

THE KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL
The Headteacher's Report for the Spring Term 2019

Staffing:

The following staff have left this term and we wish them all the best for the future:

Mrs C Conway	-	Teaching Assistant	new position
Miss R Myers	-	PE part time	new position

Charities:

The pupils, as always, have been very generous with their donations. Students across the Campus have worked very hard with numerous fundraising initiatives and they are collecting money to take to Israel with them in aid of Keren Malki. The school campus has already raised £6,200 towards its target of £8,000. Students have been leading a number of different initiatives including a Yavneh Girls sponsored event, sale of cookbooks, running 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!

Main School:

Aish

Aish has been inspiring our students to engage with their traditions by presenting an array of activities in school. The activities range from 'Lunch and Learn' to trips away. This term launched a new programme for Years 12 and 13 entitled NXT. The programme is designed to help students with their 'next step' in life, be that in University, work, or other, while maintaining a proud Jewish identity. The programme introduces students to fascinating speakers, innovative entrepreneurs, and market leaders in a vast range of fields in their professional office environment. These speakers discuss their life and career path and impart the lessons they have learned along the way. The programme also runs in-house experiential sessions held at Aish, where students learn important skills such as overcoming fears, having successful relationships, creating social media campaigns, creating and marketing a product from scratch, and more.

School regulator 'Pikuach' also praised Aish for this programme in their 2014 report stating "The challenge for staff lies in continuing to develop a Sixth Form programme which stimulates and engages the diverse range of students. Next, in conjunction with Aish, has made a very positive impact on students". So far, students have had the chance to hear from:

Brian Whyte, Daryl Leigh, Lynette Jacobs, Martin Portnoy, David Zucker and Mark Adelstone

Art

Twenty four pupils from Years 7 to 13 were actively involved in the set design for the School show 'Hairspray'. Co-ordinated by Mrs Waxman and supported by Miss Borodenko, pupils helped during Monday lunchtimes and after school to make different parts of the set.

Year 8 pupils have been working towards creating an art installation in commemoration of Yom Hazikaron. Each pupil has decorated a butterfly dedicated to the life of a fallen soldier fighting for Israel. The installation will be on display on Wednesday 8th May at Shrubberies Shul, Prestwich as part of the memorial service.

Two students from Manchester University, including Tamara Gold, a former King David student, are holding a series of Art workshops on the 15th and 16th April with different art groups. Tamara who is in her final year studying BA (hons) in Art & Communication will be using art activities to encourage and promote good behaviour and positive thinking to promote individual well being.

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

Bat Chayil

The Bat Chayil girls have had a very busy term. They have been learning about the Jewish women in our history and the struggles they went through to do the right thing. The girls have really enjoyed learning about these women in depth and relating their struggles and lessons to their own lives.

They have also been very busy helping Gift to make challah (bread for Shabbat) for poor families, mishloach manot (food gifts) for poor families which was given on Purim, and they created trees with their life goals written on leaves, as something they can look back on in a year to see what they have succeeded at during their Bat Mitzvah year.

Computing

The A level students finished their 'TCS Oxford Computing Challenge'. Itay Kirsh achieved Elite Higher Distinction and qualified for the next round while Dan Shomron and Eli Prais achieved a Distinction. The Computing Department is continuing to promote an awareness campaign in coding, with particular focus on Year 7 using 'Micro Bits' designed by the BBC for use in computer education. This is ongoing currently on Thursdays lunch time. Alfie Joseph – Year 8 is a big help in supporting this event now which is likely to carry over until the end of term. Year 10 had their taste of a technology event in Manchester and had an opportunity to speak with University representatives regarding courses in computing at universities. Year 8 and 9 are introduced to a new module in python programming which designs professional graphics. This has created a lot of interest from KS3 in computer programming.

Duke of Edinburgh

This term has seen the continuation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award for students in Year 9 and above. The Spring term started with a full day of training for all students and followed previous years to be extremely successful, with help from the King David School Duke of Edinburgh Award coordinator, Mr Waring.

All Year 9 pupils in the Main School, Yavneh Boys and Yavneh Girls took part in an out of lesson Duke of Edinburgh Award Training Day, thus helping to encourage more participants to sign up who would not otherwise have done so.

Key to Duke of Edinburgh training is transferable life skills where students learn navigation, first aid, menu planning and caring for equipment and much more. Many pupils have registered for their expeditions which will be taking place over the Summer term. If you have not signed up you can apply now at

www.jlgb.org/dofe

Once again, this year a group of students undertook their Gold Expedition training in February with JLGB. This was a five-day residential trip, in a bunkhouse in the heart of 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 in the Welsh National Parks 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 and Mr Waring for helping to make all of this possible.

Drama

This has been an exceptional term when we joined with the Music Department to stage our entertaining and creative production of 'Hairspray'. This project was tremendous fun and a positive learning experience for all involved in the staging of this musical at The Middleton Arena. This was truly a community production, collaborating with the Primary school, along with impressive parent and teacher support, including the talented Mrs Basger in a comic cameo role!!

English

Miss Earner and Miss Burberry have returned to school following maternity leave and their presence has given us the flexibility to review and extend our programme of intervention. Naturally, our main focus this term is on Year 11 and we currently provide workshops on reading and writing skills for different ability levels, and for the key GCSE Literature texts. This term, a number of Year 11 students were able to build on their independent study skills through lectures in Manchester which focused on *An Inspector Calls*. Year 12 English Language students got a similarly useful experience when they were able to attend lectures on, amongst other things, 'discourse communities' and ethnicity and gender in language study. Continuing professional development has also been a priority for English staff this term, particularly in relation to the exam specifications and with a view to raising attainment at the upper ability levels.

Head Boy/Head Girl Initiatives:

Main School Heads Report: Between January and Pesach the Head Team has been able to progress in our aims. The end-of-year prom, yearbook and leavers' hoodies are in the final stages of completion, which will give everyone in Year 13 something to remember about their King David experience. Despite increasing pressure from upcoming exams, the Head Team have still managed to sustain the tutoring programme in a range of subjects including Maths and Science club on a Thursday. In addition, students have also been helping as teaching assistants to classes in the lower school. Moreover, with the help of Mr Vincent and Miss Sanderson, the Debating Society has been thriving as the head team have been trying to encourage students from across the school to participate in preparation for future competitions. Students in Year 12 have started a school newspaper called the KD Chronicle, which is currently being produced on a monthly basis. It's been a pleasure to lead this school over the last 12 months and we wish the best of luck for our successors. Josh, Florence and Mark.

Yavneh Girls Heads Report: Over the course of the last few months, apart from continuously working towards our exams, Yavneh have managed to be very busy elsewhere. Mrs Hoffner led our annual successful shabbaton which is a highlight of our year. It was a great opportunity for all the girls from Year 8 to Year 13 to bond. For Shabbat UK, Yavneh Girls held their own challah bake and a good time was had by all. Earlier this month Year 11 came up with a special idea to arrange a Brochot Party, which was arranged together with Mrs Hoffner le'uleh nishmas Sarah Goldman. This was held over a lunchtime for all years, following this the Year 11 have created a competition to see which year can make the most brochos over period of time, so far it has shown to be a great success. Year 12 together with Mrs Hoffner pulled off yet another fantastic Purim party for Years 7 to 13, all the girls enjoyed a graffiti activity together with lots of singing and dancing! Finally, Yavneh held its annual school concert, 'Matilda', which was yet another huge success! All the girls enjoyed performing and did an absolutely incredible job.

Health and Social Care

The Health & Social Care Department arranged for an Addiction speaker to come in to school to give a talk on alcoholism, mental health and drug addiction. The Year 12 and 13 students found this extremely beneficial for their exam and coursework.

In addition, Year 13 students visited an eating disorder clinic where they received an educational talk from a specialised nurse. This was incredibly useful as part of their case study for their coursework.

History

Congratulations to History staff who prepared students from the Department who have recently heard from Oxbridge entry: E Mann-Weinberg, A Kaminsky, O Jones, Y Neumann have been offered a place to study History.

Hannah Selig was offered a place on the Manchester University 'Outreach' projects course on 'Anne Boleyn'. A "Did You Know" History project has been launched with comments and signs across the school campus. The frame on the main history classroom window (room 201) changes every two weeks with students being introduced to new facts and ideas in history. This project will be extended with English next term. Year 9 classes held specially adapted lessons to coincide with International Women's Day.

Jewish Studies

The King David High School once again hosted an exciting, engaging and memorable Purim experience. The morning began with a communal Megillah reading where students had the chance to follow the story on a large screen as it was being read and sound one of the many air horns that were provided as Haman's name was announced. Following the Megillah reading, students then took part in a carousel of activities. A Mishloah Manot activity was led by Rabbi Chaim Cohen who enabled the students the opportunity to learn and partake in the Mitzva, whilst emphasising the importance of friendships with each other. Students then had the chance to compete in a year group interactive online Kahoot quiz. The quiz which was led by Rabbi Schwartz described how "it was incredible to see the student's breadth of knowledge on the Festival of Purim when playing the quiz... the student's behaviour was impeccable and it was a pleasure to spend Purim with them". Additionally, throughout the morning, each Year group had the opportunity to enjoy an array of exciting inflatables in the Sports Hall. The Morning activities climaxed with an engaging and interactive Purim Seuda where a special festive Pizza lunch was served whilst students were entertained watching a teacher contest that took place on the stage.

Quotes below:

"There was an incredible Purim atmosphere throughout the School and it was wonderful to see the students having such a fun and positive Jewish experience". Rabbi Goodman.

"One of the highlights was reading some of the beautiful notes that the pupils sent each other along with their Mishloach Manos packages.... It was most touching, watching the students give each other Mishloach Manos packages along with personal notes". Rabbi Chaim Cohen.

"I felt the School gave us a fun and memorable experience of Purim... everyone enjoyed it." Ilana Lesser.
"On Purim, School let all the kids have a special, enjoyable day and I would love to experience it again if I could". Zara Zell Davis.

Year 13 Religious Studies students accompanied Rabbi Rickman to a Holocaust Memorial Day event at Home Cinema. The national focus this year is the trauma of being torn from home. Students watched cutting edge films depicting the horrors of leaving all that is familiar and comfortable. Holocaust survivor Danny Herman addressed the audience, sharing anecdotes of his own story during the war years. "Our students were a credit to the school. They took part in discussions about the films and engaged with themes in a very mature way", said Rabbi Rickman.

Mazeltov to Rabbi Goodman who won the PaJeS (Partnerships for Jewish Schools) Jewish Schools Awards 2019 in the category 'Israel Education in a Secondary School'. Rabbi Goodman travelled to London as a finalist and was thrilled to receive this prestigious award. We are very grateful to Rabbi Goodman for his tremendous dedication.

Poland

In the beginning of January, King David High School and Yavneh, in conjunction with JRoots, took around 70 students 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. The feeling in the group was one of fascination and disbelief that anyone could have survived.

After a 6 day trip to Poland, the Yavneh group then returned back to Manchester whilst the King David students went on to Israel. Upon arrival, the group quickly worked their way through Ben Gurion airport and found ourselves on the roof of the Aish Jerusalem building overlooking the Kotel. Students described how as they made their way to the epicentre of 3,000 years of Jewish history. They were struck by the juxtaposition of experiencing Auschwitz in the morning and the Kotel at night. It was a very heavy, yet uplifting and empowering experience.

"Being at the Kotel at night and standing on my own gave me the time to reflect and appreciate my life. Compared to every other time I have been to the Kotel, this time is one I will always remember. I took it more seriously and connected in a much deeper level than I have before" (Cate Levinson, KDHS).

The group were treated to a number of fantastic experiences including:

~ Classes at Aish Jerusalem by Rabbis Zeldman and Rabbi Friedman.

~ A fun and history filled Segway experience culminating in learning about Jerusalem at the Haas Promenade.

~ Students then travelled to Yaffa to learn more about the plight of survivors who arrived there in 1945 from the remnants of war-torn Europe.

~ They had the immense privilege of being hosted by former Israeli Chief Rabbi and current Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, Rabbi Yisroel Lau who is himself a survivor of Buchenwald. His majestic oration had the entire group mesmerised as he shared some personal stories and themes with them.

~ Visited Hatzalah and Orcam (a high tech firm) in Jerusalem and learnt of the amazing, trailblazing work they are doing.

~ The students heard from a true Jewish heroine, Rachelle Frankel, whose son was kidnapped and murdered by terrorists in the summer of 2014. Her message of Jewish unity struck a chord with the group, as did her positive outlook on life.

Shoshi Martin of KDHS summarised the Israel portion of our journey by saying *"It's an entirely different experience to Poland. Israel is such an uplifting trip that makes your understanding and grateful for what our ancestors went through in the Holocaust. It was an incredibly educational trip taught by the most inspirational lecturers and speakers."*

One student expressed how *"It was an unbelievable and once in a lifetime experience that none of us will ever forget."*

Rebbetzin Shiffy Silverstone, Director of Aish Manchester commented, *"After taking many Aish groups to Poland, the feeling of walking out of Auschwitz and making the journey to Israel is something that so many of our ancestors would have only dreamt about however never thought would have been possible. Going on this journey and witnessing the students connect to Israel from a completely different angle, as they followed the same journey as many survivors, was truly remarkable. This is a new method of educating our youth about the horrors of the Holocaust and its undeniable link to the birth of the State of Israel out of the ashes"*.

UJIA – Israel Expo

This term, the school are privileged to have the opportunity for the launch of an informative and engaging new programme for Years 12 and 13 that is led by UJIA in conjunction with Rabbi Goodman. The programme runs every Wednesday during assembly time and the students have already had the chance to hear from the following speakers this term:

Sahar Sazgar
Raphi Bloom
Omer Drori
Mor Sofer + Student panel
Sara Radberg
Amir Radberg
Maayan Cohen
Benaya Cohen
Amir Ben Hur

Many thanks to Sahar, the new UJIA Shaliach.

Politics

With the Brexit deadline looming and tense votes most Tuesday evenings, Politics students have been trying to unpick the complicated parliamentary procedures and outcomes at the beginning of each lesson. Through sheer determination and persistence Sammy Morris in Year 12 was able to secure his place shadowing an MP in the Commons during the turmoil. He very much enjoyed getting access to the corridors of power and even preparing speeches for the right honourable member. It remains to be seen whether Brexit will be resolved by the end of the term. Nevertheless the students have enjoyed seeing how a hung parliament and Brexit can have people switching over from 'Eastenders' to BBC Two for some nail-biting divisions.

In Year 13 students have been advancing their knowledge of US Politics. The US Mid-Terms have brought 'teeth' back to the House with one of the longest shut-downs in history. Heski Strassman in 13YB had been coming in most lessons with his latest theories on the Mueller Report and cannot wait for it to be made public. We all want to find out what it says but it looks like William Barr has done a good job in imprinting 'no collusion' in the minds of the electorate. What a fascinating time to be studying Politics!

Maths

A mixed Year 8/9 team consisting of Jessica Angel, Grace Silvert, Robert Beresford and Joseph Dixon took part in the UKMT Junior Team challenge at Poynton High School.

A group of Year 10 students took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. Abigail Hurst, Joseph Seitler, Lucy Singer and Georgia Lesser achieved Gold certificates and there were also 5 Silver and 13 Bronze certificates. Abigail, Joseph and Lucy qualified for the follow-on European Kangaroo paper and Abigail has been invited to take part in the National Mathematics Summer School. Two Year 10 teams also took part in the Maths Feast competition at Manchester University.

A group of Year 12 students attended the annual Institute of Mathematics and its Applications Sixth Form lecture at MGS. Dr Tom Roper gave this year's lecture with the title "Adventures in Shape Space - and Time".

Once more, our Sixth Form team qualified for the national final of the Senior Team Challenge. About 1300 schools and colleges take part in this competition and the highest scoring teams from each region make it to the final. Mark Englander, Omri Simon, Itay Kirsh and Dan Shomron, did very well, finishing 27th out of 86 finalists. Mark and Dan also took part in the British Maths Olympiad Round 1, achieving a Merit.

Media

Year 13 Media students have been creating marketing campaigns as part of their coursework. This has involved them planning, recording, photographing and editing their creative projects.

Year 12 students have been working hard conducting successful pitches for their unique magazine ideas and are currently in the process of creating their magazine designs, planning their photography and creating their graphics. Some photography trips will be taking place soon!

Year 11 students have received successful January exam and coursework results and are currently in the final stages of editing their promotional videos which they have recorded themselves. Excellent efforts have been made to make creative unique videos.

Modern Hebrew

The Ivrit Department has been very busy this term working on the new programme for the 2019 GCSE exam. The students are responding well to that and are developing the new skills required.

We also welcomed Mrs Peleg to our Department. She is an expert in teaching KS3 and she is making an invaluable contribution to our Department.

Year 8 and 9 students prepared and read out the Israel news at school assembly which was received well. Year 9 are excited to meet their pen pals from the "Keshet" School in Qiryat-Shmonah next month during their long-awaited Israel trip. Their Israeli peers have already enjoyed the great Year 9 video in which the students performed the Israeli song "Silsulim". King David students also got to see and very much enjoyed the "Keshet" school video where the Israeli students performed a famous Justin Bieber song brilliantly.

Finally, the new Sinshinit, Gali of UJIA, has worked this term with KS3 and engaged the students with numerous interesting activities and some absorbing talks about a wide array of different aspects of Israeli life and culture. This was all done in conjunction with the Israeli Saliach - Sahar who was very helpful.

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. Next up was the school production, 'Hairspray'. This was a fantastic event involving a comprehensive collaboration of the arts, as well as children from across the junior and high schools. Instrumentalists and singers alike took part in a fantastic show, working at an incredibly high standard. The students who played in the band deserve a special mention as their work was truly outstanding. Once again the Department was supported by the peripatetic staff who play such a vital role in the musical life of the school. At the start of April the GCSE and A Level Music students performed their final exam pieces as part of the Spring Recital. This was followed up with a couple of days recording to ensure they all got the best performances recorded. A particular highlight of this term has been our involvement in the One Education Spring Showcase. Held in the Stoller Hall at Chetham's School of Music, the students from the KD Orchestra took part in an evening of mixed instrumental music. Ensembles were made of up students from around the city and included a choir, jazz band, wind band and string orchestra. The evening closed with a combined orchestra of more than 80 students performing works by Bach and music from film and television. It was a fantastic event and one the students thoroughly enjoyed.

P.E.

This was another busy term for the PE Department.

The Inter-house Boys' and Girls' Swimming Galas were both won by Yehuda.

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

Our U16 Girls' Table Tennis Team were champions at the Manchester City Wide Table Tennis Championship and our Boys finished with a Bronze medal.

Our GCSE PE residential trip took place during February half term and was tremendously successful, with all pupils gaining one good mark in Climbing.

Our KS3 Boys' Badminton Team were tremendously successful in the Manchester City Wide Singles Championships – Ben Bentley was crowned Champion, Charlie Leventhall was the Runner up and Josh Stonefield finished up with the Bronze medal.

Our Year 7 Boys' and Girls' teams both won the Manchester City Wide Team Championships.

Our Year 10 Netball squad finished as Runners up in the Manchester Netball 2nd Division.

At the City Wide Swimming gala, Elizabeth Jacobs (Year 7) won 2 Silver medals and Rosie Clynes (Year 7) won a Bronze medal.

Psychology

At the beginning of term Psychology students joined with Health and Social Care students to attend a talk about addiction. A guest speaker talked about his personal experience of addiction to alcohol and drugs and the different forms of help he had received.

As the term draws to a close the Year 13 students are working hard towards their final exams. They have completed another mock exam this term and will do their final one immediately after the Pesach holiday. The Thursday workshop has been running throughout this term and is helping students to develop their knowledge and refine their skills.

The Year 12 students are beginning to explore university courses and a few have expressed an interest in studying Psychology at university. Amy Brown gave a presentation at the Psychology Society about one of the Psychology masterclasses she attended during her day visiting Cambridge University.

Science

This term Science teachers took Year 7 to visit MOSI where student were able to explore the current exhibitions and engage with Science outside the classroom. Year 10 attended 'Science Live' at the Bridgewater Hall, where Prof. Robert Winston, amongst others, gave lectures across Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Mr Wort's Science Club has continue to grow and students from Year 7 and Year 8 have been able to complete some exciting practical work which takes them beyond the curriculum.

Sixth Form:

Sixth form students have been active in running a number of societies including the Debating Society, the Psychology Society and the Medical Society, which has continued to meet every Monday lunchtime, providing useful information for students when applying for Medicine and Dentistry at University in Years 11 to 13. Further details are available at <http://www.kdhs.org.uk/medsoc.html>

Amelie Englander and her team produced an extremely professional KD newspaper.

Year 13 students David Frankal, Nadia Goldman and Ariel Kaminsky presented their work for the Extended Project Qualification to an audience of teachers, parents and students at a fascinating evening event.

Thanks to Mrs Silver for her organisation and support and to the staff, students and parents who attended. 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 including JNetics, BYB Breast Cancer awareness, UJIA and Julia Samuel from the Anglo-Jewish Association, who spoke to Year 13 about student finance and bursaries available for Jewish students. Ex-student, Guy Berger, spoke to the Sixth Form about his apprenticeship and apprenticeships in general, and Jewish Women's Aid also ran sessions with students about safe relationships, consent and abuse.

Year 12 students attended an Oxbridge conference at Oldham Sixth Form College with Mr Christo and there was also an Oxbridge outreach talk in school. Amy Brown, Adam Noyek and Sammy Morris attended masterclasses at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Well done to all Year 13 students who have received offers from universities and apprenticeships, and particular congratulations to our record number of eight students with offers from Oxford and Cambridge and nine with offers for medicine and dentistry. Thanks go to Mr Christo, Mr Sleeman and their team for their support.

There has also been a fascinating series of lectures from staff open to all Sixth Form students:

J Pitt (Is Britain a fair society?)

D O'Brien (Can the judiciary influence your right to health care?)

C Ackers (An introduction to linguistics)

S Hirst (Inferior: women in science)

V White (Slenderman and other monsters)

A Cheetham (The rise and fall of the Roman Empire and why it matters)

S Vincent (Disabling the main runway at Port Stanley: The Falklands War)

UCAS Evening

The UCAS Evening is an important evening arranged by Mr Sleeman which provides information to students about their university applications, student finance, personal statements and help with choosing a course.

The evening included talks and practical guidance on apprenticeships and university applications. All Year 12 students also attended the UCAS Convention at Manchester Central.

Yavneh Boys

This year the boys raised £4500 over Purim for the EzraCare. This was organised by the Sixth Form team through their Purim activities. There was also a learning programme on Purim organised by Rabbi P Cohen and the Sixth Form whereby they completed Tractate Megillah at Vine Street.

Special visit from Rabbi Professor Steinberg, consultant paediatric neurologist, who spoke to the boys about his work in medicine for the last 50 years and medical ethics from an orthodox Jewish perspective. Rabbi Eisenberg provides an assembly of Divrei Torah for the boys every second Tuesday. Other guest speakers to address the school include Rabbi Yitzi David and Rabbi Jacob Rubinstein, and former students Matty Handler, Matty Radivan, Rafi Kleiman and Sammy Pine.

The morning Shiur continues to grow under the stewardship of Rabbi Joseph and Mr Sills. This is a daily programme of voluntary learning starting at 7.45am until davening at 8.20am. The Chaburah Shiur for Sixth Form continues to be popular and is run by Rabbi Schwartz. Torat Yavneh learning programme also continues to grow and is organised by Rafi Howard and Jake Frieze. Guest speakers this term have been Rabbi Peles, Rabbi Simmonds, Rabbi Kopftsein, Rabbi Jacob Rubinstein, Rabbi Eisenberg and former students Rafi Kleiman, Naphtoli Shapiro, Elisha Dytch, Noah Haber and Daniel Lustman.

Pre-Pesach Super Sunday organised by Rabbi Rickman was held. Rabbi Cohen addressed the parents and boys about preparing for Pesach and learning in school.

The school held a Shloshim Siyum for the Goldman family in memory of their daughter and sister, Sarah Z'L. Eli Goldman completed the mishneh and Dayan Berger addressed to the boys.

Yavneh Girls

Our annual Shabbaton was a hit, as always. The theme this year was all about enthusiasm: "Lahava, Light It Up". The ruach was electric, the tochniot enjoyed by all and the food was delicious. Thanks to all the staff involved, especially Mrs Hoffner, whose impeccable planning and organisation ensured its success. This term saw the loss of our beloved student Sarah Goldman. Sarah was very popular amongst the girls and was known for her love of music, acting and spreading happiness with her warm, glowing personality and ever present smile. Sarah's creativity was inspirational and the magnificent wall displays that she created have enhanced our school building. We have been running a Brochos competition in Sarah's memory with a special restaurant meal as a prize for the winning class - the girls have been participating eagerly in the initiative. Mrs Hoffner also organised a challah bake for her aliyat neshama which all the girls thoroughly enjoyed. Counselling sessions were held for students and staff.

We have begun an "integrated form" group every Tuesday morning where we have 5 groups, each comprising of girls from Year 7 to 13. This gives the girls a chance to build friendships outside of their year group. Each group has contributed to a time capsule which will be buried in the foundations of our new building. They are also learning to sew and have created beautiful samplers with buttons decorations on them. We had a great Tu b'Shvat: with the help of GIFT the girls decorated mini plant pots, planted them and they were distributed to the community. Purim brought its usual fun- on Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni Year 12 decorated the hall in an African theme – complete with stencilled drawing of jungle animals and authentic African memorabilia. The Purim party was enjoyed by all with great activities including graffiti art - thanks as always to Mrs Hoffner for organising!

Year 9 have been fundraising incredibly enthusiastically for Keren Malki and they have been exceptionally successful. They have worked very hard on their raffles, cook book, cake/cholent/kugel sales, as well as sponsored events and a swimming competition - very impressive!

We have welcomed a series of inspiring speakers to school: regular valuable visits from GIFT and JWA relationship awareness training as well as speakers such as Rabbi Eisenberg, Rabbi Walker, Rabbi Strom, Rabbi Gefen, Rabbi Prijs, Mrs Chrysler- we are very grateful to them all for sharing their inspiring thoughts and to Mrs Hoffner for co-ordinating the initiative.

We are now preparing excitedly for Pesach – the girls are learning fascinating facts and have plenty of challenging questions!

Assemblies:

Pupils are asked to contribute towards morning assemblies and this term there were assemblies in French, Ivrit – Voice of Israel, Languages, Poetry 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 in many ways and we appreciate all of their efforts. This term they were very involved in helping with the Hairspray production.

Guest Speakers and Visitors:

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

Lt Col Eyal Dror

Rabbi Zeidman, Malki Foundation

Mr Arnold Roth, Malki Foundation

Rabbi Dr Ratzon Aroussi

Rabbi Professor Avraham Steinberg

Rabbi Moshe Dagan (current D-G of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel)

Rabbi David Rosen

Mr Oded Wiener

Rabbi Weiss

Future Events:

Cross Country	Tuesday 16 th April 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 12 & 13	Wednesday 10 th April 2019
Year 7 Maths Challenge	Tuesday 30 th April 2019
Yom HaShoah	Thursday 2 nd May 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Boys	Sunday 5 th May – Monday 6 th May 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 11	Tuesday 7 th May 2019
Yom Ha'azikaron	Wednesday 8 th May 2019
GCSE Exams	Monday 13 th May – 14 th June 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Girls	Wednesday 15 th May – Thursday 16 th May 2019
A Level Exams	Monday 20 th May – 26 th June 2019
Year 9 Israel Trip	Monday 20 th May – Monday 27 th May 2019
School Exams Week (Year 7, 8 and 10)	Monday 20 th May 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 10	Sunday 26 th May – Tuesday 28 th May 2019
A Level Geography Fieldtrip	Monday 3 rd June – Thursday 6 th June 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Boys	Wednesday 12 th June – Thursday 13 th June 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 10	Friday 14 th June 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 9 Girls	Sunday 16 th June – Monday 17 th June 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 7	Friday 21 st June 2019
Bat Chayil Ceremony	Sunday 23 rd June 2019
Summer Concert	Tuesday 25 th June 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 10	Sunday 30 th June – Tuesday 2 nd July 2019
School Exams Week (Year 9 and 12)	Monday 1 st July 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 8	Friday 5 th July 2019
Yavneh Girls Presentation Morning	Sunday 7 th July 2019
Duke of Edinburgh Year 12	Sunday 7 th July – Friday 12 th July 2019
Yavneh Girls Camp Year 7&8	Monday 8 th July – Wednesday 10 th July 2019
Beat the Clock - Inter High School Contest	Thursday 11 th July 2019
Presentation Assembly Year 9	Friday 12 th July 2019
Sports Day	Monday 15 th July 2019
House Rounders	Wednesday 17 th July 2019
Activity Days	Wednesday 17 th – Thursday 18 th July 2019
GCE Results	Thursday 15 th August 2019
GCSE Results	Thursday 22 nd August 2019
Year 12/13 return	Thursday 29 th August 2019
Year 7 return	Friday 30 th August 2019
All school return	Monday 2 nd September 2019

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
April 2019