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learners who aspire for themselves and inspire others

January 2023

Dear Parents,

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2023

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place annually in the UK on 27th January, and on the same day across the globe, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is dedicated to those who suffered in the Holocaust under Nazi persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. The chosen date is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp by the Soviet Union in 1945, and Holocaust Memorial Day has taken place on the same date, every year in the UK since 2001.

Each year HMD has a different theme, decided by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, as a focus for educational and commemorative events. The theme for 2023 is *Ordinary People*. This theme particularly invites us to consider persecuted people as ordinary people.

As part of our whole-school commemoration, I will be sending some information to students, including video clips about the Holocaust and stories from Holocaust survivors. This theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice, and different ways of 'being the light', such as resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths.

To remember those who were killed in the Holocaust and in other genocides, you could light a candle in a window (if you are able to do so safely) at 4pm on Friday, 27th January to bring in the light.

If you would like to find out more about Holocaust Memorial Day, please visit the official website: www.hmd.org.uk



Yours sincerely

L. Jones (Mr)
Champion for Equality & Inclusion / Head of MFL