

9 January 2026

Dear Parent or Carer,

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place annually on 27th January. It is a commemoration day in the United Kingdom dedicated to the remembrance of those who suffered in the Holocaust, under Nazi persecution, and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. It was first held in January 2001 and has been on the same date every year since. The chosen date is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp by the Soviet Union in 1945, the date also chosen for the International Holocaust Remembrance Day and some other national Holocaust Memorial Days.

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2026 is **Bridging Generations**. This year's theme highlights the crucial role of the next generation in preserving the memory of the Holocaust and carrying it forward. It highlights the power of intergenerational dialogue – of listening to those who came before us and of sharing those stories with those who come after. In doing so, we don't just preserve memory – we connect it to the present. By doing so, we build a bridge between memory and action, between history and hope for the future.

There is an opportunity for us to listen to a first-hand testimony from a Holocaust survivor on Thursday 22nd January. This is being organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust and is being live-streamed to schools across the country. All Year 9 students will listen to this Holocaust survivor during their Period 2 lesson.

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 8pm on Tuesday 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,

Mr G. Marshall-James & Mr L. Jones