



simon marks
jewish primary school

Under the Rabbinic Authority
of the Chief Rabbi of the
United Hebrew Congregations
of the Commonwealth

**Simon Marks Jewish
Primary School Trust**

**William Sharron
Memorial Fund**

Headteacher: Gulcan Asdoyuran
Honorary Principal: Rabbi David Mason

November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We know that this letter arrives at a time of great anxiety, grief and loss, felt by so many in the Simon Marks community and in Jewish communities across the world, both those with direct ties to Israel and those without. The horrors of 7 October, and much that has happened since, have shaken us all.

We also know that you, as parents and carers, need and want Simon Marks to remain as strong for our children as it can be. And that's why we're writing to you today.

Simon Marks is committed to providing the very best education for all of its pupils. As a Jewish school, it aims to provide something rare: a spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.

You probably already know that Simon Marks Jewish Primary School is a voluntary aided school. This means that state funding only goes so far, and that the school relies heavily on donations for funding those extra elements that make the school so special. This includes both the formal Hebrew and Jewish Studies lessons and the range of informal activities which, together, underpin and enhance the unique community environment of the school.

Donations to the school also help to fund the 10% gap in capital costs that the school incurs for necessities such as upgrading the school's IT systems or improvements to the building.

This year the shortfall in the school's budget is around £90,000. We rely on most parents being able to help cover this cost, a cost that the state does not meet. Your regular donations have the power to make a huge difference to all of our children.

We understand that times now are especially tough and money is short. Not all parents will be able to afford the recommended amount, so we thought that some might find it helpful to have a guide, suggesting a reduced amount dependent on household income.

If your household income is less than £40,000, we hope you might make eight monthly donations of £69. If your household income is less than £20,000, we hope that you could afford eight monthly donations of £27.

The enclosed forms provide details of the voluntary contribution scheme for this academic year. **We look forward to receiving your completed forms by Friday 1 December.** If we don't hear from you, we hope you don't mind us being in touch to answer any further questions you may have.

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

Judy Frankel
Lord Marks of Broughton
Barbara Sharron
Jonathan Symons

PATRONS

Sara & Samuel Bazini
Michael Bradfield
Peggy & Paul Brett
The Vivienne & Sam Cohen CT
Sir Trevor Chinn cvo
Sheila & Dennis Cohen CT
Rita & Stanley Davis
Jonathan Freedland
Lord Glasman
Beverley & David Goodman
Loretta & Ronnie Harris
The Jaffe Family
The Kasner CT
Pamela & Julian Kemble
Leonard Klahr
Jonathan M. Kramer LLB
Beth & Jonathan Lauffer
The Lord Levy FCA
Karen & Julian Lewis
Loftus Family CT
Martin Nathan
Janis & Barry Prince
Rachel CT
The Roden Family
Gerald M. Ronson CBE
& Dame Gale Ronson
Linda & Harvey Rosenblatt
The Shores Trust
Jenny & Eldred Tabachnik CC
Israel Weinstock

TRUSTEES

Howard Pallis (CHAIRMAN)
Lauren Buck
Peter Ohrenstein

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London N16 6PD

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Company No. 3952156
Registered Charity No. 1082705



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Our voluntary contributions administrator, Mrs Sue Zion is available to discuss any questions regarding your contributions. If you would like to contact her, please phone the School Office, alternatively you can contact her on her email at: szion@simonmarks.hackney.sch.uk. Please be assured that all conversations will be in the strictest confidence.

With kindest regards,

Mr Howard Pallis
Chair of Governors on behalf of SMJPS Trust

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