

No. 1

ONE
ROYAL
CRESCENT



Suffrage 100
A Celebration Procession
No. Royal Crescent
Tuesday 17th July 2018



Teacher: Welcome to our Suffrage 100 celebration, at the end of an intergenerational collaboration between younger and older people to mark 100 years since some women were given the vote for the first time. St Andrew's school and members of Age UK and the Bath Soroptomists have been working together to find out more about this important anniversary.

Student 1: As well as creating banners and sashes to raise public awareness, Bath Suffragettes also did something unique: They planted trees to celebrate the contribution of 60 women between 1909 and 1912.

Student 2: The Suffragettes' Wood was in Batheaston and sadly little remains now of the holly and conifer trees which were marked with a plaque showing each Suffragette's name.

Adult 1: To celebrate the Suffragettes' brave fight and amazing achievement in winning the vote for women, we have made banners and sashes and also planted pots of flowers and plants in their honour. The plants have been specially chosen for their colours and meanings.

Adult 2: We will explain more when we return, but now we will march along the Crescent as a tribute to the Suffragettes on this special anniversary.

Student 3: Please join us on our march to hear the Suffragettes song 'March of the Women' and some extracts from speeches by Emmeline and Cristabel Pankhurst who were Suffragette leaders.

Student 4: "The reasons why women should have the vote are obvious to every fairminded person."

Student 5: "We have to free half of the human race, the women, so that they can help to free the other half. "

Student 6: "We wear no mark; we belong to every class; we permeate every class of the community from the highest to the lowest."

Student 7: "I know that women, once convinced that they are doing what is right, that their rebellion is just, will go on, no matter what the difficulties, no matter what the dangers, so long as there is a woman alive to hold up the flag of rebellion."

Student 8: "Put them in prison," they said, "that will stop it." But it didn't stop it at all: instead of the women giving it up, more women did it."

Student 9: "More and more and more women did it until there were 300 women at a time, who had not broken a single law, only "made a nuisance of themselves" as the politicians say."

Student 10: "Directly women say: "We withhold our consent, we will not be governed any longer so long as that government is unjust.""

Student 11: "Parliament views questions of vital interest to women such as education, housing and the employment questions, and upon such matters, women will express their opinions at the ballot box."

Student 12: "Now, I want to say to you who think women cannot succeed, we have brought the government of England to this position."

Adult 3: "They little know what women are. Women are very slow to rouse, but once they are aroused, once they are determined, nothing on earth and nothing in heaven will make women give way; it is impossible."

Adult 4: "So you see in the woman's civil war, the dear men of my country are discovering it is absolutely impossible to deal with it: you cannot locate it, and you cannot stop it."

Student 13: "I would rather be a rebel than a slave."

Student 14: We have looked at the meanings of plants through the centuries and also the symbolism of different colours.

Student 15: Purple, white and green were the colours of some of the Suffragettes. Purple stood for dignity, green for hope and white for purity.

Student 16: In our groups we chose different plants and colours to create a personal message about the Suffragettes.

Teacher: This project has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to support our current exhibition 'Protest and here at No.1. 25 children and 8 adults have worked together since May to produce all the wonderful work you see here. The planters will remain on display at St Andrew's school until the end of term and then some will return to No.1 and some to the Muesum of Architecture. We hope that everyone seeing them will then know a bit more about the contribution that Bath's Suffragettes made to the national movement for womens' rights 100 years ago.

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