



A message from the headteacher

We are very pleased to report that we have received almost 400 applications for admission to Year 7 in September 2007, when 120 places will be available.

Work on the construction of the main school building is progressing rapidly and the structure has now reached first floor level. It is now possible for the children to better appreciate the size of this phase of the project as they view it from the pathway on their way to the sports centre. They are suitably impressed! Meanwhile, we are hard at work finalizing the ICT infrastructure and the layouts for all the teaching rooms and associated resource bases, reception, offices and circulation areas. Yavneh College will have a very impressive campus, as you will see for yourselves next year.

All parents should have received our recent mailing which included

a flyer reminding you about the evening with Chief Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks which will take place at the school on Tuesday 12th December at 8pm. We are honoured that the Chief Rabbi is coming to address us and we hope that as many parents as possible will be with us for this special event to mark the establishment of Anglo-Jewry's newest secondary school.

Following Rabbi Sack's address, the YCA (Yavneh College Association) will be holding its inaugural AGM. We are looking forward to hosting many YCA events in the months and years to come and we hope that many—or indeed most—parents will become active members.



Front view of dining hall - very large windows will be installed between the three large upright columns



Kitchen, labs and classrooms taking shape

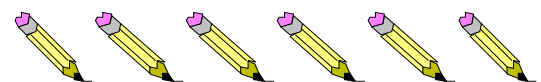
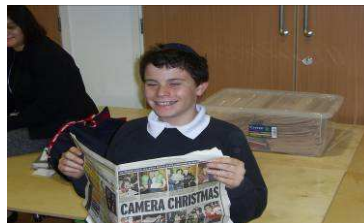


View down length of the new block from the kitchen and dining hall in the foreground to the labs and classrooms in the distance

School Council launches recycling at Yavneh College

When we asked for nominations, an impressive 90% of the year expressed an interest in serving on the first-ever YC School Council. Consequently, four names were drawn from a hat from each form:- **7PL—Adam Ingram, Mickaela Turner, Ellen Conway, James Silverman** **7SHS—Harry Rothband, Orli Gilmore, David Myers, Shannon Engel-Stevens** **7DJ—Richard Reback, Marcus Coleman, Elkie Ben Hur, Milly Gale**. There will be a different School Council next term. The council meets most weeks with Mr Marcus and spends part of the time discussing constructive suggestions from pupils on how to further improve the school. The rest of the time is spent working on major projects.

This term's major project has been to launch a paper recycling programme for the school. The School Council are working in conjunction with 'The Paper Trail', based at Apsley Paper Mill, to collect paper for recycling. The paper mill will then come to the school take the paper away. This week, the children took part in a wonderful interactive assembly with Hugo from the paper mill, where they were shown the various processes involved in paper making and recycling. This is a fantastic first project for the school council to get its teeth into.

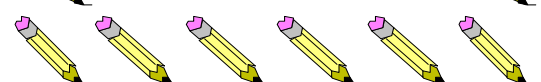


Art News

Well done to Georgia Inerfield for her excellent effort on her art homework. Georgia was inspired by illustrator Emma Dibben, who had produced a series of fruit paintings. Georgia copied one of these paintings with great success and emailed it to the artist.

Emma Dibben replied to Georgia and said she was very impressed with her talent and excellent painting skills. She went on to say that she had printed out a copy of her picture and has put it on her wall!

Well done Georgia



PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRE

In October, we asked all pupils to complete an anonymous survey on the topic
'How Well Do We Look After You?'

Here are the results:

	Yes	No
1. Are you happy at Yavneh College?	99%	1%
2. Have you made new friends here since you joined the school?	100%	0%
3. Have you been bullied here?	6%	94%
4. If you were worried or unhappy at school, do you feel that you would be able to speak to a member of staff about it?	82%	18%
5. If you answered 'Yes' to Question 3, briefly describe what sort of bullying took place. (Asking this question helps us to decide whether what the child is describing as 'bullying' fulfils the DfES definition: 'Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. It can take many forms, but the three main types are physical, verbal or indirect e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups.')		
5 children answered 'Yes' to Q.3 . Their descriptions of bullying were: - 'I was told everybody hates me' - 'I was teased by names' - 'People called me names' - 'A boy punched my arm' - 'Violence and insulting'		
6. If you answered 'Yes' to Question 4, which member of staff would you speak to?		
52% named their form tutor 30% named the Head of Year The rest mentioned the senior leadership team, teachers, teaching assistants and the office		

We were very pleased that all of the children said they have made new friends and that 99% said that they are happy. We were also pleased to see that despite having known the staff for only seven weeks, 82% of the children felt that they would be able to tell a member of staff if they were worried or unhappy at school. Despite responding to Question 1 by saying that they are happy at the school, 6% (five children) said that they had been bullied, in answer to Question 3. Although not all of these five children, in answer to Question 5, described incidents that the DfES would define as bullying, we are nevertheless concerned that any pupils have encountered any unpleasant behaviour on the part of others and we are disappointed that they have not told us about their worries. As a follow-up to this questionnaire, therefore, Dr Coleman and Mr Marcus have spoken to all pupils at two assemblies to remind them that they should always tell us if they encounter bullying or unacceptable behaviour, so that we can take steps to stop it.

Parents collecting their children after homework club are requested to park with due consideration for our neighbours; parking in the Tesco car park is the best place please

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR REQUEST FOR TICKETS BY 6TH DECEMBER FOR OUR CHANUKAH CONCERT ON WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

PLEASE WOULD PARENTS NOTE THAT THE YEAR 7 SHABBATON WILL NOW BE HELD ON THE WEEKEND OF FRIDAY 20TH— SUNDAY 22ND APRIL 2007

Should parents ever have any concerns about security in the vicinity of the school, please contact the CST on
020 8457 9999

**YAVNEH COLLEGE
PASTORAL MANAGER**

From January, we will have a Pastoral Manager to look after Year 7. This means that Mr Marcus will relinquish his temporary responsibility for the pastoral welfare of Year 7.
The Pastoral Manager, Mrs Spelman, should be your first port of call if you have any concerns about your child's welfare at the school.

Important dates for your diary!

- 2006 **Tuesday 12 December** - 8pm An evening with the Chief Rabbi (parents not pupils)
- 2007 **Monday 26 February** - 7PL Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 28 February** - 7SHS Parents' Evening
- Monday 5 March** - 7DJ Parents' Evening
- Friday 20 - Sunday 22 April** - Year 7 Shabbaton

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Rosh Codesh Awards

We are pleased to announce winners of our Rosh Chodesh awards for Kislev 5767

Credits awarded to:

Oliver Davis for participating in AJEX marches
Talia Album for caring for Siddurim
Ben Bazini for regularly wearing Tzizit

Rosh Chodesh Badges to:

Summer Swerner who raised money for Aims to Cure
Jordan Marsh who raised money for the NSPCC
Evan Shapiro who raised money for Magen David Adom

Rosh Chodesh Badges and Gift Vouchers to:

Elkie Ben Hur who was a first-aider at the recent Remembrance Sunday parade and the AJEX parade the following week. She has been a first-aider for many years and belongs to the St John Club.

Jake Jacobs and **Harrison Posner** who have both raised significant funds for Colnbrook Special School, by helping at their fairs. They are both keen to do all they can for Colnbrook as they have younger siblings there.