

# Social media

## Winter Round-up

Dear Parents

With pleasure but also with a heavy heart, I am proud to present to you – for the final time – a review of our social media posts over the past few weeks. As always they are testimony to a glorious range of activities and a wonderful range of opportunities to Achieve, Enrich and Inspire.

In an assembly to Key Stage 4 this week I told the story of how that strapline– the JCoSS answer to ‘Just do it’ or ‘Because you’re worth it’ – came about. Having been persuaded, perhaps somewhat reluctantly, to commission a review of the JCoSS brand, it turned out to be one of the best learning experiences of my time as Headteacher.

The result was: ‘Achieve Enrich Inspire’ – three words which expressed the combination of academic success, aspiration and whole-person care that we thought and still think are important. But the words were only the start; we had to think about what order they should be in, whether there should be full stops after each one, and then what choice of colours and fonts would work best.

By the end I had changed not just my mind but my view of the job. I saw what it means to say that ‘the medium is the message’: in our visual culture, the look of a product or institution needs to be in tune with its values. It matters not just for those you want to attract, but also for those who already belong and who want to feel pride and identity in what they are doing.

I am still proud of our brand curation, and take this opportunity to thank the two colleagues who have taught me the most about it: Ms Gold our Creative Brand Manager who designs all our internal graphics imagery (and produces the Purim video as a side hustle), and Mrs Cohen our Director of Marketing who manages the strategy and all the elements of our communications and interface with the outside world. Time and again they have made me reflect not only on how things are presented but also, in so doing, what the right decisions actually are.

At the far end of a long term, students may be forgiven if they do not always feel a strong sense of connection to the mantra of ‘Achieve Enrich Inspire’ (in that order, no full stops...and Ms Gold can advise on the correct font and pantones), but the pages that follow are a reminder of all we do within and beyond the classroom to make the aim a reality.

Perhaps it is easier to see with hindsight, which is why it was such a huge delight to welcome back 350+ alumni to the Heart Space on Monday, as recounted in the 20 December post. Large numbers from the classes of 2017-22, and some from earlier years, came to this inaugural event and enjoyed the frisson of drinking alcohol in the heart space.

As well as seeing the extraordinary range of careers that the earliest cohorts are now embarked on, it was wonderful to witness their affection for the school, and their sense of connection with it and with each other. They were able to have their photos taken, and had the option of holding up a speech bubble in the photo: easily the most popular was the one that read, ‘I was a nightmare but I turned out all right’.

I offer that to any parents who like me occasionally struggle with the burdens of the role. Bringing up young people is a long game and the trees take differing amounts of time to come into fruit. Even some about whom we have been tempted to despair turned out on Monday more than all right: full of achievement, enrichment and inspiration, models of Menschlichkeit and wonderful advocates for all we have done in creating this school.

I thank them, and you, for all of it.

Patrick Moriarty  
Headteacher

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 JCoSS

21<sup>st</sup> December 2022



This tree was given to Mr Moriarty earlier this week from the staff body, to celebrate and recognise the long lasting impact that he will have on the entire JCoSS community.

It is the end of an era. Thank you Mr Moriarty for all you have achieved and everything you have done for our school.

20<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Last night saw the return of over 300 of our incredible alumni who came to gather, reminisce and say goodbye to Mr Moriarty. It was an amazing evening and so brilliant to see so many past students and staff. [#JCoSSforever](#) [#JCoSSalwaysinourheart](#) 💜💜💜



19<sup>th</sup> December 2022



It's been a fun filled 2nd Day of Channukah at JCoSS with Year 7 decorating doughnuts in IJE, Channukah themed games at lunchtime and KS3 had their final assembly of term. We are so proud to announce our new school charities and of our new student charity committee. Chosen charities for KS3 are Year 7 - Spread a Smile, Year 8 - Norwood, Year 9 - Fred Foundation. There was music, students spoke about their new charities and we ended the day with even more doughnuts! Channukah Sameach! 💜💜

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JCoSS

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022



Yesterday Year 11 were taken off timetable for a morning of Holocaust education. They listened to various survivor testimonies and looked at the events that took place during the Holocaust such as the Wansee Conference, the Warsaw ghetto and life at Auschwitz. Courtesy of the organisation Generation to Generation they heard the stories of survivors, Tony Chuwen and George Garai.

13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

A very snowy (but very pretty!) JCoSS this Tuesday morning as we open our doors after a snow day yesterday. ❄️ [#snowday](#)  
[#brrrr](#) [#jco](#)



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8<sup>th</sup> December 2022



We are so proud to be taking our amazing Year 8 volunteers out into the community again. We are partnering with [@jewish\\_care](#) and our neighbours Livingstone Primary school and taking small groups of students weekly to volunteer with young children and elderly people with Dementia. We have had amazing feedback from Jewish care in particular about how much the young volunteers boost residents well being and mental health. 💜

[#jcoSS](#) [#menches](#) [#volunteering](#)

6<sup>th</sup> December 2022

We were honoured and delighted to receive a visit from Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England. She spoke to our Health and Social Care classes about her role, which is to represent the views of children and young people to Government. She also met representatives from Year 9 and 10 to talk about the impact of Covid, online safety and Relationships and Sex Education in school. We thank her for her invaluable time and for coming to visit our school.



5<sup>th</sup> December 2022



JCoSS made a rare Sunday opening for the much-anticipated return of the Year 7 Disco!

A huge thankyou to Ms McCombe and the JPA for organising such an amazing event, and a special shout out to the resident JCoSS DJ Jake in Year 10!

A fantastic time was had by all 🥳🥳🥳🥳

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**2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022**

Yesterday students practised their challah plaiting techniques in the Heartspace for JCoSS Shabbat! Their challah will then be sold on Friday to raise money for school charities. Shabbat Shalom JCoSS! 💜

[#shabbat](#) [#challah](#) [#jcooss](#)



**1<sup>st</sup> December 2022**



This week students have been enjoying the Scholastic Book Fair at JCoSS. The Fair has been held in the Heart Space every break and lunchtime and students have really enjoyed browsing and purchasing new books. A percentage of sales will go towards new books for the LRC.

[#importanceofreading](#) [#newbooks](#)

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

Mazel tov to JCoSS Team 4 who beat 5 other teams from 3 different schools to win the local Institution of Engineering and Technology Faraday challenge. They were given an engineering challenge and had to work as a team to create a prototype of their idea, before presenting it to their peers. Well done to all that took part 🏆🏆🏆



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28<sup>th</sup> November 2022



Our first residential in 3 years for Year 7 was a fun filled Shabbaton where students celebrated Shabbat as a JCoSS community. They ate, sang and took part in some Shabbat themed activities in a beautiful setting...Thank you to the IJE Team and our wonderful support staff and of course their Head of Year for making the weekend happen!

We can't wait for next year! [#shabbat](#)  
[#shabbatfun](#) [#jcooss](#)

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

Mazel Tov to our Science technician Dr Wesleigh Dawsmith, who has won a prestigious Royal Society of Chemistry Education Prize.

Dr Dawsmith was named the winner of the Early Career Prize for Excellence in Secondary and Further Education and was chosen by a prestigious panel of judges as one of the most inspirational, innovative and dedicated people in education. In particular, he won for going above and beyond to support the delivery of high-quality practical work, and championing ways to make practical work inclusive to all students..

From the whole JCoSS community, we wish Dr Dawsmith a huge Mazel tov for this incredible recognition 🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊 @RoySocChem [#RSCPrizes](#).



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**21<sup>st</sup> November 2022**



Yesterday, JCoSS took part in the annual AJEX Parade, to honour Jewish Ex Service Men and Women who gave their lives for our safety. We will remember their sacrifice.

The AJEX Annual Ceremony & Parade at the Cenotaph has been an annual event since the 1930s. While AJEX members march alongside UK veterans at the national Remembrance parade (RBL) on Whitehall, there is a separate annual Jewish ceremony of Remembrance on the following Sunday in November. The continuation of the AJEX Annual Ceremony & Remembrance Parade at the Cenotaph is essential to remind both Jews and non-Jews of the vital role played by our community in British life. [#remembrance](#) [#lestweforget](#) [#jcoSS](#)

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

[@norwoodcharity](#) were back at JCoSS for the final time this term, where Year 7 students completed their Shabbat bags which will be filled with all of their lovely shabbat themed crafts. These will be distributed to Norwood homes to help residents celebrate Shabbat. We are so grateful to the team at Norwood for coming in each week and mazel tov to all of the students who took part! 💜

[#jcoSS](#) [#socialaction](#) [#volunteering](#)



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18<sup>th</sup> November 2022



The last two evenings saw the magnificent JCoSS on Broadway brought to life on stage for the first whole school musical production, in person, since the pandemic! These performances gave a true showcase of the incredibly talented students at the school. The show was an absolute triumph for the students who managed to bring to life no less than 4 mini Broadway style productions, in a very short time frame! Thank you to the students for their commitment and the passion they brought to the whole performance. Thank you to the amazing CEA faculty and especially those who directed - Ms Granek, Ms McLaughlin & Mr Lawrence in Drama in collaboration with Mr Leffman, Ms Berg & Ms Whittlesea in Music. Watch the CEA space for more wonderful collaborations to come in 2023!

15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Mazel Tov to Nate, Laurie, Hila and Laney, all in Year 7 who have won the [@jewishchildsday](https://www.instagram.com/jewishchildsday) Channukah Card design competition! We are so proud of them and their hard work. Their designs will be turned into the official Channukah Card for Jewish Child's Day 2022, to raise money for their vital work, supporting Jewish Children all over the world. [#innerlight](https://www.instagram.com/innerlight) [#channukah2022](https://www.instagram.com/channukah2022) [#jcoss](https://www.instagram.com/jcoss)



14<sup>th</sup> November 2022



Thank you to our wonderful JCoSS community who generously donated sports kit for our Kit Aid collection. The representative from Kit said it was 'the largest collection in a long time'! We managed to collect over 500 items that will soon be sent to communities across Africa, in Zimbabwe, Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria and Malawi. These sports kits will undoubtedly be a highlight of the children's year and will allow them the opportunity to continue playing the sports they love. Thank you!  
Michaela and the Head Student Team

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11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Lest we forget.

Thank you to our Art Department for a moving Remembrance Day display.

[#remember](#) [#RemembranceDay2022](#)



10<sup>th</sup> November 2022



[@norwoodcharity](#) were back this week for Year 7 Volunteering club, making beautiful Havdalla spice bags as part of their Shabbat bags they are creating for Norwood homes to enjoy.

[#norwoodcharity](#) [#socialaction](#) [#shabbat](#)

18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Award-winning Young Adult author, Penny Joelson, visited the KS3 book club to hear their creative ideas for the Jewish protagonist of her new thriller. Students shared their thoughts on what they'd like to see from a Jewish teenage character and what they would want non-Jewish readers to know.



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