

NEWSNOTES

Friday 18th November 2016 17 Cheshvan 5777 Parashat Vayeira

Shabbat begins tonight at 3.49 p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 5.00 pm

Dates for your diary

Please check the calendar section of the school website for more detailed information.

Wednesday 23rd November

Year 2 assembly 9.10 (parents invited)

Chanukah celebrations/presentations

Thursday 15th December

9.30 Years 1 & 2 (Year 1 & 2 parents invited)

Tuesday 20th December

9.30 Years 3 - 6 (Years 3 - 6 parents invited)

Wednesday 21st December

9.30 EYFS (N and Rec parents invited)

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents,

The children have certainly enjoyed the Anti-Bullying Workshops this week, which I felt was an important part of curriculum enrichment, and there will be further events planned within the next academic year.

It was also great to see all children and teachers wearing different types of hats today and the money raised will be donated to Children in Need.

The children will now be starting to prepare for the end of year performance for Chanukah and parents will be invited to this event towards the end of term.

I am delighted with the response from parents who wish to volunteer within the school - please obtain a form from the school office should you wish to be interested in offering skills that will benefit our children.

We are expecting a review of Simon Marks by the Hackney Learning Trust imminently, and they will be monitoring our progress and I will update you when the report is produced.

If you do have any concerns or questions, or would like to see me, please make an appointment at the school office.

Many thanks,
Gareth Thomas
Interim Headteacher

Power of One – Anti-Bullying workshops

On Thursday we all took part in the presentation/workshops around anti-bullying. Here we learned about physical, emotional, exclusion and cyber bullying, and how we all have a responsibility to stop bullying (The power of One) through speaking out and reporting it, reminding us of the famous quote:

'All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing'

During the workshops children acted out roles of bully, target and bystanders (those who either watch, encourage or ignore signs of bullying).



At the end of the presentation we were presented with a contract for all at Simon Marks to sign.

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Year 1 & Year 5 peer reading

Year 1 and Year 5 came together this week for a short but enjoyable peer reading session. All children were highly engaged and as Carmen (year 5) said; "It's great because we actually get to teach prediction!"



Book Fair

Thank you to all who supported the Book Fair either by helping out or by visiting and buying books.

Thought for the Week - Parashat Vayeira

In this week's Parashat G-d reveals Himself to Abraham but Abraham rushes off to prepare a meal for three guests who appear in the desert heat. One of the three—who are angels disguised as men—announces that, in exactly one year, the barren Sarah will give birth to a son. Sarah laughs as she and Abraham are too old to have children and she thinks this impossible.

Two of the three disguised angels arrive in the doomed city of Sodom, where Abraham's nephew Lot extends his hospitality to them and protects them from the evil intentions of a mob. The two guests reveal that they have come to overturn the place, and to save Lot and his family but Lot's wife disobeys the command not to look back at the burning city as they flee and turns into a pillar of salt.

G-d remembers His promise to Sarah, and gives her and Abraham a son, who is named Isaac (*Yitzchak*, meaning "will laugh"); Abraham is one hundred years old, and Sarah ninety, at their child's birth.

Later, G-d tests Abraham's devotion by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah (the Temple Mount) in Jerusalem. Isaac is bound and placed on the altar, and Abraham raises the knife to slaughter his son. A voice from heaven calls to stop him; a ram, caught in the undergrowth by its horns, is offered in Isaac's place.

What we learn from this

We must have faith in G-d's words and we also must remember to keep our promises.

Shabbat Shalom.

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Children In Need

Today we have been supporting Children In Need by allowing children to come to school in mufti (non-school uniform) wearing a (funny) hat. Some pupils were creative and wore hats that they had decorated or made themselves. We will let you know next week how much money was raised.

Achievements

Rec:

Isaac- for trying hard to form the letters

Lee- for making outstanding progress in writing

Year 1:

Lydia- For fantastic letter writing in Literacy

Chaplain - For excellent effort in Literacy

Year 2:

Barsaam - For great work during phonics

Nina - For her effort and participation during phonics lessons

Year 3:

Zak - outstanding homework making a model Parthenon

Raphael – Green behaviour and trying hard to be a good role model

Year 4:

Olivia – giving her best in all subjects

Sophie – excellent work in Literacy

Year 5:

Jaden – being an awesome expert in PE and supporting his classmates by encouraging them to keep trying.

Su – for not giving up in Maths and always putting in a fantastic effort.

Year 6:

Gideon Rochman – excellent Literacy work

Joshua Wright – excellent role model and always gives his best

This week we would also like to celebrate the work of a pupil in Year 4. Mr Gilani has chosen a story by Olivia in Year 4 who were including features of suspense writing in their stories. Olivia evaluated her own work, made some amendments and commented that she felt she had included short sentences, repetition and a range of sentence starters to fit the genre. Would you agree?

Jordan and the beast
Jordan was a nervous boy ^{who was hesitantly} walking through the dark, terrifying, frightful forest as he had heard howling. ~~He started to shiver.~~ ^{Good short sentence for effect.}
Jordan was on his way to investigate a large and mysterious object he ~~had seen.~~ ^{could see could say}
~~There it was!~~ ~~It had a vile nose, terrible yellow nails and bright red devil eyes.~~
Jordan ran back to his dad and he yelled "Dad! Dad! I saw the monster: It had a vile nose; terrible yellow; nails and bright red devil eyes." ^{Great opening paragraph.}
The monster is coming to destroy our world. He's scary, creepy, terrifying, evil, black, wicked, terrible and frightful. ^{is this a quote?}
The farmers come to see the monster and

there was no sign of the monster but then the farmers and Jordan heard 'stomp!', 'stomp!', 'stomp!', 'stomp!' ~~and~~ ^{and} the monster breathed out hot burning, orange red fire and he angrily ^{and} loudly roared. Think of an interesting sentence opener here.
"ROAR!!!"
The farmers didn't know what to do but then Jordan had an idea. He said, "get your guns out and shoot the monster until it dies. The monster still kept crushing all the villages with his big, enormous gigantic feet and all the families were getting crushed."
The farmers kept shooting and the monster started to wobble side to side. ^{His} then his face went purple, his ears went red

and his eyes went white. He tried to run and fight all the farmers but he collapsed and fell on twenty-five little villages and crushed fifteen families and finally they got rid of the terrifying, horrifying monster.