



KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Newsletter

JULY 2026

Message from the Headteacher Mrs Basger



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many achievements, memorable experiences and milestones that have made this such a positive year for our school community.

First and foremost, I would like to thank our students, staff, governors and families for their continued support, dedication and partnership. Together, we have created a school environment where young people can thrive academically, socially and personally.

This year has been filled with exciting opportunities beyond the classroom. Our students have enjoyed a range of educational visits and enrichment activities, including several trips to the theatre which brought learning to life and provided unforgettable cultural experiences. We were also delighted to see students embrace outdoor learning and personal challenge during the Year 9 camping trip, where they demonstrated resilience, teamwork and independence.

One of the highlights of the year was our outstanding school production of Grease. The talent, confidence and commitment shown by the cast, musicians, backstage crew and staff were exceptional. The performances were enjoyed by packed audiences and showcased the creativity and enthusiasm that exist throughout our school. Music has continued to flourish, with both our Winter Concert and Summer Concert providing wonderful opportunities for students to demonstrate their musical talents. These events reflected the hard work and dedication of our performers and staff and were a source of great pride for our school community. We were also proud to host our Making of Us event, which celebrated the values, achievements and personal journeys of our students. It was a wonderful reminder of the diverse talents, experiences and aspirations that make our school such a special place.

Sporting success has been another major feature of the year. Our students have represented the school with distinction in cricket, netball and football, achieving impressive results while displaying excellent teamwork, sportsmanship and determination. We are incredibly proud of all those who have taken part and represented the school so positively.

This year has also seen continued improvements in both behaviour and attendance. Students have responded positively to our high expectations, creating a calm and purposeful learning environment where everyone can succeed. Improved attendance has ensured that more students are benefiting from every opportunity available to them, and we thank families for their support in reinforcing the importance of regular school attendance.

We are particularly proud of three aspiring sixth form students who attended an Oxford University residential programme this year. This was a fantastic opportunity that broadened their horizons and encouraged them to pursue ambitious future pathways. We look forward to seeing what they achieve in the years ahead.



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Summer Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher (Continued)

As we look to the future, I am delighted to congratulate our newly appointed Student Leaders, Sports Captains and wider Student Leadership Team. These students have already demonstrated the qualities of responsibility and integrity that we value so highly. I know they will be excellent role models for the school community and help shape another successful year ahead.

The achievements highlighted here represent only a small snapshot of what has been an exceptional year. Whether in the classrooms, on the sports field, on stage, or through community involvement, our students have continually impressed us with their effort, resilience and ambition.

At this time of year we often have to wish some colleagues farewell.....

We say goodbye to the following staff who have almost become part of the fixtures in school, having taught with us for many years, creating incredible connections with our pupils along the way. Thank you for the many years of service you have given us.

Rabbi Schwarz - we wish the whole family a happy and successful Aliya.

Mr Milejski - who has retired from his post as Head of Mathematics and is taking up a part time role in a more local school- you will certainly be missed by many.

Mrs Waxman - who is retiring after 31 years - the longest serving staff member. We wish her well and hope that she continues to create amazing artwork in her retirement.

Mr Curati - who has decided to pursue a career outside of teaching, but has inspired so many physicists for 21 years.

Miss Davies- who has successfully moved from TA to teacher with us and is now taking up a post in another school.

We say goodbye to two TAs - **Laura Delmonte** and **Bobby Turner** - who have both been here a relatively short time, but had a huge impact. We are always here if you decide to come back!

We thank **Mr Randall** and **Miss Ashfaq** who have done an excellent job, covering for staff on Maternity leave and are both on to new roles. We also say goodbye to two members of staff who have been here a short time but am sure will also make a lasting impression on our pupils, **Rabbi Nyman** and **Mr Ilushenkov**.

As staff leave, new staff arrive - and we are delighted to welcome the following members of teaching staff to the school ..

Mrs Dobson - Head of Mathematics

Mrs Khan - Head of Physics

Ms Blunk - Jewish Studies and RS teacher

Mrs Ibbotson- Art teacher

Rabbi Miller - Head of Kodesh - Yavneh Boys

Mr Hodari - Teacher of Ivrit and Jewish Studies

Mrs Lipinsky - Ivrit Teacher

We wish them all many happy years working in our school, and much success in their new roles.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students, families and staff a safe, happy and restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning and achievement.

T. Basgar



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Subject News

Geography



Our Geography students have enjoyed another exciting year exploring the world around them through a wide range of engaging topics across all year groups. In Key Stage 3, Year 7 students challenged common misconceptions about the world, developed essential map-reading skills through a study of Manchester, and explored the diverse landscapes, environments and cultures of Brazil. Year 8 investigated Iceland's spectacular volcanic and glacial landscapes examined the causes and impacts of climate change and discovered how Japan's physical geography has shaped its people and places. Year 9 focused on Asia, exploring the rapid development of China and India before considering the global challenges of resource and energy management and the importance of sustainable solutions.

Our GCSE students continued to build on these foundations by studying topics including changing UK landscapes, weather hazards and climate change, ecosystems, global development, changing cities and resource management, while also developing valuable fieldwork and geographical investigation skills during two field trips.

At A Level, students have tackled complex global issues such as tectonic hazards, coastal change, globalisation, superpowers, climate change, water and energy security, alongside completing independent geographical research through residential fieldwork. Throughout the curriculum, students have developed the knowledge, skills and curiosity needed to understand an ever-changing world and their place within it. The school year finished with the Year 12 students going on a 4 day residential field trip to the Shropshire Hills as part of their A Level course.

Business Studies



As another school year comes to an end, we would like to take the opportunity to congratulate our Business Studies students on all their hard work and achievements this year.

Students have approached their studies with enthusiasm and determination, developing their understanding of a range of key business topics. From exploring marketing strategies and branding to examining the economy and its impact on businesses, our pupils have shown great engagement in lessons and have worked incredibly hard to build their knowledge and skills.

We have been particularly impressed by the maturity and confidence students have shown when discussing real-world business issues and applying their learning to current events. Their effort, resilience, and positive attitude throughout the year have been fantastic to see.

We are also delighted to welcome Miss Borkin to the Business Studies department. We know she will be a wonderful addition to the team, and we are excited for students to learn from and work with her in the future.

Finally, we would like to wish all of our Year 11 and Year 13 students the very best of luck as they await their Business Studies examination results this summer. You have worked incredibly hard, and we are proud of everything you have achieved. Whatever happens on results day, remember to celebrate your efforts and the progress you have made along the way.



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Subject News

Drama



It has been an incredibly busy and exciting year for the Drama Department. Students have enjoyed a range of enriching experiences, from visits to local theatres to our memorable, inaugural trip to London to see Cabaret. On stage, our school production of Grease showcased the talent and dedication of students across the campus, while Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13 students worked tirelessly in preparation for their GCSE & A-Level practical exams. With performances, trips and assessments throughout the year, it has been a fantastic and rewarding year for Drama.

Year 13 Drama students blurred the line between reality and imagination through a compelling combination of naturalism and expressionism. Inspired by Dalí, Kevorkian, Pielmeier and Cartwright, they created bold theatrical worlds where ideas became performance.

Media



Media students attended the Into Film Festival screening of 'Jurassic World: Rebirth' so they could understand conventions of action films in preparation for their exam. Film Club members also attended the festival to watch a screening of 'Bad Guys 2'. Members took part in a Foley workshop creating sound effects with a professional Foley artist, learning the tricks of the trade such as using a hot water bottle to make car chase sound effects. Y13 have achieved excellent results in their course producing some excellent advertising campaigns. Year 12 are currently developing their skills in Photoshop and planning their photo shoots.



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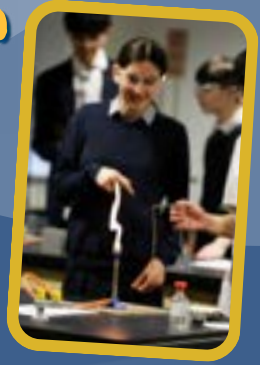


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Subject News



Science



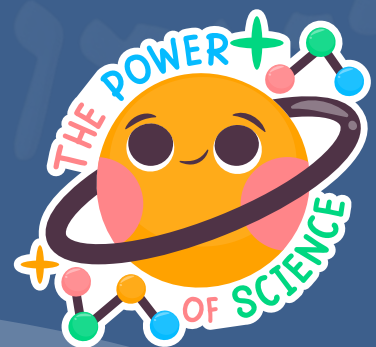
For British Science Week Year 10 visited Manchester Museum for their STEM fair; both students and staff had a fantastic afternoon talking to researchers from Manchester University about their work, exploring the museum and getting an insight into the possibilities pursuing a career in STEM provides.

Year 12 sciences students produced their own "Science Writing Projects", which were literature reviews in an area of interest beyond the curriculum. Science staff were impressed by the high quality of the work produced by our students. Our winners were Avi Albert and Matthew Moss, with Rayut Hasleton, Amaya Elfassy, Natasha Leigh and Crystal Kwok all being high commended.

Year 12 Physics students also researched, carried out lab work and presented on an idea for their Physics Projects. Mr Curati and Miss Hirst were amazed by the high standard of work, which wouldn't have felt out of place in an undergraduate tutorial!

Around 25 Year 10 students entered ABSW "Young Science Writer Award". The science department was thrilled to read so many incredible pieces of writing by our students across main school and Yavneh Girls. The ambition and engagement of the students that took part sets the example to us all. Tzvia Tabor was nationally recognised as a finalist and has been highly commended. She has been invited to the awards ceremony at the Science Museum in London to celebrate this huge achievement. Our school winners were Jacob Ross and Aviv Rich, with Giselle Cowan, Aoife Samuels and Adina Poznanski all being high commended.

Year 12 Biology students headed out to Ainsdale to carry out their field work over the last few week,



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PE



The PE department has been busy as ever this term completing plenty of extra-curricular fixtures in Girl's netball and football and boys' basketball and football.

The year 9 boys won their last game 3-1 to take the division 3 title by a point.

The U14s Boys won the division 2 basketball league with some exceptional performances all year round.

The girls Year 10 and 11 won their respective divisions to take the gold medals and the year 8 and 9s were runners up to take the silver prizes in their Netball divisions.

As we moved into term 3 the school has had some incredible achievements in cricket. The year 9/10s reached the $\frac{1}{4}$ finals with a fixture v Parswood. Whilst the 7/8s have been brilliant in reaching the Manchester schools semi-finals.

Our annual school sport day was held at the Regional Athletics Centre on Friday 17th July. This is the schools show piece sports event of the year and gives great opportunities for our children to take part and experience elite sporting facilities. Read more on sports day and the final result in our sports day article.



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Psychology

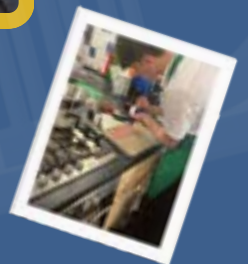
We were thrilled to welcome an AQA Principal Examiner to the Psychology Department this year for an exclusive, tailored workshop with our students.

This was an invaluable opportunity for our pupils to gain direct insight into the minds of those who design and grade their papers. Pupils clarified complex theories and addressed common misconceptions. They also unpacked command words, mastered essay structures, and learnt exactly how to maximise marks under exam conditions.

A huge thank you to our guest speaker, and well done to all the students for their sharp focus and excellent participation!



Food Technology



It's been busy term in the food room. Year 9 have all made focaccia with some beautiful mediterranean toppings. Key stage 3 carousel students have been busy making Dutch apple cake and pasta sauce for year 7. We have had year 5 pupils in from our feeder schools to do some baking, which they all thoroughly enjoyed, despite the hot temperatures outside! Our year 10 have been having a taste of what's to come in year 11 with a practise NEA. Our students had to plan and prepare 2 dishes of their choice. The results were outstanding; we have some very talented potential chefs in our midst.



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English



Over the last few weeks, we've been focussing on oracy skills in English, so our pupils have had the chance to be even more vocal than usual! In Year 7, pupils have been learning about performance poetry, and how to deliver their own poems in a way that packs a punch. In Year 8, it's all been about dramatic monologues – how to hold your audience's complete attention whilst allowing a story to unravel, little by little – and in Year 9 we've been asking 'How would you change the world?', and watch as pupils respond with group presentations on social change. For Year 10, pupils delivered a speech for the spoken language component of their English Language GCSE. As always, it's been brilliant to hear our pupils at their most eloquent, with topics as varied as arguments for reforming the GCSE system, a critique of way the music industry treats its artists, or a treatise on why failure is more important than success.

Thanks to the generous support of the Parents' Guild, we've also been able to strengthen our focus on the importance of reading. We are very grateful to now be able to expand our collection of form time 'DEAR' texts to allow more choice and flexibility, by encompassing a wider range of enjoyable and engaging fiction novels for young adults. From September, we will also roll out our 'DEAR' time scheme to Years 10 and 11, in our continued endeavours to get every member of the school reading.

Maths



We were delighted with the Junior Maths challenge results this term. A group of Year 7 and 8 students achieved a total of 19 Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates. Carmel Yitzchaki (7 Yavneh Girls) achieved a particularly high standard, only a few points away from Olympiad qualification. Joshua Gastwirth (7 Yavneh Boys) was only a few points behind.

A team of Year 8 students – Leo Barker, Gabriella Stretton, Freddy Winburn and Theo Wratten took part in the North West finals of the UKMT Junior Team Maths challenge at Bolton School, achieving a middle ranking amid tough competition. What is most important is that they had a fabulous time and returned to school looking forward to next year's competitions.

Adina Rivka Ross took part in a Data Science and AI course. Not only did Adina Rivka achieve a distinction but she also alerted the examiners to an error on the paper! This pioneering course is run by the curriculum development charity Mathematics in Education and Industry. This course is now open to larger numbers of students and we hope that all of our A level Maths students go on to complete this in the future.

This summer our first cohort of Sixth Form students have been entered for AS Core Maths. This course is open to non A level mathematicians. It is about applying maths in context and our students have enjoyed learning about data analysis, spreadsheets, fermi estimates and financial maths - important things like Tax, APR and student loans! We wish them well and hope that more students go on to choose this valuable course next year.



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Subject News

Sociology



Our A Level Sociology students recently attended the Tutor2u Grade Booster session at the Trafford Centre, where they benefited from an informative day of exam preparation. The event provided valuable insight into exam technique, revision strategies and what examiners are really looking for in top-mark answers. Students had the opportunity to hear directly from principal examiners, gaining expert advice to help maximise their performance in their upcoming examinations.

Throughout the day, our students also collaborated with fellow Sociology candidates from other schools, sharing ideas, knowledge and effective revision techniques. They enthusiastically took part in a range of interactive challenges, with several of our students impressing the presenters with their excellent answers and winning prizes for their outstanding contributions.

It was a fantastic experience that has left our students feeling more confident and well prepared for their exams. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and knowledge they demonstrated throughout the day.

History



It has been a busy and intellectually rigorous term for the History department. We are currently delighted to be collaborating with University College London (UCL) on a significant project to redesign and re-sequence our Key Stage 3 scheme of work regarding Holocaust studies. By integrating the latest academic research and pedagogical strategies, we are ensuring that our students engage with this vital period of history with the depth, nuance, and critical sensitivity it demands.

As we reach the end of the academic year, our focus shifts to our examination cohorts. We would like to extend our very best wishes to all our students awaiting their forthcoming GCSE and A-Level results. They have demonstrated remarkable commitment to their studies throughout the year, and we look forward to celebrating their hard-earned achievements with them in the coming weeks.





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Subject News

Music



What a musical year we have had in the music department! There have been many performance opportunities, more students having instrumental and vocal lessons, a Year10 Music GCSE trip to Media City as well as an increased uptake in our extra-curricular activities.

We started the Autumn Term with a Singing Day in September. Our new year 7's joined forces with the Primary School's Year 6 classes and worked collaboratively learning and rehearsing a couple of songs alongside some fun warm-ups and Rounds. The end of the day culminated in a small performance to the Year 5 classes. An enjoyable, community experience was had by all students and staff!

In September, we also commenced a busy schedule of rehearsals for our bi-annual musical, which this year was 'Grease' with a bunch of very excitable students from both the Primary and High Schools.

The Autumn term concluded with the Winter Concert in December. This was a real showcase of our musical talent at KD, featuring various memorable enjoyable performances of solos, duos, small ensembles, choirs and orchestra.

In the Spring Term, we had our wonderful performance of 'Grease' at The Middleton Arena in which the whole school community came together and celebrated some 1950's nostalgia! Many of the foot tapping numbers were sung with great passion, accompanied by our very own school band with great style and musicianship.

In March, we held a GCSE performance evening, featuring some stunning performances from Year 10 and 11 students. This was a great opportunity for our students to practise performing in front of parents before doing their exam.

In April, the year10 GCSE music class had a trip to watch a live rehearsal with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. This was very useful in helping students understand and observe how the instrumentalists worked together under the baton and leadership of the conductor in preparing for a forthcoming concert.

Finally, the Summer Term has been spent preparing for two rather special performances. The first of which was a tremendous celebration of music from stage and screen in our Summer Concert, again featuring and celebrating some of the amazing talents of our students. The second evening, which was the following night, featured some incredible performances in a new promotional event for the school entitled 'The Making of Us'. Students also had the opportunity of working and performing with a local international group called String Infusion.

Looking forward to what musical delights are in store for 2026/2027!!



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Subject News

Ivrit

The Ivrit Department's A-Level students have now completed their studies and sat their examinations. The students appeared happy and confident, reporting that they felt well prepared for all three examination papers. We would like to wish them every success and look forward to celebrating their achievements.

The Israel Club, led weekly by Maya, our Shinshinit, continued to be a popular lunchtime activity, attracting between 12 and 15 students each week. Participants enjoyed a variety of Israeli games, Hebrew conversational activities, and other engaging cultural experiences in a relaxed and enjoyable environment.

To mark Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day), the Ivrit Department held a whole-school assembly to commemorate fallen soldiers and victims of terror attacks. In addition, during the "Running in Their Memory" event held at lunchtime, hundreds of students took part in a commemorative run around the campus while wearing stickers bearing the names and images of fallen soldiers, creating a meaningful and moving tribute.

Year 9 students have enjoyed learning about Israel this term. As part of the curriculum, they studied key aspects of Israeli society and culture, including important sites in Jerusalem such as the Western Wall, the Knesset (Israel's Parliament), and the Machane Yehuda Market. They also explored Israeli cuisine, life in a Druze village, and more.

This term, members of the Ivrit Department also participated in a professional development course led by PaJeS. The course focused on the theme of "Integrating AI into Ivrit Teaching and Learning." We are looking forward to implementing some of the ideas in the coming academic year.

Finally, the Ivrit Department would like to wish everyone a peaceful, restful, and well-deserved summer holiday.



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Subject News

French & Spanish



Throughout the year, pupils have enjoyed a wide range of activities designed to celebrate language learning and promote linguistic diversity across the school community.

At the start year, all pupils in Year 7 participated enthusiastically in the Language Challenge. The 51 challenges included in the handbook encouraged learners to step outside their comfort zones and take advantage of the many opportunities available to practise and explore languages beyond the classroom. Pupils also took part in a treasure hunt to celebrate the European Day of Languages and enjoyed Italian taster sessions.

Some Year 9 pupils also enjoyed a virtual trip to Barcelona, giving them the opportunity to explore the city's famous landmarks, culture and language, helping to bring their learning to life.

Throughout the year, Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils have benefited from a live webinars organised by Routes into Languages in which they have engaged with university students to explore post-GCSE study opportunities and the wide range of careers linked to language learning.

As part of the Festival of Languages in June, Year 12 and 13 pupils participated in a variety of thought-provoking sessions including "Who Are Americans? The Case of Bad Bunny and the Super Bowl", and "What is French Culture?". They were also given the opportunity to take part in taster sessions in Latin and Mandarin, amongst other languages, further broadening their linguistic and cultural awareness. Delivered in collaboration with Lancaster University, the University of Liverpool, the University of Manchester, and Manchester Metropolitan University, these sessions sparked the interest of both students and staff alike.



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Subject News

GCHQ Webinar

A group of Year 9 pupils took part in an engaging online webinar hosted by GCHQ, the UK's intelligence, security and cyber agency. During the session, they explored the role of a Language Analyst and discovered how language skills are used to help tackle organised crime and protect national security.

Pupils put their cultural and linguistic knowledge, alongside their problem-solving abilities, to the test by decoding a series of messages. The webinar concluded with an insightful question-and-answer session, giving pupils the opportunity to learn more about careers in languages and the wide range of opportunities available within the intelligence and security sector.



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Attendance

As another school year comes to an end, we'd like to thank our families for supporting good attendance and punctuality.

Regular attendance gives students the best chance of achieving their full potential. Every lesson matters, and even occasional absences can quickly lead to gaps in learning.

Attendance remains a whole-school priority and, throughout this year, we have strengthened our procedures to make sure concerns are identified earlier and support is put in place where needed.

From September, we will also be reviewing how illness and medical absences are authorised in line with Department for Education guidance. Where illness becomes frequent or follows a pattern, we may request medical evidence before future absences can be authorised.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Ford as our new Attendance Officer from September. Mrs Ford will be working closely with students and families to promote excellent attendance and provide support where needed.

Our 100% Club



Levi Yitzchok Rickman
Jacob Ross
Sadie Smolar

Gabriella Stretton
Etin Ugiagbe
Isaac Ugiagbe
Jessica Beresford

Casper Bernstein
Sam Josephson
Chaya Lehmann
Sofia Nadler



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Behaviour

As we reach the end of another successful school year, we would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in helping us maintain high standards of behaviour and learning across the school.

We are pleased to report a number of significant improvements in pupil behaviour and achievement this year:

- A 76% reduction in reported bullying incidents
- A 180% increase in achievement points compared with last year
- A 12% reduction in C2 behaviour incidents
- A 26% reduction in high-tariff (C5) behaviour incidents

These figures reflect the positive culture that pupils and staff have worked hard to create. We are particularly encouraged by the increase in achievement points, demonstrating pupils' commitment to learning, positive conduct, and contribution to school life.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

While we celebrate these successes, we remain committed to further improvement.

Our key focus areas for next year will be:

- Punctuality to school
- Punctuality to lesson



Arriving on time is essential. When pupils are late to school or lessons, valuable learning time is lost, making it more difficult for them to achieve their full potential. Improving punctuality will therefore be a whole-school priority.

To support this, we will be introducing a C3 Lateness Sanction for pupils who arrive late to school or to lessons without a valid reason. Pupils receiving this sanction will lose social time, reinforcing the importance of being punctual and ready to learn.

Changes to Detention Procedures

We are also making an important change to how missed detentions are managed.

Currently, pupils who fail to attend a detention receive a C5 sanction, which can result in pupils missing learning time through a combination of Period 1, 2, 3 and lunchtime detentions.

From next year, pupils who miss a detention will instead complete a Reflection placement during Periods 4 and 5, alongside an after-school detention. This change has two key benefits:

- Less learning time is lost
- Pupils are still required to complete the original consequence

Our aim is to ensure that sanctions remain meaningful while prioritising pupils' access to learning.

Thank you once again for your support throughout the year. We look forward to building on these successes and continuing to provide a safe, positive and ambitious learning environment for all pupils in the year ahead.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer break.



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Uniform

School Uniform

Girls:

- Blouse
- Blazer with logo
- Skirt
- Tights/Black ankle socks
- Black polishable shoes

PE Kit

Last year we launched our new PE kit on the back of pupil voice wanting a smarter and more up to date kit. If you child needs new PE kit this is now to be purchased from Liss Sport.

There are a number of pupils who have been attending PE without the correct kit. From September coming to lesson without, or not in the correct kit will result in a C3 and a lunchtime detention. Please support us by ensuring your child has the correct kit for September.

Girls:

- Navy Nike T-shirt with logo
- Navy Skort/ shorts
- Navy Football Socks
- Trainers
- Navy/Black Swimming costume
- Swimming cap
- Shin pads

Optional:

- Football Boots
- Nike sweatshirt (Logo)
- Nike Tracksuit Bottoms (Logo)
- Swimming Goggles



PT'S School Wear

Boys -

- White Shirt
- Tie
- Blazer with logo
- Trousers
- Black polishable shoes
- Kippah

LISSSPORT

SCAN ME



SCAN ME



Boys:

- Navy Nike T-shirt with logo
- Navy shorts
- Navy Football Socks
- Trainers
- Navy/ Black Swimming shorts
- Shin pads



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Oxford Residential

Crystal and Manny were given the opportunity to take part in the Oxford residential trip. Here is what Crystal had to say about her experience.

The Oxford residential trip was a valuable and enjoyable experience that gave me an insight into university life. I attended lectures on psychology and AI, nutrition, the history of science, and genetics, as well as tutorials where I learnt about various disciplines such as the game theory. Additionally, I visited the Culham Fusion Centre where I learnt more about fusion as a clean energy source. On the last day, I presented a poster on composite materials made from research across the week to Oxford professors, and a formal dinner perfectly puts an end to the trip. Overall, the trip broadened my knowledge and strengthened my interest in STEM. (Crystal, Y12)



Theatre Trips

This year pastoral staff have had the privilege of taking pupils to the theatre! For some of our students this was their first theatre experience. In December Y8 and Y9's went to see Robin Hood at the Opera House. In January, Y10 and Y11 saw singing in the rain at the Royal Exchange, even meeting an ex-pupil who was a cast member. Finally, Y7 recently went to see Annie at the Opera House. We look forward to running more theatre trips next academic year.





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Trips

CAMP

Year 9 Camping Trip



This year's annual Year 9 residential trip offered a refreshing change of scenery, with 40 Year 9 pupils and staff spending three nights at Sadeh Farm in Crockenhill, Kent. On route to the farm the group went to visit the stunning Singers Hill Synagogue and Cadbury's world tour.

The Jewish farm provided the perfect setting for an exciting and meaningful outdoor experience.

During their stay, pupils took part in a variety of engaging activities, including feeding the ducks and chickens, a land blessing activity, exploring their senses in nature, creating natural scrapbooks, ritual scribing, and meeting Dave the Beekeeper, who shared fascinating insights into the world of bees.

The adventure also included a day trip to Betteshanger Park, where pupils enjoyed the thrill of Orbeez battles and Archery War, testing their teamwork, strategy, and accuracy.

The trip ended on a high with water fights, a game of rounders, a delicious barbecue, and everyone gathering around the campfire to make s'mores. It was a fantastic few days filled with fun, friendship, learning, and memories that will last a lifetime.



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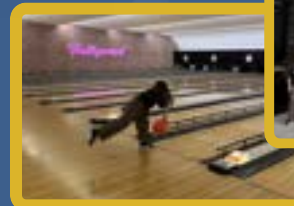
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Blackpool Pleasure Beach

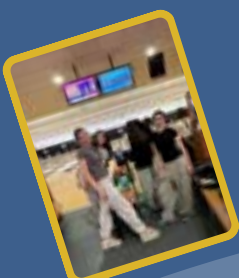
Pupils from years 7- 10 took the trip down to Blackpool for a day of thrills at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. The day celebrating the end of the academic year. The park was very busy with other schools, but students and staff had a great day out in the sunshine. Some even striking lucky on the fair ground games taking home HUGE teddies.



Bowling & Cinema

Around 40 pupils opted to celebrate the end of the year with a trip to bowling and the cinema. The day started with some competitive games of bowling. Some were even brave enough to take down the bumpers!

After bowling we headed to the cinema next door to watch Toy Story 5. The film certainly didn't disappoint.





KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Careers Education

Our Careers Education programme has continued to provide students with a wide range of valuable experiences to help them explore future pathways and develop essential employability skills.

Throughout the year, students across all year groups have taken part in a variety of careers-focused activities. In March, our Year 9 students enjoyed an engaging Enterprise Day, developing teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills through real-world business challenges. This was followed in April by our Year 8 Skills Challenge event, which encouraged students to build confidence and practise key transferable skills.

April also saw our annual Careers in the Curriculum Week, beginning with our highly successful Careers Fair. All students had the opportunity to meet representatives from 25 employers, colleges, universities and training providers, giving them valuable insights into the wide range of education and career opportunities available.

Our older students have continued to benefit from experiences that prepare them for life beyond school. Year 10 students completed their Work Experience Week in July, while Year 12 students undertook work placements at the end of June, gaining first-hand experience of the workplace and developing skills that will support their future ambitions. Earlier in the academic year, Year 11 students also took part in Mock Interviews, helping them build confidence and practise interview techniques with visiting employers.



In addition, Year 11 and Year 12 students have been able to access regular one-to-one appointments with an independent Careers Adviser throughout the year. These personalised guidance sessions have supported students in exploring their options and making informed decisions about their next steps in education, training and employment.

We are incredibly grateful to our partner OurFutures, the employers, education providers and volunteers who have supported these events, helping to inspire and prepare our students for their futures.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Sixth Form



As another successful year draws to a close, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on everything our Sixth Form community has achieved. Looking back over the past twelve months, I have been struck not only by the academic success of our students, but also by their willingness to serve others, embrace new opportunities and prepare thoughtfully for life beyond King David. It has been a busy year, and one of which we can all be incredibly proud.

Our year began with the fantastic news of last summer's Year 13 examination results. Nearly half of all grades awarded were A or A*, an exceptional achievement and a testament to the hard work, resilience and commitment of both our students and staff. As always, however, we measure success by more than examination results alone. Throughout the year, our students have continued to develop into thoughtful, compassionate and confident young adults.

Service and personal development have remained at the heart of Sixth Form life. Many Year 12 students signed up to take part in FED volunteering, continuing our tradition of giving back to the wider community. We were delighted to welcome ORT JUMP into school, with eleven students joining its mentoring programme to support their next steps towards university and future careers. Students also registered with the Anthony Nolan Trust during our "Swab Week", volunteering to join the stem cell register and potentially offer life-saving support to those in need of a bone marrow transplant. These opportunities reflect the values we hope our students will carry with them long after they leave King David.

Alongside this, our personal development programme, led by Mr Chappelle, has continued to grow in strength. A particular highlight was the Safe Drive Stay Alive event. The presentations from emergency service workers were difficult to hear but carried powerful messages that our students will remember for years to come. Throughout the year, students also benefited from sessions on cancer awareness, consent, gambling awareness and CPR training, ensuring they leave Sixth Form equipped not only with academic knowledge but also with the skills and understanding needed for adult life.

This has also been a year full of exciting educational opportunities beyond the classroom. Year 11 and Year 12 students enjoyed a memorable visit to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where they experienced university seminars in both science and the humanities, met members of the JSoc and gained a genuine insight into undergraduate life. Since then, several of our students have secured places on prestigious Oxford summer schools, an exciting opportunity that will deepen their academic interests and strengthen future university applications. Our Year 12 students also travelled to Poland, an experience that offered an important opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust, reflect on its human impact and consider the responsibility we all share in remembering its lessons for future generations.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Sixth Form

In March, our Year 12 students began to focus on life beyond King David. They attended the Manchester UCAS Discovery Fair and we hosted a UCAS Evening with representatives from four universities to help students and families navigate the higher education application process. As the summer term progressed, students completed work experience placements, sat mock examinations and began preparing their UCAS applications. Thanks to Ms Gousiou, we also welcomed admissions staff from the University of Leeds, who introduced students to the new style personal statement and offered valuable guidance on making successful applications.

Our students have also shown real initiative throughout the year. One memorable example was the student-led Votes at 16 assembly, where some of our keen politics students transformed the school hall into the House of Commons and encouraged thoughtful debate about lowering the voting age. It was an excellent example of students engaging respectfully with important contemporary issues while developing their confidence and leadership skills.

As our Year 13 students prepared for university, we were pleased to welcome representatives from the Stuart Young Foundation and Finnart Bursaries to speak about the financial support available to Jewish students entering higher education. We are delighted that six of our students have successfully secured significant bursary funding, helping to make university life more accessible.

Within school, one of the most visible changes this year has been the creation and transformation of the Sixth Form Common Room. Thanks to the hard work of Mrs Watson, together with the generosity of families and members of our wider community who donated furniture, the space has become a welcoming hub for our students. The addition of a vending machine has proved particularly popular, and it has been lovely to see students taking pride in the space and looking after it so well. With Year 13 now having moved on, Year 12 students have also been making good use of the pool table.



As we look back on the year, what stands out most is the character of our Sixth Form students. Whether through academic excellence, acts of service, leadership opportunities or simply supporting one another, they continue to embody the values that make King David such a special community. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this year and look forward to supporting our returning students as they continue their journeys, while wishing our Year 13 leavers every success and happiness in the exciting chapters ahead.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Jewish Education



This academic year has been another exceptionally busy and successful one for Informal Jewish Education at King David High School. Our aim has remained to inspire pupils to engage with Judaism beyond the classroom, creating meaningful experiences that strengthen Jewish identity, build community and make Jewish life enjoyable and accessible for every student.

Throughout the year we have marked each festival with engaging activities. Chanukah was celebrated with our ever-popular Chanukah Bingo event, bringing together pupils from across the school for an enjoyable programme centred around the festival. Purim featured a range of interactive activities encouraging pupils to fulfil the mitzvot of the day while creating a fun and vibrant atmosphere throughout the school. Weekly enrichment opportunities continued to grow. Our Tefillin Club provided boys with a welcoming environment to learn and practise the mitzvah of laying tefillin, while our Year 7 and 8 Bar Mitzvah Lunch Club, run in partnership with The Shrubberies Synagogue, supported pupils as they prepared for this important milestone in their Jewish lives.

For Year 7 girls, we were delighted to continue our partnership with GIFT through the Bat Mitzvah Programme. The sessions culminated in a beautiful Bat Mitzvah Ceremony attended by mothers and grandmothers, celebrating the girls' commitment, learning and personal growth throughout the year. Commemorative events also formed a significant part of our programme. We were privileged to welcome Holocaust survivor Anne Super, who shared her personal experiences with pupils, ensuring that the lessons and memories of the Holocaust continue to be passed on to the next generation.

Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut were marked through assemblies and school-wide activities that encouraged pupils to reflect on the sacrifices made for the State of Israel while celebrating its achievements and diversity. Israel Week provided further opportunities for pupils to explore Israeli history, culture, geography and society through cross-curricular activities and interactive learning experiences. Tu B'Shvat was celebrated through hands-on activities that engaged approximately 100 pupils, encouraging reflection on environmental responsibility and Jewish values relating to nature and sustainability.

Alongside these flagship events, numerous lunchtime activities, educational programmes and festival celebrations helped create a vibrant Jewish atmosphere across the school. These opportunities encouraged pupils from all year groups to participate voluntarily in Jewish life outside of formal lessons, helping to strengthen both community spirit and personal Jewish identity.

Finally, considerable work was invested in planning the Year 9 residential programme. Following the cancellation of the Israel trip due to the security situation, several alternative residential options were researched and organised to ensure pupils could still benefit from a meaningful shared experience. Overall, the year has demonstrated the continued importance of informal Jewish education in enriching school life. Through partnerships with external organisations, creative programming and opportunities for participation across all year groups, pupils have been able to celebrate

Judaism in engaging, memorable and meaningful ways. We look forward to building on these successes in the coming academic year.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Student Leadership

Student Leadership Team

As we look ahead to the next academic year, we are delighted to introduce our new Student Leadership Team. These students have demonstrated enthusiasm, responsibility and a commitment to making a positive difference within our school community. We are confident they will be excellent role models and ambassadors for our values.

Head Boy: Rafi Stone

Head Girl: Harper Goodall

Deputy Head Girls: Bo Barsky, Lulu Clyne

Wellbeing Team: Talia Addleman, Melia Newman, Dalia Levine

Transition Team: Zoe Tachauer, Emily Chapman, Maya Fireman

Emet and Emunah Team: Marissa Levy, Sophia Minkoff, Max Britstone, Dana Elfassy

Environment Team: Ruby Eels, Boaz Rubin-Birchall, Giselle Cowan

Academic Leads: Lili Frost, Rebecca Ross, Max Minkoff, Axel Wagman

We congratulate all of our student leaders on their appointments and look forward to seeing the energy, ideas and dedication they will bring to their roles. We wish them every success as they help lead and inspire our school community throughout the coming year.

Sports Captain 26/27



Year 9 pupils were given the opportunity to apply to become House Sports Captains for the next academic year by completing an application form. Following an impressive number of high-quality applications, shortlisted pupils were invited to attend an interview.

The standard throughout the application and interview process was exceptionally high, making the final decisions incredibly difficult.

A huge congratulations to the following pupils on being appointed as our new House Sports Captains for the next academic year:

Sharon:

Talia Cohen
Lily Normie
Asher Tachauer
Luca Fish

Negev:

Beatrice Shafar
Scarlet Clayton
Matanel Tesciuba
Spencer Lever

Galil:

Ava Powsney
Isabella Goldsmith
Noah Bentley
Evan Holowenko

Yehuda:

Gabriella Friedman
Crysyal Wagman
Ethan Donn
Elijah Akinsode

Yavneh:

Miri Videan
Yael Black
Zac Wreschner
Eli Myerson



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Sports Day

On Friday 17th July we hosted our annual sports day at the Regional Athletics Centre. The annual events saw the houses battling it out to be crowned sports day champions. Last years winners, Negev, were hoping to keep their crown.

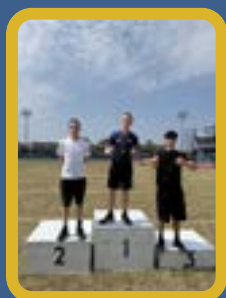
There were a number of events on offer to take part in. Field events, track events and also boccia. The day was concluded with our relay events worth double points!

There were lots of individual winner medals awarded, but our overall winners for the THIRD year in a row are...

NEGEV

A huge thank you to all the staff that made the day possible, but most of all to the pupils for their efforts throughout the day, and also during all the interhouse sports events this year.

We conclude our interhouse competitions on Monday with interhouse rounders. Make sure you get involved if you can.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Leavers

CLASS
OF
2026

Y11



After months of dedication, determination and hard work, our Year 11 students celebrated the end of their GCSE exams with a series of memorable events.

The celebrations began with a fun-filled Colour Run, where students enjoyed making lasting memories and marking the end of the exam period.

This was followed by the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly, a chance to reflect on their journey through school, celebrate their achievements and wish them every success for the future. It was a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to look back on the many highlights of their time together.

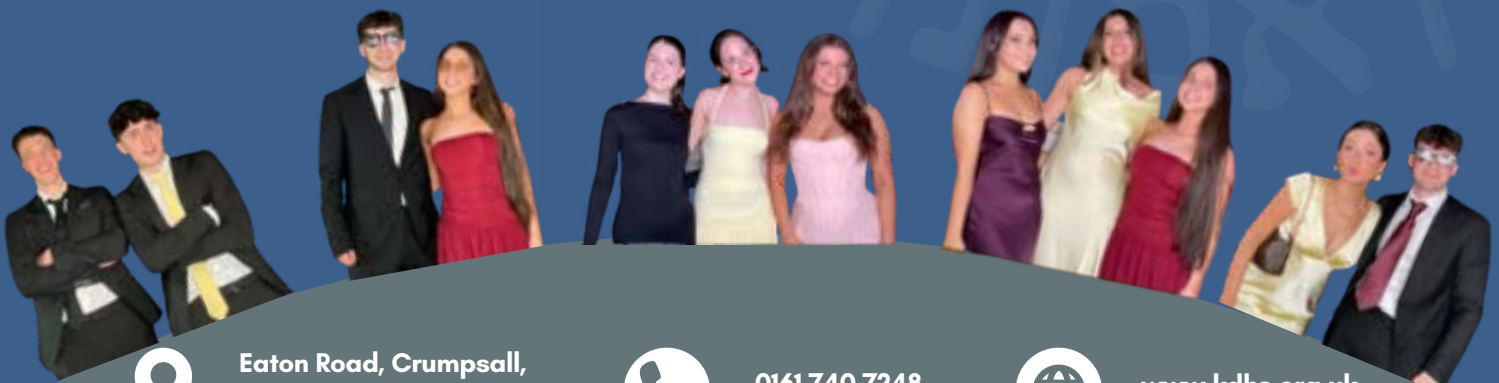
The celebrations concluded with the Year 11 Prom, held at The Village Hotel in Bury. Students arrived dressed to impress and enjoyed an evening of music, dancing and celebration with their friends. It was the perfect way to mark the end of an important chapter and celebrate everything they have accomplished.

Y13

We were delighted to celebrate our Year 13 students as they reached the end of their journey at KD. For some, this marks the end of an incredible chapter that began in our Nursery, making their departure especially significant.

The celebrations included a heartfelt Leavers' Assembly, a friendly game of rounders and, finally, a memorable Prom, where students came together to celebrate their achievements and the friendships they have made along the way.

We are immensely proud of everything our Year 13 students have accomplished and thank them for the positive contribution they have made to our school community. As they move on to university, apprenticeships, employment and new opportunities, we wish them every success and happiness in the future. Once part of the KD family, always part of the KD family.



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Results Days

A Level — Thursday 13th August

We will be releasing year 13 results online (Thursday 13th August). They will be sent out at 8 a.m. via the Edulink app, under the 'Exams' tab. Once in the tab, please scroll to the 3rd page where you will see 'Exam Results'. Please note that results will appear on students' Edulink accounts, but not parents'. Cambridge Technical Results will be sent via email at 8am rather than the exams tab.

You should also be able to check the Hub section of the UCAS website in the morning to see if your place at university has been confirmed.

Students who need help with clearing are welcome to come to school. From 8.30 to 10.30 a.m. there will be a small team of teachers who will be able to assist you. They will be located in the main library.

GCSE — Thursday 20th August

We will be releasing GCSE results in person this year. Students can collect their results from 9am at school. If you are unable to attend in person, you can nominate someone to collect them for you on your behalf. We would need this confirmed in writing to Mrs Burton a.burton@kdhigh.co.uk. The nominated person will need to bring ID with them on the day.

Results will appear via the Edulink app at 12pm on Results Day, under the 'Exams' tab. Once in the tab, please scroll to the 3rd page where you will see 'Exam Results'. Please note that results will appear on students' Edulink accounts, but not parents'.

Good!
Luck!



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Mental Health & Wellbeing

Summer is a wonderful time for students to relax, recharge, and enjoy a break from the busy school routine. It's also a great opportunity to support their mental health and wellbeing in simple, positive ways.

Encouraging your child to stay connected with friends, enjoy regular outdoor time, and keep a healthy sleep routine can all help maintain a sense of balance over the holidays. Small things—like having screen-free family meals or trying a new hobby together—can make a big difference to how they feel.

For those who might benefit from a little extra support, there are some fantastic local services available to Jewish young people. JAMH (Jewish Action for Mental Health) offers free therapy and counselling, including CBT sessions, and Keren provides support for Orthodox Jewish girls aged 12–24. These services are here to help, whether for a quick chat or more structured support.

Above all, summer is a chance to rest and reconnect—so enjoy the time together, keep the conversations open, and we look forward to seeing everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for a new school year.

Our Safeguarding team are available over the summer - contact them on besafe@kdhigh.co.uk



JAMH (Jewish Action for Mental Health)

Free therapy, CBT, and wellbeing support tailored to the Jewish community.

07510 204 844 | jamh.org.uk

Keren

Emotional and practical support for Orthodox Jewish girls aged 12–24.

07587 792272

Kooth

Free, safe, and anonymous online counselling for ages 11–18.

kooth.com



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KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL

Useful Information

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals and additional pupil premium funding if you get one of the following:

- Universal Credit—and your earned income is less than £7400 a year, after tax and not including any benefits
- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, providing you do not get Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income is less than £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- If you get Working Tax Credit you will not be eligible unless you are
- receiving the four week 'run on' payment after stopping work.

Free school meals are also available for eligible households with:

- Children at local authority maintained nurseries, if they receive education before and after lunch
- Students who receive Income Support or Income-based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right.

If you think your child may be eligible, please contact your local authority:

Great British Summer Savings



From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.



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