

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

We are proud to announce that Yavneh College was placed 7th top-performing totally non-selective school in the 2011 national GCSE league table published by *The Times*:

1 st	Stroud High School, Gloucestershire
2 nd	Lady Margaret School, Hammersmith
3 rd	St George's School, Herts
4 th	Hasmonean High School, Barnet
5 th	Thornden School, Hampshire
6 th	King David School, Manchester
7 th	Yavneh College, Herts

Since the receipt of our GCSE results in August, a number of scripts which have been re-marked by the examination boards have been up-graded. The proportion of A* and A grades has accordingly increased still further, to 51%.

Congratulations to top candidate Elkie Ben Hur, who now has an additional top grade, giving her a grand total of 11 A* grades and 1 A grade.

There are more GCSE re-marks on their way. When these have been received, we will re-publish the final results table to parents.

The announcement that we are introducing our own dedicated school bus service has been met with enthusiastic response from current parents and from parents considering Yavneh College for their child's secondary education. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr Stuart Rosenberg, the governor who has worked so hard on this project. Academy status has enabled us to subsidise the fares, which we know is much-appreciated by parents. Details of routes and start dates will be announced in the coming weeks.

The sixth form has now settled in to their new facilities, which include a café, large common room and study area. The café in particular is a big

hit with the students, staffed all day to provide cappuccinos, lattes, paninis and other delights, as well as a full lunch service.



Finally, it gives me great pleasure to wish a hearty Mazeltov to Mr Klien and his wife on the birth of their daughter; and to Mr Wolf on his engagement.

Chief Rabbi visit to Sixth Form students

Rabbi A Davis

Once again we were privileged to welcome the Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks to the school to address the Sixth Form students.

On arrival, the Chief Rabbi met with the Senior Prefects and discussed their aspirations and hopes for the future. Following this he led a Lunch and Learn session for the entire Sixth Form. During this session the Chief Rabbi answered numerous questions that our students asked, on topics ranging from repentance to the current situation with Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

The Chief Rabbi ended the Lunch and Learn session with some inspirational words about Rosh Hashanah to help all of our students to focus their minds at this important time of the Jewish year.





**Year 7 Parents' Information
and Meet The Tutor Evening
Tuesday 4th October 2011
7.00- 9.30
(please note revised time)**

This evening will provide an opportunity for all Year 7 parents to attend sessions designed to help them appraise their child's work, understand how we turn the ethos of the school into reality and to get to grips with the 'modern' way of doing maths. This will be followed by the chance to meet your child's Form Tutor and other parents of children in your child's form over some light refreshments.

There is no charge for this event but for logistical and security reasons we would be grateful if you would let the school office know if you are intending to come.

House of Lords Trip
Mr B Clemson

On Wednesday 14 September Mr Clemson, Miss Nysenbaum and our Year 12 politics students were privileged to be invited to the House of Lords by Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks. The students were taken on a tour of the Houses of Parliament, visiting both the Commons and Lords chambers and Westminster Hall. Students learned about the Victorian influence on the architecture and the historical changes which have taken place over the centuries.

Following the tour, the Yavneh students met with Lord Sacks and listened to his thoughts on the relationship between Judaism and political theory. A question and answer session allowed students to discuss a number of topics with Lord Sacks, including his views on the composition of the House of Lords and even the Royal Wedding!

Our thanks go out to Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks for an excellent and unique educational opportunity.



Project Smile
Miss S Nysenbaum

As part of our enrichment programme this term, sixteen Project Smile pupils are making regular visits every Tuesday to the Forest Care Village in Cardinal Avenue, Borehamwood.

The Forest Care Village is a residential care home not just for the elderly but for young people as well. For example, younger people recuperating from accidents. They care for anyone between the ages of 18 - 100 and have a total of 178 beds. They have separate areas for different age groups as well as a mixed lounge and a huge range of activities for all, including bowling and cocktail making (non-alcoholic!).

Project Smile pupils are undertaking a project involving the elderly residents and will be interviewing them about their lives; where they went to school, their first job etc. The pupils will make a display for each of the residents that they have spoken to. Once this project has finished, the pupils will begin to work on projects with other age groups.



'It was fun and special making someone's day happier'
Sabrina Levin and Francesca Heath

'We walk in and people's faces light up' Sadie Jacobs



'We feel like we are doing a good deed making people happy'
Nicola-Mae DaCosta and Karli Weinstein



Dear Parents

We would like to thank everyone who has listened to our concerns about dropping off or collecting their children from Hillside Avenue. The situation has been much better this term so far. Keeping Hillside Avenue free of traffic at the beginning and end of the school day increases the safety of our children and helps to maintain a good relationship with our neighbours. We will continue to routinely monitor outside the school and publish details of the cars of parents who continue to use Hillside Avenue outside the school (**M18 HYX** has been seen on more than one occasion) and who continue to give the parent body a bad reputation.

Mrs Sue Nyman
Chair of Governors

Emunah Fundraising Dinner Tuesday 13 September 2011

Nathan Weinstein, one of our Sixth Form students, recently addressed an audience of 300 people at a Dinner and Musical Soirée which took place at Guildhall. The event raised £200,000 for Emunah, one of Israel's largest providers of social welfare. The main speaker was Shlomo Kessel, director of Emunah's Sarah Herzog Centre in Afula, where Nathan spent a week volunteering in the summer, while on a Bnai Akiva scheme.

Emunah have reported that Nathan spoke beautifully, explaining how he helped staff to run activities for children who can no longer live with their families and that sadly, many of these children had come to the home due to heart-breaking circumstances.

We are very proud of Nathan's valuable contribution to the evening.



Photographer: Mr John Riffkin

Duke of Edinburgh Award

*Mazel tov to
Ben Schapira*

*On achieving his Silver
Duke of Edinburgh's Award!*

Sounding Shofars!

Miss S Nysenbaum

The annual Year 7 Shofar Competition took place on Tuesday 27 September to help Year 7 pupils to prepare for Rosh Hashanah.

It was a lovely morning in which 20 pupils blew the Shofar for the audience and judges. Pupils had to create a clear note and were judged based on the sound and the length of the note.

The winner was Kinneret Lauer in 7AK.



New signing for Herts County Football U15 squad!

Congratulations to Jake Rinsler who has been selected to represent the Herts County Football Association in it's U15 squad this season.

This is a new set-up for this age group in order to aid the FA in identifying the best players in the County for its football development programme.

Well done Jake!

Year 7 Phasels Wood Trip September 2011

'In my opinion, Phasels Wood was absolutely phenomenal. At the end of the day, I felt proud of myself because I conquered many fears. My favourite activity was potholing because I felt like I was on a really big adventure finding something special'

Daniel Simmons

'On Monday 19 September, Year 7 went on a school trip to Phasels Wood. I thought that the trip to Phasels Wood was amazing! We did some things that I had never done before. I did zip wire, archery, orienteering but my favourite activity was potholing. I am normally really scared of being in total darkness, however, I faced my fears and got through one out of the three holes. Overall, I loved Phasels Wood and I would definitely go back!'

Georgia Epstein

'Phasels Wood was really exciting and there was always something to do. The activity I enjoyed most was potholing. I enjoyed that one the most because it was full of excitement and adventure not knowing where on earth you are going. Overall, I really loved it and would definitely go again if I could'

Zeke Kelly



Language Perfect World Championships

Miri Shiradski, Year 9



Merci

The second week of school saw lots of Yavneh pupils from Years 8 - 12 extremely busy on computers as they fought to improve their foreign language skills in a race against time to beat worldwide competition in the Language Perfect World Championships.

Pupils were given only seven days to score as many points as possible in a variety of languages including French, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Latin and more. As time went on, there was fierce competition between a couple of Year 9 pupils and Year 12 students for top place in the school.

It was great practice for the test we had coming up, especially in Spanish, as I went straight in after my first lesson of learning both the spelling and pronunciation on line.

Daniel Gold (Year 9) comfortably secured his first place in the school and second in the country, with a staggering 2,315 points. The week ended up with Miri Shiradski (Year 9) coming in second place in YC with 1,420 points. Miri was closely followed by Victoria Selwyn (Year 11) on 1,367 points and by a group of Year 12 students led by Nicole Grossman.

It was a clear victory for Year 9 but well done to all our participants – let's see what happens next year!

Yavneh College came in 33rd place out of 235 schools who took part in the UK.

The programme is cleverly designed and is fast-paced (although you can set the time to answer the questions). It really teaches you the vocab and pronunciation in groups of words that you choose from a drop-down menu; a fantastic programme and does make you 'language perfect!' It also works as an effective learning tool and is accessible (for a subscription) for the whole year at a cost of £10.00 per pupil for the first 100 to apply. If you are interested, please see Mrs Iasonos.



LRC NEWS

Mrs Kaiser

In the LRC pupils, students and staff can now borrow a wide variety of fiction and numerous resources to support their academic work. As Jewish Studies is such an integral part of life at Yavneh, we also endeavour to offer resources that reflect this. We now have an extensive 'Jewish interest' section which includes books on Jewish history, Jewish practice, Holocaust, Israel, famous Jews, Jewish writers, Jewish humour, etc.

This section has been boosted in recent months by generous donations from **BBYO, JNF** (special thanks to Mr Rami Harel), **Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue** (special thanks to Mrs Ronit Loewenstern, their secretary and one of our parents for arranging this) and **Mr Elkan Levy** before he made aliyah.

We have also just received over 500 additional resources from the **Israeli embassy**. This generous contribution was kindly arranged by Mr Benjamin Perl, our Honorary President. Once these resources have been added to the LRC shelves, we will boast a diverse collection of Judaica which we hope will be used for many years to come.

It's very pleasing to see so many pupils, especially our new Year 7s and Year 12s, making good use of the LRC throughout the school day. All the Year 7s have now selected their free book from 'Booked Up', a national programme that offers a free book to every child starting secondary school in England. Our order has been sent off and when the books are delivered to school they will be distributed during English lessons. 'Booked Up' has also donated a full set of the book choices available to the LRC and these are available to borrow in the usual way.

Year 7s have also received the Autumn C2C Scholastic book club catalogue (pupils from other years can collect a copy of the catalogue from the LRC if they wish to do so). 'Scholastic Book Club' is an established nationwide company offering a good selection of popular books and other items that pupils and their families can **buy**, many at discounted prices. Completed order forms with payment should be returned to the LRC by 7th October latest.

Thank you to those families who send in Nestle 'Boxtops for Schools' tokens (from Nestle cereal packs). The tokens sent in last year enabled us to order a very useful number of new reference resources. We will be continuing to collect tokens this year so please continue to send your tokens in. There are collection boxes by the Reception office and in the LRC.

Thank you.

Future Fair 2011

The Welwyn, Hatfield & East Hertsmere Strategic Area Partnership Groups and HCS Careers Ltd will be hosting the "**Future Fair 2011**" at the **University of Hertfordshire, de Havilland Campus on Monday 10th October, from 5.30pm until 8.00pm**

The event is for all young people aged 12-19 and their parents/carers in Welwyn Garden City, Hatfield, Potters Bar and Borehamwood.

The evening will give the young people information they need when making decisions about their future learning pathway or career, and will help you to support their decision. You will find out about the progression routes available and gain other valuable information that will help with making these important decisions.

You will be able to meet a wide variety of local and national organisations and learn about the skills, qualities and qualifications they value. These include: HCS Careers; Youth Connexions Hertfordshire; school careers co-ordinators; local colleges, universities, and training organisations specialising in Apprenticeships. There will also be a range of local and national employers to provide information and advice to our students about career paths and opportunities within their sectors. There will be something for everyone!

Further details are available from Maria-Cristina Geraci on 01462 704958

Save the Date!!

A ski trip which will be open to pupils/students in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 is being planned for February half term in 2013.



More information will be given to parents nearer the time.

The following three charities have been chosen by Am Echad as those we will be supporting in our fundraising efforts this year

JAMI (our UK Jewish charity) - JAMI is the only Jewish charity exclusively concerned with serious mental illness, the impact it has on the lives of those who suffer from it, including their families and all who care for them. The organisation is committed to providing help to those affected by poor mental health with care and support that embodies the culture and values of Jewish Society.

Jeremy's Circle (our Israel charity) - Jeremy's Circle was conceived by Jeremy Coleman and his family. Jeremy had three children aged 6 months to 6 years when he was diagnosed with Stage 4 stomach cancer in May 2007. The organisation was inspired by the friends and family that embraced Jeremy's kids – taking them out for hikes, sleepovers, movies and barbeques – when he was in treatment.

Another inspiration was Jeremy's oldest child, Zoe. She told her parents that she wanted a play-date with another girl her age who had a daddy with cancer. Since no organisation existed at the time that provided services for the children in families with cancer, it took several months until they found an appropriate play-date. Zoe benefited tremendously from the experience of meeting someone else in a similar situation.

Jeremy died on July 8th, 2008. Jeremy's Circle is a community of fun and support. Programmes include a nationwide play-date database that discreetly matches children according to age, gender and location; a series of special fun days during school vacations; and a mentorship program with undergraduate students who grew up in families with cancer.

Herts Young Homeless Group (our UK non-Jewish charity) - HYHG works to support young people who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness in Hertfordshire.

HYHG services are open to all 16 – 25 year olds who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. They provide information and support as well as emergency accommodation through the Crashpad scheme. HYHG works with other agencies throughout Hertfordshire towards improving local provision and preventing youth homelessness.

Parking in Hillside Avenue

If you are collecting your child from any after-school activity whether it be a GCSE revision session, homework club or sporting event after 5.00pm, please remember that you must use your car park pass and enter the school car park.

Please DO NOT park in Hillside Avenue.

Pupils will wait to be collected inside the main car park and should be collected from there.

Parking in Hillside Avenue at this time can cause chaos for residents so please DO NOT park there.

Uniform reminder!

Please remember that boys must wear a plain black kipa, girls' skirts must cover the knee and trainers are not allowed (except for playing sport) unless your child has a medical note.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Please could parents ensure that boys have hair clips with them at school to prevent their kippot from falling off.

Many thanks.

A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILD WILL BE BAR/BATMIZVAH

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!).

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!

Autumn Term 2011

Succot/Half Term Wednesday 12 October - Fri 21 October inc.
Term ends Tuesday 20 December at 1.15pm

Spring Term 2012

Term begins: Tuesday 3 January
Yr 9 KS4 Options Evening Tuesday 10 January
Yr 9 Parents' Evening Monday 16 January
Yr 10 Parents' Evening Wednesday 1 February
Yr 8 Parents' Evening Tuesday 7 February
Half Term: Monday 13 - Friday 17 February inc.
Yr 7 Parents' Evening Tuesday 21 Feb
Yrs 11 & 12 Mock Exams 23 February - 2 March

School closes on 7 March (Fast of Esther) at 2.40pm

School closes on 8 March (Purim) at 1.00pm

Sixth Form Parents' Evening Monday 12 March
Yr 11 Parents' Evening Tuesday 20 March
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
Yr 9 exams 18 June - 22 June
Yrs 7, 8, 10 exams 2 - 6 July
Term ends Friday 20 July at 1.15pm

The 'Winter Fridays' period, i.e. when school ends at 1.15pm, starts on Friday 7 October 2011 and ends on Friday 30 March 2012, inclusive.



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

David Ventora

Medical massage
Senior therapist
07958 745171
david2501@walla.com



My name is Samuel and I'm currently studying here at Yavneh. I know as well as anyone how hard it can be dealing with pressure, practice and panic leading up to your Bar Mitzvah - especially when you don't have anyone 'in the know' to help practice with you. So that's why I'm here; I can offer unique one-to-one mentoring for boys who find the whole experience a little overwhelming, helping them during the run-up to their B'nei Mitzvot. I am gifted and talented in Hebrew Studies and I have already, successfully helped a Bar Mitzvah boy learn his Bar Mitzvah. I was praised for being able to be 'firm and constructive whilst encouraging success and improvement'.

If you are interested in me helping your son or daughter with their Bar Mitzvah or Hebrew reading skills, please call

0208 953 3099

or email

samueldisaac@live.com

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HYPNOTHERAPY BY ELISSA

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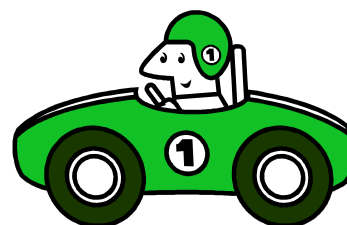
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