy Trinity raised an incredible £1005 for Children in Need thanks to a donation from one of the parents’ business. This year we raised £386. The whole BBC Children in Need appeal raised over £49 million in 2013.

Kingfisher Frenzy reporters decided to find out for school to support BBC Children in Need and give money to support this worthwhile charity.

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MR AUTON

Mr Auton is our Year 6 teacher and he kindly let Kingfisher Frenzy interview him about Christmas.

Mr Auton loves Christmas. He spends the holidays doing things like going ice skating and visiting the Christmas markets but for him, the best aspect, is spending time with his family.

“Every Christmas Eve” he remembers, “when I used to go I used to go to the Christingle service at church then went home and put the mince pies out for Santa. Then on Christmas Day I would wake up really early!”

Kingfisher Frenzy also interviewed Mrs Da Costa (Year 1 Giraffe Class Teacher) about Christmas.

“Christmas is my favourite time of year,” said Mrs Da Costa. “I absolutely cherish seeing my family, and I feel that Jesus is the best gift God gave the world: I love the whole experience of the food to the bells of Father Christmas’ magical sleigh.”

She is very easy to buy presents for: “This Christmas I really don’t mind what I receive because I prefer to give presents.”

MRS DA COSTA

She said: “I would love to be gifted some jewellery (not expensive).” Mrs Da Costa has a special Christmas planned: “I am extremely excited this year because I am travelling all the way to America to see my family.”

She has funny memories of Christmas when she was young: “As a child me and my siblings would get up to a lot of mischief!” she remembers. “One time we shook a bottle of lemonade and left it there waiting for someone to open it. Eventually it exploded!”

Mr Auton has his favourite memory of Christmas already used for the Royal Air Force. Its real name is The Lightning II F35B. That is two, not one, if you were wondering.

This is the most advanced planes in the world and the formed squadrons will be in service by 2018, as an engine fire on an F35B caused some delay. There may be further delays, but there will be at least one-year interval when the The Queen Elizabeth (aircraft carrier) will have to wait for the F35B squadrons to be formed as the carrier will have to wait for the F35B planes to be formed as the carrier will have no use without planes to fly off it. So to solve this problem the Ministry of Defence will allow US Air Force ‘planes to borrow the colossal carrier for the waiting period.

The Nintendo Jet

The Nintendo Jet is an extremely advanced jet fighters already used by the Royal Air Force. Its real name is The Lightning II F35B. That is two, not eleven, if you were wondering.

It is almost that time of year we have been waiting for so excitedly, Home-baked goodies, snow (we hope), Christmas songs everywhere and the dreaded task of present shopping: not knowing what to buy the children but parents don’t stress! The Kingfisher Frenzy team has done your shopping (not literally) by carrying out a little survey among the pupils of Holy Trinity to discover the most wanted gifts of 2014. They are Lego, NERF Rapidstrike and Star Wars toys. The Nintendo Jet is an extremely advanced jet fighter already used for the Royal Air Force. Its real name is The Lightning II F35B. That is two, not one, if you were wondering.

Christmas shopping

AN AFTERNOON OF TENSION AND EXCITEMENT AT YEAR 5 AND 6 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Holy Trinity Year 5 and 6 Basketball Team had an excellent time at the Inter-school Basketball Tournament set up by Richmond Knights. They came second out of 8 teams, winning three of their four matches.

The first quarter of the game, Holy Trinity (braving an on-going performance) suddenly found themselves 4-0 up. As the close game moved on, and the scores were incorporated with higher, and still HT remained in the lead, with more than twice as many points as Marshgate. Then the whistle blew and the referee indicated the beginning of the fourth quarter, in which Holy Trinity’s strongest players united as one. The minutes ticked by and the scores grew larger in number at a flabbergasting rate. Then the whistle blew and the referee indicated the beginning of the fourth quarter, in which Holy Trinity’s strongest players united as one. The minutes ticked by and the scores grew larger in number at a flabbergasting rate... then the whistle blew and HT had an incredible 18-6 win.

Now the third game approached, after their first two games (and first two wins). Holy Trinity had built up a lot confidence yet now it was time to put it to good use as they were playing Barnes-A. After the first quarter HT sadly were disappointed by their scores. For the first time Holy Trinity were not in the lead at 6-2 down. By the time the second quarter had ended they were 10-6 down. Then 16-8 after the third quarter... Suddenly, they became aware that the fourth quarter was their last chance to make a comeback. HT played one of the best quarters of the tournament yet Barnes-A, still fighting, made a brilliant effort to remain in the lead and to their enormous joy, the score at the end of the match was 18-14. Holy Trinity, after their first defeat, still had a chance to return in third place, yet now they were facing The Vineyard.

The first quarter seemed to pass in seconds, as both teams played to their full strength to win the title for third place. The score, for the first time, was a draw 4-4. Then the second quarter proved to be a cracker! For Holy Trinity as they took the lead the points were shown at 6-4. The rest of the match concentrated on fighting the fierce players which made up The Vineyard team away from the hoops, which worked quite successfully as the final score was a triumphant 12-8.

OPEN-TOP BUS TRIP!

On Wednesday, 8th October 2014, Year 2 went on a daytime Open Top Bus Trip. Their topic, this term is ‘London’ so they went to central London to see many of the famous landmarks and were lucky enough to travel around on an open-top bus. Kingfisher Frenzy interviewed some of the pupils and staff about their day out.

“It was raining all day but I still found it exciting,” said Jake. “My favourite part was seeing the Houses of Parliament.”

They saw many other famous sights including The Shard, Big Ben, The Tower of London, The London Eye, the Gherkin and Tower Bridge. While they were on the bus they had a tape recorded that told them about the landmarks they saw.

“The rain meant it was fairly wet and wild,” said Miss Clifton, “but I was so pleased to see the Puppets at the Tower of London.”

“The day was brilliant fun despite the rain,” agreed Rubie, Emma and Eleanor, “but it meant we ended up having our lunch in Waterlool train station.”

Miss Tolfor concluded, “It was wet and windy but definitely a trip to remember!”

Christmas shopping

An afternoon of tension and excitement at Year 5 and 6 Basketball Tournament

In an amazing close game against St. Elizabeth’s the Holy Trinity netball team lost three two. It was November the 19th and the team’s spirits were flying high when they scored their first goal, in the first quarter as well. Then in the second quarter Holy Trinity scored yet another goal and still St. Elizabeth’s were in the lead.

In the third quarter Holy Trinity let down their defence leaving the opponent to score one, then two goals. One of the team stated at this point, “I was slightly disappointed because I had hoped to beat them without them scoring but then I still felt hopeful because if we could score two in the first quarter what was to stop us from scoring again?”

Against all the odds (and Holy Trinity’s brilliant defence and marking) St. Elizabeth’s topped up their score with one more goal, leaving the score 3-2 to them.

In the fourth (and final) quarter Holy Trinity attempted many shots. Unfortunately, they couldn’t score a single goal, though their defence was good enough to prevent St. Elizabeth’s attack from scoring too.

So when the referee blew the whistle marking the end of the game, Holy Trinity awaited home defeated yet happy with their achievement - and ready to take on another school.