

NEWSNOTES



Friday 9th June 2017 15 Sivan 5777 Parashat Behaalotecha

Shabbat begins tonight at 8:58p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 10.30p.m.

Dates for your diary

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

June

Sunday 25th June

Summer Fete 1p.m. – 4p.m.

July

Monday 3rd July

Hackney Music Festival Instrumental (school band and brass)

Tuesday 4th July

Hackney Music Dance (Year 3)

Wednesday 5th July

Hackney Music Festival Junior Singing

21st July

End of term: school closes at 1.30 p.m.

Useful contact details

School telephone number: 0208 806 6048

School email address (general):

info@simonmarks.hackney.sch.uk

Email address (Chair of Governors):

howardpallis@hotmail.com

School website:

<http://www.simonmarks.hackney.sch.uk/>

New Headteacher Appointment

Following a thorough rigorous recruitment process, the Governors are delighted to announce the appointment of Ms Gulcan Metin Asdoyuran as the permanent Headteacher of Simon Marks starting in September 2017. Ms Metin joins Simon Marks having had 25 years' experience of teaching in inner London schools (including Hackney), and primary school expertise including successful Headship.

Ms Metin already knows Simon Marks well and is aware of the challenges and opportunities ahead; she is excited to join the school at a time when we are aiming for growth and development of Simon Marks. Ms Metin will be meeting the staff, children and parents very soon.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Pallis
Chair of Governors

Messages from the new Headteacher



To all the grown-ups at Simon Marks...

My name is Gulcan Metin Asdoyuran, (known as Ms Metin to pupils). I am really excited about taking up the post as Headteacher at Simon Marks Jewish Primary School. I am an experienced Headteacher currently leading in another local Hackney school. I have been teaching in inner London for over 25 years and have always wanted to work in Hackney as I was born in Hackney.

I am passionate about making a difference to young lives. I believe that primary school experiences are crucial in developing well rounded, confident and unique individuals. Our children should have nothing less than good quality education and continue to develop thirst for learning.

I wish you all a peaceful but productive end of term and a restful summer. I look forward to officially meeting you all in September.

Ms Metin

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To all the wonderful pupils at Simon Marks...

My name is Ms Metin and I will be your new Headteacher in September. Some of you in Year 4 will have already met me and I'm sure that I will get to meet more of you when I come to visit your school this term.

I have already heard that you are all wonderful learners and excited to be at school. I am also very excited to work with you all.

Please continue with all your hard work throughout the rest of this term and enjoy your summer holidays, remember to do a lot of reading and I will be asking you about what you have read in September.

Ms Metin

How we have responded to recent acts of terrorism at Simon Marks

Following the recent terrorist attacks we have thought carefully about how we acknowledge and discuss these terrible events with children without creating an atmosphere of fear.

On Tuesday we joined in with the one minute silence held throughout the U.K., and our discussions with the children before and after this focused on the respect for all people, regardless of faith, that we find when we learn about world religions (and indeed, people who do not follow a specific religion). Through these studies we learn what unites the various religions rather than what divides us and we also learn that we have nothing to fear from people of different faiths.

We also discussed the core British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. Through this children can begin to understand how the majority create a safe, united country and how only a small minority try to disrupt this and try to create chaos.

When discussing the specific events we offer reassurance, clarify facts, encourage questions and encourage children to talk about how they felt

when they heard the news and how they feel now. By linking these discussions to what we learn about world religions and British Values, we can encourage community cohesion.

In one particular lesson observed we were very impressed by the calm, knowledgeable and reassuring teacher and by the thoughtful, open and respectful views of the children.

If you have any concerns about your child's response to the recent terror attacks, please see your child's classteacher.

Summer Fete Sunday 25th June



Our annual Summer Fair will be held on Sunday 25th June from 1p.m. – 4p.m. As usual, there will be lots of enjoyable activities and games, and it will be lovely to see you all there. Entry will be by ticket only at £1.

Please support this event as the PTA support the school in so many ways including buying play and sports equipment, glockenspiels and computers.

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Kippot

We would be grateful for donations of spare kippot if you have any at home to loan to children for a day who forget theirs. Thank you

Achievements

Rec:

Esther: For drawing illustrations from the story 'Lost and Found.'

Louie: For investigating how to transport water using pipes.

Year 1

Nathan: For his outstanding green behaviour.

Lydia: For working extremely hard to solve word problems.

Year 2

Zion: For completing all his work this week.

Angel: For remembering to add paragraphs in her writing.

Year 3:

Reuben: For a fantastic homework assignment, writing a detailed explanation of his clever invention.

Zak: For working hard to understand capacity, measuring liquids and working independently.

Year 4:

'**Year 4 class**' for displaying positive learning behaviour and 'shining' all week

Year 5:

A special thank you to all of Year 5 for their excellent attitude to learning and making my week so enjoyable, from Mr Noone.

Mia: for fantastic work in maths, where she has made great progress in her understanding of fractions.

Joshua: for the excellent newspaper report he has written this week.

Year 6

Noah J: For leading his team to produce fantastic graphs, posters, presentations and spreadsheets.

Amber: For helping her team produce a great product and an outstanding presentation.