

Dear Parents

Reception Class has had such a busy week this week! This week was Children's Mental Health Week, and the children have really thought about what makes us healthy, both in body and in mind. It's been lovely to hear the children talk to each other about eating healthily and going to bed nicely so they can have a good rest. They've been having little chats in the book corner and whilst they've been working, which is what we want them to be able to do, so they feel confident and comfortable to talk to someone if they have a problem. The children were able to write/draw a picture of their problem and write/draw what the solution was, for example if you are feeling tired then you can have some fruit and read a book (in school) or go to bed.

The children loved listening to the story 'Silly Billy' by Anthony Brown, which is about a boy who has worries and makes his own worry doll who takes them away. The children then made their own worry dolls. The children then role-played putting their worry doll under their pillow. We also read 'Ruby's Worry' which is about a girl having a worry that gets bigger and bigger until she talks to someone. The children went outside in small groups, said a worry that they had and then blew a bubble to watch their worry fly away. Our class worry monster has been introduced to the class. The children can write a worry and put it in the monster's mouth, and he will eat the worries.

Streetwise and the Digital Leaders came in to the class on Tuesday to talk to the children about being safe online. The children know that they should ask permission before using an electronic device and if they see something they don't like they must tell an adult. The children were taught that they must not share any personal information online.

Chinese New Year was a great hit in Reception this week! The children listened to a story about the different Zodiac animals and we ordered them from 1-12. The children made delicious spring rolls, and they loved eating the left over beansprouts off the plate. The children had a little Chinese tea party with Miss Genn's special gold plates, and learnt how to eat with chopsticks. The teachers were very impressed with how many children knew how to do this already! As it is the Year of the Pig, we had a whole class origami session where Miss Genn taught the children how to make an origami pig. This was a great way for the children to listen to and follow instructions, and the pigs looked fab!

The children are continuing to learn about subtraction. Their favourite subtraction activity is when a teacher covers children with material to 'take them away'.

We have been working so hard on our Hebrew reading. I am sure you will agree the Hebrew reading in Reception is excellent. Our letter this week is the yud. Not only did we learn the sound and what the letter looks like but we crawled into a ball as we know the letter is the smallest in the Hebrew alphabet and it is really helping the children to have actions when they are learning the sounds. We have also learnt about a shul and why it is so important to us our role play area is now a shul too!

Our school is raising money for Bee-Bots and Lego WeDo @ Rocket Fund. Can you help? <https://rocket.fund/p/etzchaimprimaryschool/>  
Please donate and share!

Barnet have asked all parents to be reminded about children travelling to and from school safely. Please remind your children of the 'stranger danger' rules and to tell a trusted adult if they do not feel safe.

Your turn! Please come to our **Parents' E-Safety evening** on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March! Book your place at the school office and pop it in your diary.

***Please can you send in any milk bottle tops as we would like to use them for a fun phonics game.***

Shabbat Shalom  
Reception Team

