

# Social media

## Spring Round-up

Dear Parents

The sun is rising earlier in the mornings and setting later in the evenings as we approach the end of what feels like a short half term. Whilst the first few weeks of 2024 have flown by, life at school has been extremely busy! Students have settled back into school after the Winter break and our wonderful staff are supporting them brilliantly, as always. But it is not just whilst in class that learning happens. There have been numerous wonderful additional activities this half term both inside and outside the classroom, as well as many personal achievements which are highlighted in the pages that follow.

We are extremely proud that eight JCoSS students have received offers from Oxbridge this year - four for the University of Cambridge and four for the University of Oxford. Students applied for a vast range of undergraduate courses from Maths, Natural Sciences and Engineering to Classics & English, Physics & Philosophy and Classical Archaeology & Ancient History! Mazeltov to all the students on this incredible achievement and thanks to Ms Taylor for all her passion and hard work in running the JCoSS Scholars Programme which gives vital support to our students applying to Oxbridge. Indeed, the entire sixth form team deserve a huge thanks for their amazing personal support and encouragement of all our students who have now applied for undergraduate degrees, apprenticeships and other courses – the future is bright for our Year 13s.

Earlier this term we marked Holocaust Memorial Day by welcoming Holocaust survivor, Janine Webber BEM to speak at JCoSS. It was a huge privilege and honour for our students to hear Janine's fascinating, brave and moving story and we are so grateful to her for sharing her important testimony and ensuring that our younger generation hear first-hand what she and others had to endure. Thank you and well done also to JCoSS students Amy and Gabriella in Y13, who are Ambassadors for the Holocaust Education Trust and help promote their important work.

I am so grateful to our parents who gave up their time for our Year 11 students to participate in the Year 11 mock interview programme. Over thirty parents supported the programme which ensured that every student in the year group was matched to an employer within a role or industry in which they have an interest. This is a perfect example of how our students benefit from the wonderful relationship that exists between school and parents – providing the students with this important experience is vital but would not be possible without your help and support – thank you. Mr Sawyer was pivotal in organising the event so efficiently and a big thanks goes to him too.

Our recent Enrichment Day was another successful, memorable day at JCoSS, led superbly by Mrs Collins and supervised by the whole staff. Students participated in an enormous range of impressive activities including pottery, knitting, and Japanese culture. The school was buzzing with excitement all day. Where else could you see a performance of Shrek the Musical – all rehearsed, directed and produced in one morning?!

School life has continued as normal this term but please be reassured that the safety and security of our students and staff remains a top priority. CST continue to work closely with us and they are a constant source of support. I know you will join me in continuing to pray for peace in Israel and for the safe return of all the hostages.

I wish you all a restful, restorative and enjoyable half term break.

Dr Melanie Lee

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 JCoSS

15<sup>th</sup> February 2024



JCoSS had the pleasure of welcoming a group of students and some of their teachers from Tarbut Jewish School in Buenos Aires, Argentina earlier this week. We invited them to spend the morning at JCoSS to accompany a group of our Year 9 students learning Spanish and the morning was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It started with a student guided tour around the school, followed by an informal reception where students were able to get to know each other conversing in both languages. Then followed presentations from both JCoSS and Tarbut students concluding with an opportunity for JCoSS students to speak to each Tarbut student in Spanish whilst circulating in a 'speed dating' scenario. We look forward to a return visit next year with our next Year 9 cohort.

14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Students from Year 7 and 8 attended a lively trip last week, organised by the LRC. They travelled to Finchley Church End Library to listen to a talk with acclaimed Jewish author, Miriam Halahmy, about her new book, A Boy from Baghdad. The students enjoyed listening to Miriam read out extracts, and were invited to act out some scenes from the book. Afterwards, they were treated to a Q&A session and were able to buy a signed copy of the book, too. The students did JCoSS proud with their excellent behaviour and with the thoughtful questions they asked Miriam. It was a great trip, enjoyed by all! 😊😊



13<sup>th</sup> February 2024



Mazel tov to the Senior netball team with students in Y10, Y11 and Y12 and to the Year 7 netball team for both winning their respective Barnet Leagues! They have been playing games throughout the season which culminated in their fantastic success and first place! The Senior team won after their last game against Ashmole where they won 23-11 and they even had mini mascots to help cheer them on, courtesy of Mrs Charalombos children 💜. Congratulations to them all 🏆🏆🏆💜💜💜🏆🏆🏆

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**12<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

We are delighted that a number of JCoSS students are candidates for the UK Youth Parliament and Youth Ambassador elections to represent Barnet. They have worked hard over the last few months creating Jcasts, posters, election campaigns and even attending a Barnet hustings. Students can vote until the end of February with their unique ID which will be given out this week in form time. Candidates will be available for questioning and the voting booths will be open in the heart space this week. Good luck to all our candidates!



**8<sup>th</sup> February 2024**



Congratulations to Year 13 students, Brad and Daniel, for receiving the school's first CREST Awards as part of The Silver Research Group. Brad received a Silver CREST Award for his project 'The effect of temporal perception on the enjoyment of an activity' which looked at whether time went slower when doing a boring task.

Daniel impressed the external examiner so much he was awarded a Gold CREST Award for his project 'An Investigation into the Efficacy and Efficiency of 3D Printed wings' which looked at how the wing shape of a 3D printed plane affected it's ability to glide.

Well done to them both 🏆🏆🏆

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Today, forms N and R from all year groups took part in the first House Yom Tzedakah of the year! Each form had a stall where they designed and ran their own fundraising activity. Tasks ranged from penalty shoot out, guess how many sweets are in the jar and pin the tie on the teacher! It was a brilliant effort from everyone!! Well done N and R! 🏆🏆🏆



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5<sup>th</sup> February 2024



Last Friday, JCoSS held a very special careers event which saw over 30 employers, many of whom were parents, participate in the Year 11 mock job interview programme. Every student in Year 11 was matched to an employer within a role or industry they had an interest in and were given an interview in this area. We are extremely grateful and appreciate to all our interviewers for giving up their time for this important, valuable and very successful morning. The feedback from employers was excellent – Well done Year 11! 🍌🍌🍌🍌

1<sup>st</sup> February 2024

The French department were thrilled to welcome literary translator Lucy Raitz to JCoSS today to work with Year 12! Merci beaucoup! 😊😊



30<sup>th</sup> January 2024



Today we were enormously privileged to welcome Holocaust survivor, Janine Webber BEM, who shared her fascinating and moving story with Year 13. Her visit was in honour of Holocaust Memorial Day and she is pictured here with JCoSS students Amy and Gabriella who are Ambassadors for the Holocaust Education Trust. We are so grateful to Janine for joining us today and giving up her time to share her important testimony.

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29<sup>th</sup> January 2024

We are delighted and proud that 8 JCoSS students have received offers from Oxbridge this year - 4 for the University of Cambridge and 4 for the University of Oxford. The courses range from Maths, Natural Sciences and Engineering to Classics & English, Physics & Philosophy and Classical Archeology & Ancient History! Mazeltov to all the students for this incredible achievement



25<sup>th</sup> January 2024



Today we have been celebrating Tu B'Shvat with fresh fruit for students this morning, pop up staff room with dried fruit for staff and an eco friendly swap shop at Lunchtime, where students who donated items and could 'shop' pre loved items. 💜🌱

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Students had a great day today as it was enrichment drop down day! There was a huge range of over 50 fun and interesting activities that students could participate in and the sessions ranged from krav maga, cooking delicious millionaire shortbread to making clay bowls for pets and even producing a musical in a morning! Students could also learn about Japanese language and culture, learn how to knit, play board games and chess, create a dance routine, and participate in girls' rugby, to name a few!

Both staff and students had a brilliant day! 💜💜💜💜😊😊😊😊



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22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024



Today, JCoSS were delighted to host 'Frantic Assembly', an internationally renowned physical theatre company, who were brought in to work with our Year 10 and 12 Drama students. These students worked in groups with an experienced Frantic Assembly practitioner exploring theatre ideas and techniques. The workshop was a huge success across both year groups and is an exciting annual event for all Drama students. 🥳🥳🥳

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

This week we held our first meeting with our newly recruited group of TFL Pioneers. 15 Y8 students have come together, ready and eager, to raise awareness and promote the environmental and health benefits of active travel, whilst also increasing road safety awareness within the JCoSS community and beyond. Working in conjunction with Transport For London, these Pioneers are committed to putting forward their ideas to re-think, re-mode and re-power London's transport in the future.

This is the beginning of a hugely exciting programme that will enrich each of these students through their own research, leading and presenting assemblies and running competitions and events. Each Pioneer will be well equipped with the skills and experience required to be awarded with the recognised SSAT Leadership accreditation at the end.

Well done to them all 🥳🥳🥳



15<sup>th</sup> January 2024



A huge Mazel Tov to Matthew Weinberger in Y12 who has achieved the impressive accolade of the Arkwright Engineering Scholarship.

To achieve this award, Matthew had to complete an on-line application form, sat a two-hour aptitude exam and passed a University-based interview. This picture shows the prestigious Awards Ceremony in Edinburgh.

The scholarship awarded £600 to Matthew to put towards his engineering endeavours (projects, equipment etc) and JCoSS will also receive £220. This opportunity was administered as part of the Scholars' Programme at JCoSS coordinated by Miss Taylor. At Matthew's request, she is currently reviewing options for the Arkwright Scholarship money granted to the school to be invested in the STEM club. Due to Matthew's work, this way we hope we can help more students excel in STEM subjects.

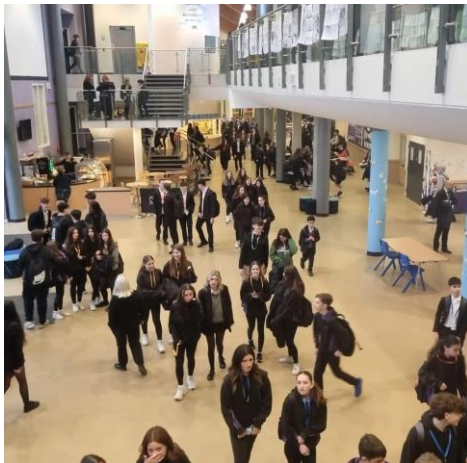
A tremendous well done and thank you to Matthew for his exceptional skill, intelligence and independence.

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Today we celebrated Rosh Chodesh Shvat with our programme which included a special assembly followed by Shacarit with Rabbi Meir Shindler. Students participated in activities by charities and youth movements, including Jewish Care, Jewish Blind and Disabled, RSY and Habonim. All of the sessions were lively and informative, and we also honoured those students celebrating their B'eni Mitzvah this month. We are looking forward to celebrating Tu Bishvat later this month.



**8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**



Welcome back JCoSS! It was so nice to see everyone back again! We hope you all have a great term 💜

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