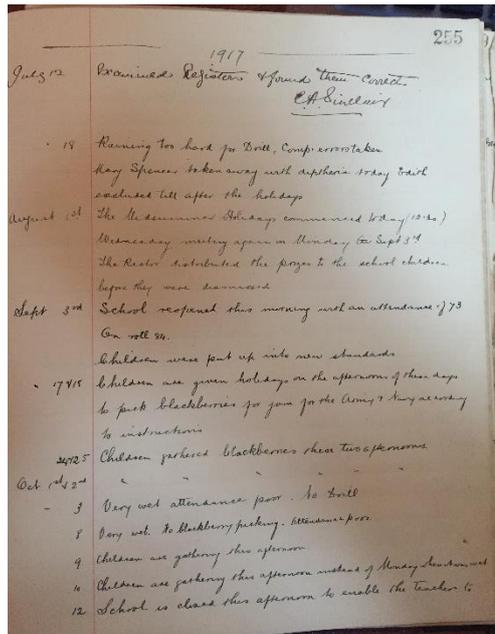
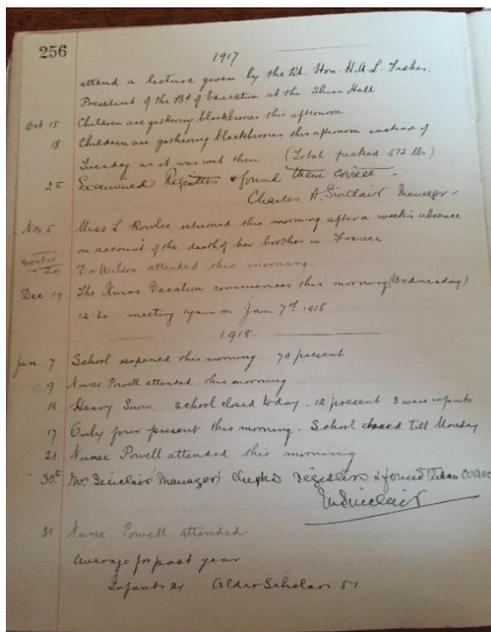


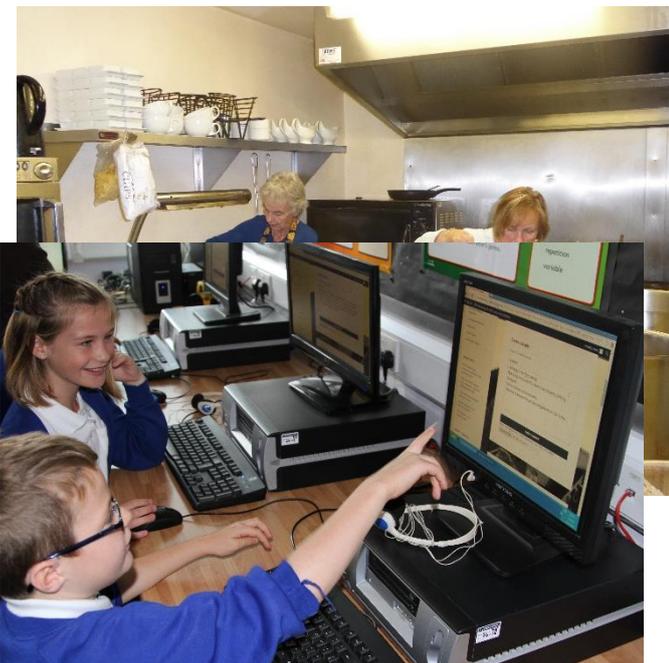
The school's 'lost' log books from the time of WW1 were discovered by the Head Teacher whilst having a sort out over the summer holidays (**August 2015**). This generated enormous excitement, with some incredible evidence about the children's blackberrying exploits being revealed.

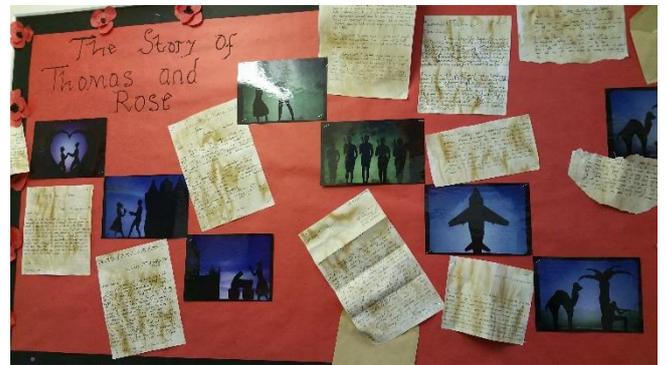


The official launch of our project, with an extensive exhibition in the Lysons Hall, took place in **mid-September 2015**, in conjunction with Heritage Open Days and the Gloucester History Festival. The 1st Hempsted Brownies kindly served refreshments, including WW1 style cakes that had been donated by members of our local WI and villagers, earning their 'Hostess' badge in the process.



The last couple of days in September and first few days in October 2015 were our busiest to date. A WW1-themed, cross-curricular day was held at Hempsted C of E Primary School, which included blackberry picking and apple gathering; charcoal drawing, cross-stitch pictures and the creation of a large scale mosaic; gardening activities; WW1 songs, in addition to a handling and dressing up session. The following day, members of the Hempsted Parish Magazine editorial board came into school to plan a forthcoming colour supplement with Year 6 pupils and selected, Year 5 pupils contributed to our project's blog under the guidance of Emma Espley. All pupils from Reception to Year 6 listened intently to a talk given by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust about changes in the countryside over the past 100 years and later had a chance to ask plenty of questions. Pre-school children, parents/carers and locals were invited to add a piece to our WW1 mosaic too, a lasting legacy of our project, which is now displayed on the outside wall by the school's main entrance. In the evening, volunteers from our local community convened for a jam making stint, utilising Cater Cater's kitchen based at Rodway Golf Club and the services of a professional chef. Year 6 pupils, along with their teacher and representatives from Sainsbury Gloucester Quays (who had kindly donated the essential items), ventured to Newent School to undertake a Great British Bake Off of trench cakes. On their return to school, they completed some wonderful, literacy work. On the Wednesday afternoon, the 'Open the Book' team were in school and cleverly managed to link the term's value of friendship with our WW1 activities and events that occurred within our village between 1914 and 1918. The school's newly formed Local History Group spent an enjoyable morning at the Gloucestershire Archives, seeing what happens 'behind the scenes' and exploring various manuscripts, maps and artefacts relating to our village's past (as well as being intrigued by a mummified rat!). The week ended on a high note - a WW1-themed, dance workshop for Key Stage 2 pupils, with performances given to Key Stage 1, parents/carers and individuals from our the local community.





And, even more activities took place throughout **October 2015**! The 1st Hempsted Brownies all achieved their 'First aid' badge and Jeannette McGhee, Girl-guiding County Archivist, paid a visit to the unit one Monday evening to share her recent research findings and former Girl-guiding memorabilia. In addition, twelve adults from our locality were fortunate to have a trip to the Gloucestershire Archives. The school's Harvest Festival was held in St. Swithun's Church with input from the Messy Church team. Not only did Canon Nikki Arthy relate to activities undertaken during our WW1-themed, cross-curricular week, but members of after school club and a retiree had also baked some superb, traditional harvest loaves. Just before half-term, thanks to the coordination of Debbie Hotchkins and Kate Subryan, Year 6 pupils came to share their trench cakes, experiences and discoveries with local people at Coffee Pot, who were equally keen to relay their childhood stories to the youngsters.



A CPD workshop, entitled 'Sharing our WW1-themed, cross-curricular week's activities' was advertised to local teachers in early **November 2015**. Attendees were very impressed with what we had done in such a short space of time and the impact it had, undoubtedly, had on both young and old alike. Coffee Pot regulars wished to see the incredible, and rather moving, photo story of the school's WW1-themed, cross-curricular week's activities, so this was projected for them to view at their next meeting. Furthermore, following a request from one of the senior lecturers in the Department of Education at the University of the West of England (UWE), Emma Espley delivered a presentation to BEd students to showcase our WW1-themed, cross-curricular week's ventures.



In **December 2015**, St. Swithun's Church played host to Key Stage 2's Christmas performances and WW1 was integrated into their theme of 'Christmas through time'. Members of the school's Local History Group also produced a very attractive colour supplement for the December edition of the Hempsted Parish Magazine.

Although **January/February 2016** was slightly quieter than the latter quarter of 2015, the 1st Hempsted Brownies worked towards their 'Traditions' badge, linking to WW1 themes and events whenever appropriate. Independent research has been, and is continuing to be, conducted by members of our local community, including the school's Local History Group, who have been/are investigating key families that lived within our village around the time of WW1 and school life back in 1914-1918.

Following an invitation by Professor Maggie Andrews, a small display was recently set up at Avoncroft Museum for the 'Home, Food and Family in WW1' conference organised by the Women's History Network, Midlands Region, and the Voices of War and Peace WW1 Engagement Centre (**March 2016**). This generated further interest in our project and ensured a few more 'hits' to our project's blog site too.

