

Yavneh Bulletin

July 2015 : Av 5775



**Mr S Lewis
Headteacher**

From the Desk of The Headteacher

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of another school year, I hope that you agree that it has been another successful one for Yavneh College in many ways. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their continued hard work and dedication, I am sure that all pupils and parents appreciate how lucky they are to have such an outstanding set of teachers and administrative staff at our school.

Sadly, the last day of term marks the departure of one of our Deputy Headteachers, Mrs Nemko after many years of exceptional service to Yavneh College. Mrs Nemko leaves us to take up the post of Deputy Head at Dame Alice Owen's School and we extend our thanks for years of inspirational leadership and outstanding teaching and wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

In addition I would like to say a big thank you to other staff leaving at the end of term and wish them every success for the future. Rabbi Drucker, Miss Dickson and Mr S Gordon who are making aliya and who we wish much hatzlacha in their new lives in Israel, Mr Pomerance, Mr Richman, Rabbi Levine, Mr Stern, Ms Gandy, Miss Frankel, Miss Mittleman, Dr Weinberg, Mrs Painter, Mr Lakhi, Mr Treloar, Miss Ogle, Mr McLoughlin. We wish Ms Rhodes and Ms Walters all the best as they begin their respective maternity leaves.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents of the changes to school life that I outlined in my email in June, particularly regarding our new Head of Year system which we are introducing in September. Your child's Form Tutor will remain your first point of contact followed by the Head of Year or subject teacher regarding any departmental rather than general issue. Please note that school begins for Years 7 and 12 on Wednesday 2 September and for the rest of the school on Thursday 3 September at 8.30am. I wish you all a very happy, peaceful and enjoyable summer break.

Mr S Lewis

We launched a new **House System** at the start of this academic year with the five new Houses being named after aspects of the school's motto *Olam Chesed Yibaneh* A World Built on Kindness. There have been many activities throughout the year, such as charity raising competitions, inter-house sport competitions, The Great Yavneh Bake-Off, The Big House Quiz and many more. This all worked in tandem with House Points obtained for work and behaviour. Orah proved to be the successful House over the course of the year and were rewarded with a House Party where all the pupils in Orah House went to Hollywood Bowl in Finchley to celebrate and had a great time; the top bowler was presented with a giant bowling skittle. The House Cup was presented at the end of the trip which they will be looking to retain next year.



On 19 June, Yavneh College welcomed 20 sociology teachers to the first **Sociology Day** course run with the Advanced Learning Alliance. Most teachers came from schools across London and Hertfordshire, though some had travelled even further to attend. It was great to have the opportunity to network, particularly as teachers of this subject are often the only one at their school. The main aim of the day was to discuss strategies to ensure successful implementation of the new AQA sociology specification, which launches in September. By the end of the day, staff had learnt many practical approaches (including how to implement the flipped classroom) and were given a pack of sample resources. All staff left feeling more confident and empowered to deal with the new challenges that lie ahead. Several teachers said it was one of the best CPD courses they have attended therefore plans are already being made to run the course again next year. In the meantime, we will be sharing resources online and arranging informal catch-up meetings.

Seven of our Year 10 pupils completed the **Alan Senitt** Community Leadership Programme in June. The group decided to run a programme aimed at mitigating isolation in the elderly community and visited the Princess Alexandra Home multiple times over a few weeks. During the year, they attended seminars with Watford Grammar School and Guru Nanak Sikh Academy aimed at furthering their leadership skills. The programme culminated in a graduation ceremony in Camden Town where all the participants received commendations for their effort. Congratulations to Benjy Smokler, Isabelle Copeland, Lauren Seres, Jake Murray, Amy Tapper, Amber Bright, Natalie Khalastchi and thanks to Streetwise for coordinating the programme.

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On Thursday 2 July, fourteen Year 8 pupils gathered with pupils from JFS, Hasmonean Girls, JCoSS, King Solomon, King David Liverpool and Immanuel College at the Camden Centre hosted and coordinated by the **evolve** team at JLGB. These pupils undertook the challenge that was given to them in October 2014 to complete 20 hours of volunteering in memory of Yoni Jesner, a 19 year old boy who was killed in a terror attack in Israel in 2002. The time Yoni Jesner gave to a variety of projects demonstrated his commitment to and love for the Jewish community. He represented all that is great about the

community and doing good. Volunteering is a great way to express these attributes and uphold his legacy. The pupils were joined by very important guests including The Chief Rabbi, the Mayor of Barnet, the President of The Board of Deputies of British Jews and members of Yoni Jesner's family. Five pupils exceeded their volunteering target and received their **Yoni Jesner Award Plus**; Amy Levin, Ben Isaacson and Yana Trup completed over 50 hours of volunteering and a special mention to Keshet Dor and Nigel Saidler for completing over 100 hours of volunteering. Pupils undertook a wide range of volunteering activities both in and out of school, including Yad Yavneh - baking food for GIFT, the school Am Echad (charity) enrichment, advanced English sessions for Year 6 pupils and helping out in their local Shuls. The Yoni Jesner Award will be launched in September to Year 8 pupils.

The **ORT JUMP** programme was set up to enable Sixth Form students to realise their true potential and achieve their crucial career ambitions. This is done through the help of mentors who are successful in their professional or business careers. In September 2014 the founder of the JUMP programme, Julia Alberga, came to Yavneh to talk to Year 12 students about this amazing opportunity. We were asked to pick a preferred area of work, which for me was Business Management. With their wide range of contacts, ORT JUMP put me in touch with Simon Bolsom, a Senior Manager at Accenture. Accenture is a global management service, with more than 336,000 workers in more than 120 countries. Following a quick email, we arranged our first meeting where he told me about his job role and company and we discussed my career aspirations and life both in and out of school. During several meetings Simon helped me to develop many skills. He aided me in writing a high quality CV as well as developing presentation skills and helped me to plan for my future. His expertise was invaluable. Just a few weeks ago, ORT JUMP held their graduation ceremony where all students and mentors gathered to here from industry experts. Following many hours of work on my file over the past year, I was privileged to win the runner up prize for ORT JUMP student of the year. This was a proud moment for both me and Simon. After many months of hard work, meetings and amazing opportunities, our mentoring year had ended but Simon assured me he is just an email away, should I need any assistance or help when applying for university or a job. The programme is certainly unique and it's an opportunity that few students get. Their mentors are devoted to helping each student and are giving up their time, for free as they realise the value of the programme. The more work you put in, the more you get out. It's not very often you have an industry expert helping you plan for your future, which is why signing up quickly and showing that you are committed really does help. I have gained so much from it and would highly recommend future Year 12 students to sign up and really dedicate themselves to the programme. By *Joshua Berkley Year 12.*



Over the past few weeks Yavneh College has been pleased to welcome around 450 Year 5 pupils to the **CSI Yavneh** days. When pupils arrived they were greeted with the news that Mr Lewis' Goldfish had been stolen from Science Lab 101 the previous Monday! Using techniques taught to them throughout the day in Geography, Computing and Science the Year 5's set about solving the mystery of who stole 'Goldie', gathering evidence that led to the apprehension of the thief. The day culminated in a heartfelt confession from Dr Green AKA Dr Lee who explained her motives in carrying out the crime. Thanks to all the staff and Year 11 pupils who worked so hard on this wonderful experience for the younger children.

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Departmental Focus

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SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

As the academic year comes to a close and we look back at the science department a huge amount has been happening. I am delighted that we have the highest numbers in the history of the school of students studying biology, chemistry and physics at A level and many of them are going on to university to study science related degrees. This is a true reflection of the success of the teaching within the department of which I am very proud.

The Sixth Form students have been involved in a large number of activities either organised by Yavneh College or recommended by staff in the department such as early evening lectures at RCS and a range of London universities that have free subject specialist lectures for A level students.

In September, three Year 13 chemistry students were lucky enough to attend a day of Mass Spectrometry (MS) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR) workshops at The University of Oxford's Chemistry department. This was a highly successful day as the students were able to see the equipment that had previously been taught as theory. Beth Kraines, who will be studying *Veterinary science* in September 2015, wrote a short article about the day ... On Monday 15 September, three Year 13 chemistry students were lucky enough to attend a day of Mass Spectrometry (MS) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR) workshops at The University of Oxford's Chemistry department. After three long hours of traveling, we were greeted by leading academics, including James McCullagh who is most notable for his research into cancer metabolism, analysing biological molecules using MS. MS and NMR are two valuable techniques utilised by chemists to analyse and deduce the structure of unknown compounds. MS uses an electron beam to create ions that can then be detected. A magnetic field is used in NMR to absorb and emit radiowaves, deducing the hydrogen/proton composition of a compound. Determining chemical structures is highly effective when both methods are used together. After a warm welcome and introduction, we were introduced to our first workshop, based around the chemical structure of certain drugs used to target and inhibit the HIV-1 Protease. This enzyme/protein molecule is essential for the life cycle of the HIV virus, cutting up other protein chains, made by the virus, into the correct sized pieces so that the appropriate components are created to enable replication of the virus. We were presented with drawn chemical structures of certain HIV inhibitor drugs, some of which have been successful for a number of years such as darunivir. Having been provided with the sites where these drugs are most active, we were given the challenge of altering the chemical structures to lower the energy needed for these drugs to combine with the protease. This was done using special coded software that allowed us to change and calibrate the effectiveness of our new molecule's binding affinity. Although we were unsuccessful at making improvements, the task provided understanding of how new drugs are designed and modified. Next we were given a tour of the department's MS and NMR facilities. Admiring the hi-tech equipment, this gave us an opportunity to understand the mechanics behind these amazing machines, each costing hundreds of thousands of pounds! We were even able to see the equipment in action, producing NMR spectra of ibuprofen, and injecting an unknown substance into a time-of-flight mass spectrometer, using a database of over 250,000 compounds to deduce the name of the molecule. After lunch we were split into six teams, mixing with chemistry students from other schools...it was time to put our spectroscopy knowledge to the test! Each table was given different NMR and mass spectra of an unknown compound, and it was our job to find out the structure of our mystery chemical. With the help of some clues and applying our newfound knowledge, all teams successfully identified their compound, and one of us even won a prize for best group presentation!



Overall, a huge emphasis was placed on the importance of these analytical techniques in scientific advancements, from the development of drugs to mass spectrometry-based metabolomics. The machines have been advanced as technology has developed, allowing the analysis of minute amounts of sample and for samples to be regenerated, both preventing wastage of potentially valuable chemicals. The entire day was fun and hands-on, opening our eyes to the advancing chemical world. It demonstrated the importance of chemical analysis, as well as helping with our A-Level too!

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In addition, six of our Year 12 physics students took part in the Weizmann Institute's safe-cracking tournament. The students spent many hours over several months designing, developing and constructing a safe using A-level physics ideas. They spent the day trying to break into other teams' safes and giving other teams the opportunity to break into the Yavneh College safe. Although our team didn't progress to the next round, they learnt an incredible amount about team-work, creativity and physics. The safe they built was well-designed and imaginative and the students really used their respective talents and skills to create something impressive together. All of the students plan to study engineering or a linked science at university and the experience of the project, for which they earned a Silver Crest Award was invaluable.

March saw a multitude of events for KS3 pupils with National Science and Engineering Week. This was organised by Miss Frankel and the buzz in the lab during lunchtimes was palpable. Pupils had the chance to do hands-on activities which covered the range of biology, chemistry and physics. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 found themselves drawn into the activities and Sixth Form science students were excellent facilitators for the younger pupils.

In April we were delighted to be able to welcome Martin Shipp, a Science Ambassador with Setpoint, who gave a presentation to Year 7 and 8 pupils titled 'Fires in Space'. It was a fascinating talk of the history of space exploration highlighting many of the Health & Safety aspects of space exploration from a unique perspective.

The exam season followed with a flurry of activity as pupils and students honed their exam technique and prepared for the end of year activities. We welcomed Year 5 pupils to Yavneh for a CSI day with our Year 11 pupils acting as Science Ambassadors; Year 6 'Welcome to Yavneh College' day where pupils had a practical based introduction to secondary school science and finally a Science Day of Experimentation for the Year 9 Yavneh College London Programme at the end of term.

For the second year running, an 'Introduction to AS Level chemistry' was organised by Mrs Barnett in June. This took the form of a practical experiment followed by an exam style assessment. The aim was to give pupils a realistic flavour of chemistry at A level by being immersed in chemistry for a day. Shir Dor reports ... *I never thought going into school on my summer holiday could be fun. I was right in many respects: it turns out chemistry A level is extremely difficult and the workload is incredible, nonetheless I really enjoyed the chemistry A level preparation day. We did many experiments with equipment that I never dreamed that I would have access to and I enjoyed every moment in which we learnt more about the science that my teacher refused to disclose during my GCSE studies. With the help of some A level pupils, we learnt about reactions and the application of chemical processes in our lives. For example, we learned of a process called Mass Spectroscopy, which allows you to identify substances and their chemical makeup from samples. Another interesting concept we explored was the naming of different chemical compounds; the language of chemistry is almost as difficult as English! Thankfully there aren't as many exceptions. It was a very exciting and fascinating day, and chemistry A level now seems much more achievable, and quite a bit more enjoyable.*

Another highlight of the Year 12 calendar was the joint biology and geography field trip to look at succession in a hydrosere. This year we went to Withy Beds, Rickmansworth and whilst there was no water we were able to return to school with plenty of data to analyse on this particular habitat. All the while our Year 12 science prefects have run science clubs in lunchtime. The pupils certainly enjoyed the Science of Fiction club that met fortnightly where there was much excitement. The weekly Yavlab club continued to be an excellent place for pupils of all years to go to help with their science and it is hoped that this will continue to run in the next academic year by the new Sixth Form science students.

We await the summer results with excitement, and no doubt trepidation for the students concerned, as we truly hope that all their hard work will be rewarded and their aspirations met and those who are going to continue their studies will be able to do so. Our Year 13 science students are heading to a wide range of science based disciplines including medicine, veterinary science, veterinary nursing neuroscience, biomedical science, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, paramedics, biochemistry, chemistry, chemical engineering. We wish them luck with their future studies.

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Kol Hakavod כל הכבוד

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Well done



JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE RESULTS 2015

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PUPILS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS



Junior Bronze Certificates

Raphael Memmi, Eytan Millan, Russell Miller, Harry Press, Oliver Ross, Tamar Schechter, Nathan Silver, Natasha Sweiry, Michael Wahnnon, Jamie Wise

Intermediate Bronze Certificates

Shera Conway, Zac Morrow, Emily Press, Yasmin Rinsler, Esther Liubarski

Well done to Louis Myers who went on to achieve a merit in the subsequent Kangaroo round

Jack Christie

*on winning a competition on functionalism and Marxism key terms in Year 12 Sociology
Harley Rosen, Hannah Roskin, Sasha Green, Sam Good, Matt Unerman (Runners-up)*

Joshua Foreman

on being selected to represent Hertfordshire in the East Regions Inter-County Gala

Matti Harris and Albie Jackson

on taking part in the Norwood Charity Duathlon and Matti finishing in second place

Joel Freedman

on achieving his black belt in karate

*Elana Philips, Molly Lane, Ellie Chernick, Lily Grant, Lily Arellano, Aimee Garcia, Portia Nicholas Jago, Sophie Rabin, Sascha Joseph, Beth Karbaron and Lily Freedman
Year 8 Maccabi Rounders Champions*

*Elana Philips, Molly Lane, Ellie Chernick, Lily Grant, Lily Arellano, Aimee Garcia, Portia Nicholas Jago, Sophie Rabin, Sascha Joseph and Bayley Yanover
Year 8 Rounders District League Champions*

*Elana Philips, Molly Lane, Ellie Chernick, Lily Grant, Lily Arellano, Aimee Garcia, Portia Nicholas Jago, Sophie Rabin and Sascha Joseph
Year 8 Rounders District League Champions*

*Joe Salomon, Mia Yaniv, Miri Shiradski, Adam Steinberg
awarded the Ogden Trust Physics Prize for School Physicist of the Year*

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Sports Day 2015

Once again the sun shone on the annual Yavneh College Sports Day that took place on Thursday 25 June at Yavneh College and followed a multi-sport format. Year 7 and Year 8 pupils took part in a range of different sports that included track and field athletics, football, cricket, netball and rounders and in the afternoon, the Year 9 and Year 10 pupils did the same. All pupils also took part in cross curricular sports, health and fitness themed lessons during normal timetabled lessons for the rest of the day.

Involvement in competitive sport has been reported to have several wide ranging mental, social and physical benefits, therefore all pupils were encouraged to take part in as many of the sports activities on sports day as possible and contribute to the achievements of the House that they were representing.

The day was also a finale to the many house sports competitions that have been taking place throughout the year and the final opportunity for pupils to win house points to contribute to their house totals. Sports Day was a tightly fought competition and the pupils responded in an excellent manner to both the enjoyment and participation element along with the competitive element. Well done to all pupils that participated, but special mentions should also go to the following pupils who all broke school track and field records: *Georgia Reback, Matti Harris, Amber Abrahams, Amelie Freedman, Beth Karbaron and Sam Stain.*

These performances were outstanding, but the true highlight was seeing so many pupils enjoying participation in sport and physical activity and the many pupils that showed real determination and resilience to perform at their own personal best in the events that they chose.

The first House Sports Day trophy was presented to the winning house by Mr Lewis. And the winner was ... Achva House. Well done to all of those pupils who represented Achva.

Trophies were also presented to:

Year 7 Winners: Achva

Year 8 Winners: Shalva

Year 9 Winners: Shalva

Year 10 Winners: Orah



For sports news and achievements please go to

<http://www.yavnehcollege.org/sports-news>