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Head Teacher  
Paddy Cassidy MA (Oxon), NPQH



17<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to let you know that we will be sending each student home with a candle and a card with a Holocaust victim's name in preparation for Holocaust Memorial Day to take part in the 'Light the Darkness' memorial.

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) takes place on the 27<sup>th</sup> January to remember those who died in the Holocaust, under Nazi persecution, and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Darfur and elsewhere. By lighting a candle, victims are commemorated and survivors honoured.

We are encouraging students to place a lit candle (or unlit) in their window to Light the Darkness, helping to spread the message of tolerance and understanding. We are also encouraging them to share a photo of their candle on social media using the hashtags #GaribaldiBeacon, #Holocaust Memorial Day and #Light the Darkness or alternatively to email the picture to me directly at [khudson@garibaldischool.co.uk](mailto:khudson@garibaldischool.co.uk)

We had the privilege to become a Beacon school two years ago. It is a flagship programme run through University College of London, and aims to enhance the provision and practice for Holocaust teaching and learning in schools. We remain committed to making sure students are aware of the impact the Holocaust had on people across the world and the importance of 'A Better Future' - this year's theme. Next week students will take part in a number of activities in mentor time, in lessons and around the school site to learn more about the Holocaust and its long-lasting impact. If you wish to discuss this subject further with your child the following website is useful: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust \(hmd.org.uk\)](http://Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (hmd.org.uk))

It is important that we praise the bravery and resilience of those who survived, standing in solidarity against oppression. The event helps us to reflect on current issues in society today.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me on the above email address.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Hudson  
Head of History

