

THEALE GREEN SCHOOL TRANSITION HISTORY ACTIVITY

A Big Welcome to TGS from the History and Politics Department

Historians try to find out what happened in the past. To do this they need to piece together what happened from the clues that survive. Historians call these clues sources. In Year 7 we will be learning to use these sources, it may be a document, a picture, a sound recording, a book, a cinema film, a television program or an object. Anything from the period in question that conveys information can qualify as a source and can teach us about History.



Look closely at the photograph (Source 2) & answer the Questions:

1. How can you tell this is a football team?
2. Where was this photograph taken?
3. Can you spot Walter Tull?

Read source 1 carefully and answer the Questions:

1. What was Walter Tull's birthday?
2. Which football teams did he play for?
3. What did Walter do in the war?
4. How old was he when he died?

Reflection

Why is Walter important in history?
How do you think he felt being the first Afro-Caribbean man to change history in this way?

Email your work to transition@thealegreen.w-berks.sch.uk and if you like we can share it on our social media pages too!

Who was Walter Tull? How can we use sources to find out about him? What can he teach us about what happened in the past?

Source 1

Walter Tull was born on 28 April 1888 in Folkstone, Kent. His father was from Barbados and his mother from Kent. His parents died when he was aged 9 years old. Walter and his brother were brought up in an orphanage in Bethnal Green, East London. From 1908 he started to play football and was signed by Clapham FC, then the following year by Tottenham Hotspur F.C. He was the second person of African-Caribbean mixed heritage to play in the top division of the Football League. He later moved to Northampton Town F.C. in 1911 where he played half-back.

At the start of WWI Tull joined the 17th (1st Football) Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment as a Lance-Corporal. In 1915 he served in France and was later placed in hospital for shell shock. In 1916, he returned to action in September and fought in the Battle of the Somme, afterwards attending officer training in Britain then going back to serve in the 23rd Battalion of the Middlesex regiment as a second lieutenant.

Despite army rules which forbade a 'person of colour' being commissioned as an officer (a leader of men), Walter was promoted to lieutenant after officer training school at Gailes, Scotland. In 1917. Tull is widely considered the first African-Caribbean mixed heritage man to be commissioned as an infantry officer in the British Army.

Walter Tull died aged 29 in 1918 while leading an attack on the Western front during the Second Battle of the Somme in March. The Commanding Officer of the 23rd Battalion recommended him for a Military Cross for bravery.

Source 2 – Tottenham Hotspur FC, 1909

