

NEWSNOTES

Friday 9th December 2016 9 Kislev 5777 Parashat Vayeitzei

Shabbat begins tonight at 3.34 p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 4.50 pm

Dates for your diary

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

Chanukah celebrations/presentations

Monday 5th December

Jack and the Beanstalk show for pupils

Wednesday 7th December

Year 5 trip to the Science Museum

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)
p.m. class parties (non-uniform)

Wednesday 21st December

9.30 EYFS (N and Rec parents invited)

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of term, the children are busy preparing for the Chanukah celebrations.

We are very sad to say goodbye to Mr Ralph Klajn who started working at Simon Marks in 2010 and who will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mr Klajn has been an integral part of the Jewish Studies team, but more importantly he will be remembered for his wonderful playing of the piano and for the past six years he has made the Jewish celebrations at Simon Marks spectacular. We will be having a special leaving assembly on Friday 16th December and the staff and pupils will be celebrating his loyalty and contributions to the Simon Marks community.

We will also be having special achievement awards for pupils who have demonstrated outstanding efforts over the last term.

On the afternoon of Tuesday 20th December the PTA have kindly offered to organise food for class parties and children will be able to wear non-uniform for this.

Gareth Thomas
Interim Headteacher



Chanukah Celebrations



Please make a note of the date of your child's Chanukah performance, and join us in celebrating Chanukah together

Thursday 15th December

9.30 a.m. Years 1 & 2

Tuesday 20th December

9.30 a.m. Years 3 - 6

Wednesday 21st December

9.30 a.m. EYFS



Yr 5 trip to the Science Museum

Our special trip was a day to remember, to a fantastic museum with amazing history. My group went through the science exhibit and were dazzled by the sights, things to touch, things to smell and even to bite!

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The glass bridge was very scary – you thought you would fall but in the end you didn't at all.

The Wonderlab was our favourite. It was interesting, amazing and most importantly, fun. There was nothing you couldn't touch – rides – even slides and everything imaginable.

So thank you, Science Museum, it was fun.
Tia Dike-Stevens



Thought for the Week – Parashat Vayeitzei

In the last parasha we learned that Yaakov (Jacob) ran away from Esav (Esau). It was a long journey. He felt tired and all alone, there was nowhere for him to shelter and he was forced to sleep in the open air, Jacob's only pillow was a large stone. While asleep he had a dream; he saw a long ladder reaching up to the sky, beautiful angels were going up and down the ladder and then G-d came to him and said "Do not worry, you are not alone, I shall be with you always."

After his rest and a further journey he reached his uncle's home. Lavan (Laban) the uncle remembered that Eliezer had previously come laden with jewellery for his sister Rivka and assumed that Yaakov also brought some jewellery with him; being greedy he embraced Yaakov and welcomed him warmly though he did not mean it.

Lavan had two daughters; the oldest was Leah followed by Rachel the youngest. Yaakov fell in love with Rachel and asked his uncle for Rachel's hand in marriage. Lavan replied that if he Yaakov wished to marry his daughter he must work for him for seven years. This he did. Only on the day of the wedding when the bride's veil was removed did Yaakov realise that Leah was standing before him and not his beloved Rachel.

"You have cheated me," exclaimed Yaakov, "I asked for Rachel's hand". Lavan, being the conniving man that he was, replied, "I cannot let my younger daughter get married before my oldest". "But, it is Rachel that I wish to marry," said Yaakov. Thinking that he could get more wealth from Yaakov he said, "If you still wish to marry Rachel you must work for me for another seven years," which Yaakov readily agreed to do.

What we learn from this

We should endeavour to deal with problems calmly. Although Jacob was tricked into marrying the wrong girl, he found other sensible ways to fulfil his wish without fighting.

Shabbat Shalom.

Achievements

Rec:

Esther – writing a sentence independently using finger spaces

Nathan – trying his best when sounding out simple words and beginning to write words

Year 1:

Udemz – for consistently staying on Green and being an excellent role model

Lydia – for excellent letter writing in Literacy

Year 2:

Elena – Excellent story writing

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Joel – for working hard in solving division problems

Year 3:

Alma: Fantastic effort in Literacy. Working hard to include new teaching in her writing.

Jessica: For her positive, kind and helpful attitude.

Year 4:

Talia – Great contributions during class and helping Mr Gilani teach gymnastics

Emil – Using powerful vocabulary to write an amazing magical story

Year 5:

Carmen – For consistently showing green behaviour and being a role model for all of year 5.

Temitayo – For working hard on staying on green and pushing himself to get gold every day.

Year 6:

Ria-Elise Sabaroché-Samuels – for consistently working well throughout the week.

Jasmine Lewis – for being an excellent role model

This week we would also like to celebrate the work of a pupil in Year 5. Ms Gough referred Jacob Deegan's writing to Mr Thomas as it was so impressive! The children have been studying Grimm's Tales and identifying key features of them, including a quest or goal, royal characters, magic/spells, the 'rule of three', a gruesome ending/torture, quick introduction as well as the rich figurative language. Jacob has included these elements in his own tale, which can be seen below.

Once upon a time, there lived three cats,
Johnny the bravest and strongest, Sam, the wisest
and slyest and finally, Billy a little kitten hungry
for adventure.

One day, Billy went out for a walk. The
wooden houses surrounded the street. A bearded
man with a crooked, thin walking stick beckoned
the innocent kitten to come,
"listen friend, he croaked. You go get me a
stone
rock of the finest Mother rock and I will grant
you any wish you command"

The animal couldn't believe it. He replied with
a cheerful yes, and set off to the volcano.
The cat really wanted to be noticed by his
older brothers and he had his chance.

His brothers pushed him around. And did not treat
him well. "Well I'm no different from them!"
he thought, ^{revengeful} revengeful; as he ^{ambled} ambled on his
tiny, padded paws.

Soon, he noticed he was ^{had lost} ~~was~~ ^{lost} ~~walking~~ ^{lost} the path.
The ^{massive} ~~A~~ ^{massive} ~~Grimmian~~ ^{Standard} ~~Mo~~ ^{Standard} ~~Volcano~~ ^{Standard} ~~spread~~ ^{Standard} ~~over~~
the valley. Lava fumes spread out of the peak.
It ^{oozed} ~~oozed~~ down the rocky ledge like swamp water
down a tree. ^{steam} Steam puffed out of the low giant
pointy structure. Billy's heart banged ^{had} ~~had~~ against
his ^{chest} ~~chest~~ rapidly like the ^{hellsire} ~~hellsire~~ of a machine
gun.

He put on a ^{continued walking} ~~set off~~ ^{continued walking} stern face and ~~set off~~ ^{continued walking} again.
At the top, ^{He saw} ~~A~~ ^{He saw} ~~circle~~ ^{He saw} ~~encrusted~~ ^{He saw} with burnt slates
of rock. The ^{last} ~~last~~ ^{last} ~~steam~~ ^{last} ~~passed~~ ^{last} ~~out~~ ^{last} of the bubbling
Chuggal

note.... He couldn't do it. The gear had seeped through his body. He rocketed back. The next day he came back determined to bring back a glowing hot rock of pure lava.

A few hours later he was half way through. Sweat poured from Billy's head and he gritted his small jagged teeth. A giant wave of orange lava as big as a tsunami came crashing down the side. It bubbled and sizzled as the cat leaped across and yled. The ~~over~~ thick burning liquid stung his hind paw.

Billy *This sentence should be apart of previous.*
He yowled and accelerated at full speed.

A few weeks later his burn was healed and he set off once more.

He was more ready than ever. After the ^{climber} long day of the tough, rocky haulery. The bronze kitters reached the top ^{where} the molten encrusted hole bubbled and oozed. He peered inside. Lava sizzled two and through. He took out a steel bowl but the rock under him ^{cracked} cracked. The two parts separated. And the poor kitty lurled to the burning lava below. I guess that's the last of his 9 lives gone.

The cat's brothers came to find him but found a burn coated skeleton in the volcano. Also, the brothers found out the man was an evil wizard and had him thrown into ^{into} a pen bench. While two gaurds got a board filled with metal nails and plunged the spiky triangle on his chest. And ^{that was} that's the end of his