



Message from the Headteacher

The last few weeks have once again been very busy ones at Yavneh. Sporting events have figured prominently - as the bumper sports section of this newsletter illustrates - and there have been a number of special events, including the annual public speaking competition, a high-octane production of *High School Musical* and our first Gifted & Talented Music Day which culminated in a superb evening performance.

The word 'education' derives from the Latin 'to draw out'; an acknowledgment that every individual possesses a range of talents and skills which are waiting to be developed. For this to happen, one has to be provided with the correct opportunities, which is why extracurricular activities are given such a high priority at Yavneh College.

We believe that public speaking, for example, is an invaluable skill which will stand our young people in good stead in many future contexts, whether they are addressing friends and family at a barmitzvah or batmitzvah, undergoing an interview for a place at a top university or taking part in the selection process for a coveted job; the list is endless.

Similarly, *High School Musical* has provided pupils with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their talents, build their confidence and inspire them to aim high. The talented cast was supported by a super-efficient backstage team. Mrs Saunders, Miss Landsman and colleagues once again worked tirelessly. The many hours of rehearsals paid off with four performances that provided a fun-filled end to the term.

You can read more about these and the many other activities and events at Yavneh College in this bumper edition newsletter.

Wishing you a Chag Kasher V'Sameach. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Tuesday 21 April.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION Tuesday 24 March

Ms.Lovett

Once again, the Yavneh College Public Speaking Competition was an event to remember, with highly skilled performances and the usual competitive edge. Attended by all of Year 7 and 8, invited parents and governors, pupils spoke about a variety of topics from Internet Safety to The Existence of G-d.

The judging panel consisted of *Ned Temko, Transport Correspondent for The Observer and former editor of the JC, Jon Mendelsohn, the Labour Party's former chief fundraiser and former Chair of Labour Friends of Israel, and our very own Dr Coleman, whilst Mrs Martin Paisner presented the prizes.*

A special mention was given to **Zach Green, Joseph Green and Noga Meyer**) but the winning team was **Josh Peters** as the Chair, **Joseph Samuelson** who spoke on The Benefits of the Monarchy and **Abby Album** as the Vote of Thanks. Their team effort was entertaining, confident and lively, impressing the judges with their humour and clever word play.

Daniel Liubarski was runner-up for the best speaker award but the coveted Public Speaking Shield was won by **Alex Zur** who spoke on The Problems in Gaza. Alex's speech was commended for its research, structure, and once again, the confident manner in which it was presented.

Well done to all those who took part, but particularly to our talented winners; the judges could not offer enough praise to those involved.

INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

Mrs.Cohen

Year 9 pupils took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge for the first time, competing against pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 in schools across the country.

Congratulations to those pupils who have achieved certificates in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Congratulations also go to the following pupils who were extremely close to a certificate:-

Lauren Shrier, Mendel Brawer, Ben Bogush, Laura Abels, Adam Isaacs, Daniela Travis, Talia Album, Susanna Fantoni, Yohanan Ben Gad.

Best in school

Jessica Tray

Silver certificates

Jessica Tray
Jordan Rinsler
Georgia Inerfield

Bronze certificates

Elkie Ben Hur
Harry Moss
Max Gooft
Ben Hilsenrath
Jamie Nagioff

YAVNEH COLLEGE SCHOOL PRODUCTION HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Miss.Landsman

The evening of Thursday 2 April was the final show of this year's school production *High School Musical* which was a triumph!

After the huge success of *Les Miserables* last year, we were worried that we would not be able to find a show that could begin to compare and give the massively talented pupils here at Yavneh the same chance to shine. However, in *High School Musical* the pupils absolutely surpassed themselves!

We are so hugely proud of all the cast and crew, they did such a fabulous job! The only thing is What on earth should we do next year?



LRC NEWS

Mrs.Kaiser



Year 7 outing to Jewish Book Week

Year 7, accompanied by 8 members of staff and 4 parents, travelled by coach to the Royal National Hotel in London for 'Schools Day' at Jewish Book Week. This was the first time Yavneh College pupils have participated in this annual literary festival. There was much excitement as the children spotted friends among the 500 children from the various schools also attending the event.

After a short introduction from the organiser, the first speaker, Morris Gleitzman, who was visiting from Australia, came to the microphone. Morris has already written 29 books for children, one of which '*Toad Rage*' is currently being made into an animated film by Pixar. His books usually combine serious issues with humour and his talk to us did too. Morris explained how he develops his ideas and chooses names for his characters. He told us about His Jewish grandfather from Krakow and how he'd been inspired by him and by learning about Janusz Korczak (the Jewish doctor who ran an orphanage in Warsaw), to write his acclaimed Holocaust trilogy, '*Once*', '*Then*' and '*Now*'.

After a short break, African music filled the room and slides of African wildlife were shown to set the scene for the next speaker, Gaby Halberstam and her first book '*Blue Sky Freedom*', which has been nominated for awards. She told us about her idyllic childhood and lifestyle in apartheid South Africa which was fascinating. She showed us slides of her luxurious home contrasting them with photos of the African townships. Gaby explained about the death of Steve Biko. We heard how some people chose to collaborate with the apartheid regime and help to cover up police brutality. For most of the children listening, this was their first introduction to apartheid and hopefully it gave them much to think about. Gaby then read us an extract from her story and also answered numerous questions before finishing to loud applause.

The organisers of Jewish Book Week have kindly donated 5 copies of '*Then*' and of '*Blue Sky Freedom*' to our LRC and these books are now available for pupils to borrow.

Times' Books for Schools' tokens

Thank you to all those people who have been sending in tokens. Please note that we need to have all the spring term tokens by Friday, 24th April, to send off our order for books. Tokens for the summer term will appear in The Times/Sunday Times from the 19th April so please keep collecting for Yavneh College!

Bookfairs

Thank you to all the parents and pupils who supported the book fair held at recent parents' evenings and during some lunch times. We hope you're enjoying your new books.

World Book Day

All pupils were given a £1 book token to celebrate World Book Day on 5th March. Please note that tokens must be spent by 29th March.

KIPPOT

This is a reminder that boys must wear plain black kippot at all times in school. Please could parents support the school in reminding their sons to bring in appropriate kippot.

We would like to extend this polite reminder to all Jewish male visitors to the school, that kippot must be worn when entering the school and for the duration of your visit.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL
SPRING/SUMMER TERM 2009**

***Congratulations to the following pupils who have
been selected for the School Council:-***

Joshua Cohen (Chair) 7AA
Aron Carr (Vice-Chair) 8EC
Daniel Levy (Secretary) 9IT
Natasha Hyer, Alexander Bright 7AA
Hannah Sherrard 7AL
Lisa Hardin, Jack Singer 7AR
Daniella Gold, Harrison Baum 7HAS
Samuel Isaacs, Gemma Fantoni 7MF
Lara Son, Tom Yungerman 8CP
Elia Loewenstern, Jacob Carmel, Elliot Shayle 8DR
Helena Raymond-Hayling 8EC
Noga Meyer, Troy Stacey 8PK
Susanna Fantoni, Jack Stern 9AM
Lily Unerman, Marcus Coleman 9HS
Ben Sandford 9IT
Ed Phillips 12CC
Jonny Barker 12ALB

ART DEPARTMENT

Mrs.Massias

'Express Yourself'

A number of Year 8 pupils had pieces of artwork submitted for an art competition entitled 'Express Yourself' run by Forward Press Ltd. Congratulations to the following pupils whose work was chosen to be published in a portfolio of work. In June, the school library will be receiving a copy featuring the printed work.

Daniel Greenblatt	Feeling Blue
Elia Loewenstern	Angry Elia
Arielle Biton	Joy
Aron Carr	Feel the Burn
Adam Cooklin	Crazy Cooklin
Jessica Goodman	Smile
Samantha Ely	Fury
Jessica Franklin	Falling in Love
Abigail Compton	The Crooked Woman
Rebecca Harris	Boiling Point
Max Stern	Possessed
Josh Brickman	Still/Crazy
Jessica Berger	The Unusual Me
Sam Massias	Worried
Olivia Fletcher	The Angry Stare
Deborah Misan	The Missing Laugh
Jessie Weiner	Silent Cry
Georgia Freeman	Confused
Aidan Biton	Distraught
Guy Gitlin-Leigh	Bored yet?

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Miss.Landsman

Gifted and Talented Music Day

Music Gifted and Talented Day took place on Wednesday 25 February.

The day culminated with an evening concert displaying wonderful performances from our Gifted and Talented pupils and the Yavneh College Choir.

It was a very special evening concert enjoyed by all those who took part and the invited audience.

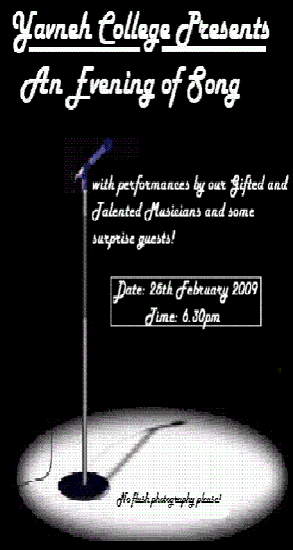
Music for Youth Regional Festival

On 18 March the YC Singers consisting of seventeen pupils visited London to participate in the Regional Festival of the Music for Youth Series.

The pupils watched a variety of performances from other primary and secondary schools from around London and beyond before performing three songs themselves including Bilvavi (written by Stephen Levy), Lean on Me (Bill Withers) and the YC favourite, Adiemus (Karl Jenkins).

The choir, accompanied by Miss Landsman and Daniel Liubarski, conducted by Miss Landsman and Mr Levey, performed beautifully and received excellent feedback from the 'Music Mentors'. Comments included 'a lovely soprano tone...you sang with enthusiasm and much zest....and with sincerity and determination'.

We look forward to many more performances including our forthcoming visit to perform at the North London Music Festival.



Guest Speaker

Ross Water spent a day within the Art Department. He is in his second year of a Graphic Design and Typography degree. He spoke to Year 9 pupils who he thoroughly inspired by showing them what he is currently working on. He set them a small project which provoked some very interesting ideas. The pupils enjoyed talking with him and now have a greater understanding about the many different courses that are available in Art.

ROTARY TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT

Friday 20 March

Mr.Taylor

On Friday 20 March eight Year 7 pupils went to Bushey Hall School to take part in the Rotary Technology Tournament along with pupils from other Hertfordshire schools.

Our pupils were the youngest there, competing against some Year 8 children but mainly Year 9 children. Their challenge was to make a ping-pong ball launcher which would fire a ping-pong ball vertically upwards to a height of 3m. At a height of 1m there was a circular metal ring which the ball had to pass through on its ascent. The ping-pong ball then had to return to as close as possible to where it started from. They were marked on both their planning and how well the design worked. Unfortunately, our two teams were not outright winners, but they did beat several Year 9 teams.

Well done to Matthew Reisler, Harry Kelly, Daniel Gold, Aaron Reid, Benji Misner, Alex Karet, Maya De Mello, Lawrence Rosenberg.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Mrs.Shiradski

National Science and Engineering Week 6 - 15 March



We recently celebrated National Science and Engineering Week here at Yavneh College with several competitions and events.

We asked for entries to a School Science Museum based on the theme of 'Change'. Our winner was Joel Huberman with an outstanding piece of work which looked at the evolution of the technology of communications since ancient times.

Several pupils made 'Highly Commendable' contributions to the Darwin in Space national competition. The aim was to design an animal that is designed to live on an alien planet in one of several harsh environments. Those pupils who we thought to be 'Highly Commendable' were Elliot Shayle, Beth Kraines and Aaron Conway. We await the decisions of the British Science Association to see if our pupils ranked high enough to win a national prize.

Finally, we ran an inter-form competition, exclusive to each year group. The winning form from Year 7 was 7AR and their representatives were Lisa Hardin, May'an Jacobson, James Benham-Whyte and Alex Karet. The winning form from Year 8 was 8EC, and their representatives were Kezia Brown, Lauren Segal, Samuel Gordon and Aron Carr. The winning form from Year 9 was 9IT and their representatives were Shelley Cukier, Jessica Tray, Daniel Levy and Ryan Fairbanks.

Once again, congratulations to all our winners and all our entrants.

Israel Day of Science 5 March

On 5 March Mrs Shiradski accompanied a small group of science A level students to the Science Museum, joining hundreds of other Sixth Form students from in and around London, to listen to a series of lectures presented by world-renowned scientists from leading Israeli universities all of whom are involved with cutting edge scientific developments.

The day started with an exhibition featuring the latest innovations in science: medicine, genetics, water desalination, irrigation systems, solar energy and iPods. This was then followed with extremely informative and well delivered lectures. It was fascinating to learn of the collaboration between Israeli scientists and their Palestinian counterparts, as well as the joint projects that exist between Israeli scientists and their neighbouring countries on different projects, including the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. We were fortunate to hear presentations on the following topics: Marine geoscience in Israel; Israel's water management and desalination projects; The future technology: Virtual and Real; and the work that is being undertaken in the Large Hadron Collider. The day was rounded off with an incredible insight into the current research and implementation of 'The Bionic Man' focussing on developing a 'Bionic Eye'.

The event was a great success being co-ordinated by the ZF and generously hosted by the Science Museum, London.

A request from the Science Department

If any parents have at home clean plastic ice-cream containers (with or without lids) these are very much needed in the Science Department. All shapes and sizes would be gratefully received (including the black Swedish Glace containers.

MATHS MASTERS

Mr.Slater

Year 6 pupils from HJPS, Clore Shalom and Newberries in Radlett took part in Yavneh's first-ever Maths Masterclass.

The weekly programme, designed by Mrs.Cohen, Head of Maths and delivered by Mr.Macaulay was created to increase each pupil's ability to solve mathematical problems.

By the end of the twelve week course, every pupil had improved by a minimum of 15% with the average being 30%.

The highest overall improvement was 58% by a Clore Shalom pupil, Laura Schuz.

Congratulations to Miri Shiradski (yes, you know who her mum is!), she scored a staggering 96% in the final test - clearly she should consider a career in education.

May we remind all pupils to leave any valuables in the lockers that are provided.

If you leave valuable items in an unattended bag at any time during the school day, this is at your own risk.

School Office

May we remind all parents of the policy regarding your son or daughter's attendance at school following a barmitzvah/batmitzvah the night before:-

We do not encourage pupils to arrive late the morning after **their own** barmitzvah/batmitzvah. In the event that your child is very tired and thus unable to arrive at school on time, we would ask you to ensure that they come into school as soon as they are able to, with a letter explaining their absence.

NO authorisation is given for late arrival, or absence, on the day following a barmitzvah or batmitzvah at which a child has been a guest. If you think your child may be too tired to come into school on time the next day, please ensure that they leave early enough the night before to be able to do so.

If your child would like permission to arrive late in order to attend a mid-week call-up of a friend who is barmitzvah, permission must be sought in advance.

Attendance Officer

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Should parents ever have any concerns about security in the vicinity of the school,

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**EMAIL
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

We would urge those parents who have not yet registered their email address to do so, as from January 2009. This system will be used to send out information in order to reduce costs of printing and photocopying.

Please find the time to register your email address if you have not already done so.

Thank you.



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Important dates for your diary!

Summer Term starts for all pupils
Year 12 AS level exams begin
Half term
Year 7 & 8 JS exams
Year 9 exams
Year 12 Higher Education Evening
Sports Day

Year 7 & 8 exams
Year 6 Induction Day & Parents' Evening
Year 8 Work Shadowing Day
Year 7 Enterprise Day in France
Term ends

Tues 21 April
Mon 11 May
Mon 25 May - Fri 29 May
Mon 8 June
Tues 9 June - Fri 12 June
Tues 23 June
Tues 30 June
(Boys a.m./Girls p.m.)
Mon 6 July - Thurs 9 July
Thurs 9 July
Weds 15 July
Thurs 16 July
Thurs 23 July