

Message from the Headteacher

On a rainy Sunday morning, a group of Yavneh pupils entered the unfamiliar world of Eton College. Ushered into a room straight out of Hogwarts, the names of generations of Etonians carved into the dark wood panelling, they found themselves faced by boys dressed in grey tailcoats, pin-striped trousers, waistcoats and stiff Eton collars. Initially overawed by what they were seeing, the confidence of the Yavneh pupils quickly returned as they started to see that despite their privileged surroundings, the boys of Eton were approachable, engaging teenagers.

We had been invited to Eton to participate in a Faiths Forum attended by the members of their Jewish, Moslem and Hindu Societies. There are around 25 Jewish boys in Eton and they were keen to share their experience of being educated as borders in an ancient public school where most of the 1,300 pupils are members of the Church of England. After the Forum, the Eton boys took us on a tour of the oldest part of the school, which dates back to the 1400s. By the end of the morning, the Yavneh party and the members of the Eton Jewish Society were completely at ease with each other, exchanging Facebook details and taking photos. We hope to arrange a return visit to Yavneh College in 2010.



MASTERMIND OF YAVNEH

November saw the preliminary heats of the 'Mastermind of Yavneh 2009' competition, with almost 50 brave pupils tackling a series of challenging general knowledge questions. Congratulations to the following individuals, who achieved the highest scores and now proceed to the Lower School and Middle School finals in December, where they will answer questions on their specialist subjects:

Lower School: Ben Dubiner, Aaron Conway, Adam Freedman

Middle School: Daniel Greenblatt, Helena Raymond-Hayling, Daniel Levy

JEREMY CLARKSON, EAT YOUR HEART OUT!

The enrichment programme continues to expand in interesting directions.

Mr Taylor would like to introduce a project which he has undertaken successfully in his previous school. Drawing upon his training as an engineer, Mr Taylor would teach pupils how a motor car is constructed and how it works, by purchasing an older classic car and completely stripping and rebuilding it. Different teams of pupils would be able to take part in the project on different days, to maximise the number of pupils involved. This would be long-term project, taking up to two years to complete, after which the car would be sold, enabling us to buy another car and repeat the project.

Mr Carter has kindly volunteered to assist Mr Taylor. If there are any parents who would also like to offer their expertise, Mr Taylor would be pleased to hear from them.

In order to get this exciting project started, we need £500 to purchase the first car. If any parents can assist us with raising this initial sum, we would be very grateful; please contact Mr Taylor or Dr Coleman.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE

Parents are reminded of the importance of ensuring the regular attendance of their children at school. Permission to be absent from school during term time must be sought in advance by writing to the Headteacher.

Permission will only be granted in accordance with the Pupil Attendance Policy, which is reproduced in this newsletter.

Careers Ideas

Mrs.Segal

The Year 10s have enjoyed some fabulous careers talks this half term, hearing from parents working in property, Early Years, A&E, journalism and law. If you have a career in a different field and would be able to take a 20 minute slot at a Thursday morning Year 10 assembly next half term, Mrs Segal would love to hear from you via the school admin e-mail address.

As featured in previous newsletters, boys who forget or lose their kipa during the school day are no longer provided with temporary replacements. If a boy does not have a kipa, he will be provided with somewhere to work on his own. His parents will be contacted and if they bring in a kipa for him he will be able to return to lessons.

Alternatively, boys can purchase a plain black kipa at a cost of £2.00 and return to lessons immediately.

SCIENCE NEWS

Website Information

On the website's shared drive for pupils' use, folders have been placed called 'Website Lists'. Some of the websites listed are an excellent resource for pupils to enhance their learning. Please encourage your child to utilise them.

Stick Insects

We have a number a baby stick insects that pupils may take home to keep as pets. If anyone is interested in providing a home, we would need a letter signed by your parent giving their permission and that you have the appropriate housing for them, i.e. a bug cage.

ENTERPRISE WEEK

Ms A George

16 - 22 November was National Enterprise week and Global Entrepreneurship week, so we decided that we would join in the celebrations with a week's worth of activities for pupils in Years 7 - 9. To kick off the week we had a guest speaker to talk to Year 8 and Year 9. Norman Epstein is an entrepreneur himself and came in to talk to the pupils about how he got to where he is now and what skills it required.

On Tuesday we had a guest speaker for the Year 7, Mr Neil Black from Masters Football. The pupils were so excited that it was impossible for them to sit still! Both guest speakers were excellent and the pupils learnt a lot. We also ran a competition to find the worst business idea. With the winners of the competition being; 3rd Josh Peters (9MI), 2nd Matthew Unerman (7KK) and 1st place going to Sadie-Mae Arellano with her idea of a machine that makes your money disappear.

Wednesday was Women's Enterprise Day so all the girls took part in an activity that made them think about what issues were important to them. They also saw how many successful female entrepreneurs there are, but that the UK need more, so the day was about encouraging them to get involved in enterprise.

Thursday was Social Enterprise Day, all pupils in Years 7-9 took part in an activity that was encouraging them to look at their carbon footprint and giving something back to the local community.

Overall, a very enjoyable and successful week for everyone.

Parents wishing to contact the Pastoral Managers can now do so directly instead of via the admin email. Please use these new email addresses:-

pastoralmanageryear7@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk
pastoralmanageryear8@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk
pastoralmanageryear9@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk
pastoralmanageryear10@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk

For all admissions queries, please use the following new email address:-

admissions@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk

The World Trade Game

Ms R Seamark

Year 9 spent a very busy morning in the dining room on Tuesday 10th November playing the World Trade Game. This annual event allows pupils to experience, first hand, the unfairness of global trade and the inequality that exists between rich and poor countries. Each group of pupils represented a different country and the aim of the game was to make as much money as possible by trading resources with other countries. At the end of trading, the winning country was China who had \$3600 in their bank account, even more impressive given the fact that this country made more money than any of the six 'rich' countries represented in the game. So a big well done to Jessica Goodman, Lucy Kupshik, Myer Steiner, Oliver Yaffie, Samuel Gordon and Yaron Ash who led China to victory.

Congratulations also goes to Anthony Hildebrand, Daniel Greenblatt, Harry Marks, Jessie Weiner, Shoshi Hertz and Troy Stacey who won the poster competition for Indonesia. A special thank you also goes to Mr Dayne for so kindly volunteering his services in managing the 'World Bank' and ensuring that each country was paid fairly for the products they made.

Lost Property

There will be a lost property amnesty on the last three days of term. If your child has lost any item of clothing, shoes, pencil cases or any other items, please encourage them to come and look.

At the end of term, all useable items of clothing will be donated to World Jewish Relief, as we are unable to store lost property longer than one term at a time.

Black History Month competition

Mr B Clemson

Talia Jessener and Zara Shaw were the well-deserved winners of the Black History Month competition. The girls produced a fact file on the South African civil rights leader Nelson Mandela, even going so far as to receive an email from his personal assistant! Whilst there were many excellent entries from all years, the detail and presentation of the girls' work stood out. Both girls received a £10 book token for their efforts. Well done girls!



Black History Month assembly

In celebration of Black History Month, Jordan Rinsler, Shosh Hertz, Jessica Tray and Oliver Reback joined Mr Clemson in two assemblies highlighting the life of Muhammad Ali. The pupils researched and produced a number of excellent role plays seeking to demonstrate the impact Ali had not only in the boxing ring but in the civil rights movement as well.

SECOND-HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM

If parents have items of good-quality used uniform (including PE kit) that your children have grown out of, the school would very much welcome these to be donated to the school's stock of second-hand uniform.
Thank you.

The Bursar's Office

Imperial War Museum

Last month, Year 13 History students visited the Imperial War Museum. The aim of the trip was to allow pupils to gain an insight into the role which World War One and World War Two played in the development of the German State. Students were keen to discover the roots of the Nazi regime and the reasons behind Germany's decision to go to war in 1914.



YEAR 7 & 8 SHABBATONS

**The dates for Yr 7 & Yr 8 Shabbatons
this academic year and next academic year are:**

Yr 8: 15th-16th January 2010

Yr 7: 5th-6th February 2010

Yr 8: 14th-15th January 2011

Yr 7: 4th-5th February 2011

**The dates for Yr 7 & Yr 8 Shabbatons
for 2012 are:**

Yr 8: 13th - 14th January 2012

Yr 7: 3rd - 4th February 2012

We require a Science Technician for January 2010, full-time, term-time only. For an information pack, please email pa@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk or phone 020 8736 5580.

G.C.S

Airport and Simcha specialists

7-Seater MPV's

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or email**

trevor@granatcars.com

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With the new year starting, we would like to remind parents that if they are driving their children to school, they should not drive down **any** part of Hillside Avenue. You will appreciate that with nearly six hundred pupils attending the school, Hillside Avenue will be chaos if parents use the road to drop-off their children. Can you please use the car park at Tesco, remembering that Tesco do not wish parents to arrive at the side of the store. Please park in the designated parking spaces and do not drop your child off at the corner of the store as this is very dangerous. We should be extremely conscious of the help that Tesco have given the school and comply with their wishes accordingly. Many thanks for your co-operation.

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



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25% discount for Yavneh
Parents

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07850 054634**

Important dates for your diary!

Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening
Chanukah concert (evening)

Last day of term
First day of term for pupils
Year 8 Shabbaton
Year 8 Parents' Evening
Year 9 Parents' Evening
Year 7 Shabbaton
Year 7 Parents' Evening

Mon 30 November
Tue 15 December, Wed 16 December,
Thurs 17 December
Fri 18 December
Tue 5 January 2010
Fri 16/Sat 16 January
Tue 19 January
Mon 1 February
Fri 5/Sat 6 February
Wed 10 February

'Winter Fridays' (i.e. School ends at 1.15pm) run from 16 October to 19 March inclusive