

Dear Parents

As the end of the academic year is now upon us, I would like to share one final round-up with you as I also prepare for our end of term whole school assembly. My fundamental message to the students and staff, and also to you, is one of joy and thanks. My first two terms as your Headteacher have been full of many wonderful experiences we have shared as a school community. Getting to know your children, both inside and outside of lessons, working with my exceptional colleagues and having the opportunity to welcome many of you into JCoSS throughout this last six months has enriched and inspired me in so many ways. The future is bright for JCoSS and I am excited for the new academic year and all the opportunities for progress and growth that it will bring.

However, as the author Mike Dooley says: "Life's not about expecting, hoping and wishing, it's about doing, being and becoming". I think this is pertinent for us because the evolution of JCoSS will not happen by expecting, hoping and wishing – we must commit to doing, being and becoming. This is a worthwhile message not only for us as a community, but also for us as individuals. I hope that we can all take some time over the summer to think about what we hope to do, to be and to become, so that all of our futures are indeed bright and fruitful.

The last half term, as you will see in the posts that follow, have been full of bright and fruitful events. Beginning the half term with an Outstanding Pikuach Report was a tremendous achievement and wonderful validation of the incredible work that our Jewish Education team are responsible for at school. A key experience for JCoSS students is the Year 9 Israel Journey, which has been dormant since 2019. This year Ms Levan and her team successfully led 90 students on an engaging, meaningful trip. Year 9 students choosing to stay in London also enjoyed a fantastic Tiyul Activity Programme of volunteering and many exciting outings.

We are extremely proud of our new Deaf Awareness Hub which has been set up this year, and we cannot wait to offer Basic British Sign Language and Deaf Awareness classes in September – this reflects the true inclusive ethos that defines JCoSS and sets us apart in such a special way. Pride Week was another notable moment for our school and students were fortunate to hear from Keshet UK in assemblies throughout the week.

The final weeks of term have been busier than ever, with so many brilliant events taking place at JCoSS! We loved welcoming hundreds of parents and visitors to share in our Celebration Evening earlier this month. This was preceded by an extremely special afternoon marking the official opening of our new Therapy Room in the PSRP, made possible thanks to the Jewish Child's Day Heritage Grant which we were awarded last year. Our new room will be used to support many students now and in the years to come – a hugely valuable addition to our school. July 6 was a big day for JCoSS as we welcomed our 'soon to be' new Year 7s into school for their Secondary Transfer Day whilst over at Mill Hill's Stone X Stadium the sun shone on our Sports Day. A fantastic day was enjoyed by all – I was the lucky one who went to both and had double the fun!

So here we are at the end of term - I must mention the absolute stupendous Addams Family School Show which marked the end of an energetic, vibrant term in exactly the right way – full of joy and happiness – true testament to the passion, talent and commitment of our incredible students and staff.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our remarkable school. I wish you all a summer holiday filled with joy and opportunities to do, to be and to become.

Dr Melanie Lee Headteacher





20 July 2023



JCoSS was invited to 10 Downing Street this week! We were invited for 'A Celebration of British Theatre' and we were the only school in the UK chosen to represent the 100s of schools who participate in the National Theatre New Views playwriting competition. It was an incredible honour to be chosen and Mrs Kellaway along with Milly and Adina from Year 12 met Rishi Sunak and a whole host of theatre industry professionals including Cameron McIntosh, actresses Tamsin Greig and Lesley Manville as well as Lord Parkinson, Minister for Culture. This was an exciting and wonderful recognition of the incredible work that JCoSS and our students produces. Go JCoSS!

19 July 2023

Thank you to the student librarians this year for all of their help in the LRC. We are really grateful to you for giving up so much of your time to help the LRC staff



18 July 2023



Last night, our amazing JCoSS cast and CEA Team staged the first night of the production of 'Addams Family'! The cast and crew pulled together an incredible spectacle - the talent showcase of the students was phenomenal and we couldn't be prouder of every single student and staff member that helped create a truly brilliant show! There is another performance this evening and we are sure it will be equally as fabulous!!





17 July 2023

Throughout last week, 30 Year 9 students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities lead by government officials from the Home Office! They engaged in data exercises, interactive sessions, and collaborative projects that gave them hands-on experience in the intricacies of government operations. By working together as a team, the tackled challenges, gained insights into decision-making processes, and developed crucial problem-solving skills. It was an excellent week and we are very grateful to have been given this opportunity for our students.



14 July 2023



Today was the last Enrichment day of the year with over 50 activities for students to choose from. Activities ranged from photography, cooking, rock climbing, roller disco and jewellery making! Students could also learn new skills like sign language, CV writing and it wouldn't be enrichment day without the Great Egg Race! It was a fantastic day, full of energy and fun, enjoyed by all students who took part!









Our students were incredible last week at the Barnet Athletics Championships! They created a wonderful, positive atmosphere and we felt so proud to see all the different years helping and encouraging one another.

To make it even better, we had a very successful day and many of the students qualified from their heats to make their respective finals. 11 of the students even won medals!

The students were competing against the best students in Barnet across 20 different schools and we couldn't be more proud of their fantastic performances and achievements.

Our medal winners were:
Assaf (3rd in 800m)
Shai-Li (2nd in 200m)
Bruno (2nd in discus)
Curtis (1st in high jump)
Lila (2nd in 1500m)
Jesse (1st in 1500m)
Itamar (2nd in triple jump)
Toby (3rd in 800m)
Asher (2nd in hurdles)
Amber (2nd in long jump)
Nadav (2nd in discus)



11 July 2023



Today we welcomed over 700 visitors to JCoSS for our open morning, and what a wonderful morning it was! Our Y10 tour guides were perfect examples of JCoSS mensches and showed around prospective families with absolute pride. The school was buzzing with happy faces and it is moments like today that we all couldn't be prouder to be part of our wonderful JCoSS community and show off our incredible school to future cohorts and families.







10 July 2023

Today marks the start of the second week of the Interfaith Tent programme for KS3. Our spectacular Interfaith Tent welcomes external speakers from the local community and beyond of other faiths to engage in meaningful conversations with our students about their religion and belief. #interfaith #importanceofinterfaithdialogue



7 July 2023



The energy was electric at Sports Day yesterday! A huge well done to all who took part in various athletics and end zone competitions, and thank you to our brilliant PE team who planned a fantastic day, enjoyed by all! 🏝 🏅 💙

6 July 2023

Yesterday we welcomed over 60 Israeli delegates from Darca Schools to JCoSS. Darca is a groundbreaking network of 45 schools giving vulnerable students access to a high-quality education. Our visitors are taking part in the Darca Education Leadership Accelerator programme which trains and supports Headteachers and school leaders. Their visit to JCoSS was part of a three day schedule to learn about the UK education system and leadership in Jewish schools. We were extremely proud to host this special day and we learned a great deal from each other - we look forward to collaborating again in the future.











Earlier this week saw the official opening of our new Therapy Room in the PSRP which has been made possible thanks to a Jewish Child's Day Heritage Grant which we were awarded last year. Trustees and representatives from Jewish Child's Day visited our school and Joy Moss MBE, Chair of the Heritage Grant Committee officially unveiled the plaque and opened the room. We are so grateful to Jewish Child's Day for making this possible and allowing us to create a calm, beautiful space which will certainly benefit our Autistic and SEND students hugely.

Joy Moss MBE, said "on behalf of the Jewish Child's Day Trustees and Heritage Grant Committee, we are truly delighted and very proud to support the opening of a new Therapy Room and Mental Health Intervention Programme at JCoSS. We hope the new room will be used to support many students now and in the years to come."

@jewishchildsday Jewish Child's Day - JCD



4 July 2023

Last night we welcomed over four hundred parents and visitors into the Heart Space for Celebration Evening. Prizes were awarded to our students in Years 7-12 for academic achievement and engagement in their various subject areas.

Special awards were given for sporting achievement, performance and contribution to the wider school as well as the Robert Shrager Award, the Bar Ilan University Prize and the Dr Addis Award.

We also enjoyed music from Y8 and Y9 and were fortunate to be joined by Jonathan Goldstein as our guest speaker. Well done to everyone who participated for this very special evening.











Pride is a year round look

We are celebrating Pride week at JCoSS! We will be joined by Keshet UK who will be delivering special assemblies this week. We are so proud that JCoSS is an inclusive space for all students and staff



30 June 2023

Last night the English Faculty took Year 7 and 8 students on their reward trip to see Back to the Future in the West End. It was a fantastic show enjoyed by all, well done to all of the students for being excellent representatives of our school!



28 June 2023



As an inclusive school, we are proud to have created The Deaf Awareness Hub at JCoSS, which is an area within school for our Deaf and Hearing-Impaired students. The Hub is studentled and their input is valued enormously. Basic British Sign Language and Deaf Awareness classes will be offered to students in September and will also be an option during Enrichment and Drop-Down Days.



27 June 2023

Turns out JCoSS isn't the only school where magic happens! $\stackrel{\square}{\hookrightarrow}$

Yesterday 50 year 7 students explored the world of Harry Potter at Warner Brothers Studio Tour on the Year 7 reward trip.

Students were outstanding representatives of the JCoSS community throughout the day, with a fantastic time had by all. Thank you to all staff, students and parents who made such a wonderful day possible.



19 June 2023



10 students from year 7 & 8 attended a literature event run by Barnet Libraries in Mill Hill on Friday with Mrs Rice our librarian. The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing is awarded each year by children's librarians for an outstanding book written in English for children and young people.

The students have taken part in the process by reading as many of the shortlisted 7 books as possible and each school attending did a presentation on one of the books. The author of one of the shortlisted books, Jessie Burton, spoke about her book, Medusa and met the students. The students all engaged with the process, presenting their poems and diary entries based on our allocated book, 'The Light in Everything' by Katya Balen.

16 June 2023

Year 9 have had an exciting start to their Tiyul week here in the UK! They have volunteered their time with Gift Charity, been sledging, rafting, exploring the British and Brand museums, and a very hot day out at Thorpe Park! Bring on next week with lots more exciting trips to come!









15 June 2023



13 June 2023

Mazel tov to the Y7 athletics team who participated in the Barnet Schools Athletics Competition last week. They all did brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for our school. Well done





9 June 2023



Today our wonderful Shinshinim Yuval and Yotam planned our second annual Shinshinim Games! Forms competed against each other in Israel themed activities and games to win. Mazel Tov to 7F who won the competition and to everyone who took part! Thank you to our Shinshinim Yuval and Yotam!



8 June 2023



We are very proud of the fabulous canvas paintings that year 7 produced for the 'My Natural World' project and a huge Mazel tov to the 3 students who won a prize for their work.

They began by finding photographs of places they had visited in the UK or abroad and most students brought in photographs that they had actually taken themselves. They learned about simple colour theory and the colourful paintings of artists such as David Hockney and the Fauves. Students developed ideas for their paintings in sketchbooks before producing their canvas painting with acrylic paints.

The final paintings are now on display in the Heartspace and have attracted many compliments. It is hard to believe that this fabulous exhibition has been produced by year 7 students, many of whom have never used a canvas or acrylic paints before!

6 June 2023

Mazel tov to the winners of this year's JCoSS Book Award, who joined Dr Lee for a special afternoon tea to reward them for being selected out of more than 500 students for their fantastic creative responses. Congratulations to them and we hope you enjoyed your well deserved tea 🜕 💝 🗀



5 June 2023



We are thrilled to begin the final half term of the year by announcing the outcome of our recent Pikuach Inspection! A huge Mazel tov to our incredible Jewish Education Team for receiving Outstanding in every category!! An amazing achievement, which is richly deserved and testament to their inspirational work.







