

NEWSNOTES



Friday 11th May 2018 26 Iyar 5778

Shabbat begins tonight at 8.25 p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 9.38 p.m.

Headteacher's message:

As the weather warms up and those of us that love the sun are appreciating the warm weather, we must remember to keep our children safe. Please ensure your child has a bottle of water during the school day, staff will provide pupils with ample opportunities to re fill these throughout the day. Please also provide your child with a cap that they can wear during lunch and break times. Children will be encouraged to spend some time in the shade but just having a cap on will make a lot of difference to their wellbeing. Finally on the hot weather note, please ensure your child has some sun cream on before they come into school, this will provide them with additional protection. The school is unable to apply this for you.

We held our Lag BaOmer celebrations last week. Ms Harkness told us about Lag BaOmer in assembly. Mr Jacobs provided us with bows and arrows and we enjoyed having archery lessons during the day.



The weather was lovely so we set up our dining hall in the playground and enjoyed having our barbecued chicken and falafels outside in the sunshine. Our special menu included olives, which the children really loved! Thank you to Ms Helen and the team for setting this up for us.



Upcoming events:

Year two pupils have been doing their SATs tests this week. Year 6 pupils will be sitting their papers next week. As much as we have tried to keep the curriculum as interesting and as exciting as possible pupils still get anxious at times like this. We wish them all good luck. We are planning lots of fun activities for them once SATs are over!

This week we welcomed our Grandparents and Significant elders into our school. They joined pupils in class. Here are a few of the comments our guests made: 'My two were so happy I came they kissed me as I left'- Simon Toby
'The behaviour of the children is excellent and the atmosphere so relaxed'- Grandpa Green



I'm sure you have all received our survey- please take a few minutes to complete this, if you have not had the chance to do so please follow this link [O:\School Survey.docx](#)

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14th May-17th May- Yr 6 SAT's testing.
21st May- school closed- Shavuot
25th May- half term - 3.30pm close.
4th June- photographer in- class photos (full summer uniform please)
11th June- Relationship and sex education (RSE), workshop for parents-9.30am
14th June- Simon Marks Has Got Talent event (more details to follow)
22nd June- Sports Day! (details to follow)
24th June (**Change of date**)- Summer Fair
12th July- Parents evening
Friday 20th July- End of term- 1.30 finish.

Ms G Metin – Headteacher

A note from our two new PR specialists:

My name is Karen Snyder and along with Avivit Katzil we are the school's Marketing & Networking Specialists. Our vision and mission is to build greater awareness of our wonderful school, increase our class sizes and share all our exciting achievements. Our parents and children are key to the school and we would love to hear from any of you. You can contact us on pr@simonmarks.hackney.sch.uk, Karen's mobile is 07958 910288 and Avivit's is 07866501787.

Message from the Friends of Simon Marks:

Friends of Simon Marks Summer Fair update

Parents and students:

You talk - we listen! :)

We've changed the date back to a Sunday.

Please save the date as it won't change again: Sunday 24 June 2-5pm

Our plans are coming along well, with loads of fun activities in the pipeline.

More information to follow next week.

Jewish News

This is the last week in the month of Iyar and our value is Chesed: Kindness. Our deeds of kindness to ourselves and others are an essential part of living in a caring society. This week's Torah portion is Behar Bechukotai and our focus is on giving tzedaka (charity) to ensure that everyone has what they need.

We are preparing for and looking forward to Shavuot which is coming up on the 19th to the 21st of May. We will be having an assembly with a visit from Rabbi Mason and all classes will be doing activities relating to the festival. On Shavuot, the Jewish people received the Torah and Ten Commandments from G-d on Mount Sinai. Some of our customs on the festival are to decorate spaces with flowers as Mount Sinai flowered at this time and also to eat milky foods, both as a symbol of how the Torah nurtures us as milk nurtures a baby and also because the Jewish people were given the laws of keeping kosher and it took time to observe the laws about meat so that they ate milky foods at this time.

FREE STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

Simon Marks Jewish Primary School runs free 'stay and play' sessions for 2 year olds. These will be held every Friday between 9.00am and 11.00am. This provision is free. This is a great opportunity for young children and parents to get together and use our Early Year's facilities and getting young children ready for school.

If you are interested in joining us for any of these events then please contact the school office on: 02088066048 or alternatively you can email us at info@simonmarks.hackney.sch.uk We look forward to welcoming you to Simon Marks.

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/>



@simonmarksjewishprimaryschool