



# Table Talk



## Birthdays



Rebecca	Bor
Libby	Cooper
Yasmin	Cooper
Joshua	Morris
Alexa	Korb
Joshua	Samberg
Abigail	Stephens
Emily	Rose
Georgia	Winston
Ellis	Boyd
Benjamin	Cohen
Phillip	End
Isabelle	Loynds
Michael	Leviten
Ryan	Silvester
Benjamin	Taylor
Rochel	Fulda

## A Bite of Inspiration

### Parashiot Nitzavim-Vayelech

#### The Choice of Life

The Beatles wrote a song called "Dear Prudence". There was a girl called Prudence who went into a coma and the song was written for her: "Look around ... the sun is up, the sky is blue, it's beautiful and so are you, dear Prudence, won't you come out to play." It's as if they were saying to Prudence, "You know there is a gorgeous, real world out here, so why are you running away from it?" In this week's portion, Hashem commands us to "Choose life." This is the only time in the entire Torah that we are actually told to "choose" something. So what exactly is the nature of this choice? People often think that free will is a choice between good and evil. When you think about it, though, no one makes decisions that way. Even the most despicable person does not wake up in the morning and say, "Let me see what

evil I can do today." Such people are as much deranged as they are evil. We human beings always choose to do good. The problem is that often we rationalize what "good" really is, and we end up doing bad. Exactly what are we choosing? We are choosing between that which we know to make sense, and that which we know to be more comfortable. "I know I should apologize, but it's much easier not to. I know I shouldn't talk badly about someone, but it's so easy to do so. I know that I should spend some time with my wife after a long hard day at work, but I'd much rather put my feet up and watch TV." In each case, the former choice will bring me a more long-term sense of fulfillment. The latter choice is more comfortable, but in the long term, it will leave me feeling empty. This is the essence of free will. Do I choose life - taking the pain in order to achieve long-term fulfillment? Or do I choose death - taking the easy way out and thus escaping the pains of life?

Running away from life is a death that, while not as terminal as the real thing, is equally soul-destroying. Prudence was choosing death, and the Beatles wrote her a song: Why choose death, when life is so beautiful? Choose life, the Torah commands. Death may be more comfortable, but life is much more worth living.



**שבת  
שלום**

## Side Dish

### From The Editor

The weekly newsletter is uploaded on the school's web site every Thursday.

In it you will find words to inspire, words that make you laugh, words that make you proud.

An additional feature added this year will be a student perspective. Our reporters will report on academic and sport-

ing goings on in their year groups.

For those new to the school there is an archive section on the web site.

The school achieved outstanding exam results at A-Level and GCSE and this year our goal is to achieve even better results.

I wish everyone a successful and fulfilling year ahead

*Shabbat Shalom*

### Remember the days of old.....

10th September 1882: The Congress for the Safeguarding of Non-Jewish Interests, which opened in Dresden, Germany, was the first international assembly to promote anti-Semitism. This meeting is considered to be a major milestone in the development of anti-Semitism. It had appeared that Europe was slowly, if gradually, rejecting anti-Semitism and moving to admit Jews as full participants. This meeting represented a major move backwards and, being held in Germany, which was considered a centre of European culture made the shift seem even more significant. Over time, this mentality would find its ugliest manifestation in the Final Solution.



מלכות דוד



# Table Talk



Newsletter Date  
11th September 2009

[www.kdhs.org.uk/  
tabletalk/index.htm](http://www.kdhs.org.uk/tabletalk/index.htm)

## The house on the hill- Yavneh Girls

We are the new Year 7 Yavneh Girls. Different girls from two schools coming together to form a new class. The first week was scary, new teachers, lots of new books and things to remember. We all



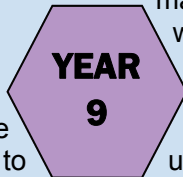
needed a relaxing Shabbat to settle our nerves. A drinks sale by year 11 girls was the perfect welcome to the school. The monies raised from the sale were part of a Tzedaka project to help Victims of Terror.

We are not the only ones settling into a new school. At the end of last year Rabbi Bodenheimer left and returned to Israel after leading the school for three years. We are glad to welcome Rabbi Benson as our new head in to the Yavneh family.

## Student's Salad

### Year 9

We have started a new year at KD and have found it very interesting so far. This is because of the sports department mainly. Mr Green-wood has introduced and the club to us which has made a lot of people interested.

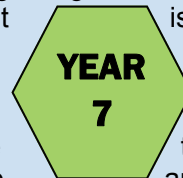


We have started our first year of separate sciences: physics, chemistry and biology. We spoke to many year 9 students and they all agreed that the school's facilities are getting better. The building work is annoying as it limits our play ground but we know it is for the better.

### Year 7

The reason I like this school , well actually the reason why I love this school is because it's a school of opportunity.

It's a new beginning for me and I cant ask for much more. It is a great school , the lunches, playground and the teachers are wonderful great. It has been starting at this school all the teachers have been so nice to me and my friends. Lessons are very different to junior school especially science.



I am learning to become more responsible, looking after my keys and wallet all day. Uniform also plays its' part, wearing a blazer makes me feel grown up. I am looking forward to this year and the rest of my time in this school.

### After Dinner Joke

Moishe goes to see his Rabbi.  
"Rabbi, last week I missed saying grace after meals."  
"Why," asked the Rabbi.  
"Because I forgot to wash my hands before the meal."  
"That's twice you've broken the law but you still haven't told me why."  
"The food wasn't kosher."  
"You ate non-kosher food?" asked the Rabbi.  
"It wasn't a Jewish restaurant."  
"That makes it even worse," said the now angry Rabbi. "Couldn't you have eaten in a kosher one?"  
"What, on Yom Kippur?"

Moishe is driving in Jerusalem. He's late for a meeting, he's looking for a parking place, and can't find one.

In desperation, he turns towards heaven and says: "L-rd, if you find me a parking place, I promise that I'll eat only kosher, respect Shabbat, and all the holidays."  
Miraculously, a place opens up just in front of him.  
He turns his face up to heaven and says, "Never mind, I just found one!"



Wednesday after school  
from 4- 5 Bet Midrash.  
Choose a zone and



Be A Part Of  
It!