

THE KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL
The Headteacher's Report for the Autumn Term 2012

Staffing:

New appointments:

Teaching:	Mrs R Gold*	-	Jewish Studies – part time
	Rabbi Y Gold*	-	Jewish Studies – part time
	Rabbi B Krasner	-	Biblical Hebrew – part time
Non Teaching:	Mrs V Benjamin	-	Special Needs – part time
	Mrs N Kay	-	Special Needs – part time
	Mrs N Klein	-	Receptionist/Administrative Assistant – part time
	Mrs C Manville	-	Special Needs – part time supply

We are saying goodbye and good luck to the following staff:

Teaching:	Rabbi M Broder	-	Biblical Hebrew – part time
	Rabbi Eisenberg	-	Jewish Studies – part time
	Miss C Garcia-Cox	-	Spanish Assistant – part time

* Rabbi & Mrs Gold have taken the place of Rabbi & Mrs R Cohen who were unable to take the appointment.

Charities:

The pupils, as always, have been very generous with their donations. Rabbi Goodman successfully launched the campus charity Zichron Menachem, which is an organisation that helps children that have been diagnosed with cancer. The aim of the organisation is to support the children during their illness whilst striving to bring a smile to their faces and their families. Our goal is to raise £12,000 which will enable Zichron Menachem the opportunity to purchase an 'Automatic Hematology Analyser' for use in their centre and on trips in Israel and abroad. The school has raised to date over £6000 via an array of activities including a hair raising project (Galia Shomron and Libby Fridhaim each gave 30cm of their hair which will be used by Z.M. to make wigs for children in Israel with cancer). Hairdressers 'Hair Eleven' in Whitefield donated all their takings from one day during half term. School has held an 'own clothes' day and a 'Guess the Teacher' competition (won by Ethan Mann Year 7), led by Mr Hodgson's Year 12 form class, amongst other activities to raise funds. For information please refer to <http://www.zichronuk.org/>

Opening Ceremony

There was a special evening with the Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks, as part of our 'opening celebrations' to mark the new buildings and enhanced campus. The evening was dedicated to our parents - as a sign of appreciation for their support.

Educational Trips/In School Events:

As well as the extra curricular activities within the school (see attached list) there have been many successful events this term and thanks go to those staff who have arranged and given much of their time to these events which include the following:

Open Evenings:

These were well attended and generated a good, positive response. Prospective Year 7 pupils and their parents were also invited for the first time to school for a meeting before the results of the entrance exam to discuss any aspect of the school.

Parents Evenings:

Main School and Yavneh Boys Year 7 – Form tutors only.

Yavneh Girls Years 7 and 8.

Main School and Yavneh Years 12 and 13.

These evenings resulted in very positive feedback.

Aish:

Aish continues to inspire our students to engage with their traditions and love their Judaism by presenting an array of activities in school. Informal education lessons to Year 9 pupils led by Aish have supported the curriculum. There was a Chanukah session with the Year 7 pupils, and special guest speakers to pupils in Years 10 to 13 have included Superintendent Leor Gilad and Niklas Frank, whose father, Hans Frank, was the Governor General of occupied Poland and was responsible for the death of millions of Jews. Niklas has dedicated his life to fighting against everything his father stood for and it was an honour to be able to host him and hear his fascinating story. The 'Lunch and Learn' sessions for Years 10 to 13 continue to be very popular, and the Morning Minyan is going from strength to strength. Thanks go to Rabbi Goodman, Rabbi Kampf and Alex Woolfstein.

Art:

Years 12 and 13 Art students visited the 'UCAS Design Your Future Fair' at GMEX Manchester. The fair incorporated over 200 exhibits from different Art Colleges and Universities around the Country. Art students were also involved in the 'Final Cut' exhibition which took place at Manchester Art Gallery this October. They were involved in a Paper Craft workshop working with Manchester based artist Nicola Dale. Thanks to Mrs Waxman.

Business Studies:

Year 11 OCR pupils went on a trip to MUFC for a talk on legal ownership and its relevant issues with Miss Callan and Mr Hodgson. There was a New York fundraiser for Jewish people involved in the hurricane disaster, thanks to Mr Hodgson. Miss Airley organised a speaker who has just started his own kosher crisp production company. Other speakers included our Campus Bursar David Rose, and Alex Epstein who appeared in the TV show The Apprentice. Ex-student Charles Burns spoke to Year 13 OCR students about non-university work in the graduation scheme; managing a Tesco's store! A level Business students attended a conference and also a trip to the Christmas Markets.

Careers Evening

Representatives from a wide cross-section of careers and universities attended a careers evening in the main High School Hall for students in Years 10 to 13. Thanks to Mrs Salisbury, Ms Lewis and Mrs Epstein this was a highly attended and successful evening.

Duke of Edinburgh:

2012 has been another great year for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at King David High School. 32 students from King David High School and 9 from Yavneh Girls have this year completed their Bronze expedition. This year has also seen 5 members of the Sixth Form start their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award and they are well on their way to getting the ultimate prize and with it a trip to St. James' Palace to receive their Gold Awards from the Duke of Edinburgh himself.

Many students completed various different tasks to finish their volunteering sections. Some of the tasks which they took part in were: helping out in children's services on Shabbat, volunteering in charity shops, helping in the King David Primary School after school clubs and many more.

Special thanks go to JLGB for all their hard work in continuing to ensure that King David students benefit and enjoy everything The Duke of Edinburgh's Award can offer and in making sure the students are prepared for their expeditions. Special thanks also go to Mr Gold, Miss Morrison and Rabbi Cohen for all their help during the expeditions and during the sign up and training process, and to Claire Lieberman who is the JLGB Northern Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator.

Also I'd like to give a special mention to Mr Gold, who's outstanding work in school has seen his daughter Annabelle go to St. James's Palace and receive her Gold Award from the Duke of Edinburgh himself.

Drama:

Mr Sills organised several Theatre visits to see shows including Macbeth, Sleeping Beauty, Hobson's Choice and Arabian Nights.

LAMDA coaching in verse and prose speaking and acting is now back up to full speed after the unfortunate passing away of Nigel Soni.

Drama - KD's Got Talent:

Auditions for the show were kick-started with a live performance from last year's runners up from Britain's Got Talent, The Mend. Auditions in school ranged from magic and gymnastic skills to bands, opera and beat boxing. Every week over 100 pupils came to watch the auditions take place. The search was finally narrowed down to 12 finalists. The judges on the night, Adam Cole, and look-a-likes Simon Cowell and Sharon Osbourne, chose the vivacious Jodie Klapisch as the winner with runners up Lana Dean and Ella Shuhkman. Thanks go to Mrs Cohen, Mr Sills, Miss Burberry as well as the dedicated team of technicians and comperes Aron Glass and Daniel Laddin. Money raised on the night will go to Zichron Menachem.

Economics

Four Year 13 Economics students; Ella Dennison, Lucy Kaye, Saul Bean and Ben Lewis took part in the Target 2.0 Competition which is run by the Bank of England. Although they didn't win, the judges commended them on their teamwork, content and clarity of presentation as well as being the only group to cover each of the factors influencing the inflation rate today.

English:

Miss Earner took Year 13 English Literature students to see Dr Faustus in Altrincham as part of their English Literature course.

French:

Year 10 French pupils visited the Cornerhouse Cinema to watch "L'eleve Ducobu". The film was followed by post screening discussion in French on the characters and the storyline. Year 12 students also went to the Cornerhouse to watch "Monsieur Lazhar". The film is set in Quebec where French is the official language with English. The film gave students an insight into a totally different French accent and different use of words. A post screening discussion took place in French led by Mrs Vanderschleden about the topics of immigration and integration. Thanks to Mrs Janvier.

Geography:

Mr Gold accompanied GCSE pupils to Bowness and Grasmere to collect data for their controlled assessment. We are delighted that Mr Gold has made a full recovery after his accident last year.

Headboy/Headgirl Initiatives:

Headboy Sam Bentwood and Headgirl Ariella Jones have established a Sixth Form Common Area. They have created an Israel discussion group and have given a presentation in assembly on the history of Israel. They have organised a prefect rota for main school tutor groups and launched a School Council. They have also continued with the Road Safety initiative from last year.

ICT:

There have been major changes nationally within ICT's programme of study and the school's ICT Department is eagerly rising to the challenges this brings. Computer programming and concepts have been introduced into the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and AQA GCSE Computer Science is being offered for the first time in Year 10. Mrs Kesler and Miss Cooper are active within 'Computers at School' and have attended meetings at the University of Manchester and Manchester Grammar about using the new Raspberry Pi. Discussions are on-going between Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry, the University of Manchester and the school regarding setting up a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Club, as part of the Government's STEMNET initiative, including the use of volunteer STEMNET Ambassadors and the possibility of the school becoming a hub school for expertise in the Raspberry Pi. Miss Cooper has also attended a presentation by AQA and Microsoft, in order to investigate the potential use of Gadgeteer at Key Stage 4. In conjunction with Mr Milejski, Mrs Kesler has on-going discussions with Leeds University in order to provide suitable targeted careers advice for pupils from Year 10 upwards, who may be considering a career in Computing; speakers will be invited to address pupils next term to meet this need. Mrs Kesler took pupils studying GCSE Computer Science on a field trip to Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry to investigate the history of computing.

Jewish Studies:

Rabbi Rickman organised a Chanukah activity for Year 7 and Year 8. 'GIFT' bought presents into school which the pupils had to wrap and then produce Chanukah themed work.

Maths:

This was a good term for the Sixth Form. Most of the Sixth Form students who entered the UKMT Senior Challenge gained a certificate with 1 Gold, 9 Silver and 4 Bronze certificates. Although we were awarded two fewer Gold certificates, the number of Silver and Bronze awards has doubled since last year so a solid achievement overall. Tamar Prais, Year 12, achieved the highest mark in the school and qualified for the next round of the competition. Naomi Barnett, Zack Hodari, Tamar Prais and Shmuli Tesler represented the school in the UKMT Sixth Form Team Challenge. They came a creditable 8th in the Regional final held at Manchester University. Mr Dowling took a group of Year 11 pupils to a series of Mathematical lectures at the RNCM. Topics included "The Maths of TV Gameshows", "Proof, Pizza and the Electric Guitar", and "The Maths of Juggling"! A group of Year 9 pupils took part in a workshop led by an engineer from the Smallpiece Trust. There was a presentation on what Engineering is all about and what makes a good design. The pupils then worked in teams to design a prototype wind turbine. We were extremely impressed by the level of engagement shown by the students and the overall standard of their designs. Rachel Mehlman, Ruth de Wijze, Richard Cohen and Natasha Rabinowitz were the team that produced the winning design on the day.

Media Trip:

To advance the understanding of the action adventure genre in preparation for their exam, the Media A-Level students watched The Amazing Spider-Man at the IMAX. Cambridge Technical students went to see James Bond Skyfall and Marvel Avengers at the IMAX to analyse for their coursework. The illustrator, Rebecca Peacock from Firecatcher, was invited to speak with students about her career. She then had individual sessions with some A-Level students about their coursework illustrations. Thanks go to Miss Thomas.

Music:

Year 9 and Year 10 Music students took part in an all day workshop at school with Opera North, creating their own production of 'Janáček's Makropoulos Case'. Following this, the pupils attended a performance of this opera at the Lowry. Parents of Music pupils organised a fundraising pop-up restaurant – close to £900 was raised in one evening. Special thanks to parent Mrs Festenstein. All Year 7 pupils have received instrumental taster lessons ranging from percussion to trombone and flute, among others. The Chanukah concert featured all the school's ensembles and many talented soloists studying here at King David. Congratulations to Miss Yu; our voice teacher, who announced the birth of her son Ellis. Miss Marshfield will be covering her maternity leave. We also welcome our new brass teacher Mr Friel, percussion teacher Mr Percy, and new string teacher Miss Moran. The department would like to thank Miss Hannah Salter for her work as department intern last year, and welcome a new intern, Mr David Hampson, who has greatly assisted already this year.

Modern Hebrew:

An Israel program has been developed for Year 9 pupils by Mrs Khodadad and Mr Sadeh. This program is structured to enhance pupil's knowledge (and love) of Israel. It is also helping to prepare pupils for the Year 9 Israel Trip.

P.E. Events:

Boys: House Sports events this term have been Football & Table Tennis. Oliver Hayes and Yoni Levy were 4th in the City Wide Badminton Doubles Championship. At the North Team Badminton Championships the U16 Team finished 3rd. Louis Rubenstein, Year 7, is the U13 City Wide Table Tennis Runner Up, and Charlie Simpson, Year 8, was 3rd in the U13 City Wide Table Tennis Championship. The Year 11 Sports Leadership group have led tournaments and training in Football to our partner Primary Schools. Extra Curricular Clubs running this term included badminton, squash, boxing, rowing, swimming, football and rugby. Thanks to Mr Dowling for his help. **Girls:** House Sports events this term have been Netball & Badminton. The following girls were runners up at the City Wide Badminton Finals: Natasha Rabinowitz and Rachel Mehlman. Many girls have applied to be Sports Leaders with guidance from the P.E. Department. Extra Curricular clubs this term included netball, running, squash, swimming and badminton. Thanks to Miss Mrs Senior and Miss Cooper for their help.

Prize Giving:

There was a special assembly in the high school hall for students in Years 12 and 13 to celebrate their achievements. Certificates and prizes were awarded for academic achievement and Midot.

Science Trips:

Dr Hampson took a group of Year 13 Biology students to the annual Medical Society Lecture, and Year 12 students to a lecture by the Manchester Philosophical Society, entitled 'Towards Sustainable Solar Energy' at the RNCM. Miss Harrington enjoyed a morning out on a Wind Farm with her Applied Science Year 12 students and Dr Ponalaggapan visited, with Year 12 students, the School of Materials at the University of Manchester for an open day organised by the Institute for Minerals, Metallurgy and Materials.

Yavneh Boys:

A fun day was had by all during Succot on a day out to Alton Towers with Rabbi P Cohen. Headboys Avishav Engle and Max Seitler along with their deputies planned a hugely successful Shabbaton for all the Yavneh Boys Sixth Form students in the Anderton Centre. Every Thursday evening the Yavneh Boys stay behind for 'Torat Yavneh'. Here the older boys learn with the younger pupils as well as hearing special guest speakers who have included this term: Rabbi Rubenstein, Rabbi Kanterovitz and Rabbi Kleiman from Leeds. Other guest speakers have included Rav Blachman from Kerem B'Yavneh Yeshiva and Rav Cutler from Hakotel Yeshiva. The boys have enthusiastically been fundraising towards our chosen charity Zichron Menachem; Mitzvah Day volunteers included - Josh Carr, Aaron Seitler, Jamie Baker and Jonah Krieke. There has been a Super Sunday this term with a Chanukah theme and guest speaker Rabbi Krasner. All the boys enjoyed a special Chanukah Ruach lunch. Rabbi Schwalbe accompanied boys from Years 12 and 13 to Israel on a Yeshiva Trip.

Yavneh Girls:

Speakers have included Rabbi Kleiman and Rabbi Eisenberg. On Wednesday evenings there is a new Lishma programme for girls in Years 8 to 11 run by ex-students of Yavneh Girls. Headgirl Nina Lustman continued the Darchei Noam project where the girls split into groups and carry out Chesed projects both within and outside school. This is being done in memory of Noam Apter who was killed by terrorists in a Yeshiva in Israel. The Year 7 girls had a special lunch with their 'Big Sisters' and Sixth Form students held activities for them. The Sixth Form girls also organised a Chanukah party for the Yavneh Girls. Hebrew and secular prizes were awarded at Presentation Morning, organised by Mrs Eden. Mrs Hoffner took a few girls to Israel on a Sem Trip and she has also hosted a Melave Malka in her home for the girls in Years 10 and 11, and another one for girls in Years 11 to 13. The girls have raised a staggering £1,200 so far to go towards our chosen charity Zichron Menachem.

Yeshiva/Sem Fair:

Thanks to the UJIA this was a highly informative and well attended evening for Sixth Form students that was held this year in the Main School hall.

Other Events Included:

Keep Britain Tidy Initiative – as part of this initiative, some Year 9 pupils were rewarded a trip on the KEY 103 Bus that came to school. The Bus visited all schools in the Greater Manchester area. The prize for the group with the best ideas was a trip to the studios. Our Year 9 Solomon Girls won the prize. Mr Dowling took those students doing a UCAS Extended Project to Manchester University Library. The Rt Hon Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education, visited the school and met with pupils.

Assemblies:

Pupils are asked to contribute toward the assemblies and this term included assemblies in Poetry, French, Ivrit, Music and Spanish.

Parents Guild:

Thanks go to all the committee members of the Parents Guild for all their hard work and dedication involved in raising funds for the campus. The Parents Guild continues to support the school and we appreciate all their support. We thank them for helping at KD's Got Talent and the Chanukah Concert.

Guest Speakers:

Guest speakers and lecturers are an enjoyable and integral part of the school day, and visitors and speakers this term have included:

The Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks

Raphael Recanati International School, IDC Herzliya

The Fire Service

Mrs Anjum Anwar, Multi faith speaker on Islam

FZY Representative

Habonim Representative

Student Finance – Talk to Sixth Form

Wheelchair Services – The difficulties faced by wheelchair users, such as Ryan Grossman Year 9.

Future Events:

Mock Exams	Thursday 3 rd January 2013
GCSE and A Levels	Monday 7 th January – Wednesday 30 th January 2013
Year 6 Assessment Exam	Monday 7 th January 2013
Young Voices	Wednesday 16 th January 2013
Sixth Form Prospective Evening	Thursday 17 th January 2013
Geography Field Trip	Sunday 3 rd February – Tuesday 5 th February 2013
KS4 Maths Challenge	Thursday 7 th February 2013
Bat Chayal Shabbaton	Friday 8 th February – Saturday 9 th February 2013
Year 12 Business Trip to New York	17 th February – 21 st February 2013
Swimming Gala	Tuesday 12 th February 2013
PE GCSE Trip – Skipton	Monday 18 th February – Friday 22 nd February 2013
Yeshiva/Sem Trip Main School	Monday 18 th February – Monday 25 th February 2013
Yavneh Girls Concert	Monday 4 th March 2013
Spring recital	Monday 11 th March 2013
Sixth Form Results Consultation	Thursday 14 th March 2013
Cross Country	Wednesday 20 th March 2013
UCAS Evening	Wednesday 20 th March 2013
Yom Hazikaron	Monday 15 th April 2013
Yom Ha'atzmaut	Tuesday 16 th April 2013
KS3 Maths Challenge	Thursday 25 th April 2013
Yom Yerushalayim	Wednesday 8 th May 2013
Presentation Assembly Year 11	Friday 10 th May 2013
GCSE and A Levels	Monday 13 th May – Friday 28 th June 2013
Year 9 Israel Trip	Sunday 19 th May – Wednesday 29 th May 2013
Presentation Assembly Year 8	Friday 24 th May 2013
Presentation Assembly Year 7	Friday 7 th June 2013
Presentation Assembly Year 9	Friday 21 st June 2013
Summer Concert	Monday 24 th June 2013
Presentation Assembly Year 10	Friday 28 th June 2013
School Exams Week	Monday 8 th July 2013
Yavneh Girls Camp	Wednesday 10 th July – Friday 12 th July 2013
Sports Day	Friday 12 th July 2013
Yavneh Girls Bat Mitzvah Evening	Monday 22 nd July 2013
Rounders	Monday 22 nd July 2013
GCE/VCE Results	Thursday 15 th August 2013
GCSE/VGSCCE Results	Thursday 22 nd August 2013

In conclusion, I wish to thank Mr Rowe, the Governing Body and Mrs Rowe, for their support and help. Also thanks to the staff for their total commitment, not just in the classroom but also at lunchtime and during after school activities.

B N Levy
Headteacher
December 2012