



## Message from the Headteacher

This year's Sixth Form Open Evening in November was attended by our first cohort of Year 11 pupils, joined by record numbers of Year 11 pupils who are considering transferring from their current schools. Separate presentations were held for the two groups, followed by time to visit subject departments for more detailed information about the various courses on offer for September 2011.

Earlier this month, the Department for Education published this year's CVAs (Contextual Value Added scores i.e. the DfE's analysis of how well Yr13 students performed at A Level in 2010 compared to their GCSE results in 2008). I am delighted to inform you that our CVA is 1020.5, which places us in the top Ofsted category, which is defined as: 'Performing exceptionally above expectations.' This recognition of the excellence of our A level teaching is a tribute to the work of our A Level teaching team.

The first round of the annual *Mastermind of Yavneh* competition was a close-fought battle this year. Top contestants in the Yrs 9 & 10 section were Aaron Conway, Aron Carr, Helena Raymond-Hayling and Lawrence Rosenberg. Top contestants in Yrs 7 & 8 section were Elliot Goldberg, Jamie Berlofsky, Joey Abels, Dassa Shiradski, Miri Shiradski, James Payling, Adam Steinberg and Sam Karet. They now go forward to the finals on 16 December, to answer questions on specialist subjects ranging from *The 12 Labours of Hercules* and *The 2009 Ashes Series* to *Italian Supercars* and *The War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo.

The announcement that the Royal Wedding will be a Bank Holiday means that we have decided to make a change to our published term dates, as we would otherwise be opening the school for only one day after the Pesach holidays before immediately closing again for a 4-day weekend. It would also otherwise mean that we would lose a day of teaching in the run-up to GCSEs and A levels. Please see the separate notice in this newsletter for full details of the new arrangements.

## Laurence Rosenberg hits the top spot!

Mr C Wolf

It is nearly a term-and-a-half since we unleashed Radio Yavneh on an unsuspecting world. We were therefore immensely proud of Lawrence Rosenberg whose podcast on the progress of the Zimbabwean Cricket Team was picked up the webmasters at RadioWaves and featured on their homepage!

With an ever-growing influx of new reporters sharing their ideas and hobbies, Radio Yavneh is taking on a life of its own - reflecting the thoughts that are swimming (or in the case of our latest entries, racing!) through your minds. Please keep the articles and podcasts coming and let's get back onto the RadioWaves homepage where we will follow in the steps of our pioneering Mr Rosenberg!

**RADIOWAVES** Safe school podcasting, vide blogs for young people to rep their world. **FREE! Sign up now.**

**FILMCLUB** Celebrate National Schools Film Week **What's your Fave Film?** National Schools Film Week 14-22nd Oct

National School Film Week What's your Fave Film?

**Secondary Stories** Hands together to stop bullying! Join in and send us a picture of your hands as part of anti-bullying week

**Primary Stories** Zimbabwe cricket improving? they start to cause a racket against giants south africa. (audio)

**If you could make One Law What would it be?** Lights Camera Parliament! New Competition: Find Out More!

Do you want to know why the scottish flaa is blue and white?

## **My WJR Mission to the Ukraine 23 to 25 October 2010**

By Louis Brooks 9DH

On Sunday, 23rd of October my mother and I went on a mission with World Jewish Relief to the Ukraine. This trip was one of the most educational experiences I had ever taken part in.

After the two, two hour flights (one to Vienna, then onto Dneprotvsk) we were formally introduced to 7 amazing families that we would be travelling with and then briefed about the trip. After that we started to unpack our gifts for the local Jewish people we were going to visit. The amount of presents everyone had donated was overwhelming. Now all 7 children had the daunting task of organising the gifts into 19, even packages for the home visits we would be making later.

Finally, after we had completed the packages, we split up into different groups each to visit a different Jewish family's home. We were 10 minutes into the back braking bumpy journey when our translator received a phone call from the person we were visiting's careworker saying, that just a few minutes ago the 'ladies' husband had come into the house, very drunk and he had beaten their 12 year old son up, and as a result the son had run away. The translator also told us that this was quite a normal occurrence that happened to this family, and that the lady still was ok with us visiting her home.

Finally we had arrived. We took the gift package and a beautiful blanket WJR had made for the lady out of our bus and waited outside her gate. The first thing that struck me about her house was how grey it looked compared to the houses back in England, and the second is that the house didn't even look like a house, but that it looked more like a shack that had been hit by a bomb. After a few minutes wait the lady came to greet us. We had all been told that she was in her 50s but when we saw her she looked more about 70. The woman was in tears as she shook my hand and I felt so much sorrow for her. We introduced ourselves and made our way into her house. It was about 6 o'clock and it was starting to get dark and was very cold.

As we stepped into the shack we were in complete darkness, all the lady had for heat and light was a tea light that we use for our Shabbat candles. Then the stench hit me. It was the most awful smell that I had ever experienced, it was so bad I had to use my thick scarf, like a gas mask and breathe through it. The lady showed us round her house, but even that was a struggle, as there wasn't enough room for all 6 of us to walk around. As I couldn't see anything I took some pictures with my flash on. The pictures showed everything. The house had mould everywhere, there was plaster falling off the walls, rubbish scattered all across the floor and a single mattress for her and her son and this made me wonder how she would survive without the medicine and food supplies WJR donate to her. Also I was to visit later in the trip the community centre she goes to which is the highlight for her and her son every week.

After we had finally said our goodbyes and given the lady our gifts I sat down in our bus and thought how corrupt this country is. Also how it could let this happen to so many Jews and to other religious citizens. Also I thought about how lucky I am to have everything that I do, and how I take lots of things for granted such as something as simple as Shabbat candle.

After two more days of home visits, like the one I had the day before, it was time to visit one of many Jewish community centres that WJR had set up. After a two hour journey on the bumpiest road I had ever been on and also seeing the most disused factories in the space of a couple of hours I had ever seen, we had arrived. I was so happy to see such a clean building full of so much colour. In fact it was the first modern construction I had seen in my two days in the Ukraine.

We entered the building and we had someone who was going to show us around. Firstly, we were shown the disabled wing of the building. The tour guide took us to a dance studio where there was about 10 mentally retarded people looking the happiest I had seen anyone look in the Ukraine. It was amazing how they expressed themselves and the translator told us that just weeks before some of the people there could not communicate with anyone but now they were all dancing and singing. After that, we went into the children's wing that was named after my grandfather who played an active role in WJR. All the children there came from disadvantaged and 'at risk' families and they looked so active and they all had a smile on their faces. They all gave us presents and did Jewish dancing for us, it was a fantastic sight. Then finally we went to where all the old people were and it was the most incredible sight. I had never seen a bunch of old people so lively in my life. They were all dancing, they put on a show for us and they were all so happy.

We then went to a Holocaust memorial site. The memorial sight was just one small stone that didn't even mention the Jews. This is because the Ukrainian people helped the Nazis kill the Jews and the country was guilty that they had ever helped the Germans do this. It made me very emotional knowing that I was standing at a place where thousands of Jews had been shot dead.

Our final visit of the day was to the community's synagogue. This building was absolutely huge. As I jumped out of the bus I stood in awe at this beautiful building. The translator told us that a Jewish Oligark was living in Monaco and had donated US\$5 million to build this Shul. The Rabbi then told us that they have at least 100 people on a Shabbat, but I didn't believe him and felt that they must struggle every week to make a minyan. This made me realise that this money that the person had donated could have gone to such a better cause. Even a hundred dollars of his money could of changed someone's life but instead it had gone to a shul that they hardly make use of.

On my journey home I thought about how amazing the work that WJR do for the disadvantaged Jewish people in the Ukraine and it made me feel very proud that my family and I are a part of this amazing charity. Also it made me feel very good that the charity I was helping didn't just give money to poor people and that they made everyone feel loved and happy and the community centre in Krivoy Rog was a lifeline for these people in need. And to sum it up there was not one person in that building who was not smiling.

## Armistice 1918 Assemblies

Mr B Clemson

To mark the signing of the armistice in 1918, Year 11 pupils Daniel Levy and Ben Hilsenrath led a series of assemblies to all year groups.

The two pupils raised awareness of the contributions made by Jewish soldiers during the Second World War and the overall impact that war has had on so many people throughout the history of the United Kingdom. With the staff and pupils of Yavneh alike observing a two-minute silence and lots of poppies being worn as a sign of respect and remembrance, the school demonstrated a willingness to never forget.



## History of Borehamwood Enrichment

Mr B Clemson

Pupils from Mr Clemson's History of Borehamwood enrichment welcomed visitors from the local museum on 3 November. The historians gave a 45-minute presentation on the growth of Borehamwood from a tiny hamlet to a large town of over 30,000 people. Pupils were interested to find out about the history of the town's name, the population boom after the Second World War and the background to Borehamwood's film industry. Perhaps most relevant was the description of a secondary school established in 1939 which would later go on to become the site of Yavneh College!



## Jewish Servicemen and Women

Yr11 pupil Daniel Levy featured in a JC article this month. Daniel has created a website to record the details of the thousands of Jewish servicemen and women who gave their lives in two world wars. He hopes that this will enable their families to trace the location of their graves and recognise their contribution to the defence of their country.

The Executive Director of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women, Jacques Weisser, told the JC: "He is a remarkable young man and he has created something quite amazing. He has put his heart and soul into this project and it will be of great value to many people. It has been his idea and we are delighted that he has undertaken something that will be of huge value to many people." The eminent historian Sir Martin Gilbert told the JC: "This is a most important and impressive endeavour, and I wish it - and Daniel Levy - well in what is being undertaken."

You can visit Daniel's website at

[www.jewishwargraves.org](http://www.jewishwargraves.org)

When snow falls across Hertfordshire, BBC Three Counties Radio will be broadcasting school closures and extensive travel news on 90.4FM (West Herts), 92.1FM (East Herts), 95.4FM (North Herts) and 103.8FM (South Herts).

If you can't get access to a radio, links to all the LEA school closure websites can be found at [www.bbc.co.uk/threecounties](http://www.bbc.co.uk/threecounties)

## IMPORTANT CHANGE TO TERM DATES 2010/2011

The summer term at Yavneh College is due to start on Thursday 28 April 2011. Monday 2 May 2011 is a Bank Holiday. As the Royal Wedding on Friday 29 April 2011 will be a Bank Holiday, it did not seem sensible to retain our published term dates. Accordingly, **the Spring Term will finish on Thursday 14 April, instead of Wednesday 13 April 2011 and the school will be closed on Thursday 28 April 2011.** The summer term will now begin on Tuesday 3 May. Any parent who has already booked to take their child away on holiday on 14 April should contact Dr Coleman with a copy of the booking, so that she can authorise exceptional permission for absence.

## Careers Ideas

Mrs Segal

### Visiting Speakers for KS4:

Year 10 pupils asked incredibly intelligent questions of Mrs Bayer, director of private clients for a personal investment service, when she spoke to them recently about the world of stockbroking.

Mrs Nyman, Chair of Governors, spoke to Year 11 about her career as an accountant. Key to her talk was the idea that "It's not just Maths." Pupils learned about other incredibly important qualities, like being a people person and a creative thinker.

Mr Ucko spoke to Year 11 about how he has built the Happy Puzzle Company into the success it is today. An incredibly inspiring talk, pupils took away the valuable message that any sprinkling of good luck needs to be accompanied with hard work and 100% dedication. A third of Year 11 say that they are interested in having their own business one day.

Mrs Adams spoke to Year 10 about a career in pharmacy. Pupils were shown some new routes into medicine and the varied nature of the job of a pharmacist.

Many of our Year 10 pupils are interested in going into the law profession and thus enjoyed the fascinating talk of Mr Vaughan, a Senior Crown Prosecutor.

We would be delighted to hear from more parents willing to give up 20 minutes one morning to talk to our KS4/ KS5 pupils.

Occasionally pupils hear from speakers who give advice that will feed into or complement their studies. Accordingly, Year 11s have recently heard about Tour and the subjects that they can study in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form; Year 10s have had training in GCSE study skills from Mrs Segal; and both year groups have heard from Daniel Seedburgh of JLGB about the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award. DoFE Award Training will be run at Tuesday lunchtimes. Pupils can sign up online now at [www.jlgb.org/dofe](http://www.jlgb.org/dofe) or get more information by calling JLGB on 020 8989 8990.

### Careers advice:

[www.cfa.uk.com](http://www.cfa.uk.com) Go to *Careers* for careers in business and administration  
['icould', www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) 1000 hugely diverse films showing how people have ended up in their jobs.

[www.osteopathy.org.uk](http://www.osteopathy.org.uk) Go to *Osteopathy in practice*

[www.cipr.co.uk](http://www.cipr.co.uk) Go to *Careers & education* for careers in public relations

[www.creative-choices.co.uk](http://www.creative-choices.co.uk) Go to *Theatre* for careers in drama

[www.forensic.gov.uk](http://www.forensic.gov.uk) Go to *Company > Career opportunities* for careers in forensics

[www.hertspolicecareers.co.uk](http://www.hertspolicecareers.co.uk) Go to *The Roles* for careers in the Police

You might also like to try the following sources of information:

Careerscape provides information on over 1,800 careers and 200 topics related to careers. You can view information, print it out and email it to your Inbox. Try it out at [www.cascaid.co.uk](http://www.cascaid.co.uk) Click on "Careerscape". You need to "create a new user" the first time you use the site and input licence name c39396 (case sensitive) and licence code goodeasy48.

Answer a quiz to find out which careers match your skills and interests, look up careers of your choice, and make an action plan. Try it out at [www.cascaid.co.uk](http://www.cascaid.co.uk) Click on "Kudos". You need to "create a new user" the first time you use the site and input licence name c39396 (case sensitive) and licence code goodeasy48.

[www.hertschoices.org.uk](http://www.hertschoices.org.uk) Directory of full time Hertfordshire's 14-19 prospectus. Look up the course you want to study.

<http://www.connexions-direct.com/itsyourchoice/> How to choose your post-16 options

A reminder that if your child is already thinking about his/ her future courses or career and needs some 1:1 advice, he/ she can self-refer to our Connexions P.A. Ms Luisa Grandine by texting/ calling 07748 761 396 between the hours of 9am and 5pm or by e-mail to [Luisa.Grandine@hcs.co.uk](mailto:Luisa.Grandine@hcs.co.uk)

The Youth Connexions website has a section dedicated to helping Parents & Carers in Herts support their children in making choices about education, employment and training, and other decisions that they may need to make about their future. <http://www.youthconnexions-hertfordshire.org/index.php?pageid=572>

When thinking about careers, it's important to take account of Labour Market Information (LMI). Some great downloadable career sector leaflets, available at <http://www.youthconnexions-hertfordshire.org/cms.php?pageid=274>, reflect trends in employment, examining the local Hertfordshire picture, skills, qualifications and the industries. Each of the leaflets also details the types of jobs available in the sector, what is changing and pay.

## Term Dates 2011/2012

### Autumn Term 2011

Term begins: Friday 2 Sept  
Rosh Hashanah: Thurs 29 & Fri 30 Sept  
Succot/Half Term: Weds 12 Oct - Fri 21 Oct inc  
Term ends: Tuesday 20 Dec

### Spring Term 2012

Term begins: Tuesday 3 Jan  
Half Term: Monday 13 - Friday 17 Feb inc  
Term ends: Friday 30 March

### Summer Term 2012

Term begins: Tuesday 17 April  
May Bank Holiday: Monday 7 May  
Shavuot: Monday 28 May  
Half Term: Monday 4 - Friday 8 June inc  
Term ends: Friday 20 July

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DATES OF THE SHABBATONIM FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:-**

#### Year 7

10 - 11 December 2010

#### Year 8

14 - 15 January 2011

#### Year 10

25 - 26 March 2011

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

## Important dates for your diary!

Sixth Form Parents' Evening	Thurs 9 December
Yr 11 Parents' Evening	Tues 14 December
Arts Festival - 7 - 10pm	Mon 13 December Weds 15 December Thurs 16 December
Autumn Term Ends	Tues 21 December
Spring Term starts for pupils	Weds 5 January 2011
Yr 10 Parents' Evening	Weds 12 January
Yr 7 Parents' Evening	Mon 31 January
KS4 Options Evening for Yr 9 pupils and parents	Weds 2 February
Yr 9 Parents' Evening	Weds 9 February
Yr 8 Parents' Evening	Tues 15 February
Half term	Mon 21 - Fri 25 Feb
Spring Term ends	Thurs 14 April at 1.15pm
Summer Term begins	Tues 3 May

### Yavneh College pupils

If you are worried about bullying, contact us in confidence at:  
**btb@yavnehcollege.herts.sch.uk**

Please could we remind parents that pupils are not permitted to wear hoodies on the school site.

Pupils need to come into school with dark-coloured school coats during this cold weather spell.

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### A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILD WILL BE BAR/BATMITZVAH

If your child is due to celebrate their bar/batmitzvah, please note that they are NOT allowed to take a day off school before the event. Any such absences have to be recorded as UNAUTHORISED on the child's attendance record.

Absence on the day after the bar/batmitzvah is also not allowed, although the child may arrive a little later than usual if they are very tired. (This does NOT apply to guests!).

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**08453 31 34 31**

[www.novelties-direct.co.uk](http://www.novelties-direct.co.uk)

or visit our Borehamwood  
showroom  
(by appointment only)

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[www.designerglasses.vpweb.co.uk](http://www.designerglasses.vpweb.co.uk)

### **HYPNOTHERAPY BY ELISSA**

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eating issues,  
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