

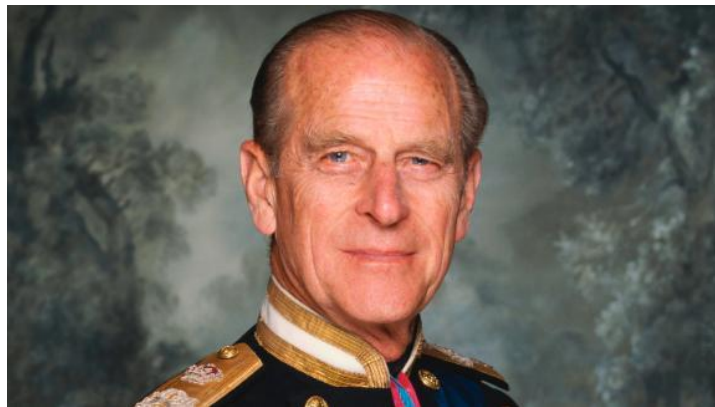


PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

Platanos College Remembers

His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh



Our Whole School Assembly Reflection

*Delivered in Whole School Assembly
on Monday 19th April 2021.*

Having a sense of duty is something that we all have at different points in our lives.

As members of your community, it might be of care to a grandparent, parent, carer, sibling or friend.

As a teacher it may be to the pupils that we impart knowledge and aim to develop.

As human beings it might be to our fellow man, to share love and compassion.

A sense of duty is having responsibility to assist and help others. Something that our Muslim staff, pupils, and Muslims worldwide remind themselves of during this holy period of Ramadan.

The world was reminded of an example of what duty looks like very recently, with the death of Our Majesty the Queen's consort and husband, His Royal Highness, Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.

To fulfil a duty requires sacrifice. A sacrifice of our own interests so as to

help other people. It can be difficult – quite often our selfish wants conflict with carrying out our duties to others. To be dutiful then, can be rather challenging.

Prince Philip was a prime example of someone who would appear to have everything – he was a member of the Royal Family for example – a symbol of wealth, privilege and grandeur.

However, as a baby his family became refugees, he was as good as orphaned by his father and by his mother being sent to a mental institution for schizophrenia. He had a seemingly lonely childhood.

Through good will and the charity of his extended family he was able to receive an outstanding education and was set to have a career in the Royal Navy – in fact he did serve his adoptive country – the United Kingdom – during the Second World War – an example of the utmost duty in itself.

King George VI agreed to the marriage of Philip to the Princess Elizabeth – the next in line to the throne of the United Kingdom and the commonwealth. In doing this, Philip had to sacrifice his Greek nationality, his surname and his career in the Royal Navy.

The hopes and dreams of a young man were changed when he married Queen Elizabeth. In a time when men were the patriarchs and heads of their family, Philip had to be subservient to the monarch – that was not only his wife – but was his chief and commander. He had to serve the Queen as her partner and as a servant to the Crown.

It is widely accepted that Prince Philip struggled with this unexpected role – he had his own pathway in his mind. But, as part of a generation who had

lived through the Second World War, he understood what a sense of duty was. Something that generations since, have struggled more to adopt given the pressures of consumerism which results in selfishness and greed.

Prince Philip devoted his life to his wife and monarch, Her Majesty the Queen. He helped to modernise the Royal Family – helping them to be more approachable and relevant to the ever-changing face and population of the United Kingdom. However, more importantly, he saw that he had a key role – an important duty – to use his privilege to help the world.

Prince Philip was very much ahead of his time – meaning that issues that receive a lot of media attention today – he was addressing 50 years before:

- The importance of the environment and the problems of climate change
- Improving interfaith relations
- Improving the lives of young people.

His outspokenness on issues made some people feel uncomfortable – and therefore rather than headline his charitable work, the headlines in the media would often focus on faux pas or the times that he seemed impatient or belligerent, as if he were any different to anyone of us in the vices that we all have.

His legacy will be that of a champion of modernisation, charitable work, and good humour with it.

His legacy will be that of an example of sacrifice and duty towards others.

His legacy will be that of a loved father and grandfather.

His legacy will be that of a prime example of a leader to others.

Grief and mourning are emotions that all of us know all too well, especially given the last year. In that respect, let us think of our Queen, Elizabeth II, who has lost her husband, confidant, best friend of 73 years; of His Royal Highness, Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales – the heir to Elizabeth II and to his brothers and sister; to the grandchildren of his Royal Highness, Prince Philip and to all affected by his death.

In particular the thoughts and prayers of Platanos College go to His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, who is the Master of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers, and son of Prince Philip. The Worshipful Company of Fuellers have continued to work in partnership with our school and the Platanos Trust in enriching the lives of you, our pupils.

We joined our nation in respect and remembrance by holding a minute's silence and by listening to our National Anthem.



The Worshipful Company of Fuellers kindly passed on our deepest condolences and on behalf of *The Earl of Wessex* Platanos College was thanked for our kind words.

Our Pupils Remember

All pupils in Key Stage Three took the opportunity to reflect on the life of His

Royal Highness The Prince Philip. Over 500 different obituaries, posters, poems, six-word stories and memorial plate designs. Below are just a few examples. We, as ever, are proud of our amazing pupils – their diversity of race, culture and religion is a true representation of Britain in the 21st century.

Only the brave!

B orn September 22nd 1922 destined for greatness.

R oyal Navy. He served the country before the monarchy.

A man of very few words but when he spoke, wisdom.

V ery invested in nature and very outspoken about it.

E veryone who knew his story knew it was only for the brave.

Kelly Gouveia 9A

A Man

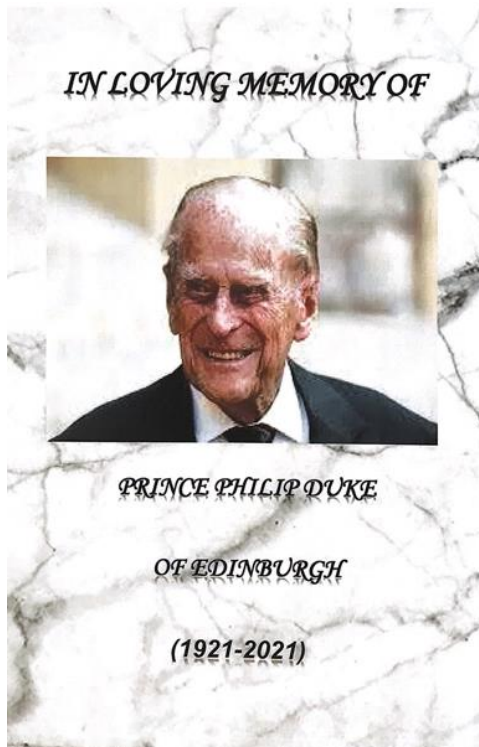
*A Prince, a Veteran,
A father, a husband,
An orphan, a man,
Of few words, but he would humbly stand,*

*By her majesty the queen,
Meeting every command,
From the public,
Confronting harsh topics,
Comfortable, people were in his ways,*

*Prince Philip, a veteran, a man, an orphan,
Loved by many,
And he loved all,
Prince Philip,
A man of few words,
He is remembered, by the royals but also by the country too,
This great nation,*

*He served it,
We owe him commemoration.*

Fares Ouanoufi 9A



Jessica Marques 9A

Philip

*P ublic figure
H ouse of Windsor
I nspiring
L egacy
I n memoriam
P hilip*

Orban O'Brien 9A

Many years of glory

Many years of glory was made,
The monarchs being a best friend to
his country
However, the country lost something
important.
Something irreplaceable
She lost a soldier, a friend, an ally and
most

Importantly
A man with few words but a great
influence,
Through his charitable work or his
smile on television.
Prince Philip you will be missed.
RIP.

Anastasia Shovkoplyas 9A

Philip

*P aris is where you migrated after you
were banned from Greece*

H eaven is where you migrated to now

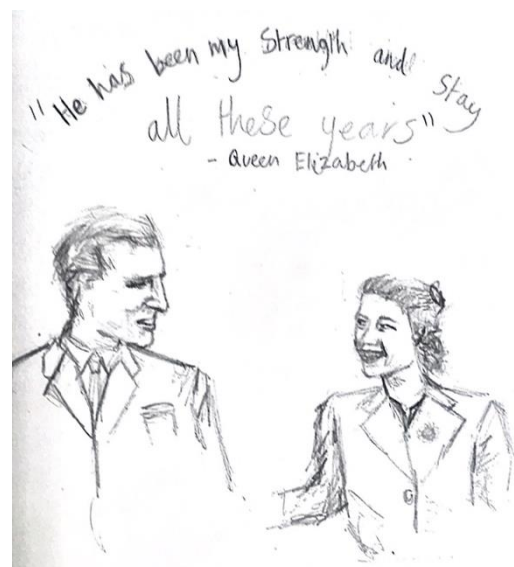
*I n moments of sadness, you still find
time for the army*

L ove bloomed from 1946

*I n 6 decades, you where the queen
consort*

*P hilip you will be loved, missed but
never forgotten.*

Brenda Lauren Figueroa Mbelek 9A



Phebe Davies-Bates 9A

Philip

He was a...

Powerful

Helpful

Intelligent

Leading

Important

Person

Important

Person

Joude Aouchiche 7A



Imogen Bowes 9A