

# Social media

## Autumn Round-up

Dear Parents,

I can hardly believe that we have already reached the half term holidays! The first half term of a new academic year is always busy, but it is also a moment to look ahead with excitement about what the future holds. The past few weeks have been packed, and as always, I am so proud of our students. They returned from the summer full of joy and energy, bringing so much life to this new year.

We've also had the pleasure of welcoming new members to our staff team, including seven JCoSS alumni, who have already begun to inspire the next generation of students. It's wonderful to see how much we've achieved in just a few short weeks – as you'll notice from our social media posts that follow.

A particular highlight has been Year 8's 'Pay It Forward' initiative. This heart-warming project encourages students to give back to the community through acts of kindness and charity. Kol Hakavod to Mrs. Kaye and her wonderful year group – this embodies everything that JCoSS stands for, and we look forward to seeing the incredible contributions Year 8 will make throughout the year.

At the other end of the school, our Sixth Form students have been equally busy and motivated. Our Head Student team ran a successful 'Hot Chocolate Morning,' raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support – a huge well done to all involved. We were also honoured to host our first ever interschool Model United Nations, with students from JFS, Yavneh, and Immanuel joining us for a brilliantly organised event. A special Mazel Tov to our Head Boy, Joe Rudling, for spearheading such a fantastic day.

Another important focus this half term was our October 7 Commemoration Events. Our IJE and Art Departments collaborated on the 'Yellow Stone Project,' creating a powerful display for our assemblies. We were deeply honoured to welcome the Right Honourable Bridget Phillipson, Secretary of State for Education, on this solemn day. She offered her support to our students and the wider Jewish community, and we are incredibly grateful for her presence.

While so much has been going on, our students continue to work hard in their lessons, thinking deeply and seizing all the opportunities that JCoSS offers them every day. What a wonderful school community we are all part of. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support – it truly is a team effort.

Wishing you all a Chag Sameach and a restful, enjoyable half term break.

Warm regards

Dr Melanie Lee

Headteacher

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 JCoSS

22<sup>th</sup> October 2024



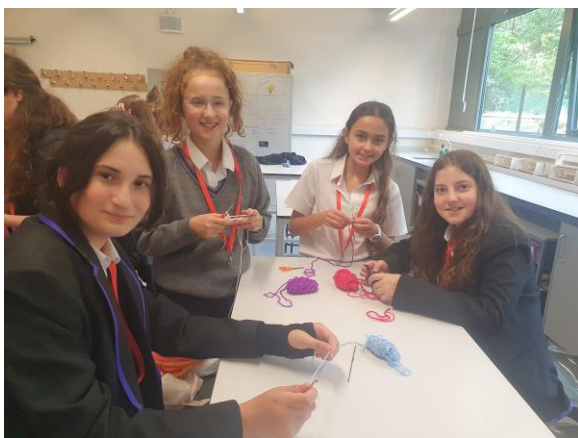
Last night, Year 7 took to the stage in their first JCoSS Production - the 'Sing Out Challenge'! Each music class performed a song themed around the weather, complete with harmonies, choreography, umbrellas and raincoats. The competition was hot but in the end, 7W2 took the title of Sing Out Champions performing 'Sunny' 🌞☔❄️. Well done to everyone that participated, it was a fun and fabulous evening! 💜💜💛💛😊😊

21<sup>th</sup> October 2024

This week we will be celebrating Sukkot with lunchtime activities in the Sukkah! Students have been shaking the Lulav and Etrog, and there will be lots more activities in the Sukkah this week with our Shinshinim! Wishing all of our staff and students a Chag Sukkot Sameach!



15<sup>th</sup> October 2024



Extra Curricular clubs are well and truly back at lunchtimes this term! We are so fortunate to have a huge and wide variety of sports, music, STEM, Art and volunteering opportunities for students of all year groups to attend each day. From crochet club, Rubix Cube club and board games, to gymnastics club, treble makers and drama club, there really is something for everyone to try! Have a look at our website for more information and details.



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**14<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

Last week, the Head Student team organised our first-ever interschool Model UN, inviting students from JFS, Yavneh, and Immanuel to take part. This event brought together 50 students to debate crucial issues such as immigration and the environment, and participate in a dynamic crisis simulation. It was a brilliantly organised event and extremely impressive to watch and listen to students debating these important issues. Well done to everyone involved 🍌🍌🍌



**7<sup>th</sup> October 2024**



To commemorate 7th October, the IJE and Art department have facilitated a whole school project, where over the last few weeks each student in the school received a yellow stone. They painted on the stones their reflections of 7th October to create a living memorial for the attacks and ongoing war. These stones have created a moving display to serve as a backdrop for our assemblies today. Some stones will be selected to be set in resin to act as a long standing memorial for the victims and those still in captivity. We are so grateful to Pajes, I-gnite and WIZO for kindly funding this project.

**7<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

We were honoured to welcome the Right Honourable Bridget Phillipson, Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities to JCoSS today. The Secretary of State requested to visit our school today and support our October 7 Commemorations – we of course were honoured and privileged to host this special event. During her visit the Secretary of State spoke to Year 8 and Year 9 students during an extremely powerful and emotional assembly, and she later met a group of Sixth Form students who asked her some extremely interesting and intelligent questions. She also took the time to paint a yellow stone for the JCoSS commemoration project which the whole school has been participating in. We are extremely grateful that the Secretary of State took the time to visit JCoSS today, and we are so proud of our students for being wonderful ambassadors for our community.





**1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**



Our Head Student team raised £135 this morning for Macmillian Cancer Support, by holding a sixth form and staff hot chocolate morning! Thank you for all the support 💜💜



**26<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

We are so proud and grateful to our incredible students who supported the school for our annual open evening tonight. Over 350 students helped from touring prospective families, to cooking delicious treats in food tech to demonstrating in science, to singing in the choir. Every single one were amazing ambassadors for JCoSS and over 1500 people visited the school this evening and the feedback has been truly wonderful. Well done JCoSS - we couldn't be prouder right now! 💜💜💜



**24<sup>th</sup> September 2024**



Year 8 Students have launched a brand new initiative called 'Pay It Forward' in a heartwarming effort to make a difference in the lives of others. This project encourages students to give back to the community through acts of kindness, starting with a charitable book drive for Comfort Cases UK, a charity supporting foster children.

Students were asked to donate one high-quality book they no longer need, and the response has been overwhelming. With over 100 books already collected, the Year 8 group has made an impressive start, helping provide reading material for foster children aged 11-18. These books will go directly into the hands of young people who often lack personal belongings as they transition through foster care.

This initiative is just the beginning of a year-long journey for our students, who will be encouraged to continue their acts of kindness and generosity. In future assemblies, they will share their stories of paying it forward, highlighting the impact they've made and inspiring others to join in.

There will be even more opportunities for students to participate in paying it forward as the year progresses, and we are incredibly proud of the compassion and community spirit shown by the Year 8's. It's truly wonderful to see them giving to others and making a difference in the lives of others be it for the charity, friends, other students, family or a stranger. 💜💜💜💜

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**17<sup>th</sup> September 2024**



This week is Voter Registration Week. We welcomed Chloe and Sam from Shout Out UK to the Sixth Form Common room where students were learning about how to register to vote and why it is important. Lots of students had brilliant discussions and registered to vote there and then, ready for when they turn 18.

**16<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

A delegation from the 'Achim leChayim' (Brothers for Life) organisation came to speak to our Y12 students. All the speakers had been injured on or since October 7th and they told their stories to the students. It was a powerful and meaningful assembly, followed by a number of informal conversations – (some in Hebrew!) with students and these survivors. 💜💜



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



The talented JCoSS cast and band from our recent production of "Fiddler on the Roof" had an unforgettable rewards trip to the Regents Park Open Air Theatre, led by the CEA Faculty. Here they witnessed an exceptional performance of the same musical which was a joy to watch!

The Regents Park Open Air Theatre's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" captivated our students with its innovative staging and enchanting outdoor setting. The experience provided a unique opportunity for our young performers to see a professional interpretation of the classic musical they had so passionately brought to life on stage themselves only 7 weeks earlier. The school's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" received glowing reviews from audiences showcasing the students' impressive acting, singing, and choreography skills. This trip to the Regents Park Open Air Theatre not only celebrates their achievements but also provided an opportunity for them to gain further insight into the world of theatre. 🙌🙌🙌🙌

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**10<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

This is a very special group of JCoSS staff...they are all JCoSS alumni who have come back to the school that they loved and are now inspiring the next generation of JCoSS students. It is a wonderful cycle and we are extremely proud that these former students have returned to JCoSS to enrich and support the future of our community. A special mention goes to Miss Bathie who has joined this term as our new Head of Geography and was part of the first JCoSS cohort in 2010! 💜💜



**9<sup>th</sup> September 2024**



In the final week of the Summer holidays a lucky group of 6 JCoSS Year 10 CCF cadets took part in Expedition Leviathan, a 5 day tall ship sailing expedition along the south coast in conjunction with our sister detachment JFS and guest Army cadet representatives. Cadets set sail from Portsmouth visiting three ports along the south coast whilst engaging in a variety of seamanship, team work, and leadership tasks on a 70ft challenger racing class Yacht. All cadets were outstanding representatives of the JCoSS section.

**5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Welcome back JCoSS and a huge warm welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 12 students! It was wonderful to see the corridors, classrooms and playgrounds full again! We hope you all have a wonderful year 💜💜💜💜



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