



24 March 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

As part of their historical education, Year 9 students at Stanground Academy will study the events leading up to and consequences of the Holocaust, which took place in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945. The Holocaust is the only historical event whose study is compulsory on the National Curriculum and we believe that it is imperative that students have an opportunity to grapple with the complex moral and social implications of this event, as well as understanding the range of historical events which resulted in the atrocities at concentration camps like Auschwitz during the Second World War.

To deepen student understanding of these events, on Friday 16 April and Friday 30 April, we have been fortunate enough to secure an audience with Marcel Ladenheim, an 82 year old Holocaust survivor, who will share his survivor testimony with students in Year 9 as part of the Holocaust Education Trust's Outreach Programme. Marcel's story will cover his experiences growing up in Nazi occupied France, as well as his mother's story of survival, and his father's experiences and death at the hands of the Nazis within Auschwitz.

Students will engage in a series of preparatory activities during Period 1 of the morning of the 16 and 30 April before they hear from Marcel during Periods 2 and 3, and will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of his testimony. Normal lessons will resume after lunchtime on both days.

In light of current restrictions regarding the gathering of people in large groups, Year 9 will take part in this event in their respective year halves, as shown below:

Friday 16 April: Students in 9X

Friday 30 April: Students in 9Y

Period 1 and breaktime will be shorter on both those days to allow for Marcel's testimony to begin at 10.30am.

To ensure students are able to make the most of this opportunity they will be expected to complete a piece of homework exploring survivor stories prior to engaging in this session. Your child's teacher will issue further details of this homework and, as always, we appreciate your support in ensuring that this work is completed.

If you have any questions, or concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact me by email on [hbuckley@stangroundacademy.org](mailto:hbuckley@stangroundacademy.org) .

I have no doubt that students will find this to be a very humbling and worthwhile experience, with an opportunity to engage with living history.

Yours faithfully

**Hannah Buckley**  
**Teacher of History**