



Wellow
Primary School

Agincourt



Recently, all of us at Wellow School were excited to hear that we were one of only five schools in the country chosen to take part in a trip to France to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt.

The competition was run by the Historical Association who, with the help of Rayburn tours, had organised a range of visits, enquiries and activities to teach the children about Henry V's famous battle.

The Battle of Agincourt is of particular relevance to Hampshire. Before leaving for the famous battle, Henry V's soldiers would have been camped in fields across the county, awaiting orders to board the hundreds of ships gathered at Southampton's port. From Southampton, Henry V and his troops, preparing for battle, left for Harfleur and onwards to victory at the battle of Agincourt. At Agincourt, Henry's greatly depleted and outnumbered army achieved the impossible, shocking the medieval world.

The lucky 5 children chosen to come to France were excited to visit the local primary school Auchy des Hesdin in France, where they practiced their spoken language, introducing themselves to their new friends.

The children were able, along with their French peers, to visit the Agincourt Museum. Here, they worked with history experts, to learn more about the famous battle.

The highlight of the trip was standing on the battlefield, gazing at the landscape and visualising the battle. The children could use their learning to actually determine exactly where the English army would have stood. The children also had the opportunity to look at a number of memorials dedicated to the Agincourt battle and began to decipher the intention of each memorial. Why would France wish to remember a battle that they had lost to the English? The children liked the memorial best that stood to remember all the men who had died during the battle. On the memorial was a picture of a soldier that resembled neither the French or English but rather a combination of both.

