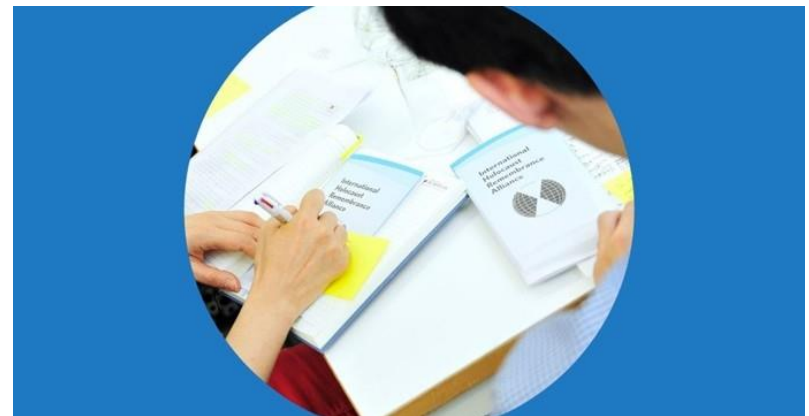


The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2022 is One Day.

There are many ways to interpret this theme – One Day for remembering, One Day in history, One Day when life changed or One Day in the future.



We should however, remember that One Day is just a snapshot in time and therefore cannot give the full picture, the context, the background that is needed, but it can help bring a piece of the full picture to life. The age or gender of the victim, or their geographical location ensured that no One Day during the genocide was typical. The same date would be experienced very differently by Jews hiding in France, Jews incarcerated in Auschwitz, Jews awaiting their fate in Hungary, for example. For those who suffered for days, weeks, months, years focussing on just One Day is a starting point, a way in for us to learn more about what happened during the Holocaust and the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.



**ONE DAY for
Holocaust Memorial
Day...**



Holocaust Memorial Day is One Day – 27 January – that we put aside to come together to remember, to learn about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, in the hope that there may be One Day in the future with no genocide. We learn more about the past, we empathise with others today, and we take action for a better future.

At Kendrick School, it is also the day when each of us renews our Kendrick Pledge; to uphold the values of kindness, friendship and respect and we promise to stand against prejudice, ignorance and injustice in all its forms. It is a very important day in the school's calendar.

**ONE DAY in
History...**



What happened in Warsaw on 19 April 1943?

19 April 1943 marks the start of the **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising**, in which Jewish inhabitants of the Warsaw Ghetto fought against the **Nazi regime**.

Nazi Germany had entered Poland four years earlier in 1939, and started establishing ghettos in spring 1940, to segregate, dehumanise and control the Jews. The largest of the ghettos was in Warsaw, where more than 400,000 Jews were crowded into 1.3 square miles of the city with poor sanitation, limited food and cramped conditions. It is estimated that more than 92,000 people died in the Warsaw ghetto because of the squalid conditions.





Or 12 July 1995 in Bosnia?

On 12 July 1995, the Bosnian Serb forces under the command of General Mladić began separating men, between the ages of 12 and 77, from women and children in the UN 'safe area' of Srebrenica.

Against the backdrop of a war, after Bosnia declared independence from Yugoslavia, Bosnian Serb troops descended on the town of Srebrenica. They began separating Bosniak men from women and children despite the area having been designated by the UN as a 'safe area'. Over the next couple of days more than 8,000 Bosniak men and boys were murdered in and around Srebrenica. 12 July 1995 was the last day that many women saw their husbands, fathers, sons and brothers.





Or 17 April 1975?

On this day the Khmer Rouge entered the Cambodian capital and Mardi Seng noted 'on that same bright, warm, glorious and victorious day, a new era began: not of peace and tranquillity, nor of hope and prosperity, but of suffering, torture, hunger, diseases, work camps, re-education, and systematic killing'. The arrival of the Khmer Rouge on 17 April 1975 brought five years of terror, with more than two million people murdered.



**How many lives changed
on each of those dates,
and what happened to
the people involved?**

**ONE DAY when life
changed...**

Survivors of the Holocaust and of genocide often talk about the One Day when everything changed, sometimes for the worse and sometimes for better.



Iby Knill feels that from **One Day** to the next, everything changed and yet nothing had changed:

'One day Gretl, my school friend...greeted me with an embrace. The next day she ran across the road and turned her head away so as not to acknowledge me.'

Franziska Schwarz Mikus was sterilised by the Nazis because she was deaf, as part of their process of persecuting anyone who did not fit their ideal – in this case, because they believed that disabled people were imperfect and worthless.

On that **One Day**, the Nazis took control of Franziska's body, of her life choices. The Nazis wanted to prevent people they deemed 'unfit' from being able to procreate. It has been estimated that between 1933 and 1939, 360,000 individuals were subjected to forced sterilisation, because they had physical or mental disabilities – or were perceived to have disabilities.



For Faiza, there was a defining day. Following a civil war in 2003, which has left millions of people displaced, the Sudanese government has supported Arab militia who have destroyed hundreds of villages, and murdered thousands of people. Faiza was targeted by the Sudanese Government for supporting victims of the genocide, and so, she says:



‘One Day I decided to leave my country. It was a hard decision, but there was no other way. I left my home, my friends, my people; I left all my belongings. There is a book on a table near my bed open to page 49 waiting for me.’

**ONE DAY in the
Future...**

Those who were targeted and persecuted held out for the **One Day in the future** when all their suffering would be over, hoping they would ‘all see the day of liberation’ (Elie Wiesel, Night).

On Holocaust Memorial Day we learn from genocide for a purpose – to build a better future. When we look ahead to ‘**one day with no genocide**’, what do we need to do today to achieve this? We can use this theme to motivate us to speak out when we see injustices, prejudices and identity-based violence.

On Holocaust Memorial Day 2022, this **One Day**, we will all come together in our communities, to learn from the Holocaust and genocides – for a better future.