

newsletter

Nissan

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Issue 6/March 2012-13

Dear Parents

Calling the term just drawing to a close the “Spring Term” will probably only raise a hollow laugh given the weather (snowing again as I write...), but for schools these few months are always a time of growth, and there is so much that has been achieved.

We have recruited further high quality colleagues to join the JCoSS staff team from September, once again including teachers and leaders from an excellent range of schools and backgrounds; the first round of offers to our new Year 7 and Year 12 students for next year have also been sent out, to bring our student numbers up to 830 from September; Year 9 students have continued their run of “JCoSS firsts” by making their GCSE choices from an exciting range of options, including some brand new subjects.

We have also had our first public examination results, from a small number of AS Modules taken by Year 12 students in January: nearly half of all grades were A or B, and the analysis from the exam boards reveals that in many cases the quality of our students’ answers was higher than those in other similar schools, and higher also than schools nationally. The statistics show also that we are adding value, especially at the top end of the ability range, and a Study Skills day for all Year 12 students this week means they are well placed to make the very best of the weeks remaining until the summer exams.

Stunning performances by our students at the Barnet Dance Festival under Miss Gustard’s expert direction, and under Ms Miller’s at the Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Competition made for one extremely proud Headteacher; we once again won our category at Welwyn – the 2nd time in 3 years. News has reached me today that we have also swept the board at the Maccabi Badminton and Table Tennis competition held at JFS, while our Public Speaking Team in their first ever competition won the North West London heat of the Rotary Club’s “Youth Speaks” competition, coached by Mme Armon. (There were those who felt we deserved higher recognition at the all-London final as well but we are of course much too Menschlich to make an issue of it.)

Still to come as I write is the Spring Music Concert, which promises to be a wonderful evening under the direction of Mrs Kos. The cultural accomplishments of JCoSS students of all ages are rich and varied – as are the delicious concoctions at the annual JCoSS Bake-off Competition, run by Miss Mawdsley. Someone has to taste each item, and I feel it would be remiss of me to delegate this to anyone else, so duty calls...

In the midst of all of this, our G&T Year 9 have begun work with Russell Group PhD students as part of the “Brilliant Club” initiative led by Miss Kemp. After an induction day at Sussex University they are now working in small tutorial groups every few weeks in school, and will each complete an assignment of their own. The programme culminates with a graduation event at Oxford – where I suspect that duty may call again for me to accompany them. It is a tough life at times. We have also been privileged this term to have visits from the Israeli ambassador and from the Nobel prize-winning Chemist Ada Yonath, one of the seven Jewish Scientists after whom we named our form groups. Both have spent considerable time with students and been generous with their time to us.

All this, and a glorious early celebration of Purim too. There is stimulation for mind, body and soul at JCoSS, and it is as ever a great place to learn and to work. I have mentioned a few staff names above but the breadth of expertise and the generosity of dedication from the entire staff team leaves me in awe.

I wish you chag sameach for a happy Pesach break.

Patrick Moriarty
Headteacher

Dance at JCoSS

It was no mean feat getting a dance ready in 5 weeks but of course JCoSS students from Year 7 rose to the challenge. Having rehearsed week in, week out, at lunchtimes and after school, it was finally time to share with the rest of Barnet, the talent JCoSS have. We arrived at The Arts Depot and made our way to The Pentland Theatre for our technical rehearsal. Everything had gone smoothly to this point (ignoring poor Mr Mitman who was in all manner of chaos traversing left, right and centre in the school minibus trying to escape the car park). By 'smoothly', I mean, we hadn't left anyone back at school; students were in high spirits and I still had my hair on and a relatively normal blood pressure. However, there was one slight problem...where had I put the music???

With my 'relatively normal blood pressure' on the increase, a heady mix of excited students from schools far and wide and the call for JCoSS to "come to the stage", there was a cry from Josh Dean, "Everyone stop crowding Miss!" All eyes were on me. The weight of 14 pairs of eyes glaring down had somewhat left my heart thumping away in its cage. I donned my alter ego, that of a Zen-like master, and trawled my way through every tutu and t-shirt. Three blank CDs later and yet another voice of wisdom intervened...This time Simone Silver, "Miss, what about the purple folder with all the trip information?" A path of light filled the room as I reached across to the folder and a huge sigh of relief swept across all of our faces.

Like an army of soldiers, I, 'Sargeant Gustard' led my troops to the stage and with military discipline, we sped through the technical rehearsal with no wounds in sight. We were now ready to go with music and silence descended amongst the audience. Not a word could be heard amongst the audience; of course, I was there screeching like a woman possessed but other than that, only the sound of intrigue. There were lots of 'oooohhhh' and 'ahhhhh' sounds and a rousing applause at the end which I took to be a good sign for our later performance.

As we filed backstage for the finale rehearsal there was something the students hadn't anticipated...the shame of Miss Gustard taking to the stage with the other teachers in a 'Time-Warp' routine. Now of course I am not one to hide away in the midst and blend in with the background, so decided that I would be a role model for my students and really put on a show. As the music faded and I moonwalked off stage, there was a moment of déjà vu; the weight of 14 pairs of eyes this time glaring at the me in complete embarrassment and disgust. "Miss, why are you going so extra?" "Miss, you are the only one making a fool of yourself!" "Miss, you're so embarrassing!" Those cries took me back to the famous dad-dancing days of my youth in which I too was completely mortified...oh, what a feeling.

With super-efficient, slightly more-sane Mrs Eyres on hand to transport the students backstage, it was now time to get the war paint on; or in our case, metallic bases, banded bright eyes and square black smudged box lips. As the students came marching two-by-two, the results of the make-up were pretty gruesome...PERFECT. The energy was electric and we were in high spirits as the show began. We continued to watch each school perform on the minute TV screen in our changing room until we were called to stage...time for a nervous breakdown for Gabe Cooke who was set to introduce the dance. "Miss, can someone else do it? I can't go on and speak, I don't know what to say!" With some less than gentle persuasion, Gabe had pulled himself together and the dancers filtered to the sides of the stage. The applause from the last piece and then the silence.

My state of hypnosis came to an end as rapturous applause filled the theatre. They had done it! The audience were transported to 'Josy's World' and were with them every step of the way. We could enjoy the finale performance knowing that JCoSS had truly made their mark with their first ever dance performance...I couldn't be prouder!

Miss J Gustard
Head of Dance



Creative and Expressive Arts Faculty

In this short term, the Creative and Expressive Arts Faculty has been making its mark on the local community – and beyond!

Mr Mitman and his Department have had commendable success in both Barnet fixtures and the Maccabi games (see PE section). Mrs Kos led a trip with the Zamar Singers, soloist and instrumentalists to the Sam Beckman Centre in Hendon. Ms Gustard's Year 7 dancers participated in the Barnet Schools Dance Festival - and last but not least, JCoSS won 1st place in the Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival!

Music Department

On Thursday 28th February, fifteen students entertained members of the Sam Beckman Centre in Hendon. Our young students excelled themselves both in their musical performances and their conversational skills with the elderly residents, whilst partaking of tea and cake after the performances.

Many thanks to Mrs Kos for her inspirational guidance with the Zamar Singers (school choir). Our gratitude extends also to Mr Moriarty for his piano accompaniment - and to Mrs Rose for organising the event.

Barnet Borough Arts Festival

Anyone who attended the Barnet Borough Dance Festival at the Artsdepot the week of the 4th March, would concur that the arts are most definitely alive and kicking in our schools – both primary and secondary. Although principally a Dance Festival, the content of the routines displayed musicality, dramatic technique and in several cases, artistic costume design. On Tuesday 5th March, 15 Year 7 students rose to the occasion when performing 'Josy's Dream' – a combination of street and hip-hop.

Ms Gustard's choreography was creative, innovative, mesmerising and exciting to watch. Many congratulations to Ms Gustard and her dance troupe for the JCoSS dance debut!

The Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival

On Thursday 7th March, 15 students participated in the 69th Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival. 'Self-portrait With A Bandaged Ear' by Steve Morley was performed as an ensemble piece in which all the players represented the same character. The 20-minute performance was pacy, focused, slick and a real pleasure to watch. Adjudications are generally honest and constructive. This year was no exception – apart from the fact that there was no criticism! Mazal Tov to the company of 'Self-portrait' With A Bandaged Ear' for being placed 1st in the Junior section of the 69th Welwyn Garden City Youth Festival. I am extremely proud of you all. You are a true example of commitment and perseverance.

Many thanks also to Mr Griffin, Mrs Reissner and the parents of the cast for their invaluable support.

There will an opportunity to see the Dance Festival piece, the Youth Drama Festival play and excellent work from Music, PE and Art at the Arts showcase at the end of June 2013.

Ms S Miller
Head of Creative and Expressive Arts Faculty



World Book Day 2013

We celebrated World Book Day in style at JCoSS with a range of activities: English lessons, centred around stories; all students received a book token to be redeemed in book shops and most excitingly, we launched the JCoSS Book Award 2013. The Book Club committee came up with a shortlist of books, all published in the last year. The shortlist is:



All students are encouraged to read one or more of these titles. They then complete a card, giving their view of the book, get it signed by a parent and an English teacher and submit the card into a competition. The more cards you complete, the more chance you have of winning a prize. This year's prize is a place on a trip to see Matilda in the West End!

Please encourage your children to participate in this fantastic reading competition.

Mrs K Lightman

Assistant Headteacher – English, Learning Resource Centre and CPD

Jewish Book Week

We were delighted that a group of Y8 students attended a talk by holocaust survivor, Helga Weiss, at Jewish Book Week. Orli Vogt Vincent interviewed Helga after the talk in her role as Young Editor for Spinebreakers. Here is what Eve and Rebecca had to say about the event:

"It was a truly amazing event and one which we will all remember for the rest of our lives.

Helga Weiss was a really good speaker and managed to talk in such good English despite it not being her first language. One of the most memorable thing she said was, "However many years go by since the Holocaust a small part of me will always remain there." One of the students said, "I really felt that I had experienced what she had and I wish that I could get to hear many more Holocaust survivors and their truly unforgettable experiences." She also signed her book which we all really appreciated as it means we could all have something to remember her by which will remain with us forever. Overall, it was a great success for all the students who went and was an event anyone could and did enjoy and appreciate.



Spellathon update

Spellathon is the fantastic platform that encourages students to practise their spelling through a sponsored spellathon, all in aid of Mencap. So far, JCoSS students have raised over £300 for charity and spelt over 50,000 words correctly. Not only is this a great cause, there will be fantastic prizes for the best individual spellers as well.



Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are collecting the Active Kids Sainsbury's vouchers. The collection box is at reception. Many thanks in advance!

Jewish Education at JCoSS: An explosion of Jewish Art, Rosh Chodesh and much more..

I'm delighted to announce that, following in the footsteps of Bezalel, over the next few months you will see an explosion of Jewish Art at JCoSS.

'See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to devise skilful works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in cutting of stones for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all manner of workmanship'. Shemot 31:1-5

The Heartspace will become alive with the work of sofer Josh Baum and the beautiful textiles of Carol Smollan. We thank them for the loan of some of their inspiring works of Art, and hope you all enjoy admiring them.

Next year we will be hosting a number of art exhibitions by local Jewish artists as part of our appreciation of our Jewish heritage and culture.

One project that we will also be launching shortly is the school wide mosaic project that will include all JCoSS students and release their creativity. This will be the principle piece of art that will welcome you on arrival to the school. It will be a mosaic (literally and metaphorically) of Jewish identity and will reflect the ethos and identity of the entire JCoSS community.

One of the highlights of Year 7 Jewish Education curriculum is the students' research into their family histories. Each student has completed a Family History Project, which at times brought tears to the eyes of the Jewish Education team marking the work. These wonderful pieces of history will be displayed in the Heartspace for all to appreciate. I thank you all for helping your children to unearth the details of where they came from, and to share with us your history – they are very moving, and extremely inspiring.

Year 8 have been creating their perfect Jewish community based on the Jewish traditions of the 2nd Century CE, and Year 9 have been continuing their analysis of Leadership through the prism of Megillat Esther: looking specifically at a comparison of the characters of Esther and Vashti. Once more it has been an exciting Half Term in JCoSS and we are going from strength to strength.

Since returning to JCoSS from my maternity leave, I have been very moved by the Ethos in Action I see each day.

At JCoSS we celebrate Rosh Chodesh in a unique way: This is one of the activities that makes JCoSS utterly special.

There is no other Jewish school in the UK where an Orthodox Service takes place in the room next door to a Reform Service in the room next door to a Liberal Service. There are no other Jewish schools that encourage their students to reflect on the New Month by meditating, participating in creative writing workshops, singing or drawing. No one else is giving time to yoga, philosophy or Current Affairs.

There are a lot of wonderful, spiritual, thoughtful and reflective activities going on around the school and students are focused, engaged, and appear to be enjoying themselves.

We are breaking new ground at JCoSS and this is one of those moments when I feel so completely proud and blessed to be working in such a school. I look around and think how fortunate I am to be working in such a wonderful and respectful environment, and what fantastic opportunities our students are given on a daily basis to explore and express their Jewish Identities.

Mrs E Robinson

Assistant Head, Director Jewish Education



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6th Form trip to UCAS fair

On Friday 1st March, Year 12 students got the opportunity to attend a UCAS fair where there were different many stands, advertising their particular university. At the event, we were able to collect prospectuses and talk to students who go there. Furthermore, there were various talks taking place at the back of the fair, and these were on topics such as student life, UCAS applications, student loan and many more. Moreover, there was a row dedicated to careers and advice on what career to take. There was another stand as well as a lecture on student loan which many of us found useful, as we never really knew how it worked and instead of just sitting in a seminar room, we could ask our own questions without feeling intimidated.

We were delighted to hear that we were attending this day, and are grateful that JCoSS gave us the chance to visit the fair, as many of us would not have gone on our own accord.

We found this day incredibly useful, as it gave us information on universities and an insight into university life. We discovered universities that we hadn't even heard of, and found that they may actually be the best choice for the courses we wanted. There was a university choice for everyone, with a variety of courses, from law degrees to sewing degrees.

The teachers who came with us were experienced in this field and were helpful if we needed guidance on where to go next.

These teachers included our careers advisor Claire Raff, who had previously spoken to us about careers we were interested in and knew us all well enough to know which courses may suit us. There was also head of Sixth form and Maths teacher, Ms Korn, as well as our head of year and sociology teacher, Mr Stump. These teachers also knew the whole year and knew courses and universities which may be best suited to different people.

Overall, this day was successful and the whole year appreciated the effort gone in to this useful and beneficial day.

By Hayley Sacks and Helen Mozer



Booking One Off Tickets for The Little Bus Company

Should students wish to invite a friend home and to travel on the Little Bus Company's coaches, parents need to contact the Little Bus Company in the **first instance** to check if there is space on the bus. Please give as much notice as possible (at least 24 hours). For travel on Fridays, the booking must be made by 5pm on the Thursday. Should there be a space on the bus, the Little Bus Company will inform us. Tickets cost £5 which must be paid at reception at school where a ticket will be issued. Students will not be allowed to travel on buses without a ticket.

Regular Travellers on The Little Bus Company

For regular travellers who wish to travel on a different route to their normal one, parents must contact the Little Bus Company to check that there is space on the route for that day. There is no extra charge, but, please give the same notice as above.

To contact the Little Bus Company please email: sabia.littlebus@gmail.com

Thank you

Social Action and Informal Jewish Education at JCoSS

Purim

Students went all out this year for Purim with some wonderfully creative costumes. Mazel Tov to Hope Farron in 8Y who won our fancy dress competition for coming as an ipod! Highlights of the day include: the skilful Colin Nell who performed some football trickery; Yuval Kerem who filled our heartspace with wonderful Israeli music around the school; and Skittleman, a fantastic magician and a member of the magic circle.



Sam Beckman Day Centre Visit

We were thrilled that our choir was invited to perform for the members of the Sam Beckman Day Centre for those suffering from memory impairment. Students performed alongside our very own Headteacher performing songs from the Beatles, Leona Lewis and the musical Hairspray to name just a few. Sally Kos, Head of Music said, "The Choir and Soloists performed at their very best and it was pleasing to see how much happiness they brought to the residents. I was proud to witness their confident interactions with the elderly members who expressed their enjoyment of the day".



Fairtrade Fortnight

As always, our students enter Fairtrade Fortnight with amazing enthusiasm. We have been inundated with competition entries for our "show your label" competition which invites students to purchase and eat as many fairtrade items as possible over Fairtrade Fortnight. Labels will be counted over the next few weeks and we look forward to announcing the winner of our Fairtrade hamper. A special thank you must go to Jordan Pomerance from 7F.

Jordan set up and staffed a fairtrade stall all week, helping to teach his peers about what it means when you buy fairtrade goods. He also led a very successful tea and banana tasting. Mrs Rose said "Jordan has been a mensch and has helped spread the word about this important cause".



YOUTH SPEAKS

During February, three Year 8 students entered a national Public speaking competition called 'Youth speaks' run by the Rotary club. The purpose of the competition is to give young people confidence with developing their speaking skills and we had been rehearsing for some months. The JCoSS team comprised three students from Year 8: Indigo Smith was the Chairperson, Elie Harris the speaker and Max Simmonds the proposer of thanks. The topic that we had chosen to debate was "Supermarkets at War"! We obviously had a great deal to talk about ranging from the way supermarkets have contributed to the demise of the High street along with the quality of products on offer.

The team attended the North West London heats at Heathfield School in Pinner and found themselves competing with 5 other teams from various other schools. All three students were fantastic ambassadors and were impressive both in their content and delivery. We were all delighted when the judges announced that JCoSS came first place and were to represent North London at the all-London finale.

A special congratulations must go to Indigo Smith who also received the individual prize for the best chairperson.

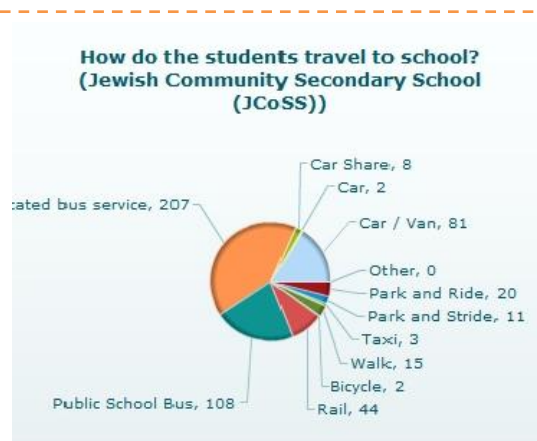
Since winning, the team went on to represent North London at City of London School for Boys for the all-London final; although we were not victorious at this stage of the competition, all 3 students spoke with great confidence. It has been a pleasure coaching the team and I am confident that JCoSS will build on this success in the future. Congratulations to you all for all your hard work!

Mrs M Armon



Travelling to School

At JCoSS we encourage the use of sustainable travel to school. We recently completed our "hands up" travel to school survey. The results are summarised in the chart below. As spring is around the corner and the weather is apparently going to improve (we will believe it, when we see it!), please consider your journey to and from school and give some thought to using public transport more often or try cycling or walking to school. You can consult the Transport For London website www.tfl.gov.uk to help you plan your route.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

A reminder to students in Year 9 and Year 12 of the following important dates for your practice and assessed expeditions.

Level		Start Date	Day	Finish Date	Day
Gold	Practice	07-Apr	Sunday	09-Apr	Tuesday
Gold	Assessed	25-Aug	Sunday	30-Aug	Friday
JCoss Bronze	Practice	28-Apr	Sunday	29-Apr	Monday
JCoss Bronze	Assessed	23-Jun	Sunday	24-Jun	Monday

Change of staff:

Please note that Mr Todd has taken over from Mrs Rose as the School's co-ordinator for Duke of Edinburgh.

Parents can contact me by email on mtodd@jcoss.barnet.sch.uk or via the School switchboard.

Students are welcome to come and speak to me outside of sessions, my office is in the PSRP.

Mr M Todd

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

News from the PSRP: Year 7 Autism Awareness Sessions

During the first half of the Spring term all Y7 tutor groups attended an Autism Awareness session, run by staff from the PSRP. The session started with all students being introduced to the Provision as a whole, being shown photos of the staff and the facilities within A Wing. After this students were given information about Autsim, through a couple of interactive activities and a video from BBC Newsround, 'My Autism and Me'. We would like to say how impressed we were with all Y7 tutor groups; they were incredibly focused throughout the sessions, curious about the topic and asked some very probing and insightful questions, even after the bell for lunch had gone! We believe that they all came away with a better understanding of what we provide in the PSRP, of Autism in general and the role that they can play in promoting inclusion within JCoSS, which is so important when it comes to being a Mensch.

Mrs Dennis and Mr Griffin

The Culture and Media Department, edited by Sam Harris and Joel Becker

In Westminster they may be tearing down the NHS walls but here at JCoSS we are moving forward towards a brighter pluralist future through our new student parliament. During the prestigious opening of Parliament this year our House of Commons and House of Lords came together recreating the 'Opening of Parliament' ceremony at JCoSS. The House of Commons were graced with the pleasure of being invited to the House of Lords. As members of the Commons we were sitting until 'Black Rod' knocked very loudly on our doors, having walked in with the Monarch before making his journey to the House of Commons. When they were opened the Members of our House of Commons followed the Prime Minister and the Deputy. Our Commons then had to stand at the end of the House of Lords and listen to the traditional, inspiring speech from our Monarch, Mr Moriarty, stating the legislation for this forthcoming academic year. 'Black Rod' then lead out the Monarch and the Commons returned to their seats in their house. What we learnt from this experience is how the Opening of Parliament works in the real world. We learned and now understand the differences between the House of Commons and the House of Lords and who is allowed in each house. Lastly, we can comprehend the tradition of 'Black Rod' and what it stands for; the coming together of the two houses for this important event, before learning what we as parliament will be trying to achieve to make JCoSS even better than it is, making today's plans into tomorrow's actions.

Science Week at JCoSS

JCoSS are in the middle of celebrating Science and Engineering Week (15th – 24th March). This has expanded beyond a week, involving other science activities to JCoSS students and beyond.

On the 12th and 13th of March, JCoSS invited 180 year 6 students from Livingstone, Hampstead Garden Suburb and Akiva primary schools to experience a scientific practical. They investigated the absorption of different nappies and made conclusions based on the results they collected.

This coincided with a whole school science investigation involving Years 7 to 12. The investigation revolved around the hypothesis 'Does memory get worse with age?' Each form had a series of words quickly given to them and were then asked whether a certain word similar to the theme was present among the list. The results were shown in assembly. The trend favoured Year 9 having the best memory at ~66% accuracy, followed by years 8 and 7, showing the hypothesis is false. However, a twist occurred whereby Year 12's had the worst memory (Although, A-levels are on their minds so it's understandable!).

The following day the school celebrated Einstein's birthday. A series of experiments were in the heart space of the school at lunchtime for the students to delve into. Bending water and showing how Bernoulli's principle works was just a couple of examples. An Einstein look-a-like was also amongst the spectators!

A very special guest came to JCoSS on Einstein's special day. We welcomed Ada Yonath, an Israeli Nobel prize winner in Chemistry to the school. She spoke to Year 9 about her work and the students asked questions related to her field of study.

Students have also begun to make dragsters for a race that is to commence next week. Students personalised their vehicles and made the right adjustments to make that perfect race car.

Whilst all the madness of science week unfolded, students were also occupied in preparing for a 'Science Karaoke', where they had to sing AND dance!



Photographs
from Einstein's
Birthday Party

Families Matter

We are working with an organisation called Family Lives.
The benefits they provide are as follows:

- Free 24 hour confidential helpline on 0808 800 2222
- Extended support for complex and difficult issues
- Personalised email service and online peer support
- Online advice and information on all aspects of family life
- Face to face support and Families Matters

www.familylives.org.uk

LRC News

The Bookbuzz January Challenge!

Congratulations to Lauren Abramson (7B) who is the winner of the "Bookbuzz January Challenge". Lauren received a £10 book token and a laminated copy of her bookmark will be distributed to all Year 7 students.

Jacob Freedland / 7R, Bethany Kinchull / 7N, Isaac Lobatto / 7S and Olivia Spender / 7Y have also received commendations for their good work. Well done!



Scholastic Book Clubs

The "World Book Day" catalogues have been distributed to students at the same time as the "World Book Day" tokens. You can use one token per student when placing an order in this issue. You can also access the website to browse the offers: <http://clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/jcoss> and you can also order on-line. Deadline: Wednesday 10th April.

Amazon Wish List

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/>

Very many thanks and Mazel Tov to the following students and their families

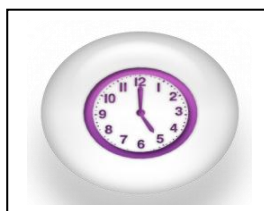
who donated books to the LRC last month: Dylan Gair in 8B and Jake Segal in 8F.



LRC NEW OPENING HOURS

Please note that as from Monday 8 April, the LRC will be open from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

Mrs Mulkis
Librarian



Dates for your diary

The Chamber concert - 20th March

The JPA Quiz Supper - 21st April

Term ends Friday 22 March (Passover 26 March – 2 April)

Summer Term 2013

Starts Monday 8 April

Bank Holiday 6 May, School closed for Shavuot 15-16 May

1st Half Term ends Friday 24 May

Half Term holiday Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May

2nd Half Term starts Monday 3 June

Term ends Friday 19 July

Please also note the dates when we close early:

- Spring Term Fridays until 22 March school ends 1.25pm, buses run at 1.35pm
- All Summer Term Fridays school ends 2.00pm, buses run at 2.10pm
- 14 May (Erev Shavuot) school ends 2.00pm, buses run at 2.10pm
- 9 May and 8 July (Staff Training) school ends 2.00pm, buses run at 2.10pm

All important dates are on the JCoSS events calendar on our website, under the parents tab:

<http://www.jcoss.org/jcoss-events-calendar-2/>

JCoSS young entrepreneurs hope to boost children's language skills

(article written by Natalie O'Neil and published in Times Series)

Young entrepreneurs are hoping to boost children's love of languages with their hand-designed activities book. Fifteen teenagers at Jewish Community Secondary School in New Barnet made the book Flying Away with Languages as part of their Young Enterprise scheme.

The group, known as TryLingual, were inspired by Michael Gove's plans to provide more emphasis on languages in primary schools and are hoping the book will prove popular with schoolchildren across Barnet.

Mariet Rajadurai, head of business and economics at the school, said: "They decided to make the book to engage and motivate young children between the ages of seven to 12 years.

"The aim is to educate and inspire young people to embrace and take an active interest in developing their linguistic skills in a fun way." The book, which costs £3.99, includes a range of activities such as crosswords, word searches, recipes and colouring pages.

The students will be selling copies of their book at Brent Cross Shopping Centre on Sunday from 12-6pm.

To order a copy contact the school on 0208 344 2220. Some of the proceeds will go to a charity chosen by the students.



JCoSS Sports

Netball Results

Mon 28th Jan: Yr 7 Girl Netball (NB) v East Barnet JCoSS 6-3 East Barnet

Thurs 31st Jan: Yr 7 Girls NB v Wren Academy JCoSS 9-2 Wren

Thurs 31st Jan: Yr 8 Girls NB v Wren Academy JCoSS 3-3 Wren

Thurs 8th Feb: Yr 8 Girls NB v P Green JCoSS 3-1 PG

Thurs 8th Feb: Yr 9 Girls NB v PG JCoSS 3-10 PG

Thurs 15th Feb: Yr9 Girls NB v Wren - JCoSS 8-1 Wren

Thurs 28th Feb: Yr 7 Girls NB v QE Girls A Team- JCoSS 14-3

Thurs 28th Feb: Yr 7 Girls NB v QE Girls B Team - JCoSS 9-1

Thursday 7th March: Yr 7 Girls NB v Palmers Green – JCoSS 7-6



Basketball

Mon 4th Feb: Yr 8 Boys BB v Ashmole JCoSS 8-48 Ashmole

Wed 14th Feb: Yr9 Boys BB v Ashmole - JCoSS 19-40 Ashmole

Football



Thurs 15th Feb: Yr7 Boys FB v Bishop Douglas – JCoSS 1-3 Bishop Douglas

Wed 27th Feb: Yr8 Boys FB v MHCHS - JCoSS 2-6 MHCHS

By Mr Wilson

The year 8 boy's football team took on Mill Hill County in a Cup Quarter final game on Wednesday 28th February. In the first half we struggled to win the ball and Mill Hill seemed to out-muscle our team in many exchanges. The lads battled hard but seemed to be outrun and out-fought throughout the half. We went into halftime 2-1 down.

The second half followed a similar pattern with our boys trying hard to combat the strength, pace and size of MHCHS, however tired legs and a lack of subs meant the result was inevitable, 6-2 to the home team. We left beaten but applauded by many observers for battling so well against a very strong side.

It is worth highlighting the outstanding performances of Ryan Isaacs, Aiden Raphael, Jack Margolis, Tshelo Raphael-Khara, Zacki Doumou and Tal Pelmont.

Thursday 27th Feb: Yr 9 Boys FB v St Mary's – JCoSS 3-2 St Mary's

Wed 6th March: Yr 9 Boys FB v Whitefield Academy - JCoSS 1-2 Whitefield Academy



Key Stage 3 Table Tennis - JCoSS vs Whitefield Academy

JCoSS travelled to Whitefield Academy to compete in a 12-man table tennis competition. With the weighty burden of expectation upon their adolescent shoulders they certainly did not disappoint. With the abundance of talent in this JCoSS squad the result was a formality, but by how much was dependant on the form of their captain, Jamie Lesser and his prodigal players. With each student playing in 9 separate singles matches there was plenty of points to play for. Ryan Isaacs got the team off to a flying start with Tom Stepsky and Jamie Lesser soon following this up with convincing wins over their inferior counterparts. The points kept coming as in-form Alex Bogen, Saul Shimoni and Sam Taylor practically dismembered their opposition with some fierce forehand body shots. James Rich and Jonathan Sinyor began confidently by playing some nonchalant table tennis against opposition 3 years their senior. The wins just kept on coming and it wasn't long before the lads had notched up an unassailable lead. The boys eventually came out on top 7-4 thanks to some outstanding match winning performances from Gabriel Platt, Hadley Shapps and Austin Gershon.



JCoSS Elite Performers

Sports Profile



Name: James Cubin

Year: 9

Sport: Hockey

Club: Southgate Hockey Club

Accomplishments:

U10 Winners – Middlesex Hockey League

U12 Winners – Middlesex Hockey Cup



U14 Runners-up – Mercian HCL

U14 Winner – Middlesex Hockey Cup

Trains and performs at County level:

2010/11 – U13 JAC/JDC Middlesex

2011/12 – U13 JAC/JDC Herts

2012/13 – U14 JAC/JDC Herts

My Training Programme:

Thursday: 18:30 – 20:00

Sunday: 11:15 – 12:45

Best/Worst things about competing in my sport:

The best thing about competing in my sport is the great team spirit and the feeling you get when we win. The worst thing is when we have to play in all types of weather, from snow blizzards to rain and wind.

My role model:

John Shaw – He has achieved over 100 caps for England

Most memorable moment:

Being selected to play for the U14 aged just 9 years old.

Winning Player of the Year in 2008.

Targets and hopes for the future:

I would love to play for Team GB at the Olympics in 2020.