

Pupils turn donated bench into First World War tribute

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A BENCH donated to a school has been turned into a First World War memorial.

Gwersyllt Community Council donated the bench to Ysgol Bryn Alyn for its memorial garden project funded by a £1,000 grant from the Welsh Government.

History teacher Sarah Liddell has worked with pupils over the last year on a project to mark the centenary of First World War, which began in 1914.

Ms Liddell said year nine pupils had worked with artist Sarah Jane Harper at Oriol Wrexham to create ceramic poppies to be displayed in the garden.

She said: "The pupils have responded really positively to the project. We cover the First World War in year nine and it's been fantastic to visit a place like Oriol Wrexham to enhance pupils' learning experience."

Cllr Michael Williams, who presented the bench, said: "Gwersyllt Community Council received a request for funds to install a bench at the garden and the council was happy to help. There was no hesitation on the part of the community council when the request came



■ Ysgol Bryn Alyn headteacher Brian Whiteley, year eight pupil Lydia Clarke seated with Cllr Michael Williams, history teacher Sarah Liddell with artist Sara Jane Harper, year eight and nine pupils and Cllr David Griffiths.

in to support that."

Ms Liddell thanked Gwersyllt Community Council for donating the bench and said a visit from armed forces champion David

Griffiths on Monday reinforced how important it was for pupils to recognise the contribution of servicemen past and present.

"In 2015 it is so difficult for

pupils to imagine what it would be like in 1914, so it's getting them to appreciate what the armed forces did then, and do today, for our country," she said.