

NEWSLETTER



Friday 18th October 2019 19 Tishrei 5780

Shabbat begins tonight at 5.46 p.m. and ends tomorrow evening at 6.46 p.m.

Headteacher's message:

Dear Parents and Carers,

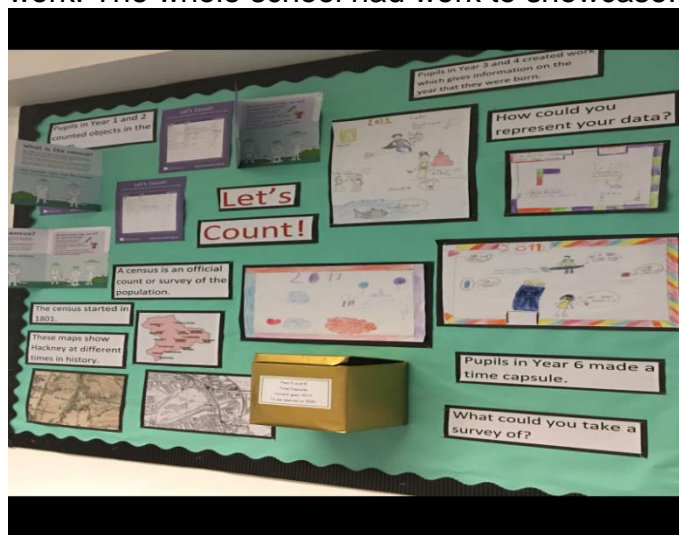
Half term has come around so quickly!

I'd like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the school and all our initiatives. It was lovely to see you all at our Art Exhibition; our children were able to showcase all their wonderful work and fantastic art skills. This year we have introduced a new art curriculum which focuses on different artists and art history knowledge as well as developing skills.



Yr 3 and 4 explored landscapes using watercolours.

We have also been involved in a national 'Let's count' initiative where pupils have been undertaking different maths projects and census work. The whole school had work to showcase.



We are proud to announce that we are now one of 12 schools in Hackney to have received a TFL Gold award for all our work on sustainable travel. This is a great recognition for us. We are now working on getting 'Green Flag' recognition for our work on sustainability and climate change. A huge thank you to Mr Gilani, Ms Osborne and all our pupils on securing these awards for our school.



Another well done Simon Marks!

Our Britain Get Talking initiative is in full swing. We have joined the Nation in making extra time for talking, lesson pause, assemblies pause, all kinds of activities pause for a few minutes of talk. It's actually harder than it seems. Thank you to all parents who sent on photos of talking opportunities created beyond the school gates.



We have a parent Governor election coming out so you should have received some paperwork about this today. Mr DasGupta is overseeing the election campaign. We are both around for questions or a chat if you are interested in the role.

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After more than 9 years, today is Helen's last day at Simon Marks. Helen is leaving through redundancy. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Helen for all her hard work and wish her all the best for the future.

Please remember that when we return we start our short Fridays. School will close at 1.30pm every Friday for Shabbat, until the Spring when days get longer again.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

- 18th October- school breaks for half term.
- 28th October- School re-opens
- 1st November- short Fridays begin
- 11th November- Book Fair begins
- 15th November- Mitzvah day
- 27th November- Science day
- 28th November- Bring a dad/significant male into school day
- 5th December- **Parents Evening**
- 12th December- Hanukah assembly- 2.00pm - 3.30pm
- 19th December- **end of term-1.30 finish**

Ms Metin- Headteacher

Message from our Jewish Studies Department:

Message from our Jewish Studies Department:

Chag Sameach, we hope everyone is enjoying Sukkot. As always, the month of Tishrei is always busy. The children have been working hard to learn the meanings behind the festivals. From the reflection and contemplation of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, to the joy of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. The children have been spending time in our wonderful Sukkah and shaking the Arba minim.

After half-term, during the month of Cheshvan, we will be focusing on the Jewish value of Tzedakah / charity. We start off with Mitzvah Day. This is a chance to do good deeds and help others by giving some of your time. This year we will be focusing on the environment and going green. As you are aware, Autumn is upon us and with this comes lots and lots of leaves. We are looking for parent volunteers to help spruce up the outside of the school, giving it a fresh look as part of our Mitzvah day. We are asking any parent if they could bring in a power washer, brushes and brooms, cleaning materials and willing helpers. If you are unable to come in to sweep, we would be appreciative of a donation of black bin bags to collect the leaves. It would be a fantastic mitzvah to help make our school sparkle. Please contact Mr Jacobs if you are able to help.

Clean-up day is on Friday 15th November from 9am.

After half-term the children will continue the study of Chumash and the parsha as well as the brachot and Tefillah. We will also be starting our preparations and rehearsals for our Chanukah assembly, which will take place on 12th December.

We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and an even more joyous Simchat Torah.

Mr Jacobs – Assistant Headteacher
Rabbi Goldmeier - Consultant school Rabbi