

# NEWSNOTES



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017 15 Tevet 5777 Parashat Vayechi

Shabbat begins tonight at 4.02p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 5.11 pm

## **Dates for your diary**

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

### **January**

#### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Dental checks – Rec and Year 1

#### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Headteacher 'meet the parents' meetings  
9.10 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

#### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Year 5 to the London Aquarium

#### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Yr 6 to the Science Museum

#### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

Year 3 assembly to parents

#### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup>**

Year 6 singing at Holocaust Memorial Service

### **February**

#### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>**

Year 4 assembly to parents

#### **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

Year 5 assembly to parents

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

Fruit Seder

#### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Tu B'Shevat

#### **Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Fri 17<sup>th</sup>**

Half term break

#### **27<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Book week

### **March**

#### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>**

Nursery/Reception assembly to parents

#### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

World Book Day

#### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>**

Purim Disco (PTA)

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

Purim celebration in school

#### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Yr 2 assembly to parents

#### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

School closes at 3.30

**Early closure on Friday ends 17<sup>th</sup> March**

## **Headteacher's message**

Dear Parents,

I'd like to formally welcome Zachary Jacobs (Year 6) Yvette Cheevers (Year 2) and Susan James (Nursery) to Simon Marks. They all bring a wealth of experience to the school and particularly to their year groups.

Next week we have dental checks for Reception and Year 1 pupils, and Year 5 will be visiting the London Aquarium to inspire them as they continue with their 'Into the Deep' theme.

On Tuesday Mr Thomas and Governors will be holding 'meet the parents' sessions at 9a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Please come along to one of these sessions if you can, to hear about the plans for the school and to ask any questions you may have.

The end of the week has brought excitement in the form of a little dusting of snow which happily coincided with break time today. Let's hope that we, and everyone around the country, are all safe and warm while the weathers battles on outside.

Shabbat Shalom, I wish you a happy weekend,

Debra Crouch (Interim Deputy Headteacher)

## **URGENT REMINDER**

Please would all parents abide by the school policy and not bring any snacks/food/drink apart from fruit and water onto school premises, including the playground. This is important, not only to ensure that we follow Kosher rules, but it is essential in ensuring the safety of children with severe allergies.

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## Thought for the Week – Parashat Vayechi

As we know Yaakov (Jacob) and his family lived in Egypt. While Yosef (Joseph) lived in the capital city of Egypt, Jacob lived in an area called Goshen.

After a turbulent period in his life, Jacob began to finally enjoy himself and he was happy to be reunited with his beloved son Joseph. He had some seventeen happy years in Egypt; everyone knew that he was the ruler's son and because of this they all treated him with utmost respect.

Joseph was happy to have his family with him and made sure that they were well looked after. Jacob became old and frail; he knew that he was reaching the end of his life. He requested that Joseph and his brothers came to see him before he died as he wanted to bless them.

Jacob said to Joseph "I want you to make me a promise that only you are able to keep because you are the ruler. After my death, make sure that I am not buried here in Egypt, carry me to Eretz Israel, the Holy Land and bury me next to my father and grandfather Yitzchak and Avraham (Isaac and Abraham)." Joseph reassured his father that he would keep the promise and fulfil his wish.

Yaakov died when he was 147 years old. Not only did his sons mourn him, but all the Egyptians did too as they knew that he was a righteous man because the famine had stopped when he arrived in Egypt.

## Thought of the week

It is very important to keep a promise.

## London Zoo

Year 4s visited ZSL London Zoo this week and had an exhilarating time. We had the opportunity to stroke Madagascan hissing cockroaches, watch the lions and lionesses walk in their larger enclosures and even see the giraffes being fed.

Aside from Mr Gilani trembling out of fear from the African wild dogs, the class had an amazing time.

A huge 'thank you' to Miya's mum for accompanying us on the trip.



'Hands on' experience with rather large minibeasts!



Excitement building as we arrive at the zoo.

## Arsenal vs Burnely Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Please read the letter sent out yesterday for how your child could win a trip to the match with Mrs Crouch. If you have any questions, please see Mrs Crouch.

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## Environmental issues

Last week we suggested that in future newsnotes would not be sent to all families in paper form, and asked whether they would be happy to receive them via email (newsnotes are also uploaded on to the website). In addition to this we could display a small number of paper copies in the reception area for parents to collect, should they wish to.

Before we make this decision, could you please let Debra Crouch know whether you would like to continue to receive a paper copy each week.

## Achievements

### Rec

**Hannah:** for reading and writing her 'tricky' words during phonics sessions.

**Benji:** for using excellent vocabulary to describe aeroplanes.

### Year 1

**Nathan** - For staying focused and showing fantastic behaviour and ignoring distraction.

**Aleph** - For being brave and working independently.

### Year 2

**Romi:** For her persistence in finishing her writing in her own time

**Kaambe:** For great listening and responding to instructions in the classroom

### Year 3

**Theo:** For excellent creative writing, describing the place between.

**Neriah:** For working hard and showing enthusiasm for learning in Maths.

### Year 4:

**Huda:** for working hard in Numeracy

**Rili:** for consistently being a positive member of the class

### Year 5

**Kitty** – For building an amazing habitat over the term break.

**Isabella** – For having a positive attitude towards her learning and staying on green all week.

### Year 6

**Alberto** -\_For showing huge improvements and efforts in his writing.

**Ella** - For developing her understanding in Maths.