

Dear Parents

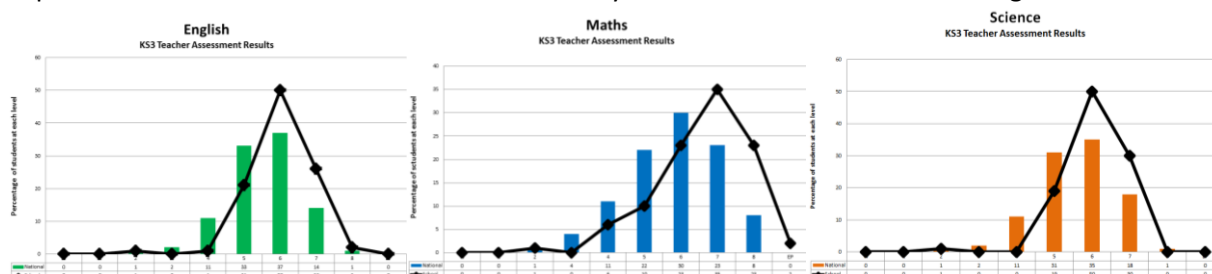
Summer is firmly with us, and the educational biorhythms I described in my last newsletter have delivered us at last to the holidays. Tisha B'Av has been a brief pause for more sombre reflection in this final week of term, but the atmosphere in School as I write is a celebratory one.

Holidays – the word originally comes from '*holy days*' – are more than just days when we are not at school or at work. They should be 'holy' in the broadest and richest sense, and indeed the word 'holy' in turn is connected to the words '*wholeness*' and '*health*'. Holidays are times for reconnecting ourselves to the deepest sources that feed us, so that we can be restored to our highest and best selves.

That might mean time by the pool, it might mean time to read something we don't have to, it might mean mountain climbing or seeing friends and family. It might even mean times of boredom: that, too, has its place in encouraging creativity and innovation, and in reminding us that there needs to be light and shade in life. In all cases holidays are about recreation – space to re-create ourselves afresh, so that we return to the necessary business of life in a new frame of mind.

And yes, they are also about rest and, as the pages that follow amply demonstrate, there is much to rest from in the term ending this Friday. Physical endurance, intellectual stretching, international travel, charity fundraising, artistic and poetic creativity, athletic competition, business entrepreneurship, cultural and social awareness...all JCoSS life is here. As my first year as Headteacher draws to a close, I am immensely proud of the quality and range of what JCoSS staff and students achieve. About a third of the school was officially commended at Celebration Evening, but we have many more excellent students than available awards and I celebrate and commend all of our students for their successes in so many fields, as you will read.

We are still some way off GCSE results for our first cohort of students but we do at last have some nationally benchmarked figures for their Key Stage 3 levels in Core Subjects. The coloured bars on the graphs below show the national percentage of students reaching each level (the print is tiny, but Level 6 is the highest bar in each case). The black lines show the performance of JCoSS students, in all cases as you can see there is a marked shift to higher attainment. Our students in all these key areas emphatically outperform expectations. We do not, of course, select by ability, but to pick one example 25% of our students achieve at Level 8 or above in Maths where the national expectation is Level 5. These students are some 4 years ahead of the national average!



I salute the hard work of all our students, and I salute the professionalism of all JCoSS staff in getting them to these outcomes. These are truly results to be proud of, and the future is bright. I wish you all a very good summer, full of rest, re-creation, diversion and – in the broadest and richest sense – holiness.

Patrice Mianaty

Fables and Bagels By Wendy, Hope and Brooke Farron

Having attended the first family education session, I was delighted to receive an email announcing that a further event was to be held. I was even more pleased that my daughters told me that they wanted to go and had asked their friends to come along, too. To me as a parent, it is very important to feel part of the JCoSS community and this gives me an idea of what my children are doing at school.

When we arrived at the Fables and Bagels evening, the first thing we saw was a huge table, heaving under the weight of delicious looking bagels, desserts and drinks, and a roomful of chattering, friendly faces. So, a good start! We were invited to help ourselves to a plateful and find a table. It was lovely to be in that environment with my girls, their friends and the other Mums. The evening kicked off with a welcome from Ms Robinson and then Mr Rosenberg, an excellent warm-up man, in every sense of the word, set out the programme for the evening. Angela Gluck, the first speaker, inspired us with ideas about Shavuot and a lively debate ensued, with all ages taking part.

For the next part of the evening we split into groups. Our first workshop was Midrashic Art with Nic Aberly, where we looked at paintings and contemporary images of Naomi and Ruth. There was something very moving about a group of Mothers and Daughters (and indeed Fathers and Sons!) sharing this joint experience and discussing it together.

Next we headed up to the Food Tech room, where we were ably led through the process of cheese-cake making by Rochelle Levy and her lovely daughters. Here, we Mums actually stepped back, relaxed and chatted and sampled some amazing cheese-cake and let our daughters do the work! It was such a vibrant hive of activity and gave me a real taste of JCoSS life.

All in all, it was a wonderful, warm evening of learning and community, and a true reflection of Mr Rosenberg's own warmth, industry and of him as an educator and community-builder. Thanks and well done to all concerned!



Fables & Bagels
Jewish Family Education at JCoSS
Programme 5774 (2013-2014)

סוכות חנוכה פסח

EPISODE TWO - Monday 16 September: "Bagels of Espresso"
Help to decorate our JCoSS Succah, and learn some tips on how to make your OWN Succah at home. Experience some of the different customs and traditions associated with this most ancient of all our Festivals from all over the world and untangle the mystery of the etrog and lulav. And eat a bagel or two outside!
Special Guest Presenter: Clive Lewton

EPISODE THREE: Monday 2 December: "Bagels and Dreidels"
Chanukah is always the children's favourite - and this interactive and lively session will explore the roots and development of this relatively modern festival. We will light our own JCoSS Chanukah and have an evening of festivity and fun making doughnuts and latkes, free painting and dreidel making - and maybe even a bagel or two!

EPISODE FOUR: Monday 7 April 2014 "The Loneliness of the Chometz Bagel"
Leading and making a Seder, or going to one for the first time can be a real spiritual experience, but it can also be rather challenging! Learn about the Seder night and the different traditions enacted from all parts of the world. Make your own Haggadah with your own family memories. Plan a meal on a budget for the entire family, and finally take part in the world famous Matzah Baking workshop.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKING DETAILS PHONE LAURIE ROSENBERG 0208 344 2220 OR EMAIL: lrosenberg@joss.barnet.sch.uk
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Quick Page Reference to some of the articles in our bumper Newsletter!

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Au Revoir from Miss Kemp

As the school year closes and JCoSS comes to the end of its third year I thought I would write and say goodbye to students and parents as I move onto pastures new in September. I have been hugely privileged to have seen JCoSS from the day the doors first opened, right up to the point where we see our first Sixth Form intake sitting their AS levels and our first GCSE cohort about to start their Upper School careers.

As I leave I wanted to say how proud I am to have worked with the JCoSS team and the MFL Faculty in particular. They are a wonderful group of teachers, all with different teaching styles, interests, opinions and talents, but always full of enthusiasm and the ability to make me smile whatever the situation. I am fortunate to call them not only colleagues, but also friends.

I am proud of having met so many lovely parents, who have always demanded the very best for their children and have given the school all the support it needs to get there.

I am proud of the students and the progress they have made while I have been here. They are enthusiastic language learners who have taken on board everything we have thrown at them with great gusto. Every time someone has come to visit or been for an interview they tell me how surprised they are by the level of our students' French. Our students are bright, fun to teach and their smiles are infectious!

Finally, I am immensely proud of my form group, 9W. We have had the pleasure of each other's company for three years now and I will miss them, and all their little foibles, enormously. My hope for you all is that you will always strive to work hard and to be good to others. You deserve the very best so make sure you seize the opportunities available to you.

I am moving on to an Assistant Headship in Sutton as well as setting up home in the suburbs and getting married. There are lots of changes afoot for me but I do hope to stay in touch with both the school and the community and, as they say, it's not "*Goodbye*", but rather "*Au revoir*"...

Miss Kemp
Head of MFL Faculty

LRC News

Mazel Tov to Hannah Kieve in 7B and thank you very much for your generous book donation. Many thanks to all parents who have generously contributed books to the LRC during the past school year. Through this scheme, the school has received 45 books.

If you would like to do this in the future, to commemorate a special event such as birthdays, Batmitzvahs, Barmitzvahs or anything else, this could be done online at <http://www.amazon.co.uk> (select "JCoSS"). It would be very much appreciated.

All books that are donated in this way have a commemorative label placed inside the front cover with the child's name and the relevant occasion.

Wishing you and your families an enjoyable summer.

Mrs C. Mulkis
Librarian

Duke of Edinburgh's success

This year I am delighted to say over 90 students from Year 9 and Year 12 have completed their Bronze or Gold expeditions or will shortly do so. A great achievement – well done to all!

They have shown outstanding perseverance, resilience and determination to complete their expeditions, be it in blazing sunshine or pouring rain. I look forward to more students taking on the challenge in September.

Mr M Todd

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator

Year 9 DofE experience – a student perspective By Ray Tomlinson 9F

On the 23rd of June, all the Year 9 who applied for Duke of Edinburgh gathered in car park, where we would begin our trek and say goodbye to our family. One by one each group was called up to Dan's white van where we would receive a hiking bag, first aid kit, a tent, some tent pegs and two stoves. We were then told to pack our bag and then set off into the middle of nowhere, aka Braid Wood camp site.

We began this expedition with high hopes but as the realisation kicked in that we had to walk for 25 miles with bags the same size, we all began to moan! But it was nothing a little sing song couldn't help and the famous tunes of Eminem kept us going. During the walk any opportunity to stop or eat was one we would take! I can't describe how quickly we managed to devour those beautiful Danish shortcakes.

Keep in mind that during this massive walk you are always filled with doubt, whether you are going the right way. But all you need is a Ben W to lead you onto the right path. When we arrived, the feeling of not having to walk for the rest of the day was overwhelming. I didn't know whether to cry or dance because we had arrived first. As group after group arrived we all helped each other by putting up the tents, as the rain bucketed down on us, wetting all our dry clothes.

I woke up the next day expecting to be in my warm, cosy bed but was woken by a huge spider tickling my feet: not my best morning. As I left, my damp tent the aches in my shoulder were so bad that I nearly called my mum but I thought, 'I've come too far'. The smell of dodgy soup lurked around the camp and I couldn't stand it!

After that, we all set off AGAIN! We left with the feeling that this very afternoon we would be lying on the couch playing Fifa so that gave us all the boost we needed. Again this journey was tiring but we now have the ability to say 'WE HAVE COMPLETED DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE!' all thanks to the JLGB team and Mr Todd.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

Careers Day- 2013 By Abi Wander 8N

On Wednesday 3rd July, Year 8 had their STEM careers day, where students had the chance to talk to the STEM ambassadors (parents and other STEM careers) about their jobs. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. So a STEM career majorly involves one of these aspects. Students were privileged enough to get the chance to have a one on one chat with quite a few of these ambassadors. Students came equipped with questions to ask the ambassadors, during each mini session. The ambassadors were then able to answer any questions and also provide key information about their jobs, to better our understanding. There was a variety of jobs ranging from Earth Scientist/ Geologist to Psychologist to IT management, so most students were attracted to at least one job.

The purpose of the day was not only to help us think and plan ahead but also to remind and teach us how much STEM is really involved in real life. Overall it was an enjoyable and likeable experience and really opened all of our minds to new possibilities in terms of career choices.



Our visit to St John the Baptist School

by Megan Cohen, Year 8

At the beginning of Year 8 a child from each form was told that we were going to be part of a partnership with a school called SJB. Students from their school came to JCoSS and we had a great time and made some new friends. When we were informed that we would be going to their school we were all pretty excited as we'd get to see the friends we'd made again.

We arrived at the school, were welcomed nicely and students began to show us around their school as we did whilst they were at JCoSS. Everyone had been told to come in non uniform because of something called 'SJB Day'. None of us had any clue of what that was until they explained; SJB Day is where the whole school runs a charity fete for 1 hour in order to raise money for some sixth formers to go to Lourdes and care for the sick.

When the fete began the atmosphere was brilliant, everyone was talking and it was buzzing. We went round with our JCoSS and SJB friends. There were all types of stalls, from milkshakes to books, fake scars to assault courses, everything you could think of.

After the fete the whole school went into an assembly where they announced the total money raised (a lot of money) and one child won £1000 after being picked out of a draw.

Overall the day was fantastic and we'd love to do something like that again!



Admissions for the Academic Year 2014-2015

The Admissions Policy and Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for a place in Year 7 September 2014 are available on the Admissions page on the JCoSS website. You will also need to complete a Common Application Form (CAF) for a secondary school place available from your Local Authority. Those applying for a place as a sibling must also complete both forms.

For any queries please contact Orna Galvin at admissions@jcoess.barnet.sch.uk

JCoSS Dragons!

In September 2013 JCoSS introduced their first 6th form Young Enterprise team in the Economics and Business Department. It's been an exciting year for the 15 talented and ambitious students, who were able to create a successful business product that generated profitability. The JCoSS team of 15, called Trilingual, developed an educational book to engage young children to learn languages. The activity book consists of word searches, snap cards and crosswords to develop young children's linguistic skills. The team competed in the National Enterprise Competition with over 1000 schools across the London Boroughs. Amongst others the JCoSS team competed against Latymer, Highgate School and Henrietta Barnet to successfully win both the Barnet and the North London Borough Finals. The team also featured in the Barnet and Harrow Times and the Sun newspaper! The JCoSS family are very proud of what they have achieved in their first year at the Sixth Form.

Miss M Rajadurai
Head of Economics and Business studies.



JCoSS students at Brent Cross selling their product and merchandise.



Sporting fun in the PSRP

During the last term, students from the PSRP have had the opportunity to receive multi-sports and football coaching during P.E sessions, delivered by specialist coaches from Tottenham Hotspur foundation. The students have immensely enjoyed the project and developed their social skills as well as sporting skills through this.

Mr M Todd
PSRP teacher



JCoSS Book Award 2013

The JCoSS book of 2013 is:



It has been wonderful to see so many of our students participating in this event and reading books from the shortlist.

Many thanks to the members of Book Club for helping to organise the award.

As soon as we return to school in September, we will begin to compile our shortlist for next year's award. If you would like to recommend any great books, published in 2013, please submit the titles to the committee for their consideration.

Mrs K Lightman
Assistant Headteacher - English, Learning Resources Centre and CPD

Year 7 Poetry Slam

The day after Andy Murray's historic Grand Slam win at Wimbledon, a slam of a different kind was held at JCoSS: Year 7 Inter-Form Poetry Slam.

Poetry Slams are about spoken word poetry: that is, poetry that wants to be performed, that needs to be lifted from the page and given life. It might be serious or silly, fun or solemn, outrageous or conventional, but at its best will always express a small part of its creator.

This term, Year 7 students have been busily writing an array of poems for performance in Form Time. Each form has held its own form Poetry Slam from which two winners have been selected to perform their poems in the Poetry Slam Final in front of the whole year group.

Our guest judges at the Poetry Slam Final, Mr Moriarty and Mrs Lightman, were delighted with the variety and extremely high quality of the poems performed. Our Year 7 Slammers performed with maturity and enthusiasm, showing a high level of commitment. They are all to be congratulated on their courage in performance and their wonderful poetry, but in the end we had to select two winners. The year 7 JCoSS Poetry Slam Champions 2013 are Lena Stein (7Y) with 'Drop Down Day: Session 3: Body Image' and Jack Earle (7N) with 'Do I have a Choice?'. These Slammers won for the powerful messages conveyed in their poems and their high impact performances. Well done Year 7 Poetry Slammers! You will find their poems on the next page.

Mrs A Cipriano
2nd in English

Drop Down Day: Session 4: Body Image

"Uhh" they groan as the screen comes on,
"We've had this talk before!"
"We know!" they shout.

Yet only yesterday, I saw her peeking over at my lunch tray, throwing judgmental looks at me and my meal.
And honestly I'm so close to shouting
"What has this bagel ever done to you?
What has that salad ever done to win your affection?
How can you tell me what you're doing is right
when your sit in your room crying all through the night?
Do you think you'll be pretty?
Do you think you'll be fit?
Is that how you justify making yourself sick?"

Pencils scrape across the rough, white page describing the meaning of 'beautiful'.

First entry: how you feel.

Second: what's inside.

But you know they're all thinking the same three things:

Make up...

Dress...

Skinny.

And I have to admit it's what I think too, it's like we're all just programmed to feel that way.

Robots reaching towards the highest of goals, anorexia.

Yet as they all groan "We've had this talk before!"

"We know!"

I'm silently begging for you to tell me I'm okay.

Just. One. More. Time.

Maybe I'll believe it then?

Maybe?

by Lena Stein 7Y

Do I have a choice?

Do I have a choice?

A choice - a word we sometimes take for granted

A choice for food

A choice of what to wear

That question you ask yourself - what should I choose?

Your life is a choice

As you grow up you make new choices

The word starving is not really brought up in England.

But we have the choice to share, sometimes we do, sometimes we don't

But what would you feel like if you woke up and you had no choice of clothes or food - it was that or nothing

Makes you think

But I bet you most of you can't imagine a life like that

All of us have the choice to help but...

That choice is sometimes not taken.

And a life without choices isn't life.

So before you choose your food everyday

Think. Are the choices you're making in your life the right ones?

So help someone make that choice

Because I know which choice I would make...

By Jack Earle 7N

Year 9 Brilliant Club

This year 24 of our Year 9 students have been taking part in the Brilliant Club, a programme aimed at developing the independent research skills of talented and academically able students in the fields of Science and Humanities. Here one participant, Max Mydat, explains the programme and how he found the experience:

My time in the Brilliant Club began when I first opened the acceptance letter I received in form time. Being accepted meant my application letter had been good enough to convince Miss Kemp that I was not only intelligent enough to get into a top tier university but that my letter had been well written as well, a big plus for me as I'm not the best at English.

I'd been accepted to the STEM project of the Brilliant Club that would cover evolution and genetics in the five tutorials that the group would receive. It was later that month that we took the trip to Sussex University where we met our PhD tutors and received the first of many pep talks from the Director of the Brilliant Club. The tutor for our project was called Pippa; in small groups we would discuss the basics of the topics to make a foundation for the information to come. After this we took a tour of the university, giving us a glance into a possible future for us in five years. We happened to be there on the day of an on-going protest about the jobs of the cleaning staff at the university and were lucky enough to hear from a student what the whole thing was about. To sum it up neatly, it's a long story.

At our first tutorial at school we discussed the work of Charles Darwin, the man on the £10 note, and his contributions his field of work, evolutionary science. With more tutorials came more and more questions; our fourth lesson was mostly hypothetical situations and questions. After our fifth tutorial we were set the most difficult essay task we'd ever seen. That is until I saw our English GCSE controlled assessment. The task was to write about an animal we had discovered on an expedition to a newly charted island. Mine, called the Souron, only ate the sour fruit that was also found on the island. We were given five weeks to complete the task and to submit our work to the Brilliant Club website and a hard copy to Miss Kemp.

It wasn't until roughly two months later that we were invited to the graduation at Oxford University. We arrived and took a walk around, where Miss Kemp showed us where she went to college and the room she stayed in her third year. After another inspiring talk, we were off to have lunch and a tour of another college, Hertford. The part of the day we had all been waiting for had been kept till last, as usual, the results in our groups we sat at a table and one by one Pippa handed out the marked papers. I received mine last in the group which only built up the tension in my mind. I got the paper back and all the pressure faded away, I received a 2:1, the fourth highest mark out of all the STEM project students.

The whole experience was very interesting and fun to take part in. I would do it again and will most likely be applying to one of the courses next year. I would definitely recommend the Brilliant Club to any student that would like the opportunity to learn a topic that they like from a specialist. Overall a brilliant time was had by all of us.

The students participated with great maturity and learned a great deal about higher level study skills and university life. The programme has just begun for our Year 12 students and will run again for Years 9 and 10 next year. Mr Smith will be taking over my role as Gifted and Talented Lead Teacher in September and so he will be sending out details to students in the new school year. Watch this space!

Miss V Kemp
Gifted and Talented Lead Teacher

Normandy 2013

At 4am on a Sunday morning in June a group of 44 very bleary eyed JCoSS students and 5 members of staff set off for an adventure in Normandy. Coach boarded, we set off for France at the crack of dawn and headed for Portsmouth and a week away in the northern French sun. We were staying in a converted schoolhouse in St Frimbault, a small village a couple of hours north-east of Rennes. There was a lot of driving to be done but our driver, Ian, was fabulous. Mr Rosenberg made sure the staff were constantly entertained and the students made sure Miss Kemp got no sleep by producing, and repeatedly performing, “*Are we there yet Miss Kemp?*” to the tune of Happy Birthday...

Our first day saw us visit a dairy farm, where Zac Green showed off his cow milking skills while James Nathan made friends with almost every animal in sight! India Grant’s butter making group were amazing at turning fresh cream into butter with just a hand whisk and a great time was had by all tasting their own butter with a slice of fresh French baguette and Camembert. We then moved on to the snail farm which had rather less of the “cute” factor about it but students learned a good deal about how to keep your snail collection from escaping before bagging and shipping to the dinner table. After lunch we headed off bowling and while students practised ordering drinks in French I, not knowing the word for bowling lane bumpers, spent a good couple of minutes describing to the lady in charge. Only to then find out the French word for them was “les bumpers!”

Over the following days the group spent time at a local market, at the Mont St Michel, the Bayeaux Tapestry and the Festyland theme park, where we discovered Miss Marion had for stomach for more of the rides than the students! The final day saw us visit the D-Day landing beaches at Arromanches and we were fortunate to see a new film in the 360° cinema which recounted the moving story of the liberation of Normandy. The evenings were spent enjoying French food and playing games of football in the school field and we were lucky to enjoy great weather throughout. The students were fabulous and really did themselves and JCoSS proud, clearing their own tables after meals, being wonderfully polite, speaking lots of French and really making sure they made the most of the experience. The staff team was awesome and made sure everyone had a great time, while laughing a lot! This was my last trip with JCoSS and I certainly had a wonderful time. I hope it really inspires the students to continue working hard at their language skills and to continually strive to see as much of the world and all the wonderful things in it as they can.

Bon voyage!

Miss V Kemp
Head of Faculty – MFL



Social Action and Informal Jewish Education

JCoSS Tzedakah Week

Wow! I have to say a massive thank you to all of our wonderful JCoSS students and parents for all their charitable contributions during Tzedakah week. I am constantly bowled over by our students generosity and unyielding enthusiasm when it comes to helping others. I am thrilled to inform you that we raised a total of **£1548.85** which will go a huge way to making a meaningful difference to the lives of those supported by our three school charities: The Beth David Institute, Jewish Care and Save the Children.

Tzedakah Week Highlights!

Year 12 Time and Talent Sale!

Lower school students entered a real life auction, bidding for the time and talents of our Year 12 students.



Jordan (Year 12) looking tired after carrying students bags around all lunchtime!



Year 9 5-a-Side Football Tournament

Year 9 students paid to enter their own teams in to a 5-a-side football tournament. Great fun was had by all – especially the winning team!

The Great Jewish Bake Day

We were inundated with student volunteers to help up bake cakes to sell for Jewish Care. Their biscuits were so yummy and wonderfully decorated that we raised £220 for Jewish Care and sold out within 20 minutes.



JCoSS Bake Day at Ruben House Care Home by Charlotte Santer

Seven students from Year 7 and Year 8 took part in a 2 hour baking activity to make cupcakes with the residents of Rubens House. After the students baked the cakes they iced and decorated them.

At the end of making the cupcakes, the students and the residents got to eat them during afternoon tea. They were delicious!

None of this would have been possible without Mrs Rose who organised it and some of the parents who helped us to make the cakes correctly. A massive thank you needs to be said to them, especially Mrs Rose who not only worked hard organising it but also made it run smoothly throughout.

The afternoon was a complete success.





JCoSS' Got Talent

JCoSS Staff shared their hidden talents in a bid to help us raise as much money as possible for our charities. Highlights of the event included Mr De Jong's "Dramatic Paint" act, Madame Armon's beautiful rendition of "What a Wonderful World" and Mr Moriarty and his SLT Dance Crew doing the Harlem Shake



Edible Garden

Our Edible Garden has been flourishing with our recent sunny spell and students have been hard at work growing lots of fruit and vegetables for the project. Our strawberries were first to ripen and staff and students in the PSRP have been tasting the delicious, sweet fruits of their labour. We have produced lots of lettuces (albeit rather oversized) and spring onions which have been donated to Homeless Action in Barnet. In our final week of term, we will be using our lettuces, spring onions, carrots, potatoes and herbs to produce a 'slap-up' meal for those involved in the project. Next school year, we will be growing some warm, winter vegetables so please come along and get involved. Parents with 'green fingers' are also invited! Thank you to all that have helped out in this fantastic social action project.



Year 9 students meet representatives of the Centre for Deaf-Blind Persons

The story begins back in March, when the Centre for Deaf-Blind Persons of the Beth David Institute was chosen at the annual charity fair as the Israeli organization for which JCoSS students are fund raising this year. Since then, we have looked for opportunities to deepen our connection with the students, to help them better understand what they are raising funds for and why it is so important.

Friday June 7th was the perfect opportunity - a group of about 80 Year 9 students were in Jerusalem in the course of their visit to Israel, and we were able to send several staff members there to meet them. It was a pleasure and an honor to make the acquaintance of such well-mannered, intelligent and knowledgeable young people.

In the course of the meeting, four of our staff members - Dana and Ido in one room and Yaakov and Chen in the other - presented information about our programs and about deafness, blindness and the combination of the two. All three know the subject well, both professionally and personally. They themselves have Usher Syndrome, a genetic condition which causes loss of hearing from birth or childhood combined with the gradual, progressive loss of vision throughout life and which is the leading cause of deaf-blindness in Israel. With the help of interpreters who translated their Israeli Sign Language into spoken English, they were able to communicate effectively with the groups.

Among the topics discussed were preconceptions about what deaf-blind people can do and how they live. The students learned and practiced a few basic signs in Israeli Sign Language, such as "yes", "no" and "thank you" as well as the signs for important people such as "Prince Charles" and fun characters such as "Shrek", "Spiderman" and "Hello Kitty". They learned, too, a bit about the inherent differences between sign and spoken languages, how to get a deaf or deaf-blind person's attention and more.

The students were unusually knowledgeable about sign language and knew, for example, that not only deaf people use sign language and that sign language is not an international language (a separate sign language evolved in each country). Only after the presentation did we discover that there is a hearing child in the class who signs – (I might add far more fluently than your average hearing child with hearing parents) – and that Mr. Richard Walker, the director of Pears Special Resource Provision, communicates with him in sign language in addition to spoken English.

Their questions at the end showed a real interest in the subject, and included, for example, "How do you express sarcasm in sign language?" "Were you born deaf and when will you be completely blind?", "How can you tell if someone is signing 'cat' in general or 'Hello Kitty' specifically?" Comments afterwards included "interesting, engaging", "moving, inspiring", "exposure to a different world", "we got a feeling for what you do, for what we are supporting", "I especially enjoyed watching the interpreter".

Thank you for this opportunity to meet your students, and for your support!!

Debbie Toubi, The Beth David Institute



Learning to sign 'Hello Kitty'



Learning to sign 'Thank you'

Arts/PE Showcase

Wednesday 10th July was another first for the CEA Faculty, when we were joined by Art to present some of the outstanding work produced by our students over the last year.

Once again, the amazing talents of our students shone across Drama, Music, Dance, PE and Art. Staged as a 'promenade' style event, parents, staff and students mingled in the Heart Space and the Drama Studio/Main Hall to witness the admirable success of the Zamar Singers, voice and instrumental performances, the WGC Youth Drama Festival winners, the London Borough of Barnet Dance Festival entry, footage from our Sports Day at Allianz Park and a wonderful display from the Art Department.

Mazal Tov to all the students involved!

Thanks must go to the Art Department and to all the members of staff who assisted and supported at the evening - and a truly heart-felt thank you to the enduring commitment and dedication of the CEA Faculty staff for everything they have achieved with our students throughout 2012-2013.



Will Rock You – 8/9/10 April 2014

Next year, our school show will be Schools Will Rock You - the schools version of We Will Rock You! Performances will take place in the Main Hall on 8/9/10th April 2014.



Auditions will be held as soon as we return to school in September. We are opening auditions to Years 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13. Competition will be stiff, so anyone auditioning MUST prepare properly. The show synopsis and character descriptions will be posted on FRONTER, in the next three weeks. As yet, the backing tracks are not available, but they will be posted as soon as they are released.

Costumes and Props

I am still looking to collect costumes and props for the Drama Department. If anyone is having a clear out – please pass any suitable items our way! Thank you.

Ms Miller

Head of CEA Faculty

JCoSS Sports

District Athletics Championships – Allianz Park – 2/07/13

Our best 15 athletics students represented JCoSS at Barnet's annual District Championships. The students performed incredibly well against some very experienced and competitive schools. With the majority of JCoSS students progressing through to their respective final there was bound to be medal success. Standout performances from Phillipa Steen who won the Year 7 girls long jump, Rosie Felt who finished 2nd place in the Year 9 girls long jump and Eli Ebru who finished 3rd in the Year 8 girls high jump. See results below for full details.



Name	Age group/ gender	Event	Result
Danny Gold	U13 Boys	200m	7th
Sam Lachman	U13 Boys	1500m	8th
Ben Felt	U13 Boys	Javelin	4th
Aiden Raphael	U14 Boys	200m	5th
Oliver Steen	U14 Boys	High Jump	4th
Phillipa Steen	U13 Girls	100m	4th
Sophia Godfrey	U13 Girls	800m	5th
Phillipa Steen	U13 Girls	Long Jump	1st
Eli Ebru	U14 Girls	200m	7th
Daisy Harvey	U14 Girls	Long Jump	4th
Eli Ebru	U14 Girls	High Jump	3rd
Rosie Felt	U15 Girls	200m	4th
Rosie Felt	U15 Girls	Long Jump	2nd
Jamy Bristol James	U15 Girls	High Jump	5th



The visit of Owais Shah – Cricket coaching 09/07/13

Essex and England Cricket player Owais Shah visited JCoSS on Tuesday 9th July to give some coaching to 15 of our students. Fresh from his winter season in the Indian Premier League, Owais taught the students three vital batting shots before focusing on the honing of their bowling skills. Harrison Leighton got more out of it than he bargained for as he bowled Owais out in a bowling session at the end and won tickets to watch Owais play for Essex in a County match the following weekend.

Well done to following students who took part: Sammy Bradley, Harrison Leighton, Tom Stepsky, Jonathan Brown, Jack Brown, Sam Taylor, Jacob Freedland, Ryan Isaacs, Jamie Smith, Jonathan Jennycloss, Max Schindler, Jake Segal, Jamie Lesser, Saul Fenton, Josh Levi, Tshepo and Sam Lakeland.



Year 7 Inter Form Football

7W ran out deserved winners at the first ever Year 7 Inter Form Football Championships. Having progressed through the group stages without losing a game they went into the final against 7S with an insatiable appetite for goals, goals, goals. Cometh the hour, cometh the man; Jonathan Brown opened the scoring with a thunderbolt finish, stamping the team's authority on the game from the outset. A second was added just moments later from the exuberant right peg of Benjy Radnor which sealed the silverware for the dusty mantelpiece of 7W's form room.



Year 7 Rounders

JCoSS Year 7 girls rounders team travelled to Compton School for the annual East Barnet championships. The girls opened their tournament against King Alfred where they lost narrowly 5-4. The second game went to the wire with Bishop Douglas edging ahead to win by half a rounder with the last hit of the game. However, the girls grew in confidence and having honed their batting skills during the interval they came good as they smashed East Barnet 6-2 in their final fixture. Some great hitting from Libi Sears and Phillipa Steen securing the overwhelming win. Well done to the following girls: Hannah Harris, Miriam Clifton, Mia Kochavi, Gaby Vides, Olivia Spender, Phillipa Steen, Libi Sears and Mikaela Noy.



Sports Day – by Dom Coleman (Year 12)

Finally Thursday 27th June came. Boys and Girls had been training long and hard in their Physical Education lessons to execute their athletic skills on this momentous day. At 8.30am Boys, Girls and Teachers fled through the gates of the Allianz Park, the home of Saracens Rugby team. Excitement, nerves and anticipation filled the students, with many nervously pondering over the day's events. After taking their seats everyone was welcomed by the voice of Mr Rosenberg, and officially the day began. Busy 6th form students and teachers were rushing around taking control of field and track events. The track was set alight when Aidan Raphael won the 200m by breaking the school record by a whole 4 seconds; meanwhile, even more drama took place in the Year 7 800m race between Bengy Radnor, Samuel Lachmann and Adam Morris when a photo finish had to be taken to determine the places. Over on the field Rosie Felt won the Long Jump and Eli Ebru won the high jump. The atmosphere that the students created was electric, getting behind their fellow classmates, chanting their names and helping them over the finish line. The day was ended with the JCoSS mile where the track saw a huge amount of students take part in a short sprint, working as team and getting the baton over the finish line. In the end 7F, 8B and 9S were crowned champions. After the results of the day everyone packed up, walking out the famous doors of Saracens reflecting on the day that had just been. The day was a huge success with the PE department getting everyone involved and making sure that everything was organised. A special thank you to Mr Smith, Miss Hoskin, Mr Mitman and Ms Goddard for the long hours of hard work and perseverance with the event which led to it being such a success.

Please have a look in the document attached to this e-mail for all the results of the day.

Dominic Coleman (Year 12)