



Drummond

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Holocaust Memorial Day:
Evening of Remembrance,
Wednesday 25 January 2017, in
partnership with the Edinburgh
Inter Faith Association

The theme of the evening was **How does life go on?** The compelling programme included guest speakers (below), as well as readings, poetry and music from Drummond's pupils.



Left to right:

Guest speaker Umutesi Stewart, survivor of the 1994 Rwandan Genocide;

Iain Stewart, Chairman of EIFA;

Guest speaker Saskia Tepe, whose mother survived Auschwitz

Reflections from a primary school Head Teacher: Thank you for inviting us along to the Holocaust Memorial Day event in Drummond CHS last night.

Saskia's story was incredibly moving and I'm sure our Primary 6 pupils and their teacher will be discussing this today with the P6 class, and Mhairi Dickie's piano recital was superb.

I left without completing an evaluation sheet and would have highlighted both of these contributions as highly inspirational.

We were all thrilled to see our former pupil, Nemo, at his best! His recital of the poem, 'First they came' was so well delivered and he's clearly thriving at DCHS – thank you.

Reflections from a community organisation I attended this event last night and would like to congratulate the school on a very moving, well managed and balanced event. The commitment, involvement and creativity of the pupils was evident, supported by staff.



Invitation designed by Amelia Kerr (S6)



Mhairi Dickie (S4): piano recital



Peter Wright (S5): Robert Burns' reading

Reflections from a member of a Humanist society: Thank you very much for the opportunity to attend your event last night. I was not sure what to expect of the evening, having never attended one before.

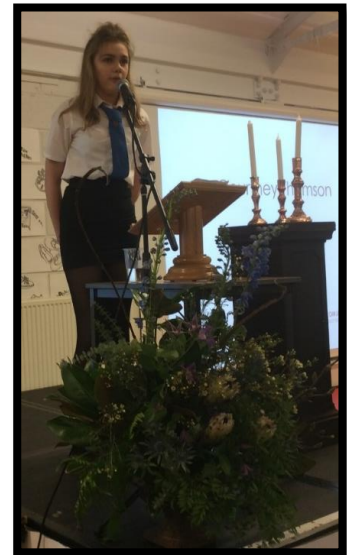
The work, commitment and professionalism shown by all the pupils (and ex- pupils) involved together with the input from the guest speakers produced a very moving and engaging programme of reflections on a series of issues that must not be forgotten.

My only sadness is that the message only got out to the audience last night. It was a very sobering programme and one that almost demands a much wider audience as we see division and elements of extremism still around us today.

I know from the experience of this event the pupils of Drummond High will take away a deeper understanding of tolerance and the need to live together with a respect of diversity.

The way this was approached and delivered should be shared to all schools as an example of excellent practice.

Thanks again for including me in your journey.



Courtney Thomson (S2): own poem



Paco Calvo Valera (S2): own poem



Ciara MacDonald & Rhys Hackett (S5): 'Love will build a bridge'

What value do you think events such as Holocaust Memorial Day have in helping to address issues of religious intolerance, hate-crime or racism in today's world?

Some responses from the audience:

"Thank you for helping to spread the message of tolerance and co-existence to the wider community."

"This was a wonderful evening and in times like this these events are very important. We live in times when intolerance is almost normal."

"It is vital to be educated about the real signs of impending genocide for people to act against such horrors."

"I think events like these are some of the most important things we do to challenge prejudice and hate."



Reflections from a Hebrew Congregation member I just wanted to say how impressed I was by the performance and attitude of your present and former students at the Holocaust Memorial Day event on Wednesday evening. I am a member of the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation and lost family members in the Holocaust. I really appreciated all the presentations, and the evening as a whole was a moving and memorable event. It may be unfair to single out one individual but I have to particularly commend the remarkable young man, Nemo, who read Pastor Niemoller's poem with such emotional commitment that it brought tears to my eyes. Thank you again.

Nemo Ganguli (S1): 'First they came...

What value do you think events such as Holocaust Memorial Day have in helping to address issues of religious intolerance, hate-crime or racism in today's world?

Some responses from the audience:

"Very relevant. A fantastic combination of stories and having 1st hand experiences helps us identify the true impact of these issues."

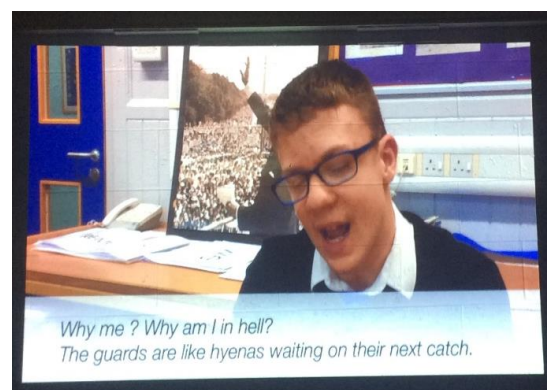
"Hearing different voices & stories, raising awareness about these important events is crucial for helping people understand better, and bring people together to celebrate diversity and tolerance."

"I think events like this are very important particularly for young people."

"I think these events are crucial in continuing to raise awareness of intolerance and hate crime and to reinforce the message that it must not be tolerated in a civilised society."

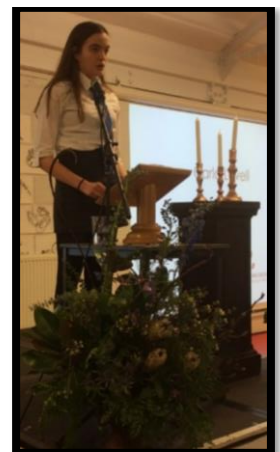
"This has brought so many groups together to remember what happened and be mindful of what we need to do, and to become, so that genocide never occurs again in this shared world."

"The event was of significant value in addressing these issues. I feel the evening was organised in a most successful way and feel strongly that it should be a regular event in Edinburgh."

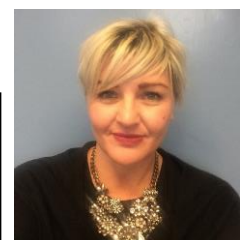


Callum Williamson (S2): own poem

Carla Lovell (S2):
own poem



The active involvement of Drummond's young people was at the heart of this evening of remembrance and my proud thanks go to all the students who sensitively embraced the theme of How can life go on, and created drawings and poems; to our pupils who were a key part of the programme for their commitment and maturity; and to my colleagues in History, Art and English for their organisation and support. Thank you also to EIFA for their partnership and to our wider community audience for joining us on Holocaust Memorial Day 2017.



J Hannan

Jodie Hannan
Headteacher