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PRESS RELEASE

2022 GLOBAL PEACE GAMES

60 young boys and girls residing in Belgium, Czech Republic and England will represent their communities from 20 countries at the 2022 May GPGs at the Peace Village, Mesen, Belgium, site of the First World War Christmas Truces, 25th to 30th May 2022.

The event celebrates the United Nations' <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE</u>. The GPGs will bring together young people across the world with the aim of creating peacemakers of the future. In partnership with <u>The Peace Village</u>, <u>GroepINTRO</u> and <u>INEX</u>; Schools from Belgium, England and Czech Rep, will participate in the week-long peace education games at <u>The Peace Village</u>, <u>Mesen</u>.

The Children's Football Alliance (CFA) invited young people aged between 14 to 18 to take part in the event, which commemorates all wars and celebrates peace through play.

All participants will learn how to twin their community's playing fields with Flanders Peace Field, site of the 1914 First World War, Christmas Truces, where German and Allied soldiers stepped out of their trenches and momentarily escaped the horrors of war by playing football.

Pupils will visit significant battle sites and take part in international games and forums, debating the role of sport at home, in the community and at war. The event is funded by Erasmus+ and the Children's Football Alliance.

The week-long peace education programme features: games, trips to Menin Gate, Passchendaele and Tyne Cot, workshops: peace art (sponsored by GroepINTRO's 2019 Ambassadors for Peace) and a debate on International Day of Peace.

CFA, CEO, Ernie Brennan said: "This is a once in a lifetime experience for many young peacemakers of the future. Playing football games on the world's most poignant field will inspire them to pledge promoting peace in their communities."

For more information about the Global and Peace Games and The Peace Fields Project and how your school or club can twin their playing areas with Flanders Peace Field visit: http://www.childrensfootballalliance.com/football-and-peace/peace-field-project/

Notes for editors

For more information contact: paulcooper@thecfa.co.uk

To arrange interviews with CFA International Projects Director, Paul Cooper, call + 00 44 (0)7875 283093.

The CFA was established in 2008 to enhance children's development through the medium of football by way of the sharing and dissemination of information and the practical application of the knowledge acquired. The CFA's aim is to **Protect Childhood Through Play**

The CFA's core objective is to promote and spread best practice through practical application and football for fun workshops. Current CFA projects include: <u>FREE v FREE</u>; <u>The Peace Fields Project</u> and <u>Football Makes</u> <u>Our Shared History</u>

For further background information on the Peace Fields project, visit: www.childrensfootballalliance.com/FOOTBALL PEACE working group.html





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