

**DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY**



simon marks
jewish primary school

תורה עם דרך-אור

14th January 2022

12 Shevat 5782

Parasha: B'shalach

- ◆ **Week beginning 17th of January– Trips on the TFL network begin– see class letters for dates and details**

- ◆ **11th February– we break up for half term**

Please continue donating to our 'hungry holiday fund' - every penny makes a huge difference.

Useful contact details

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@simonmarksjewish-
primaryschool

Shabbat time: Starts Friday at 4.04pm and ends Saturday at 5.13pm

This issue: ECO work dominates! Our partner school in Israel.

Welcome back everyone and welcome 2022!

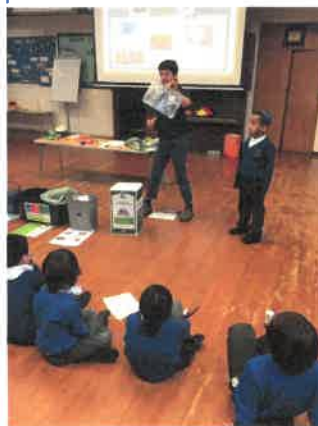
We still have the shadow of Coronavirus around us and the break has been difficult for some of us. Some staff have been quite unwell over the holidays but we are all bouncing back.

It's wonderful to have the children back, they are full of energy and bursting to go! Before the holidays we launched our TFL quiz and next week we will begin to explore London. Each year group has been set certain transport routes to learn about and explore and we intend to give each year group a real experience of what the maps look like in real life. They will have lots to tell you!

Our Eco Warriors have set up CO2 monitors around the school to monitor CO2 levels and to help reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). Improving general air flow can help to create a safer environment for staff, pupils and visitors. These monitors will enable our ECO Warriors to quickly identify areas with poor ventilation and provide reassurance that any current ventilation measures are working. The monitors can also assist staff to monitor more efficient ventilation alongside thermal comfort



Our Eco work didn't stop there. We had Eco workshops this week, led by our Local Authority lead Kelly Sullivan. She was really impressed with how much our children already knew and how keen and passionate they were about our environment and our planet. Well done Simon Marks!



Year 5 and 6 pupils had a Zoom meeting with our partner school in Israel this week. Pupils shared information about their culture and foods from their culture that they enjoy eating. Our Ivrit was as good as their English!



Ms Metin– Headteacher

Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for the Trees, is on Monday, January 17, 2022. This is the day that marks the beginning of a "new year" for trees. This day marks the season in which the earliest-blooming trees in the Land of Israel emerge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle.

We mark the 15th of Shevat by eating fruit, particularly from the kinds that are singled out by the Torah in its praise of the bounty of the Holy Land: grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates.

We humans can also celebrate along with the trees. After all, the Torah says, "Man is a tree of the field." We are nurtured by deep roots, as far back as Abraham and Sarah; we reach upwards to the heavens while standing firmly on the ground; and when we do all this right, we produce fruits that benefit the world—namely, our good deeds.



Year 5 and 6 have been working really hard, getting ready for the continuing partnership with pupils in Israel. This meeting focused on favourite foods and the pupils were able to learn about the food in different cultures and realise that although far apart they shared similar tastes and cuisines.



Shabbat Shalom from the Jewish Studies team