

WOLDGATE COLLEGE

During the afternoon of Holocaust Memorial Day, all students in Woldgate College have been involved in activities reflecting on the Holocaust. They have focused on the displays, including posters and sculptures; watched the performance of dance, music and drama; looked at tableaux; and used the computers to read stories of survival from the Internet. They have then spent time reflecting on the Holocaust and writing about their experiences of the day.

Woldgate College

92 Kilnwick Road
Pocklington
York YO42 2LL

Phone: 01759 302395
Fax: 01759 306535

Email: office@woldgate.eril.net



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENT

WOLDGATE COLLEGE

Holocaust Memorial Day, on 27th January 2005, marks the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the former Nazi concentration and extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, in 1945.

Why is Holocaust Memorial Day important?

Holocaust Memorial Day is vitally important, not just to remember those who were abused and murdered by the Nazis, but to encourage us to take a critical look at the world today and challenge racism and intolerance head on. It is a good opportunity to bring together local people from all backgrounds to remember the victims of the Holocaust, to reflect upon those affected by more recent atrocities and work together to educate about the dangers of anti-Semitism, racism and all forms of discrimination.

Nazi ideology was founded on racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination, creating a fascist state which rejected human and civic rights. These evils continue to exist in British society. Continuing occurrence of "hate crimes" and attacks against minority groups, show that prejudice and ignorance still exist.

What are the aims of Holocaust Memorial Day?

The Day's aims are to:

- Remember victims of the holocaust and Nazi persecution (Jews, Gypsies, East European civilians, Russian prisoners of war, trade unionists, Communists, political opponents, disabled people, Jehovah's Witnesses, gay/lesbians, Black Germans).
- Reflect upon those affected by more recent atrocities, in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Kosovo.

27TH JANUARY 2005

5.00PM

PROGRAMME

5.00pm Buffet in the Dining Room

5.30pm Tour of exhibits in J Block

6.00pm Performance in the Main Hall

Opening reading: "Then they came for me"	Matthew Hutchinson
Welcome	Mr. Jeff Bower, Headteacher, Woldgate College
Drama	Year 10 Drama Students
Power-point presentation with Music	"Oscar" by Iain Harvey, Year 12 "Painful Memories" by Oliver Riley, Year 12
Poem	Mrs. Julia Pattison
Students' experiences of the day	Emma Green & George Dalby, Year 10
Power-point presentation with Music	"Sergaei" by Tim Barker, Year 12 "Rag Doll" by Laura Perkins, Year 12
Poem	Charlie Andrews
Dance	Year 10 Dance Students
Closing Remarks	Coun. Margaret R. Chapman, MBE, Chairman of East Riding of Yorkshire Council



THE PRESENTATIONS

Drama : Year 10 Drama Groups have created a series of tableaux to illustrate the horrors of the Holocaust. These include images of death, dying, oppression and, finally, liberation. As well as tableaux, members of the Drama Groups step into role, including that of one young girl, to give accounts of the impact the German Invasion on 1st September 1939 had on their lives. Pupils were inspired to create this drama after studying the Holocaust in History and RE in Year 9. Arek Hersh (a survivor of the Holocaust) came into school to tell his story and this had a lasting impression on all pupils and staff.

Poetry : The opening poem was written by Pastor Martin Niemoller, an outspoken critic of the Nazis during World War II. The other two poems were taken from the book "Imagination Blessed Be, Cursed Be" written by Batsheva Dagan, a survivor of Auschwitz, translated into English by Anna Sotto.

Music Compositions : Sixth Form students were asked to compose a piece for this Memorial. They looked for inspiration from the images being shown during their performance. "The low chords echo the Jews' endless suffering", said one of the students about his composition.

Dance : This piece, "Flight of Freedom", was choreographed by Dawn Holgate, our Community Dance Coordinator, who was inspired by stories and images of the Holocaust.

