

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to have all of the children back in school for two weeks. The children are more settled now and enjoying their learning. This week we had a lot of discussion around our whole school theme of Tik-kun Olam – looking after the world. Children surveyed how many single-use plastic bags were used for snack and how we can reduce the use of single-use plastic to protect our world. In Year 6 we have also been learning about our new topic “Extreme Survivors”. We also participated in a Middlesex Cricket coaching session on Wednesday which children thoroughly enjoyed.

English – The children have started their new book called ‘There’s a Boy in the Girls’ Bathroom’ by Louis Sachar. This book is about a boy called Bradley and explores issues around friendship and self-esteem:

- Relationships – Friends and Family
- Making Friends
- Feelings and Behaviours
- Bullying
- Feelings review: Scared, lonely, worried, guilty, cross/angry, shame, frustration, rejection.

Spelling–The words to practise for spelling this week focus on different prefixes: Foreshadow, interact, interface, postpone, irrelevant, irredeemable, semi-conscious, hypersonic, translate, transnational. Please continue to practise these spelling words and use them in context. Keep working on the joined handwriting and presentation too. Please continue to encourage your children to read for pleasure and think in advance about what they would like their next library book to be. We are excited to announce that next week, the children will be going back into the library and will be able to select their book from the shelves. Their library session will take place on Fridays.

Maths –This week we have been looking at the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and triangles. Children learn the formula to work out the area of a rectangle which is the length x height and to calculate the area of a triangle, multiply the height by the width (this is also known as the 'base') then divide by 2 because a triangle is half of a rectangle or a square.

Topic – Our Science and Geography have been closely linked this week. We have been locating polar regions on a map. We looked more closely at how different animals adapt to living in the arctic. Children learnt what the term adaptation and evolution mean, what qualities are needed to survive in the arctic and compared different animals which are adapted to surviving the freezing conditions.

In ICT we are continuing to learn about how to create a spreadsheet in Excel for budgeting and how to find totals using Σ .

In Art we are still working on the Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Design Competition (please see email). The children continued working on the final versions of their stamps

Jewish Studies – Year 6 completed their Israel posters, which gave them an opportunity to consolidate new knowledge about Israel that they had not explored before. We also revisited the three challenges faced by Moshe where he stood up for people who were targeted by attackers rather than standing by. He did this when it was one of his own people being targeted and also when a group of strangers in Midyan were targeted. We spoke about the values that we learn from Moshe, to stand up for what is right and to follow our principles and values even when we are in a different environment. This linked well with our Parasha work this week where we focused on Kedoshim – do not gossip or spread rumours about others.

Ivrit Year 6 have started learning about Lag Ba'omer. The key words include: אֵשׁ - esh (fire), מְדוּרָה - medura (Bonfire), תַּפּוּחַ-אֲדָמָה - tapu'ac adama (potato), בָּטָטָה - batata (sweet potato), פִּטְטָה - pitta, חוּמוּס - Hummus, סָלַט יִשְׂרָאֵלִי - Israeli salad (salat yisra'eli), מְרֻשְׁמָלוֹ - marshmallow (marshmelo), עֻגָּה - cake (uga).

They are creating sentences using language pattern with זֶה - ze (that is – male), זֹאת - zot (that is – female), עִם - with (im), וְ - and (ve), יֵשׁ לִי - I have (yesh li), אֵין לִי - I don't have (ein li) & שֶׁלִּי - mine (sheli).

The class began learning the song מִירֵב הָאוֹסֵמֵן // מִירֵב הָאוֹסֵמֵן for Lag Ba'omer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lCguENW9so> and the first verse and chorus of the song בְּבִצּוֹעַ יוֹסִי בְנָאִי | עִמָּמִי אֶרְמִנִי | הַפִּינְג'אן - חַיִּים חֶפֶר - שִׁיר עֵד - HaFinjan (The coffee pot): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGhYW2DabR0>

Reminders:

- PE will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please remind you children to bring their PE kit on Monday and they can take it home on Friday for a wash.
- Please ensure your child has their blue diary each day. We use these to communicate with you!
- Tzedakah is collected every Friday and it would be wonderful if children could bring some in or if you could donate using ParentPay
- All boys need to wear a kippah and to have a spare kippah in their tray and all children need a non-uniform cap in their tray too.
- A reminder that children should not be wearing jewellery. Only plain stud earrings are permitted.
- Please check uniform fits correctly – girls' skirts MUST reach the knee.

Things to do at home:

The children should be reading their scheme books and other books every evening. Please ask them about the text they are reading and date and sign the blue diary each time. The school library books can be changed or renewed on **Fridays**. ***Please talk to your child about books. We have so many amazing books in our school library for older readers. Encourage them to select a library book and invest time in reading.***

Ask your child questions about the book they are reading (remember VIPERS - Vocabulary / Inference / Prediction / Explanation / Retrieval / Summarise)

Mathletics has also been updated with this week's focus, please ensure the children are logging in and practising.

Play games like "Articulate" and "Taboo" or "Absolute Balderdash" which all encourage children to use their imagination and develop their vocabulary and play card games and board games

Please log into Kodable for your child to become adept at coding and continue to explore Raspberry Pi

Watch and discuss the news with your child

Go on virtual tours of museums eg

Virtual tour of Fishbourne Palace <https://historyview.org/library/fishbourne-palace/>

Virtual Tour of Verulamium (in St Albans) <https://strikingplaces.com/tours/google-virtual-tour-verulamium-museum/>

Our week's attendance was 93.93%. Weekly attendance needs to be over 96%.

Shabbat Shalom,

The Year 6 team