

NEWSNOTES



Friday 10th March 2017 12 Adar 5777 Parashat Tetzaveh

Shabbat begins tonight at 5.39 p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 6.48 p.m.

Dates for your diary

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

March

Wednesday 15th March

Yr 2 assembly to parents

Wednesday 15th March

Yr 5 trip to Tower of London

Friday 17th March

School closes at 3.30

Tuesday 21st March

Yr 5 trip to Israeli Dance Festival

Wednesday 22nd March

Yr 6 assembly to parents

Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th March

Parents' evenings

Thursday 30th March

EYFS Seder

April

Tuesday 4th April

KS2 Seder

Thursday 6th April

KS1 Seder

Friday 7th April

School closes at 1.30

10th – 21st April

School holiday

Monday 24th April

New term starts

Cazenove Road – I've included it again this week as nobody came forward to represent Simon Marks and I'm sure that some of our parents have similar concerns to those of other schools along the road. Please read the details and contact me if you can support this initiative.

Book Week tokens were given to all children last week and I hope that you've been able to redeem them. If not, you have until Sunday 26th March to do so.

The term dates for 2017-2018 have been agreed and details are on our website. A letter will be sent out shortly. Please also make a note of the dates for our Seders and for the end of this term and start of the new term – I have noticed that not all schools have the same holidays as us so please do check.

Today we celebrated Purim in school and the children looked spectacular! I hope that you enjoy a fun-filled weekend with family and friends and look forward to seeing you all again next week.

Shabbat Shalom,

Debra Crouch
Interim Deputy Headteacher

PJ Library

This is an amazing initiative and one that I think a lot of our school families would love.

PJ Library (PJ for pyjamas!) gives away high-quality Jewish books to families with children aged between six months and eight years old every month. The award-winning books celebrate Jewish culture, values and traditions through a wide range of stories and beautiful illustrations. PJ Library books are posted directly to children so they can build their own Jewish bedtime libraries.

The library is free to all families raising Jewish children and although there is currently a waiting list it's worth signing up at <https://pjlibrary.org.uk/Home>.

Please note that the
school will now close at
3.30 on Fridays

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all parents, children and staff who attended the Purim Disco on Sunday. It was great fun and also a great opportunity to socialise with the school community.

Last week I included a message about establishing a road safety committee for

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PE Kits

Please make sure that all items in PE kits are labelled and that you check PE kits when they are brought home, as a large number of items are now missing. Please could you also check the basket in the reception area for lost property.

Cazenove Road Traffic Safety Committee

Mara Bodis-Wollner (a parent of a child at Grasshoppers Nursery) together with James Simoniti of Hackney Safer Neighborhoods, is putting together a traffic safety committee to work towards improving safety for everyone during times of school drop off and pick up along Cazenove Road.

Ideally they would like to have two representatives from each of the schools along the road to come together, possibly only digitally at first, to look at the big picture (from a bird's eye perspective of Cazenove Road during drop off and pick up times), brainstorm about what the problems are (such as identifying bottlenecks and peak times) and what we can suggest to help ease them. They will then go to the council together with thoughts/suggestions and requests.

Would anyone be interested in being a part of this initiative? Mara is ideally seeking two people to represent Simon Marks. If you are interested please contact Debra Crouch who can forward on your details to Mara.

Parashat Tetzaveh

This week's parashat tells us some more denim (laws) of the mishkan (temporary dwelling in the desert). Moshe asked Bnai – Yisrael "If any one among you has olive trees, may I have it for lighting the menorah in the Mishkan?" Only the very first drops of oil that are pressed out of an olive may be used to light the menorah (as those first drops are the purest, and so they give the brightest light). The menorah was lit in the Mishkan and at later date in the temple in Jerusalem. Some say that the menorah was so bright and radiated such brilliant glow that the entire city of Jerusalem was lit up.

Hashem nominated Aaron and his sons to be the kohanim (priests) and only they would have the privilege to perform G-d's avodah (work) in the Mishkan. Hashem also informed Moshe, "The kohanim have to wear special, beautiful garments more distinguished than the robes of any king during the avoda."

When the Israelites saw the kohanim in their extremely beautiful clothes, they realized that the kohanim were special people and they behaved respectfully toward them. The clothes would also remind the kohanim of their duty to serve Hashem.

The clothes of the kohanim were holy, and therefore many denim (laws) applied. For example; only the kohanim are permitted to wear the garments; the Kohen must only wear the clothes while working in the Mishkan; the Kohen must take his garments off when he no longer work in the holy Mishkan; the Kohen cannot sleep with these clothes out of respect.

Thought of the week.

Please take care of your uniform and wear it with pride. Show respect to others in uniform too.

Cycling to school

We have noticed that a number of children are not wearing cycle helmets when they ride to school. Please keep your child safe by insisting that they wear a helmet and remember: your child may cycle safely and slowly, but other road and pavement users do not always do so.

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Year 1 assembly

Year 1 has had another magical week. They loved performing The Purim story and would like to do it again - so we shall definitely perform again for Passover! Meanwhile, below are some mementos of our magical day. Thank you to all parents who attended for being such a marvellous audience.



We sang songs to tell the story.....



... and acted scenes from the story.

Achievements

Rec:

Lee: for writing new words using her phonic sounds.

Nathon: for making up his own number game outside.

Year 1

Daniela: For her magnificent performance during class assembly.

Elijah: For his fabulous clear singing during class assembly.

Year 2

Romi: For excellent team feedback to the class.

Evie: for making a great effort in maths and getting to grips with halving.

Year 3

Jehu: For making a fantastic effort in writing and producing an imaginative piece.

Isabella: For having such a positive attitude to all of her learning.

Year 4:

David: For being absolutely brilliant and helping out while Mr Gilani has been away.

Naomi: For also being absolutely brilliant and helping out while Mr Gilani has been away.

Year 5

Abie: For being a leader to the younger children on the playground.

Su: For engaging with non-fiction texts and the internet to find interesting information about King Henry VIII during topic lessons.

Year 6

Ella: For working hard on her times tables, and for her creativity and artistry with the Purim costume.

Naoh J: For putting great thought and effort to create a fabulous diary entry.