



# Anne Frank Day 2010

## **Celebrate Anne Frank Day in school with an assembly**

Each year, on or around the 12<sup>th</sup> June, we celebrate Anne Frank Day on what would have been her birthday. This year, our annual Anne Frank Day assembly looks at the difference made by Anne's father, Otto Frank, 50 years after the doors of the Anne Frank House opened to the public.

- There is one KS2/3 assembly which can be differentiated by teachers.
- There is also a PowerPoint presentation for use alongside the assembly including images of Anne, the Anne Frank House and the Anne Frank Declaration.
- You can also download the new style Anne Frank Declaration certificate which can be printed in colour and displayed in your classroom, or given to each pupil after the assembly.
- Download from [www.annefrank.org.uk/annefrankday](http://www.annefrank.org.uk/annefrankday). Email [education@annefrank.org.uk](mailto:education@annefrank.org.uk) with any queries about the assembly or other Anne Frank resources, or to know more about our projects.
- If your pupils are inspired by Anne and Otto, visit the new Secret Annexe Online at [www.annefrank.org](http://www.annefrank.org) or directly <http://www.annefrank.org/en/Subsites/Home/>

## **Marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Anne Frank House and recognising that one person can make a difference**

The theme of this year's national Anne Frank Day is "One person can make a difference" marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Anne Frank House and the vision of Anne's beloved father Otto Frank to ensure no children would have to suffer in the way his own daughters had.

### **Script for Assembly:**

*First reading by a student or teacher:*

*"My father, the most adorable father I've ever seen, always looks to see whether the others have been served first. He needs nothing for himself; the best things are for the children. He's goodness personified."*

*PowerPoint – Quote and projection of photo of Otto with Anne*

All this week schools are marking Anne Frank Day on 12<sup>th</sup> June. This is the birth date of one of the world's best known teenagers. Anne Frank was a Jewish girl who was killed in the Holocaust 1945 at the age of 15, after having hidden from the Nazis in a secret annexe in Amsterdam for over two years. During her time in hiding Anne Frank wrote a diary, in which she expressed her hopes, fears and ambitions for the future as well as what it was like to hide in fear of your life for all that time. After the war, her father Otto Frank, who miraculously survived Auschwitz concentration camp, made her diary into a book. You may be one of the millions of people across the world to have read Anne's diary.

Anne Frank's father Otto Frank was born in Frankfurt in 1889, the same year as the Nazi leader Adolf Hitler. Both were very proud Germans and fought on the same side in the First World War. Otto Frank, a Jew, even won medals for his service to Germany. However following the First World War, Otto's life turned out to be the complete opposite to Adolf Hitler's.

There was on the one hand a man who went on to wreak unimaginable destruction across Europe. And on the other hand there was Otto Frank, one man who having survived the Holocaust but lost his wife and children, was determined that future generations of children would not have to suffer the persecution and hatred that his own had.

When Otto came back from the concentration camp and was given the heartbreaking news that his family had died, his friend and brave helper Miep Gies gave him the diary that Anne had been writing for all the time they had been in hiding. Miep, who died earlier this year aged 100 years old, had rescued Anne's diary after the family were arrested by the Nazis. She had kept it safe, but because it was Anne's personal diary, had never read it.

Two years later, in 1947, Otto made sure the diary was published so that everyone would know what had happened to his family and millions of others. At the same, he fulfilled Anne's wish to be a published author.

By 1957 Anne's diary had become famous all over the world and people were making pilgrimages to see her hiding place - an office and warehouse in the centre of Amsterdam. The building was old and becoming derelict and the council was going to knock it down and

all that history was going to be lost. But Otto Frank fought to save the building which, like Anne's diary, was evidence of what he and his family had been through.

*PowerPoint - photo of the Anne Frank House*

Otto convinced the Mayor of Amsterdam and the council to save the building, so not only was the building saved, it was turned into what has become one of the most famous museums in the world - the Anne Frank House. The Anne Frank House opened its doors 50 years ago on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1960 – on this day one of the world's most secret places became one of its most public.

*Powerpoint – two images of visitors ringing the doorbell and the long line of visitors queuing.*

*Teacher can ask if anyone has been to the Anne Frank House.*

People visiting the Anne Frank House from all over the world are inspired by Anne's words and come away understanding the dangers of prejudice and persecution and the importance of respecting our fellow human beings.

So we can see that Otto Frank's actions prove that one person really **CAN** make a difference and because of his vision we are celebrating Anne's birthday 65 years after the end of the Second World War.

On 12<sup>th</sup> June Anne would have been 81. In her diary she wrote that she was determined to hold on to her dreams and ideals in the hope that the day would come when she would be able to carry them out. But because of the cruelty she suffered at the hands of the Nazis

this innocent girl never lived to even reach 16. Anne, along with her sister Margot, died of hunger and disease in a cold and frightening concentration camp.

Let us now reflect on people who have made a positive difference to our world. We have talked about Anne Frank, her father Otto Frank and their helper Miep Gies. I am sure you can think of others. They may even be people you know.

*Powerpoint: Declaration*

We will end today's assembly by reading the Anne Frank Declaration:

**Anne Frank is a symbol of the millions  
of innocent children who have been victims of  
persecution. Anne's life shows us what can happen  
when prejudice and hatred go unchallenged.**

**Because prejudice and hatred harm us all, I declare that:**

**I will stand up for what is right and speak out against what  
is unfair and wrong**

**I will try to defend those who cannot defend themselves**

**I will strive for a world in which our differences will make  
no difference – a world in which everyone is treated fairly  
and has an equal chance in life**