

Many of you will know that 27 January is **Holocaust Memorial Day**. Holocaust Memorial Day is a national commemoration day in the United Kingdom dedicated to the remembrance of those who suffered in The Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. On Friday 25 January, Year 9 students will not do their usual lessons. Instead, they will have 3 lessons in the morning run by the History, RE and MFL departments, aimed at achieving a better understanding of the holocaust that took place during the Second World War and what this means today. In the afternoon, students will watch a film about Sophie Scholl, a young woman who was part of the White Rose non-violent German resistance movement in Nazi Germany whilst others watch The Boy in Striped Pyjamas. Students will write their reflections on the day onto pieces of card to be hung on a memory tree in reception and we would be pleased if you were able to read some of these next time you come into school.

We are confident that the lessons, resources and film are all appropriate for Year 9. Nevertheless, students are likely to find parts of the day very challenging and our Pastoral Team is, of course, available throughout the day to support any student who needs help in processing upsetting information. If you have any concerns, either before or after next Friday, please don't hesitate to contact myself ([t.andrle@millthorpeschool.co.uk](mailto:t.andrle@millthorpeschool.co.uk)) or your son/daughter's Director of Achievement (Roman: [l.hough@millthorpeschool.co.uk](mailto:l.hough@millthorpeschool.co.uk) ; Saxon: [a.baybutt@millthorpeschool.co.uk](mailto:a.baybutt@millthorpeschool.co.uk); Viking: [l.parr@millthorpeschool.co.uk](mailto:l.parr@millthorpeschool.co.uk) ). I would like to thank the Heads of Department who have planned the lessons (Mr Noble- RE, Miss Gray-German, Ms Lingard and Ms Bowland- History) and the other teachers who will be teaching Year 9 on Tuesday (Miss Parr, Miss Forrester, Miss Richards, Mrs Davies, Mr Baybutt, Mr Winston and Miss Ramsay).

I hope that all of our Year 9 students will gain a great deal from the day.

**Tania Andrle, Assistant Headteacher**