

THE KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL
The Headteacher's Report for the Spring Term 2017

Staffing:

New members of staff:

Mrs M Cohen	-	Modern Hebrew	part time
Mrs J Lomax	-	Science	full time

Staff leavers:

We thank them for their contributions to the school and wish them all the best for the future:

Mr C Cummings	-	Science	full time
Mrs S Marks	-	Art	part time end of maternity cover

Charities:

The pupils, as always, have been very generous with their donations. Year 9 pupils have worked very hard with numerous fundraising initiatives and they are collecting money to take to Israel with them in aid of Zichron Menachem. The school campus has already raised £10,600 towards its target of £12,000. Students have been leading a number of different initiatives including a Yavneh Girls sponsored run, sponsored haircuts, cookbooks, tuck shops and other small enterprises.

Educational Trips/In School Events:

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

Parents' Evenings:

This term there have been evenings for parents of pupils in the Main School and Yavneh Boys and Yavneh Girls. All these evenings were well supported and highly informative for parents.

Taster Days:

Year 6 Children from our feeder schools and other schools enjoyed spending the day in the Main School and Yavneh. As always, lunch in the canteen was a special highlight for them all! Some of the pupils were invited back for a Gifted and Talented Day, thanks to Mrs Basger.

Main School:

Pikuach Inspection of King David High School

Outstanding in **every** category:

<http://www.pikuachuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/KingDavidManchester2017.pdf>

Aish

Aish has been inspiring our students to engage with their traditions and love their Judaism by presenting an array of activities in school. The activities range from 'Lunch and Learns' to trips away. Speakers included Mrs Neumann, Mr Kohn, Rabbi Rowe and Rabbi Strom.

This term's activities included a Shabbaton to South Wales for Year 10 pupils. Below are a few quotes taken from parental feedback that was received following the Shabbaton:

'Thank you so much for a wonderful weekend in Wales. Tilly and Sam had a fabulous time and thoroughly enjoyed all the activities you provided for them.'

'I can't even imagine what it must be like to think of activities to keep these teens engaged for the whole time - which you did extremely well and for that I applaud you all!!'

'I just wanted to say thank you to Mrs Dowdall and all of the staff and Aish team who were involved with the Shabbaton over the weekend. Their care, support and entertainment is very much appreciated. Amy had a fantastic time!'

Art

Year 13 students have been very busy this term preparing their portfolios for interviews. The courses that they have applied for range from Foundation Courses in Art and Design to Degree Courses in Fine Art, Fashion Design and Visual Communications. Offers have been coming in thick and fast, including several offers of unconditional places at Degree Level.

Year 8 pupils are working on a collaborative project for Yom Hazikaron.

Check out the Art Department on Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram – search for *kdhslovesart* and hit FOLLOW.

Bat Chayil

The Bat Chayil girls this term have been very involved with GIFT as well as creating mosaic coasters to present to an old age home and decorating glass candle holders for girls living in Israel of the same age who are less fortunate than themselves, as a gift for their Bat Mitzvah.

The girls are now working on projects about influential people and the Midot they can learn from them. They are also continuing to do various fund raising events for GIFT.

Computing

A small group of Year 9 pupils - Hannah Mehr, Louie Leventhall and Noah Goodman - was accompanied by Mr Kumar to the Museum of Science and Industry to compete at the 'CISCO Little Big Award Regional Final'. This event offered students the opportunity to showcase their idea to a panel of four judges in a presentation followed by questions from the judges about the topic 'Can You Connect the Unconnected?' The aim is to develop both a design and business case around their concept. Proudly the students won an award for best pitch and final presentation, which is a credit to our School.

We have also promoted an awareness drive in coding with Years 7, 8 and 9 by offering sessions on using 'Micro Bits' which is an ARM-based embedded system designed by the BBC for use in computer education in UK. We are proposing to make this a regular lunch time club next term to enhance students knowledge in programming.

Currently, we have built another team of young talented Year 10s led by Benjamin Berkeley, and comprising Dan Shomron, Itay Kirsh, Adi Lampert and Jade Wagman. They will work with another technology firm for a Raspberry Pi national competition to be held in London. The team is currently working on OCR (Object Character Recognition), a visual/textual live-programming environment for easy prototyping and development.

Classical Civilisation

Mr Walsh organised and led a trip for Year 12 and 13 students to visit Rome over the February half term in preparation for the exam module on Augustan Rome. In addition, Year 12 and 13 students have visited the Royal Exchange Theatre to see a production of 'The Suppliant Women' by Aeschylus. In conjunction with the 'gifted and talented' programme Mr Walsh has invited three external speakers, Prof John Prag of Manchester University spoke on his work reconstructing the face of Philip II of Macedon (father of Alexander the Great); Dr Damian Robinson the Director of Maritime Archaeology at the University of Oxford spoke on his recent exhibit at the British Museum – The sunken city of Thonis-Heraklion. Prof. Michael Wood, producer of the BBC's program 'In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great' spoke on the Trojan War.

Duke of Edinburgh

This term has seen the continuation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award training for the Bronze and Silver groups, and has been very well received by all the students. All Year 9 pupils in the Main School, Yavneh Boys and Yavneh Girls took part in a whole Duke of Edinburgh Training Day, thus helping to encourage more participants to sign up who would not otherwise have decided to. They have learned many new transferable skills including navigation, first aid, the following countryside code, equipment and menu planning and more. Many pupils have registered for their expeditions which will be taking place over the Summer Term.

A group of 8 students undertook their Gold Expedition training in February with JLGB and coordinator Mrs Fullwood. This was a five-day residential trip, with training in the Brecon Beacons, which helped them with their navigation and teamwork skills. These students completed many challenges during that week and they will be completing their Practice and Assessed Expeditions over the summer, taking them one step closer to completing their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award. We wish everyone luck over the expedition season. Thanks, as ever, go to the JLGB team for helping to make all of this possible.

Drama

The Drama Department have had a very busy term. The Year 13 students have been devising and scripting plays on a range of innovative subjects and genres including McCarthyism, The Tale of Rama and Sita, The Passover Story, as well as presenting a performance of Dario Foe's Farce, Accidental Death of an Anarchist. Year 11 pupils have also been devising their own plays and in April will be presenting seven plays for performance to an audience and visiting examiner. Drama clubs have continued to be well attended. Theatre visits have continued to be popular and this included a visit to a National Theatre live production of Ibsen's classic realist drama Hedda Gabler.

English

Year 11 pupils attended a 'Poetry Live' day at the Bridgewater Hall to hear several prominent poets, including the Poet Laureate, whose work they are studying for GCSE. The Department is busy offering revision opportunities and intervention sessions to help students prepare for the new Language and Literature GCSEs which Year 11 are taking this summer. The new GCSEs are assessed only on exams, with no coursework element, and the pupils are finding the number and range of texts challenging.

Geography

Mr Chappelle led Year 13 students on a one-day field trip to study retail patterns in Bury and Manchester.

Head Boy/Head Girl Initiatives:

The Heads Team led an assembly on Holocaust Memorial Day, explaining the themes of the event and why it is such an important memorial. In addition, Head Girls Danielle Jeffries and Galia Shomron oversaw the creation of the new Psychology Society, exploring different themes within psychology and inviting lecturers and experts to come into school and speak to students. The Heads Team also met with inspectors from Pikuach and explained the significant contributions that the school's Religious Studies Department has made to their education over the past 7 years.

Furthermore, Head Boys Nathan Boroda and Jay Rose welcomed staff from the Jewish Agency to the school and discussed the school's contribution to the wider Jewish community.

At Yavneh Boys the Head Boys Matty Handler and Rafi Kleiman held a first-ever 'Yavneh Boys Friday Night' event at the Bnei Akiva Bayit, bringing together all Year Groups with an atmospheric Tefillah, a lavish meal and a Q & A Session with Special Guest Ivan Lewis MP.

Also, they have continued to organise Weekly 'SBS' Lunch and Learn programmes in addition to regular Sixth-Form/Year 8 informal learning sessions on Tuesday afternoons. The Head Boy Team also held an enjoyable Pre-Purim 'Rekidah' event in the School's Bet Midrash, including dancing and a festive lunch.

History

Retired Detective Superintendent Walsh delivered a talk on the development of Crime and Punishment to Year 10 pupils as part of the New Crime and Punishment GCSE module.

Jewish Studies

Rabbi Rickman and Mrs Seitler took Year 12 and Year 13 Religious Studies A Level students to the Manchester Beth Din as part of their A Level course. They had the opportunity to hear from the Dayanim about the intricacies of the Beth Din's work and the complications involved in Kashrut supervision.

Girls in Year 8 who regularly attend the GIFT 'Lunch and Learn' programme were rewarded by a trip to the Chill Factore at the Trafford Centre. The girls also took part in a Packathon in the Aish centre where they were able to prepare and pack boxes full of food that would later be delivered to needy Jewish families in Manchester. This session was very successful and a number of girls commented on how they felt they had actively participated in helping to improve the lives of others within the community.

The 'Lunch and Learn' sessions for Years 10 to 13 continued to be very popular. Thanks go to Rabbi Ross and Mrs Silverstone and team for organising these excellent sessions.

Poland

In the beginning of January, Aish Manchester and King David High School in conjunction with Roots took around 70 students from six different schools, on a six-day trip across Poland, visiting concentration camps and historical sites to witness first-hand the atrocities and horrors that took place over 70 years ago. Accompanying the group was Holocaust survivor Mr Leslie Kleiman, a survivor of Auschwitz, who led the group and walked them out of Auschwitz singing "Am Yisrael Chai". His positivity, warmth and loving nature were a huge inspiration to everyone with his refusal to hate and his genuine desire to give the group not just an accurate depiction of life in the camp

but also messages we can all learn and take from the horrors he underwent. The feeling in the group was one of fascination and disbelief that anyone could have survived. With everyone wearing multiple layers of thermal clothing, the cold could still be bitterly felt through their coats, hats and gloves, to the extent that the students themselves were amazed that anyone had survived in temperatures such as these in thin pyjamas. An indelible impression was made upon every student with every one leaving with a deeper sense of gratitude, understanding and appreciation of their own lives and Jewish history. As one student from King David High School said, 'There is no possible way one could really understand why the Holocaust happened. How human beings could put other human beings through the torture they did. And for what reason? No other reason than them being Jewish. These people were normal, they were real, they just wanted to live. This trip has had many lows but also some incredible, powerful highs. Negatives turning into positives as we are still alive, we survived, we have Israel. There is a Jewish population. They didn't win. We won. We will never be destroyed or defeated. Over the trip we realised and really have learnt life and "wealth" is about being able to appreciate, love, be kind and help others... We can't change the past but we can change the future. Our actions can help comfort those gone. Am Yisrael Chai'. Rabbi Jonny Ross, head of Aish Manchester, reflected, 'It was a beautiful thing to see so many schools and groups of people coming and growing together and experiencing lessons that will stay with them for a lifetime. This wasn't just a journey about the Holocaust or the history of the Jews of Poland; it was a journey to rediscover and recalibrate who we really are and what are the really important things in life'.

Maths

A group of Year 10 and four Year 11 students took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. The Year 11 students achieved three Gold and one Silver certificate. Omri Simon, Jacob Pliener and Ella Prais achieved Gold and have qualified for the follow-on European Kangaroo competition. Of the Year 10 students, Dan Shomron and Louis Packer achieved Gold and there were also 11 Silver and 5 Bronze Certificates.

A Year 10 team consisting Amy Gould, Itay Kirsh, Dan Shomron and Jade Wagman took part in the Maths Feast challenge at Manchester University. Our team won the True/False round and came top overall in the competition.

Students were invited to take part in a Maths Puzzle Competition, organised by Liverpool University. So far we have sent off several dozen entries. Thanks to Mrs Spindler for organising this.

Our Sixth form team achieved top scores in the North West round of the UKMT Senior Team Challenge and went on to take part in the National Finals held in London. They acquitted themselves admirably, coming in the top half, against strong competition from across the UK including top Public schools. The overall winner was Ruthin School.

Year 12 Further Mathematicians attended a problem solving course, run by the Further Maths Support Programme at Manchester University this term and will be doing a follow up next term.

Media

Year 13 Media students have been planning, recording and editing their video projects for a magazine programme. They are currently planning a screening of their video as part of their coursework after Pesach. In preparation for their event, the students will be visiting exhibitions to gain an insight into the planning and design of an exhibition so they can plan their team exhibition. A group of Year 13 Media students had an amazing opportunity to participate in creating a book and video with the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation (UKHMF) which has now been exhibited in London - so well done to them.

Year 12 students have been conducting pitches for their magazine ideas and are currently in the process of creating their magazine designs, planning their photography and creating their graphics. Students in Year 12 have achieved Distinctions in their first coursework submitted on the new course. The moderator commented on their 'commendably high standards' and described their work as 'impressive in terms of quality and quantity', thanking them for all their hard work. Again well done to them.

Medical Society

Medical Society started the New Year with a Year 11 trip to London to visit the Wellcome Trust and the Hunterian Museum. The trip was designed to enhance awareness of the history of medicine and surgery for aspiring medical students. Sessions with the Medical Society have continued fortnightly with excellent discussion of the UKCAT led by Rachel Vallins and Sabrina Kaye, as well as a talk from Dr Ian Ellis, a clinical geneticist. The term will continue with a Practical Based Learning session from former student Rivka Simon and a discussion of BMAT from Mr Christo.

Modern Hebrew

Congratulations to Mrs Isaacson who was nominated by PaJeS as one of the three finalists for the prize of 'Best Modern Hebrew High School teacher in the UK'.

As part of our efforts to adjust to the new KS3 Modern Hebrew curriculum (created by PaJeS), Mr Sadeh attended an intensive week's course in Israel. He returned full of new ideas which we have already started implementing.

Year 9 are embarking on a special 'Pen-Pal' project with high school students in Kyriat Shmoneh, in Israel. Pupils will meet their Pen-Pals during their Israel trip.

We are in the middle of preparations towards teaching the new GCSE Modern Hebrew curriculum, which is due to start next year.

Music

The term started with the Winter Concert, an exciting evening showcasing the musical talent from across the school. The level of performance was very high and the concert was very well attended. We took a group of students to see the Halle perform at the Bridgewater Hall, hearing Tchaikovsky's 4th Symphony among other things. The GCSE and A Level Music students have been preparing for the exam recital which takes place at the end of the term. Although the spring concert had to be postponed we expect it to take place early next term. Many of our extra curricular students have been working in new small ensemble groups, a new challenge for them, in preparation for the concert. As ever, a big thank you to the peripatetic staff in the music department who continue to contribute an incredible amount to the musical life of school, encouraging our students and helping develop their talents.

P.E.

This was another busy term for the PE Department. The Inter-house Cross Country and Swimming Gala was won by Yavneh Boys.

Fixtures and Clubs this term have included Badminton, Basketball, Boxing Fitness, Football, Netball, Personal Survival, Squash and Swimming.

Jacob Lee and Max Williams both came fifth at the City-Wide Manchester Badminton Competition having qualified from the North Manchester Competition as the North Manchester Runner Ups.

Our U16 Table Tennis Team - Sam Kershner, Yossi Landes, Itay Kirsch and Ariel Shukman, won the Manchester City Wide Table Tennis Championship.

Our GCSE PE residential trip took place during February half term and was tremendously successful, with all pupils gaining at least one outstanding mark in Climbing and Orienteering – many pupils came away with full marks in two activities - 25% of their final marks.

The Year 11 GCSE PE class completed their practical moderation, with all obtaining excellent practical grades.

Benjamin Ozon, Nathan Gonzalez-Escobar and Jacob Huller won Silver and Bronze medals at the City-Wide Swimming Championships.

KS3 Boys Swimming Team - Jack Moss, Jadon Knight, James Wander and Josh Taylor were fourth in the City-Wide Games.

Under 13's Girls' Table Tennis Team attended the North Manchester Table Tennis Championships where they won a bronze medal.

Our KS3 Girls Swimming Team were sixth in the City-Wide Games.

Eight students from Year 7 took part in a Manchester city-wide secondary school badminton competition. The girls won first place winning gold - Amy Crowther, Savannah Bird, Poppy Jeffay and Lauren Saffman. The boys came third winning bronze - Ariel Whelan, Reuben Baker, Benjamin Bentley and Aaron Jebreel

Psychology

This term has seen the launch of the school's Psychology Society and there has been a number of events already. For example, Galia Shromron and Danielle Jeffries from Year 13 gave a talk about Perception which was followed by a lecture on the same topic given by Dr Daniel Poole from Manchester University. This was attended by forty people including students from Years 11, 12 and 13 and staff. It was followed by a question and answer session during which our students put forward a number of interesting and thought-provoking questions about the topic.

Miriam Makin, a Year 12 student, gave a talk introducing the work of a Clinical Psychologist and this was followed by a presentation by Dr Jamie Barsky, a clinical psychologist. This event was also well attended and was very informative about the route into this profession and what is involved on a day-to-day basis.

More events are scheduled for the future and will cover aspects of forensic psychology and cognitive psychology.

Science

After winning the Manchester heat during the Summer Term, four Year 9 Students took part in the North West Final of the Central Manchester Gifted and Talented Science and Technology Challenge Day at Manchester University. Year 10 and Year 11 Separate Science students attended 'Science Live' at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, where they attended a number of lectures by well-respected academics from a number of scientific backgrounds. Year 13 Biology students went on a trip to Nowgen Centre, using PCR and gel electrophoresis to analyse their own DNA for a specific taste receptor, and looking for correlations between genotype and phenotype. Year 13 Dual Applied Science students spent the afternoon completing fitness tests for their coursework relating to sports science and they will now go on to prepare a fitness plan to improve their scores. Five of our Year 12 Physics students took part in the Weizmann National Safe Cracking competition, in which competitors have to solve physics problems in order to open a safe. King David were one of the top three winners and so have won a place to compete at the International competition in Israel at the end of March. Year 12 and 13 students will also be visiting Manchester University for some lectures and a hands on workshop in a Particle Physics Masterclass. In addition one of our Chemistry students is taking part in a workshop day at Oxford University having been selected from a large pool of applicants.

Sixth Form:

Mr Christo and Mr Walsh have been working intensively with Sixth Form students to support their applications for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine and Dentistry. Eight students have received offers from Oxford and Cambridge, three of them for Medicine and Dentistry.

A number of societies, arranged by Sixth Form students, has been very active this term. The Psychology Society was formed to provide discussions and lectures for students. Thanks to founders Katrina Corrick, Ellie Goldstone, Danielle Jeffries, Miriam Makin and Galia Shomron. The Debating Society was also formed this term and argued a number of topics. Thanks to founders Samuel Benjamin, Ethan Judah and Simeon Kudenko. The Medical Society has continued to meet, providing useful information for students in Years 11 to 13 when applying for Medicine and Dentistry at University. The society provided advice for future applicants in order for them to grasp what Medicine is really all about. Further details are available at <http://www.kdhs.org.uk/medsoc.html>. Thanks to Mr Christo and founders Sabrina Kaye, Rachel Vallins and Alisha Chu-Bouskilah.

Year 13 students Tal Beer, Abe Lisberg, Katrina Corrick, Daniel Sacks and Charlotte Zimmel presented their work for the Extended Project Qualification to an audience of teachers, parents and students at a fascinating evening event. Thanks to Mrs Flynn and Mr Christo for their organisation and support.

Year 12 students attended an Oxbridge conference at Haydock with Mr Walsh and Brendan Shepherd from Corpus Christi College, Cambridge also came in to talk to the students. The following students have been awarded places on Corpus Christi Cambridge Masterclasses: Ria Cohen – Classics, Daniel Moss - Economics, Zac Walshaw – Chemistry, Caroline Rashman and Georgia Groundland – Theology, Religion and Philosophy.

Students in Years 12 and 13 were awarded prizes for success in their academic studies and for Middot.

The Sixth Form has welcomed a number of guest speakers. Sir Howard Bernstein, Chief Executive of Manchester City Council, spoke to the students about Politics, Manchester and opportunities in the City. Former student Nadia Cohen spoke to the Sixth Form about her gap year experiences. Ria Cohen spoke about her experiences on the NCS Challenge. Michael Freeman, Director of Civil Society Affairs at the Israeli Embassy, spoke to students about Israel. Sir Richard Leese, leader of Manchester City Council, spoke to students and answered questions about his work. Mr Rowe spoke to students about Israel and Israel advocacy. Julia Samuel from the Anglo-Jewish Association spoke to Year 13 about student finance and bursaries available for Jewish students. Medical student and King David alumni Fabianne Viner and her team spoke to Sixth Form girls about breast cancer awareness and followed with a focus group.

Friday Lecture Series

This term has kicked off a series of Friday afternoon lectures to inspire and encourage students to engage in intellectual debate. The lectures are led by a mixture of internal and external speakers and include topics from neuroscience to linguistics and marine archaeology. All Sixth Formers are welcome to attend these lectures.

Speakers included:

Dr Ivings - 'Brains Aren't Everything: Neuroscience in Study, Research and Other Careers'
Mrs Pietralski - 'An Introduction to Linguistics'
Prof Prag - 'Philip II of Macedon and Alexander the Great'
Dr Robinson - 'The Excavation of Tonis Heraklion'
Mr Chappelle - 'Climate Change'
Prof Offer - 'Economics/Israel Six Day War'
Dr Robinson - The Director of Maritime Archaeology at the University of Oxford
Prof Wood - 'In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great'
Thanks go to Mr Walsh and Mr Christo for arranging the programme.

UCAS Evening

The UCAS Evening is an important evening arranged by Mr Walsh which provides information to students about their university applications, student finance, personal statements and help with choosing a course. The evening included talks on 'Oxbridge' and other top Universities, as well as on medical-based professions, internships, etc. All Year 12 students also attended the UCAS Convention at Manchester Central.

Yavneh Boys

The Ruach Lunch on last day of term will celebrate the end of term and also honour the outgoing Year 13 boys with a lunch, song, music, dancing and B'Simcha. Organised by the Head Boy Team and Mr Leventhall.

Torat Yavneh is now being managed weekly by Year 12 students Sammy Pine and Naphtali Shapiro. The first speaker was Rabbi Tzvi Geffen.

The morning Shiur continues to grow under the stewardship of Rabbi Joseph and Mr Sills. Daily programme of voluntary learning starts at 7.45am until davening at 8.20am.

Daily short Mishneh has been introduced by Saul Bishop in Year 11 and Nechemya Rosenzweig in Year 9.

Super Sunday theme was perspectives on Pesach, led by Rabbi Schwalbe.

Year 8 Joel Handler organised an end-of-half-term Hoody Day raising £270 towards tephillin for boys in Israel.

Yavneh Girls

The annual Shabbaton for Years 9 to 13 was a huge success with many of the girls reporting it 'was the best ever!'. It was organised by Mrs Hoffner with the help of Rabbi C Cohen, Mrs Goldberg, Mrs Lazarus, Mrs Perez, Mrs Seitler and Mrs Spindler. The Shabbaton has become one of the highlights of the school calendar. There were several meaningful workshops run by the staff and bogrot and the social activities were all organised by Year 12. The Tu B'Shvat programme involved lots of interactive activities arranged by the Sixth Form for Years 7 to 10.

The Yavneh choir entertained at the Mifal Hatruma Charity Evening at Beis Yaakov School and were very well received. The Choir also excelled at the school concert under the direction of Dania Mann-Wineberg and Ayala Miller.

Rabbi Eisenberg continues to inspire the girls every other Thursday during morning assembly. We have also had interesting speakers including Mrs Jessica Nadav and Mrs Chaya Newman, an eminent author and lecturer from Israel. Rabbi Simmonds invited Rabbi Shreibhand to speak to his Year 11 Halacha class and also Dr Simon Nelson who spoke about medical ethics.

Early in the term the Sixth Form, accompanied by Mrs Hoffner and Pearl Gordon (an alumna), went on their annual Poland trip. The extreme weather conditions made it a very different experience for the girls and gave them a small taste of the hardships endured by the victims of the Holocaust.

This trip was made even more special by the presence of a Holocaust survivor, Leslie Kleinman.

The Lishma programme continues every Wednesday afternoon and there are Lunch and Learn sessions with Rabbi Gefen for the Sixth Form girls.

Once again, we have been fortunate to work with GIFT. Volunteers have been in school to work with Years 7 to 10 and Year 10 girls made coasters as Purim gifts for the residents of Gan Eden.

A Kabbalat Shabbat service was held at Stenecourt arranged by Mrs Hoffner.

Duke of Edinburgh training has begun this term for Year 9 pupils under the supervision of Miss Fullwood.

The school hall was festively decorated for the month of Adar by Year 12 girls to resemble a jungle. The girls did a magnificent job and worked throughout their-half term holiday preparing the decorations.

The Yavneh Purim party was a great success organised by Year 12 and Mrs Hoffner. Year 9 pupils raised over £2000 for Zichron Menachem shpeiling on Purim. They produced a fantastic healthy eating cookery book which was sold on the night of the school concert. The girls also arranged a sponsored 5km walk as well as a cholent and kugel lunch. Year 9 girls have been busy

corresponding with their Israeli pen pals whom they will meet on their trip to Israel in May and sent them Mishloach Manot.

The annual Yavneh concert was directed by Mrs Gila Lazarus and this year's theme was 'Yavneh Live News'. The very large audience was entertained by musicians, singers and dance groups from all years in the school and showcased the wonderful talent at Yavneh. Special thanks must go to the Year 12 girls who gave up so much of their time to rehearse with their groups, and all the Yavneh form teachers for their help and support on the night.

Other Events Include:

Well done to Yavneh pupils who have entered this year's Bible Quiz:

Droshna Denderowicz, Millie Berkeley, Nina Lopian, Oliver Radivan, Nechemia Rosenzweig, Liam Koller-Iglinsky and Harry Burns. We should find out soon if we have won a place in the finals.

Assemblies:

Pupils are asked to contribute towards morning assemblies and this term there were assemblies in French, Ivrit – Voice of Israel, Music, Poetry and Spanish. A special Holocaust Memorial Assembly was also held for the whole school.

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 in many ways and we appreciate all of their efforts. This term they have been holding auditions for a Talent Show due to be held on 8th June.

Guest Speakers:

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

Dr Ian Ellis, Consultant Clinical Geneticist, Medical Society

Bobby Newman, Holocaust survivor

Rami Sherman, Operations Officer in the IDF

Future Events:

Presentation Assembly Year 12 & 13	Wednesday 5 th April 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Girls	Sunday 23 rd April – Monday 24 th 2017
Yom HaShoah	Monday 24 th April 2017
Spring Concert	Wednesday 26 th April 2017
Junior Maths Challenge	Thursday 27 th April 2017
Yom Ha'azikaron	Monday 1 st May 2017
Yom Ha'atzmaut	Tuesday 2 nd May 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Boys	Sunday 7 th May – Monday 8 th May 2017
Presentation Assembly Year 11	Tuesday 9 th May 2017 (formerly 12 th May)
House Basketball & Badminton	Wednesday 10 th May 2017
GCSE and A Level Exams	Monday 15 th May – Thursday 29 th June 2017
Year 9 Israel Trip	Sunday 21 st May – Monday 29 th May 2017
School Exams Week (Year 7, 8 and 10)	Monday 22 nd May 2017
Yom Yerushalayim	Wednesday 24 th May 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Girls	Sunday 4 th June – Monday 5 th June 2017
Blackpool Trip	Tuesday 6 th June 2017
Presentation Assembly Year 10	Thursday 8 th June 2017
Parents' Guild Talent Show	Thursday 8 th June 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Boys	Sunday 11 th June – Monday 12 th June 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 10	Sunday 18 th June – Tuesday 20 th June 2017
Presentation Assembly Year 7	Thursday 22 nd June 2017
School Exams Week (Year 9)	Monday 3 rd July 2017
Presentation Assembly Year 8	Thursday 6 th July 2017
Summer Concert	Thursday 6 th July 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 10	Sunday 9 th July – Tuesday 11 th July 2017
Yavneh Boys Presentation Assembly	Sunday 9 th July 2017
Yavneh Girls Bat Mitzvah Evening	Wednesday 12 th July 2017
Presentation Assembly Year 9	Thursday 13 th July 2017
Bat Chayil Ceremony	Sunday 16 th July 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 12	Sunday 16 th July – Friday 21 st July 2017
Berlin Trip	Monday 17 th July – Thursday 20 th July 2017
Yavneh Girls Camp	Monday 17 th July – Wednesday 19 th July 2017

Activity Week	Monday 17 th July 2017
Sports Day	Tuesday 18 th July 2017
House Rounders	Wednesday 19 th July 2017
GCE Results	Thursday 17 th August 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Year 12	Sunday 20 th August – Friday 25 th August 2017
GCSE Results	Thursday 24 th August 2017
Year 12/13 return	Wednesday 30 th August 2017
Year 7 return	Thursday 31 st August 2017
All school return	Friday 1 st September 2017

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 all the after-school activities.

B N Levy
Headteacher
March 2017