

# Social media

## Spring Round-up

Dear Parents

What a term this has been! This last half term has offered us much to celebrate and enjoy.

Purim was certainly a highlight this term and the day was celebrated in true JCoSS style. I must say a special thanks to the IJE, JE and Music teams who ensured that students and staff alike experienced Purim in a memorable way with wonderful events and sessions running across the school. Ms Gold enriched our Purim experience with another superb JCoSS Purim Video so huge thanks to her for the enormous amount of time and dedication which went into producing this brilliant tradition.

During Purim the world was turned upside down for the Jews in Persia and in March 2023 it can certainly feel at times like our world is upside down! We are living in a time of great uncertainty and suffering in Europe and across the globe. We are aware that the climate crisis threatens our world in an unprecedented way and the consequences of the COVID pandemic still impacts life in the 21st century. Yet, human beings continue to demonstrate bravery and cleverness. There are inspirational stories of bravery in Ukraine and beyond. The COVID vaccine is allowing the world to emerge from the pandemic. And of course there is so much all of us can do to take better care of our environment if we make it a priority.

As we approach Pesach this is a time to celebrate freedom and resilience. It was not easy for the Jewish people to achieve freedom from slavery and they faced many difficulties. But ultimately that journey built resilience and brought success. Likewise, for us today we should be inspired to face challenges and obstacles because this is how we grow and develop as individuals – I think this is such an important message especially for our young people as they navigate their way through school – nothing worth having comes easily, hard work and effort are always the key.

The whole JCoSS community has put in a huge amount of effort and hard work during the last term, as you will see in the social media news posts that follow. It's a challenge for me to choose which events to mention because I am constantly inspired and amazed by our students and how the staff support and encourage your children to achieve great things on a daily basis. I was honoured to be invited to the Barnet Dance Festival at the Arts Depot where our wonderful KS3 students danced beautifully – all the practice and hard work shone through so congratulations to them and Miss Harrell on a brilliant performance. Classics Week was hugely successful – KS3 students explored the myth of Daedalus and Icarus through painting, poems, raps and animations and the proud winners received certificates and commendations. It has been especially lovely to be involved with our Year 9 Portrait of the Year Award. The students have produced some exceptional work which we have proudly exhibited in the Heartspace and a big mazel tov to all the students who worked so hard on their paintings. Well done to Ms Smith and the Science team for a superb celebration of Science Week, where both staff and students engaged in some excellent activities and brilliant cross curricular lessons showcasing how science can be applied to many different subjects.

As I approach the end of my first term at JCoSS I can honestly say it has been the most wonderful start to what I hope will continue to be a fulfilling and successful journey. Spending each day in our amazing school helping your children grow and learn is such a privilege for me. The highlight of my day is always being in lessons, talking to your children about their learning. My own learning journey will continue and it's fantastic working with our brilliant staff always thinking about how to provide an even better experience for your children.

May I take this opportunity to thank the staff, teaching and support, for their incredible work this term, for their dedication to providing the very best outcomes and opportunities that they can for our young people. I would also like to thank you for your continued support for the school. Our JCoSS community is extremely special and we are all very lucky to be part of it.

Wishing you a wonderful break and a very happy Pesach.

Dr Melanie Lee  
Headteacher

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**30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



On Monday 27 March JCoSS students performed 'The Heights' by Lisa McGee at the school for the National Theatre Connections festival project. The cast was a combined collaboration of Year 11 and Year 12 students under the direction of Year 13 Drama students Rafi Essex and Rosanna Beacock. The show was a roaring success and the feedback from the NT director in the audience was absolutely glowing! If you missed it, they students will be performing one final time at the Arts Depot on 24 April 2023 - book your tickets via the Arts Depot website.

**29<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Author, Sue Klauber, visited the KS3 Book Club this week to discuss her Young Adult novel, Zinc. She shared her fascinating family history, which inspired the book, and her journey to become an author.



**28<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Students and staff took the day to thank all those who keep our fantastic school moving. We felt it was so important to acknowledge those behind the scenes, who work every day to keep our school moving. Students created thank you cards and handed them boxes of chocolates throughout the day, to show our appreciation of the amazing work they do. 💜💜💜

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**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

Earlier this week, students from the Year 13 Cambridge Technical Business Class arranged a Movie Night for Year 7 as part of their Project Management assignment. The students watched Home Alone 2 eating popcorn, drinking soft drinks and having a great time. Mazel tov to the Year 13 students for organising an extremely well run event, and watch out for two more activities taking place in the next couple of weeks.



**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**



This week, JCoSS in partnership with Jewish Heritage Tours have taken JCoSS parents on two informative and powerful trips to Poland. They discovered the rich Jewish heritage of Krakow pre Nazi German occupation and visited both Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps. Watch this space for further trips of this kind in the future.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Year 9 Portrait of the Year Award! Year 9 have been working on the theme of self-identity this year. They took their own photographs and investigated the work of professional artists to produce wonderful A3 acrylic self-portrait paintings.

Sarah Gidden, a local portrait artist, judged the winners and awarded prizes and 'golden paintbrush' trophies. Awards were also presented for the Headteacher's favourite and for particularly skilful work identified by the art teachers.

The work is currently being exhibited in the Heartspace and has attracted many compliments from teachers and students. We are very proud of our year 9 artists.



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**17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Earlier this week, Mrs Kellaway and Mrs Worley took our budding playwrights to see *Romeo and Julie* (not Juliet!) at the National Theatre, as part of the National Theatre New Views playwriting competition.

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Last Friday, we welcomed all of the Shinshinim (Israeli Scouts) from all over London to JCoSS for Lunchtime activities! There was a quiz and dancing in the Heartspace. Students enjoyed Israeli snacks and got to meet all of the Shinshinim who are spending a year volunteering in schools and youth movements. Thank you to all of them for a wonderful programme and for making the event so special for our students! 🇮🇱



**14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



This week at JCoSS we are celebrating British Science Week! Throughout the week, students have been getting involved in Science in other subjects. In Art, Year 7 have been making egg tempera, the traditional way of making paint with eggs. In Music, students have been learning about the Physics of Music. In English and Maths students have engaged in Science starter activities, reading Science poems and getting to grips with Physics calculations. Every lunch time students have taken part in STEM Club activities ranging from making bath bombs and lava lamps, to dissections. We even let the staff get involved, lighting some methane bubbles. We hope students and staff had a great time!

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**9<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

After many months of rehearsing these girls from Y7, Y8 and Y9 performed at the Barnet Dance festival earlier this week. They danced to 'You can't stop the beat' from the musical Hairspray and they were absolutely superb. Well done girls for all your hard work 🥳🥳🥳🥳



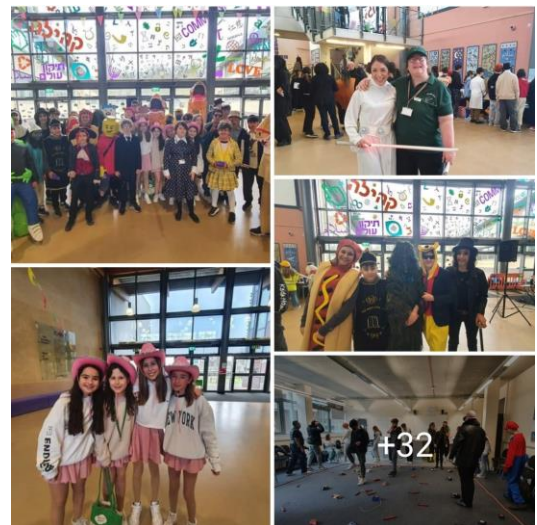
**8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Last week, JCoSS took 50 students to Andalucia, visiting the wonderful cities of Sevilla, Córdoba, Granada and Málaga for a Spanish and IJE trip. The students were wonderfully engaged in the Spanish history and culture and they spent a great deal of time speaking Spanish. During the evenings, students saw a flamenco show and took a class, visited a Spanish supermarket and participated in a talent contest that was enjoyed by all.

**7<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

What an incredible day celebrating Purim! We celebrated in style with circus skills, drumming, Crystal Maze, Spy Games, Pub Quiz, Bingo and of course the legendary JCoSS talent show. Forms sent each other spectacular Mishloach Manot, we had a special Megillah reading and of course the staff Purim video! Purim Sameach from everyone at JCoSS. [#Purim](#) [#Purimfun](#) [#Purim@JCoSS](#)



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**6<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Last Friday, JCoSS held a very special careers event which saw every student in Year 11 participate in a mock job interview. Each student was matched to an employer within a role or industry they had an interest in. We are extremely grateful and appreciative to over 50 employers, many of whom were parents, for giving up their time for this important and valuable activity. The feedback from employers was very impressive, with one saying they would have employed their interviewee in a heartbeat! – well done Year 11!

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

Students celebrated World Book Day today with fun Harry Potter themed activities in the LRC, and a year 7 'Guess the Book character' treasure hunt around the school  
#WorldBookDay #MakingReadingFun  
#ImportanceOfReading



**2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**



Last night our Year 12 and 13 Drama Students took a trip to Oklahoma! The students, and accompanying teachers, enjoyed the musical spectacle at the Wyndhams Theatre. It gave the A Level groups further experience of analysis of live theatre performances, as well as plenty of ideas for their own devised drama pieces.

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**1<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

Well done to our incredible Year 12 Young Enterprise Team who have worked so hard to create their own business to design, produce and sell original scented candles. They had a fantastic day yesterday at Old Spitalfields Market and almost sold out! Well done to the team for their amazing and impressive teamwork and dedication 💜💜💛💛



**28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**



Peer mentoring is a lovely initiative across the school involving around 180 students. Younger students are paired with Yr 12 trained mentors to give them the space and opportunity to talk about school life, work stresses or anything else that is important to them. Our Year 12 mentors are wonderful role models and we are very proud of them all for giving up their time. [#rolemodels](#) [#leadership](#) [#peermentoring](#)

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**

Mazel tov to the KS3 winners of Classics Week! This year, students explored the myth of Daedalus and Icarus. They produced an incredibly imaginative and creative array of responses – from paintings and poems to raps and animations. Students also enjoyed linguistic brainteasers, a mythological quiz and a film screening as part of the week's activities.



**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**



Mazel Tov to Dylan in Y13, who was called up and represented England at U19 level in futsal! Dylan kept clean sheets against Malta and Lithuania, helping the three lions to qualify for the U19 futsal European Championships in Italy in March. We are so proud of you Dylan for playing for England! 💛💛🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

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