World Red Cross Day, 8th May 2020

The Red Cross was founded to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for all human beings, and to prevent human suffering.

World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is an annual celebration of the principles of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Red Cross Red Crescent Day is celebrated on the 8th of May each year. This date is the anniversary of the birth of Henry Dunant, the founder of the IFRC, who was born on the 8th of May 1828.

Have you ever seen the Red Cross Red Crescent symbol before? It is very distinctive with its bright red colour

Some interesting facts:

- Did you know that Henry Dunant, the founder of IFRC was the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize

- The IFRC is guided by seven Fundamental Principles: Humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, universality and unity

- There are approximately 14 million Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers around the world who provide a lifeline to countless communities in need

- The Red Cross offers programmes and services to prevent and alleviate human suffering. Did you know that Ireland is the first country in the world to implement the community based health and first aid programme in a prison. Other programmes that are offered include first aid and ambulance cover and restoring family links (helping reconnect families who have lost contact with each other)

- The IFRC is the world's largest humanitarian network in the world

- Increased urbanisation has made the work of the Red Cross more complex

Check out the Irish Red Cross (Crois Dhearg na hÉireann) for further information https://www.redcross.ie

Watch this video to give you an understanding of the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent https://www.icrc.org/en

Activity

Create a poster on your understanding of the work of the Red Crescent.

Take a photo and upload it to the NCSE twitter account @ncseirl with the

hastag #ncseredcrescent".