



Wadham Words



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

This week in our assemblies we have been thinking about our responsibilities to resist hate and racism, to stand up and be counted.

WADHAM SCHOOL

Kitty Hart-Moxon

I was 13 when the Nazis occupied Poland. As a Jewish teenager, life changed almost instantly. We had to wear yellow stars. We were forced out of our homes, into a ghetto that was crowded and dirty, with less and less food. We tried to escape five times. Eventually my mother managed to get non-Jewish documents. The two of us were sent to Germany, posing as Polish labourers. But we were betrayed.

We were tortured and sentenced to death. We were marched outside of the prison and lined up against the wall, we heard shots ring out but realised we were still alive—it was a mock execution. Our sentence was commuted to imprisonment in Auschwitz-Birkenau. We arrived on 2nd April 1943.

I was at Auschwitz for two years. I worked in the Kanadakommando, sorting through the belongings of people as they arrived. I worked in the shadow of the gas chamber. For eight months I watched hundreds of thousands of men, women and children walk to their deaths. I was a direct witness to mass murder. Eventually the Nazis started to evacuate the camp. As a worker in the KanadaKommando, I was destined to be gassed so I could never tell the world what I had seen. But my mother summoned reserves of bravery that I still am in awe of to this day and told the Kommandant that she wanted me to go with her. It was unheard of for inmates to approach, let alone address, the Kommandant. He was so taken aback by her boldness, and by the number on her arm that showed how long we had survived, that he said yes.



We left the camp together. Over the next few months we survived a death march in the wilderness of Sudeten mountain range, seven concentration camps and being sealed inside a locked cattle wagon and left to suffocate.



In the 75 years since, I have dedicated myself to telling the world what happened. I was the first survivor in the UK to write my story, I returned to Auschwitz while it was still behind the iron curtain to film my story. I've gone back almost every year since and as the world marked the 70th anniversary I went back to record my memories. I was a founding trustee of the Holocaust Educational Trust and spent years telling my story to schools across the country.

Today the world will mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz—the hell on earth where I was a prisoner for two and a half long years, when I was just a teenager. But I won't be there. At the age of 94 I have done my bit. Today, I will remember privately, at home. But my greatest hope is that the thousands of young people I have shared my testimony with will remember what I told them. It happened to me, but now it is for you to remember.

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Wadham School Careers Fair—12th March 2020

Exhibitors are confirming their places by the day and we are excited to let you know some names of those who will be in attendance:

Army	Wadham Sixth Form	NHS
Ask Apprenticeships	Bath University	Yeovil College
Matravers Engineering	Yarlington Property Services	Bridgwater & Taunton College
Somerset Skills & Learning	Old Mill Financial Services	Exeter University
The SPACE		
Tessa Chapman—self employed photographer and ex head girl		
Explore Farming—the Meplash Agricultural Society		

The fair is open to parents, carers, governors and the public between 3—5pm with talks in the evening on Apprenticeships, T-Levels & university.

Wadham School, Yeovil Road, Somerset, TA18 7NT

Well-being Champions

This year, we, the Well-Being team at Wadham School have been mainly focusing on organising our Well-Being room. This has consisted of mind mapping ideas; some of these ideas have included: having isolated computers in the room that students can use to log onto online resources (e.g. kooth.com); interior designs (such as a neutral theme with grey carpet and cream walls, but notice boards with colourful inspirational quotes and informative posters, as well as colourful beanbags and a sofa etc). We have also been trying to raise funding for the well-being room, asking local supermarkets if we could use their token system for donations; this has been unsuccessful so far, so we are considering a non-school uniform day to raise said funds.

Moreover, we have conversed with the Catering Manager at Wadham and have used suggestions from the student voice surveys to implement people’s suggestions into the school canteen. These implementations have consisted of using more environmentally friendly biodegradable cutlery and pots over plastic utensils, as well as a new queuing system to prevent people pushing in and making people feel intimidated.

Furthermore, we have recruited new Year 9 members to replace last years’ school leavers, who will soon receive training from us. We also continue to register weekly on Wednesdays to address any issues or notices regarding the well-being team.



WADHAM WORDS

Bistro Specials

Week commencing 3rd Feb 2020

Mon - Pork Meatball in Tomato Sauce with Rice

Tues – Minced Beef & Onion Pie with Mashed Potato & Veg

Weds – Cheese & Ham Jacket Potato with Salad

Thurs – Spanish Chicken with Pasta

Fri – Cheese Pasty with Chips and Beans

All at £2 each & served either on a plate or in a biodegradable pot

BBC YOUNG REPORTER

On the Young Reporters blog this week Leyla Tunc investigates the pro-gun campaign in America and questions the slogan “More guns equals more safety”.

You can find this report on the school website under the ‘Students’ tab

On Tuesday this week Wadham School entered our first ever girls Indoor Cricket Tournament at Holyrood School in Chard.



The girls have been practicing hard every Thursday lunchtime and Fridays after school since September, inspired by England’s World Cup winning heroics last summer.

Our first match saw us come up against Castle School from Taunton who are National Champions with six Somerset players. Unfortunately we were beaten but we bowled well and learned a lot from our batting and fielding, knowing that we need to improve in our next match against Holyrood.

Our second match saw us beat Holyrood convincingly with much improved batting and fielding as the bowling continued to be steady and consistent.

Massive congratulations to the girls on all their hard work over the winter months. Now onto cricket in the summer.

Last night saw the Year 9 boys football team beat Millfield School 1-0 (Jacob Gentle with the goal)



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