

The Norfolk Regiment

Private Edwards was a soldier with the Norfolk Regiment. During the First World War, he spent some time fighting in the trenches in France (known as the Western Front)



Learn about some of his experiences by reading parts of his diary. Then see if you can find answers to the questions

...We're being posted to France. It seems a long way away. I don't know what to expect, but am proud to be part of the Norfolk Regiment fighting for my country...

This is the badge of the Norfolk Regiment. The figure on it is called Britannia. Write down another object which has the badge on it.



I found a letter and a gift from Mum in my bag. She made it herself and put it in there as a surprise.. What else can you see with the word "Mother" written on it?

My friend Reg had a lucky escape today. We came under heavy gunfire. He was shot at, but wasn't killed..

What is this? Where was Reg carrying it and how did it save him?



Some of the men were killed yesterday by flying pieces of shrapnel.

There are loud explosions all the time and the sound of gunfire everywhere...

This is a piece of exploded bomb called shrapnel. Imagine bombs going off around you. Write down 3 words to describe how you might feel.



My feet are really smelly. It's hard to keep my socks dry with all this rain and mud in the trenches. Everything gets so dirty...

Find this penknife and look at it carefully. Why do you think it is hard to open?



We have to be careful at night and not show too much light in case the enemy see it. We use special lamps when we are in the tunnels and trenches ...

What kind of lamp is this called? A M _ _ _ _ _ Lamp

Its sad being away from home on Christmas Day. I miss my family. But an amazing thing happened today. The fighting stopped for a while on both sides. One of the men played tunes on his whistle. I'll remember this for a long time..



What tunes do you think were played on this whistle?



I can't stand the food here! I'd rather have home cooked pies and potatoes...

The soldiers ate their food out of these instead of plates. What is it called?

I've made some good friends in the army. We look out for each other – especially when things get really tough. I hope this war doesn't go on too long..

Many soldiers were awarded medals for their bravery in helping those who were wounded, even though their own lives were in danger.

Design your own bravery medal and award yourself one!

Why do think it is important to remember these soldiers who fought in the First World War ?

