



**MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP**

I

Dear Parents לאי"ט

we had a busy winter term with projects and activities that have been varied, exciting, educational and inspiring. We are now moving on to an important issue that we all face in raising children: Peer Pressure. We hope to address this together with your involvement and support and plan to launch a school programme in חודש אדר on this subject.

There have always been challenges, and as technology continues to unify the world into one global village, and its culture threatens to infiltrate our enclaves we must look for ways to empower our children to stand firm in the face of many and varied temptations.

How can we – parents and teachers, give them the כח to make the right choices and to do so with pride?

Empower them by building good channels of communication, so they know we are there for them at all times, and that we understand their point of view even as we are unrelenting in the standards we set.

Lead by example: hypocrisy and trust don't work together. One rule fits all in the journey to becoming the people ה' wants us to be.

Foster their individuality and invest in their uniqueness. It will be the best investment in your portfolio.

Endow them with pride - in themselves, their families, their community - so they have no need to seek validation elsewhere.

Dose them with generous, unstinting, elaborate amounts of love. Because nothing can stand in the face of real love שאינה תלויה בדבר.

Our children don't belong to us, nor are they under our control forever. We have the privilege and we hope and aspire to guide them and encourage them to make the right choices, while providing them with the empowerment, knowledge, confidence and a feeling of belonging.

לברך את עמו ישראל באהבה וצנינו: ברכת כהנים say before כהנים  
Why are they commanded to bless the people of ה' with love? It is the כהן's responsibility to direct the nation in the ways of ה'. This can be achieved only with love. Love of parents for their children, teachers for their charges and כלל for one another.

May we be זוכה to merit witnessing שמו באהבה למען שמו בנייהם לבני בנייהם!

Rebbetzen C Berger  
Menaheles



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## From the Governors' corner .....

The Autumn term saw a few new faces in the Governing body. One of them Aron Schleider, reflects on his experiences.

*'Since joining BYJHS as an associate governor a few months ago I have had opportunity to attend a number of governing body meetings and have observed the many hours the governors are putting in to ensure the smooth running of the school.*

*I have been handed the link role for behaviour and attendance and my first exposure to the role was attending a training session via Salford LEA concerning exclusions. Thankfully we haven't had any exclusions at BYJHS this term, but the training was certainly an eye-opener.*

*I enjoyed a learning walk around the school with Mrs E Levy and was most impressed at the learning environment within the school - the lessons were running smoothly, the staff seemed happy*

*and complimentary of each other and the school corridors were very quiet and looked tidy. It was clear that a lot of work has been put into improving decorum in the classroom and I know the governors join me in thanking Mrs Levy for her efforts in this important area of school life. Still a work in progress but clearly heading the right direction ב'ה.*

*Towards the end of the term I had the opportunity to explain to the Ofsted inspector what my experiences had been in my first few months as a governor as I attended the governors' meeting with her during the recent inspection. She certainly gave the governors a good grilling on many different areas of school activity but seemed to leave the meeting happy!*

*I will be meeting regularly with Mrs Levy and Rabbi Katz to keep tabs on progress in tackling behavioural and attendance challenges and look forward to sharing more information with you over time.'*

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the second edition of our staff newsletter. The feedback from our first newsletter was very encouraging and I would like to thank Mrs Kessler and her team for all their hard work.

In this jam packed edition, you will read about the variety of events which have taken place this term. These include the year 10 Shabbaton, Year 7 Bas Mitzva, our annual senior citizens' Purim party, outings, e-safety lectures for both pupils and parents to name but a few.

Personally, I would like to say how privileged I feel to work with such a team of dedicated and professional staff members. As you know, our school is now officially out of special measures and I look forward to working with you all on the next stage of our journey, as we move our school from good to outstanding.

Mrs S Feddy

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## DVAR TORAH by RABBI S HARRIS

We find at the beginning of Shemos that Hashem gave Moshe three miraculous signs to use as proof that He had appointed him as the redeemer of the Jewish people. One was that Moshe was told to throw his stick to the ground and it became a snake, and Moshe fled from it. Then Hashem told Moshe to 'stretch out (his) hand and grasp its tail.' When Moshe did this, the snake became a stick again in his hand (Shemos 4:3-4).

Following the tragic events of the Second World War, one of the greatest students of the Mirrer Yeshiva in Poland, Harav Zeidel Semiatitsky, travelled extensively to Morocco and different parts of South America to found Yeshivos there, and bring promising young Sephardic students to learn in the U.K and U.S.A. The guiding light for R' Zeidel's efforts was the sign outlined above. He would compare Jewish children to Moshe's stick. If they are never exposed to the beauty of Yiddishkeit, nor nurtured with a Torah Chinuch (education/training) and are, figuratively speaking, thrown to the ground and abandoned, they will be forced to run away. They will not simply be ignorant and indifferent to Torah and Mitzvos – they will become haters of religious life and everything associated with it.

However, if they are carefully befriended, given a Torah Chinuch and shown the pleasant ways of the Torah living, they can develop a 'stick of Hashem' with which miracles can be performed. All it takes is Ahavas Yis-

roel (love) of their fellow Yidden to teach them Torah and expose them to the beauty of Yiddishkeit.

### Ice Lollies, Ice Cream and Reward Cards

As part of our new behaviour management system we have introduced reward cards. These can be earned when the students accumulate achievement points on the system known as SIMS.

20 points allows a student to earn their first reward card, 40 points a second reward card and at 65 points their third reward card is given to them. A third reward card earns the students a £5 voucher.

One morning break this half term all girls who had earned their first reward card were allowed out of class 5 mins earlier to go to the hall for a treat and there they received a traffic Ice lolly.

All in all there were 82 students who received this treat. The students who received the most achievement points in their year group received an Ice Cream. In year 7 this was Hadassah Klyne, in year 8 it was Chani Ziskind, in year 9 it was Talia Santhouse, in year 10 it was Tzippy Silber and in year 11 it was Dina Halpern. Kol Hakovod to you girls!

We look forward to celebrating with the students their successes in accumulating more achievement points, reward cards and treats.

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## The Zechor Yemos Olom Fellowship Reunion

For the past five years, Torah Umesoroh has been running an intense Holocaust studies programme for mechanchim and mechanchos, known as the Zechor Yemos Olom Holocaust programme. This programme has been offered to mechanchim and mechanchos throughout the USA and Canada and runs for six months, culminating in a trip to Poland which is funded by the claims conference.

In order to qualify for the trip and the certificate, many high quality assignments on the Holocaust and the hashkofo of the Holocaust had to be submitted.

For the first time, in 2014/2015, the course was offered to mechanchim and mechanchos in Manchester and four members of the community were accepted on to the course.

Last November, a re-union was organised for all mechanchim and mechanchos who had undertaken this course since its inception. This took place in New York in the Torah Umesoroh building and its purpose was for everyone to share their resources, ideas and experiences in disseminating Holocaust studies in their respective moisdos across America, Canada and Manchester. Mrs E Levy was one of two representatives from Manchester who travelled to New York to take part in this reunion; the other was a staff member from another school in Manchester.

In conjunction with the Zechor Yemos Olom programme, Torah Umesoroh produced a resource book for mechanchim and mechanchos as an aid in teaching Holocaust studies. It was published and given to everyone at the reunion. It will also be offered to school throughout the USA and Canada. Over three thousand assignments were submitted and only forty were chosen. Of those, five assignments were written by two of our members of staff: three by Mrs E levy and two by Mrs R Stefansky.

In addition, all power points that were submitted by both members of staff were put on the CD of resources which was enclosed with the book.

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## Rabbi Nechemiah Gottlieb's visit “,

On Monday 9th November, Rabbi Nechemiah Gottlieb came to speak to Years 9, 10 and 11 about how we should relate to modern technology and to the internet.

From the outset, Rabbi Gottlieb told us that he had not come to say that all technology is bad and that we should have nothing to do with it. He wanted to make us more aware of the effects of modern technology and so enable us to make our own informed choices about the internet.

Girls found his speech very straightforward and easy to understand because Rabbi Gottlieb spoke about topics that are very relevant to us as teenagers. First of all, he clarified why the Rabbonim care whether or not we have open access to the internet because everything is found in the Torah. Since the Rabbonim learn the Torah, they are the ones who can tell us what the Torah wants from us in this situation. Then he explained that the internet is a very good thing – it helps a lot of people to work better and faster. So here is nothing wrong with using it for work.

However, there are drawbacks when people use the internet simply for pleasure. There are things that are glanced at, almost unwittingly, but they leave a lasting impression. In addition, spending so much time communicating with faceless people via a screen does not enable teenagers to develop appropriate skills for talking to people face to face. Texting is quite likely to lead to arguments because words can be misunderstood more easily than when they are written.

After the introduction, we had a workshop where we were split into groups and each group was given a different question to discuss and to answer. A representative of

each group then presented their question and answer to everyone else. This gave us the opportunity to understand several concepts by ourselves. One of the issues girls discussed was that the internet itself does not make people unhappy. However, when all people see are photographs of people enjoying themselves, they feel the need to post pictures of themselves having a good time. They can't actually enjoy themselves because they are too busy looking as if they are so that they can take photographs to show everyone else. Many girls enjoyed the workshop because it was very interactive and everyone had a chance to express their opinion.

At the end of Rabbi Gottlieb's visit, we had a question and answer session, where anyone could ask about things they hadn't understood or things that hadn't been mentioned. The fact that no members of staff were present during the question and answer session enabled girls to speak their minds and to ask honest questions.

Overall, girls from years 9, 10 and 11 all found Rabbi Gottlieb's visit inspiring because he gave us a better understanding of how to deal with the challenges we are faced with and which we will face in the future when dealing with technology and the internet.

Brocha Katz, Year 11

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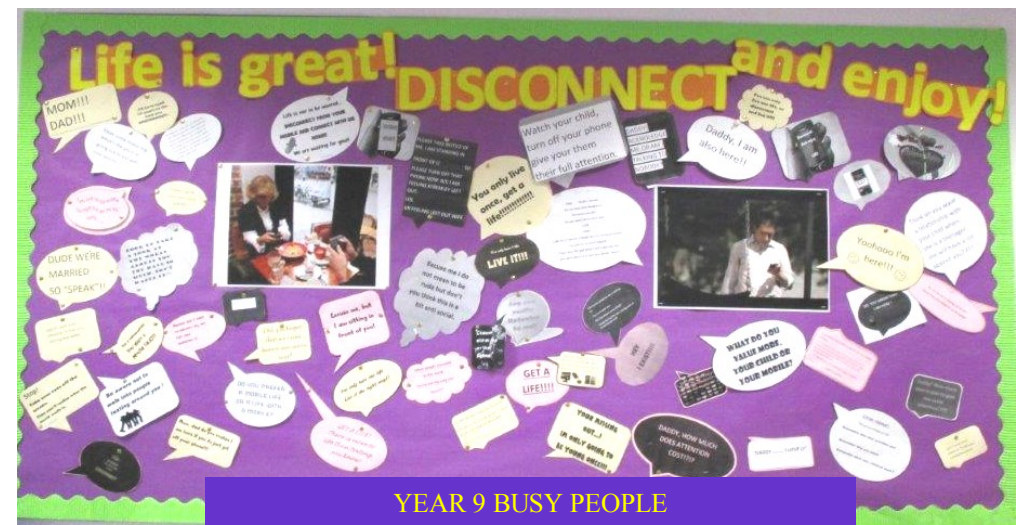
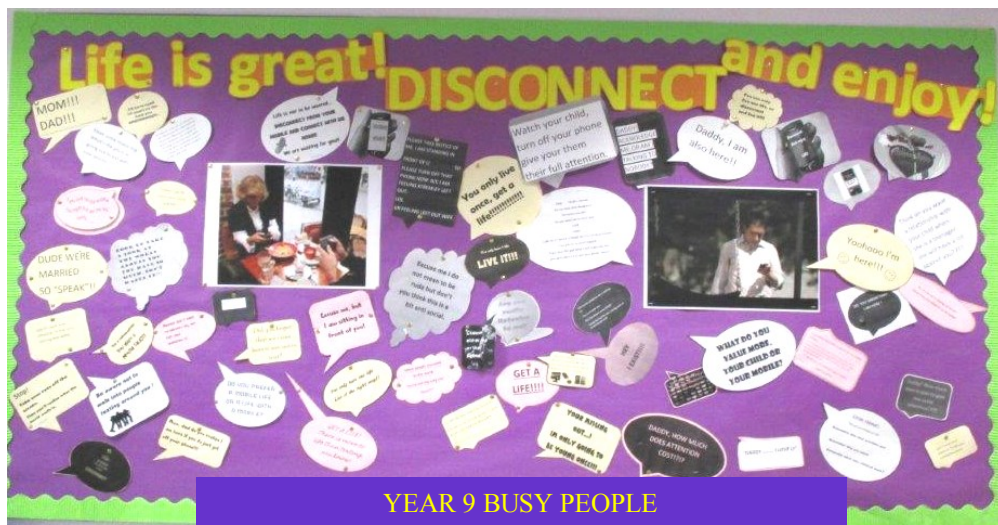
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## EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

The first cohort of teachers participating in the Excellence in Teaching programme provided by St Patrick's RC High School, have spent two full days of training at St Patrick's and two half days at Beis Yaakov. The highly engaging, interactive sessions presented an innovative approach to teaching that enhances pupils' learning experience.

In sessions focusing on topics such as developing questioning techniques and differentiating to all abilities, participants took part in stimulating activities and discussions that challenged their preconceived notions. Teachers were able to reflect on their current practice and explore novel ways of enriching their teaching through a series of activities they carried out that could later be applied in their own classrooms.

Participants of the programme were invited to observe lessons in their subject taking place at St Patrick's and encouraged to observe each other's lessons at Beis Yaakov. One significant benefit from this was the exchange of ideas and insights arising from these observations.

In the words of one of the participants: 'Implementing some of the wealth of new ideas we gained on the course has energised my classes and inspired me to continually improve my skills. Ultimately those who benefit the most are the learners'.

Mrs R C Bloch

## פורים קטן

On every class, פורים קטן participated in a cycling trip with a difference. Each year group were brought to a cycling track in Boggart Hole C lough where there were approximately 180 bikes that were "DIFFERENT". Some had 3 wheels, some were made for 2 or more people and some could be



"pedalled" by hand rather than by foot. This variety enabled everyone to join in and the beautiful weather and surrounding enhanced the atmosphere tremendously.

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## SPRING TERM'S EVENTS

### ט"ו בשבט

First and second form had a beautiful programme arranged by 5<sup>th</sup> form, where a variety of fruits were set out in bowls to represent different **מדות**. After an introduction explaining how each person is a combination of different **מדות**, and the blend of **מדות** together creates the uniqueness of each girl, each girl picked another classmate in lots, and choose 5 fruits representing the **מדות** that they felt most represented that girl. They then brought their cup of 5 fruit be blended by the 5<sup>th</sup> form into a smoothie, while they filled in stickers to go on the cup explaining what unique blend of **מדות** they appreciate in their classmate. Finally, they presented the smoothie to the girl they chose

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> form, were put into groups and given 15 fruit and a **מאמר / פסוק** on the theme of trees. They had 40 minutes to make a fruit platter depicting the **מאמר / פסוק**. The girls rose to the challenge creating masterful and original displays and learning about the various lessons we can learn from trees in the **תורה**

Mrs Rechnitzer demonstrated a number of fruit carving options to 5<sup>th</sup> form, which they then had a chance to try out. They produced some intricate designs on apples and kiwis.

Later on the fruit platters were distributed to local old age homes.

### ראש חודש אדר ב Programme

On 5<sup>th</sup> form organised an innovative and highly successful programme for the whole school. After davening, the girls were split into teams by means of a game that singled out the “Esthers” in school, and the rest of the pupils were sorted through a **גורל**.

Each team represented a different country who were invited to the king’s “banquet” that would take place one hour later. Rooms had been set up in the “palace” to aid the preparations. Each team had to return to the hall, with a performance, national costume, national dish, a flag and a **משלח מנות**. At the banquet, the teams presented some of their preparations. The morning finished with a short skit performed by staff members. An enjoyable time was had by all.

### פורים קטן

On a **פורים קטן**, every class participated in a cycling trip. Boggart Hole C lough has approximately 180 bikes that were “DIFFERENT”. Some had 3 wheels, some were made for 2 or more people and some could be “pedalled” by hand rather than by foot. This variety enabled everyone to join in and the beautiful weather and surrounding enhanced the atmosphere tremendously.

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## YEAR 7 BAS MITZVA EVENT

Last month, the girls in year 7 enjoyed their bas mitzvah celebration, which was the culmination of many weeks' hard work. Their mothers, grandmothers and teachers were treated to a lavish three course meal in elegant surroundings together with entertainment performed by the girls themselves.

The theme of the evening was 'Stars'.

The message was that just as each star has its unique name and number, each of us is unique and special. This idea was depicted in a choice, dance, skit, play and orchestra, all ably directed and choreographed by members of staff ably assisted by year 10 pupils.

A representative of the girls demonstrated the mitzvah of ha-frashas challa, by taking challa from prepared dough and making the correct brocho. The girls were also shown a video demonstrating how to check fruit and vegetables for insects, which they had learned as part of their bas mitzvah curriculum. Rabbi Katz spoke about the evening's theme and each girl was presented with a souvenir. At the end of the evening, each girl presented her mother with a beautifully handcrafted hafrashas challa tile.

It was a truly memorable evening to celebrate this special occasion. Both mothers and daughters commented on the warm atmosphere, smooth running and professionalism of the evening.

Mrs S Royde



## YEAR 7 BAS MITZVA EVENT

Last month, the girls in year 7 enjoyed their bas mitzvah celebration, which was the culmination of many weeks' hard work. Their mothers, grandmothers and teachers were treated to a lavish three course meal in elegant surroundings together with entertainment performed by the girls themselves.

The theme of the evening was 'Stars'.

The message was that just as each star has its unique name and number, each of us is unique and special. This idea was depicted in a choice, dance, skit, play and orchestra, all ably directed and choreographed by members of staff ably assisted by year 10 pupils.

A representative of the girls demonstrated the mitzvah of ha-frashas challa, by taking challa from prepared dough and making the correct brocho. The girls were also shown a video demonstrating how to check fruit and vegetables for insects, which they had learned as part of their bas mitzvah curriculum. Rabbi Katz spoke about the evening's theme and each girl was presented with a souvenir. At the end of the evening, each girl presented her mother with a beautifully handcrafted hafrashas challa tile.

It was a truly memorable evening to celebrate this special occasion. Both mothers and daughters commented on the warm atmosphere, smooth running and professionalism of the evening.

Mrs S Royde



## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week, 11<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016, is an annual celebration of science, technology engineering and mathematics. On Wednesday

16<sup>th</sup> March 2016, as part of British Science

Week, our school invited a group of year 5 pupils from a local primary school, Broughton Jewish Primary School, to visit our school's science department and conduct experiments in a genuine science lab and using correct scientific apparatus.

With the help of their teacher and BYJHSA science staff Mrs Lazarus and Mrs Simmonds, they performed several experiments. The girls really enjoyed their lesson in the lab. Some of these visitors could well be future BYJHSA pupils.

Mrs V Lazarus



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Mrs V Lazarus





## Programme for ראש חודש אדר ב

On 5<sup>th</sup> form organised an innovative and highly successful programme for the whole school. After davening, the girls were split into teams by means of a game that singled out the “esthers” in school, and the rest of the pupils were sorted through a גורל.

Each team represented a different country who were invited to the king’s “banquet” that would take place one hour later. Rooms had been set up in the” palace” to aid the preparations. Each team had to return to the hall, with a performance, national costume, national dish, a flag and a **משלח מנות**. At the banquet, the teams presented some of their preparations. The morning finished with a short skit performed by staff members. An enjoyable time was had by all.

**S E N I O R C I T I Z E N S ’ P U R I M P A R T Y**  
On 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, year 10 pupils organised and hosted the annual senior citizens’ afternoon tea/ Purim party which was attended by more than sixty ladies, including residents from Heathlands, Beenstock Home, Gan Eden and Sherdley Court. Our school has regularly hosted a pre-Purim party. This year’s guest of honour was Mrs K Sinason, who had the original idea for such an event more than thirty years ago. In fact, Mrs Sinason organised this annual event until her retirement in 2012.

Year 10 pupils decorated the school hall and organised lively background music creating a genuine Purim atmosphere. They prepared and served refreshments which included a wide variety of sandwiches and cakes, fruit and vegetable platters, hot and cold drinks.

The guests were entertained by year 7 pupils, who performed a dance routine and a choir of year 10 pupils who performed a medley of traditional Purim tunes. The ladies received prizes from the tombola and everyone received beautiful mishloach manos in honour of Purim.

Once again, the event was a great success. It was wonderful to see the way in our pupils interacted with their guests, ensuring that everyone felt welcome and had an enjoyable afternoon. The ladies thanked our pupils for a wonderful afternoon.

Many thanks to all staff and pupils for donating tombola prizes, food for including in mishloach manos, Mrs Uhrmacher for organising the refreshments, Mrs Rebenwurz for organising the invitations and Mrs Lazarus for organising transport.

Mrs M Steinberg

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## Kavana/Mindfulness Programme

During the month of שבט, we worked on increasing our mindfulness , one step at a time. There was a launch assembly ראש חודש, where the girls were addressed by Mrs E Levy on this important topic, and then by 2 fifth formers, who explained how we improve in ברוחניות by taking on small manageable commitments and building them up. The girls were then each given a “Kavana Kard” – a small credit card size card that they can keep in their siddur or pocket to focus on the meaning of the first few words of any ברכה.

In the following week, first form colourfully decorated letters of 3 מאמרי חז"ל about which are now on display in the corridors in school.

In the second week, each class had a panel about תפילה, prayer, where three members of staff (not necessarily teachers) answered questions about how their davening has changed over the years, how they work on increasing and what they find easy and challenging. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all classes, who found it refreshing to see that Tefillo/prayer is something that everyone in the school works on, and that we can all learn from everyone. It prompted open and thought provoking discussion on Davening.

The pupil newsletter the following week focussed on Tefillo, and in the final week, each girl received an illustrated זכרונות השחר help us focus on the meaning of these all important daily recognition of 'נוה' our lives.

The effects of the improved davening can still be strongly felt in school and we look forward to rejoicing in the feeling that our תפילות have been מתקבל לטובה.

Mrs B Klein

### SHABBATON – FEBRUARY 2016

To put my experience of Year 10's Shabbaton into a single word is virtually impossible. It was an unbelievable, inspirational and fun experience. Being part of the decoration team prior to the Shabbaton, we were told to create colour schemes for all the meals and souvenirs for everyone to take home at the end of the weekend. The whole year group was divided into groups to prepare for this unforgettable event.

Friday morning arrived; we were all in school by 8.15am to being loading everything we were likely to need onto the coach. From salt to spoons, we took virtually everything you can think of. After a two hour coach drive, full of cheering and singing, we arrived in Osmotherley, North Yorkshire.

After preparing for Shabbos and eating our delicious meal which had been prepared by our cook, we had a programme which had been devised by another group of pupils. We went onto a bridge just outside the youth hostel, overlooking a beautiful waterfall, and started to dance and sing.

The next day and a half flew by. Yet what I will remember most is the wonderful relationship I had with my teachers. It wasn't the usual teacher-pupil atmosphere but we felt like one family. I rate this experience as one of the best experiences of my entire high school years.

Rochel Tova Stanton Year 10

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## THIS TERM'S EVENTS

06/01/16	Year 9 Parents Evening	04/02/16	Form 5 with Mr Schwalbe – e safety talk
11/01/16	Excellence in Teaching course	05/02/16 - 07/02/16	4th Form Shabbaton
12/01/16	Year 10 Parents Evening	08/02/16	Excellence in Teaching course
14/01/16	2nd form speaker - Rabbi Angel	09/02/16	Rosh Chodesh Choir
14/01/16	Rabbi Y Steinberg - Form 3 speaker	17/02/16	Chai Cancer Care address to staff
15/01/16	Form 4 - Rabbi Lewis speaker	18/02/16	Mr Schwalbe - fathers e-safety evening
17/01/16	Safeguarding talk - year 11 - Mrs Kestenbaum of Interlink	23/02/16	Purim Koton outing - cycling
18/01/16	3rd form Shiro programme	23/02/16	Form 3 Adar programme
18/01/16	year 7 tefilo panel	07/03/16	form 4 e safety session – Mr Schwalbe
19/01/16	Year 8 Parents Evening	07/03/16	First form bas mitzva evening
20/01/16	year 9 tefilo panel	11/03/16	Rosh Chodesh Adar Programme
21/01/16	year 8 tefilo panel	15/03/16	year 10 citizenship outing to courthouse
21/01/16	year 10 tefilo panel	15/03/16	JADDS course
22/01/16	Kabolas Shabbos	17/03/16	Study Skills Session with year 8, 9, 10 and 11
25/01/16	Tu BiShevat programme	22/03/16	senior citizens Purim party
26/01/16	Excellence in Teaching course	22/03/16	Form 2 & 3 Purim programme
26/01/16	Open evening for prospective parents	23/03/2016	Rabbi Wreschner speaker – Ta'anis Esther
29/01/16	Form 2 police, hatzolo, fire, social worker talk	04/04/16 – 05/04/2016	peer pressure programme – year 7 – 10
29/01/16	year 11 tefilo panel	08/04/16	Year 8 citizenship visit to police museum
31/01/16	safeguarding for fathers	12/04/16 – 13/04/2016	Round Robin Pesach programme
03/02/16	Year 11 parents evening		

### NEXT TERM – SAVE THE DATES

#### **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

Year 11 pupils begin school at 8.45 am: Mock English exam  
Year 7-10 pupils start school at 11.00am

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Dr L Bernstein will be coming to school to work with pupils, staff and parents.  
School will start at 11am for all pupils.

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Cross curricular activities to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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## REPORT ON SHEVA SHABBOSOS PROJECT

Beis Yaakov high school were privileged to take part in an international project called Sheva Shabbosos, which was set up in memory of the 7 Sasoon children, and as a (merit) for the (speedy equipment) of their mother.

Briefly this programme consisted of 7 weeks where we worked as a school to enhance our appreciation of Shabbos, with each week focusing on one of the following topics:

- ) Shabbos הכנה לשבת (preparation)
- ) Greeting Shabbos (קבלת שבת)
- ) Sanctity of Shabbos (קדושת שבת)
- ) Keeping Shabbos (שמירת שבת)
- ) Prayers of Shabbos (תפילות שבת)
- ) Enjoyment of Shabbos (עונג שבת)

Taking leave of Shabbos

Every department across the school reflected some of these ideas in their lessons -for example history focussed on Mesirus Nefesh for Shabbos in Communist Russia, French and Ivrit learned about Shabbos food in their lan-

guage etc. Some lessons were cross department - for example a joint lesson between geography and Dinim discussing the international dateline and Shabbos.

In addition there were many extra curricular activities including a beautiful Shabbos choir, headed by Tehila Zolty, Simi Heimann and Yehudis Rebenwurtzel under the direction of Mrs Green, whole school Kabbolas Shabbos, Oneg Shabbos peckelech, and year



portrayal of how slavery and freedom are relevant concerning whether Pesach cleaning should be considered as slavery or freedom, giving the girls a message of how to view a life of מצוות. Year 11 had a similar programme the day before. Mrs Jacobs inspired the girls with a message of Litwin addressed how מצוות shows us that everything round instantly. The girls felt that their appetite for the messages of this forward to continuing learning about מצוות in their lessons.

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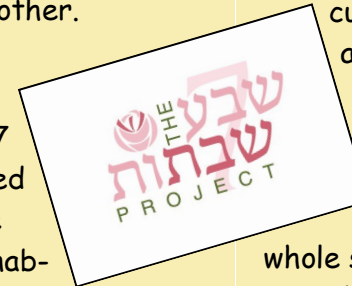
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