

# Social media

## Autumn Round-up

Dear Parents

It is difficult to know what to say at the end of this half term. Words are inadequate and insufficient. While these past weeks have been dominated by the tragic situation in Israel, life at JCoSS has continued and we are so very proud of how the entire community is coping in these terrible times.

The term began in true JCoSS style with 531 people, comprising JCoSS students, teachers and TV personality Rob Rinder, standing together to create a giant Magen David in a Guinness World record-breaking attempt, organised brilliantly by Luke Godfrey and the whole Head Student Team. What a way to welcome our new Year 7s into the JCoSS community! Watch this space to find out if we have broken the record – we will know before the end of the next half term...

So much has been happening over the last few weeks including a fabulous evening welcoming back many alumni, thanks to the superb organisation by Ms Blitz and her team. It is always wonderful to hear what our past students are doing now, and we look forward to many more such events. Of course, Rosh Hashanah meant lots of apples and honey were consumed in school, and the IJE team brought Succot to life at JCoSS with many events taking place throughout the week around school. The students loved decorating the Succah and the whole school community were invited to shake the Lulav and Etrog – a joyful time was had throughout the week.

Our annual Open Evening was hugely successful as always, and we were thrilled to welcome over 1500 visitors to our school. The atmosphere was incredible, and the school was buzzing with prospective families. Naturally, the stars of the evening were our students – over 350 of them proudly showed their school off to our visitors.

Whilst the term began with our newsworthy Magen David event, so this half term ends with JCoSS very much back in the news. Welcoming Rishi Sunak, the Prime Minister into our school on Monday was extremely special. We are of course saddened that his visit was prompted because of the awful times that we are currently living through. However, once again the students were awesome in every way, and I know that the Prime Minister and all the visitors were rightly impressed with how our students conducted themselves throughout the morning. Year 11 students shared immensely powerful and moving words, reflecting on the situation, expressing fear and concern for friends, family and all innocent civilians in Israel. Our sixth form students spoke intelligently to the Prime Minister and asked him some challenging and insightful questions, and he clearly enjoyed the time he spent with them. This was a moment when our school shone brightly in very dark times, and we should all be immensely proud to be part of this incredible community. We were deeply touched and will always be grateful as a school and as representatives of the whole Jewish community for the time and concern shown by our Prime Minister.

We understand how important it is that school is a calm, safe and supportive environment – for both students and staff. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to every member of staff at JCoSS, but especially to the JE, IJE and Ivrit teams. I have nothing but thanks for everyone in how they have cared for your children and for each other during these last harrowing weeks. The Senior Leadership Team and the entire staff body at JCoSS will continue to support your children in every way that we can. To that end it will be necessary to sustain some of the current strategies which we have implemented into the next half term. I will write to you before school returns on Monday 30 October with further information.

I am sure you join me in praying and hoping for better times.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our remarkable school. I wish you all a safe and restful half term.

Very best wishes

Dr Melanie Lee

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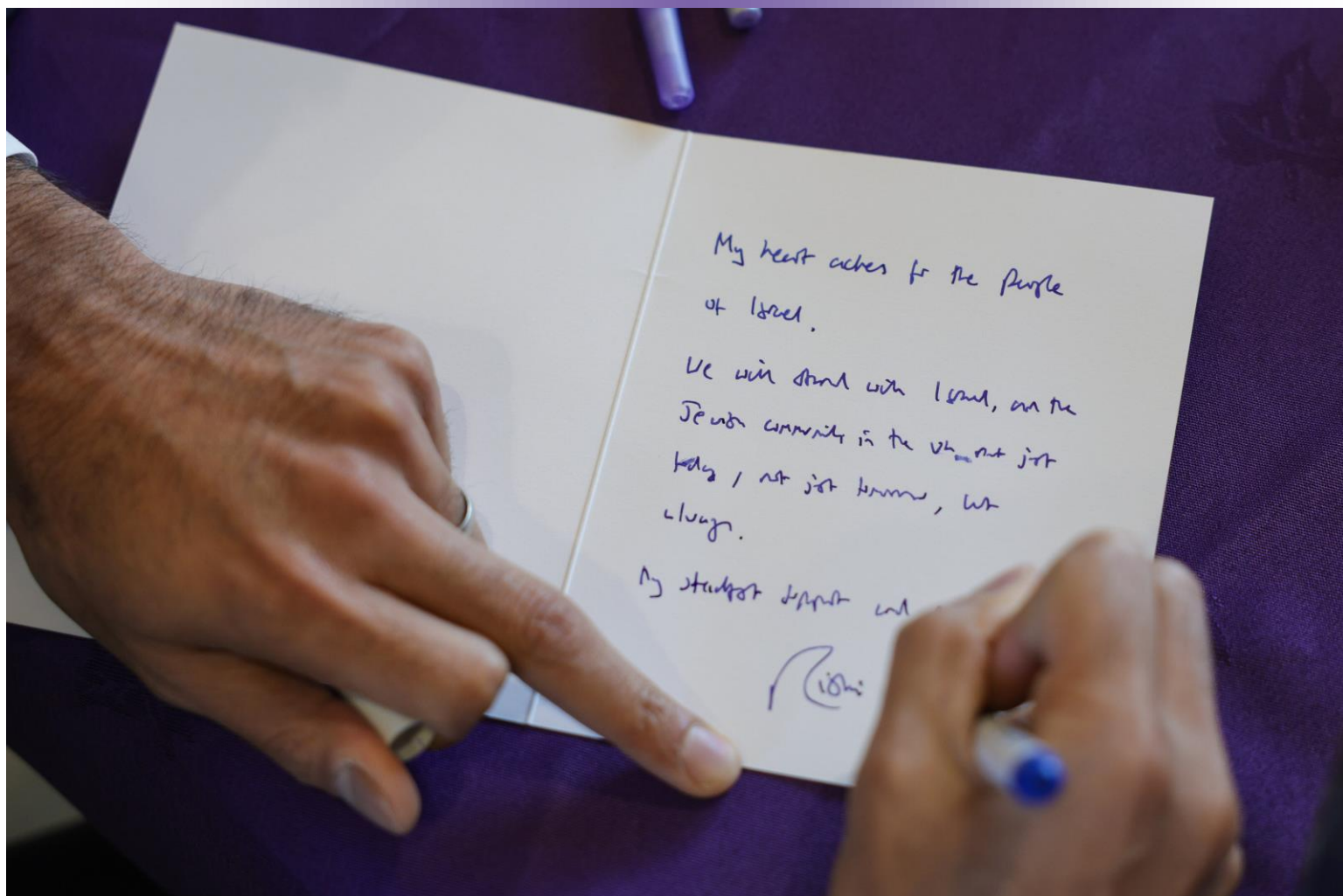
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**19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

It was Biology Week at JCoSS this week and we celebrated by running different activities throughout the week and sharing the importance of Biology with our students. We held STEM Club at lunchtime where students extracted DNA from fruit and were fascinated by what they saw under the microscope. We have also launched a 3D art competition from the Royal Society of Biology, so look out for more details on that. #Biology Week #sciencefun



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



Last night the JCoSS music department hosted the Year 7 Sing Out Challenge. The children celebrated music, and found some joy in dark times, by singing classics on the theme of colour. Congratulations to the joint winners - Brown Eyed Girl 7V2 and Blue Moon 7U3 - thank you to all the Year 7 students who took part in this uplifting evening. Many thanks to Mr Vides for taking the photographs on the evening.

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6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Mazel tov to our wonderful Head Student team who raised over £130 this morning for Macmillian Cancer Support, by holding a sixth form hot chocolate morning. Our head students are incredible role models, true mensches and perfect ambassadors for the school and we are so proud of them and thankful for all that they have achieved so far in these important roles. 💜💜💜



5<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Today we had a pop up staff room in our Sukkah! Staff were invited to meet, have a coffee and could have a go at shaking the Lulav! We were also delighted to be joined by local Councillor Philip Cohen who visited our sukkah at lunchtime where our Shinshinim prepared a sukkot themed quiz. It was a very special day, helped by some beautiful sunny weather! 💜💜💜

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

The JCoSS community warmly welcome Hugo and Fabiola, our new language assistants, who will join us this academic year in our French and Spanish departments. This is their first time living in UK and we hope they have a wonderful time and enjoy life at JCoSS. 💜💜💜  
Here is a little introduction from them both..

Hugo: Salut tout le monde ! Je m'appelle Hugo et je suis enchanté d'intégrer la JCoSS pour cette année scolaire en tant qu'assistant de langue française. See you around !

Fabiola : Hola a todos y a todas! Mi nombre es Fabiola, soy española, de Sevilla. Este curso voy a tener la suerte de ser auxiliar de conversación en JCoSS. Tengo muchas ganas de compartir mi cultura con los estudiantes y ayudarlos en su asignatura de español.



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



This week we are celebrating Sukkot at JCoSS! We are celebrating in a number of ways including a week of lunchtime activities where Year 7 are decorating our outside Sukkah with our Shinshin, Adi and the whole school community are invited to shake the Lulav and Etrog with Ms Levan in the Heartspace. 💜💜

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

Last night JCoSS held its annual opening evening and we welcomed over 1500 visitors to the school! It was an amazing evening and the school was buzzing with prospective families. The true mensches of the night were our incredible students - over 350 of them - who gave up their time to show their school to the community. We couldn't be prouder of them and the feedback has been wonderful. 💜💜



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21<sup>st</sup> September 2023



Extra curricular clubs have well and truly started back again at JCoSS this term - there was so much going on at lunchtime today from dance club to tuned percussion, to an eco warriors meeting to science club to netball and football trials. The enrichment opportunities at JCoSS are abundant and there is something for everyone whatever our students' passion may be. 💜🏆🎹🎤🎧

19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

We were thrilled to welcome back some of our alumni last week for an evening get-together. It was so wonderful to see them back in school and just brilliant to hear what they were all up to.

We are so excited that one of our alumni is now a published author! Talia Samuels who is only 25 and one of our original 6th form students won a competition for unpublished writers and her prize was having her novel published by Penguin Michael Joseph, an imprint of Penguin Books! Mazel tov to Talia ! We are so proud and delighted for her 💜💜



18<sup>th</sup> September 2023



Last week our Year 11 Media students visited the Warner Bros Studios and the amazing Harry Potter experience, to learn how films evolve from script to screen. It was a brilliant and informative trip which helped our students put theory into practice. A great day was had by all!



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**12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

We are very proud of Max in Year 10, who this summer represented England and JCoSS in the U15 Boys Table Tennis team, competing in the World School Games in Rio de Janeiro.

The England Boys Team team made history in Brazil by winning bronze, as this is the first time an England boys' team has won a medal at the event. The England Team also won the Fair Play Award. This is an incredible achievement - Mazel tov to Max and his team mates 🏆🏆🏆



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



It was so lovely to have a full school today - the corridors were buzzing again and it was wonderful to see. 💜💜💜 Yesterday, our new Year 7, Year 12, staff and even Rob Rinder participated in the most incredible attempt to break a Guinness Book of World Record to create a human Magen David!! It was an amazing event, which was organised and managed expertly by our Head Student Team together with Mrs Raven. The idea was the creation of our Deputy Head Student Luke Godfrey, who was instrumental in pulling everything together. We needed 250 people to break the record and our shape was created by 531 people, with the Mayor of Barnet Nagus Narenthira and Rabbi Miriam Berger there to officiate. We now need to wait for up to 12 weeks for the official confirmation from Guinness to be given. We are so thrilled to have been part of this special event, and thanks to Luke, JCoSS will hopefully now be in the Guinness Book of World Records!! 🥳🥳🥳

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

We were very excited to welcome our new Year 7s and our Year 12s back to JCoSS today. It was so lovely to see them all and we are excited for them to begin their JCoSS and their 6th form journey. 💜💜💜💜



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