

Remembrance Service with Elson Heroes



On Friday 10th November, Hector MacCallum and Ron Gordon from the Gosport Submariners Association joined other veterans from FirstLight Trust to join the "Elson Heroes" at the Remembrance Service held at Elson Junior school.

The service was very moving with the participation of the "Elson Heroes" in the service in front of the rest of the school.

Elson Heroes is a weekly lunchtime support group for children from Service families. The group currently supports 34 children and their families and provides specialist support from the adult leader, Rebecca Hull. The children know that they are not alone in the challenges they face and are a great source of comfort to each other. The group gives the children an opportunity to share their experiences and pride with the rest of the school. The group has built strong links with FirstLight Trust, and the intergenerational work has improved the mental health of the children and veterans through having fun, sharing stories and experiences and arts and crafts. The Elson Heroes support reaches out to families with coffee mornings, picnics and information events for Service families, often providing valuable support to the non-serving partner moving to a new area.



The school has very little budget to support the group, so the Gosport Submariners Association chose the group as their Chairman's Charity for 2023/24 and we hope that the money we raise will provide more activities for the children in the group. The Association only learned about the group through FirstLight Trust who were our Chairman's charity the previous year.

Each year the Gosport Submariners Association raises funds for the Chairman's charity and its members widows through the generosity of the members and fundraising events. This year Hector MacCallum cycled the North 500 coast route in Scotland.

We are very proud to be supporting Elson Heroes this year.