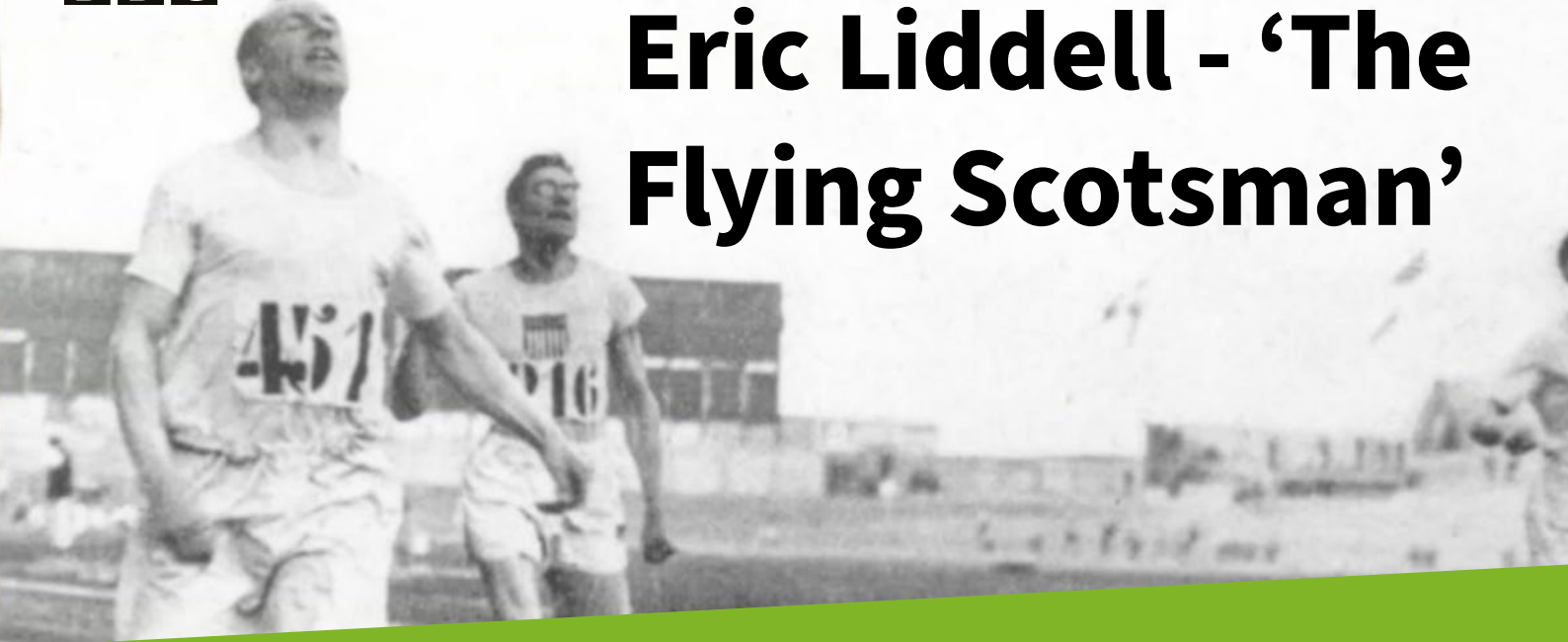


Eric Liddell - 'The Flying Scotsman'



1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1B6WXxQnccCR0JTWhc405d/eric-liddell-the-flying-scotsman>

Play your chosen music and display the image of Eric Liddell:

http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/assemblies/images/eric_liddell.jpg

2. Introduction

Introduce everyone to the 'XXX Talent Show'. Ask the children to demonstrate if they can do any of the following: pat your head and rub your tummy; wink with one eye and then the other; roll up your tongue; beat-box; snap / click fingers audibly; lick your elbow; plus any other suggestions. Then:

Those are just some fun things that some of us can do...and some of us can't. But all of you during your time at school and at home will be developing more serious talents, such as singing...or playing a musical instrument...or drawing or playing sports. Today we're going to find out about someone who had very special talents - an Olympic athlete from about 100 years ago. And, as you watch, think about just what his special talents were...

3. Play the video

Click on the 'Play video' button to load the video page. The video should play automatically. Display the video full-size using the toolbar buttons. The duration is 5' 57". The final words are: '...that everyone thought he could not win.'

4 & 5. Discussion

Ask the pupils the following questions to consolidate recall of the story.

1. What was Eric's nickname?
2. Where did the 1924 Olympics take place?
3. What was Eric's favourite race?
4. Why did Eric choose not to enter the 100 metres race?
5. What happened just as Eric was about to start the 400 metres race?
6. What was special about Eric's gold-medal victory?
7. How would you describe Eric's special talents?

6. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



7. Opportunity to reflect

We've heard today how Eric Liddell used the special talent for running that he believed God had given him... He once said that when he ran he 'felt God's pleasure...' He felt it was what he was meant to do... What makes you feel this way..? Maybe it's running, like Eric...or maybe singing...or swimming...or drawing...

I wonder what Eric's story can teach us about how to take care of and develop our own special talents..? I wonder what advice Eric Liddell would give us about our gifts and abilities..?

8. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your standard form of address (Dear God, etc): *We thank you for the inspiring story of Eric Liddell, who achieved so much in his life as an athlete. Thank you for all the skills and abilities that we have. Help us to learn from his example, to enjoy the special talents and abilities we have: to practise them, to persevere and to be fair in how we treat others. Amen.*