

Dear Parents,

The children are well into their daily routines and enjoying their learning in Year 6. This week we had our class assembly around the theme of Tikkun Olam – looking after the world! Some of the children presented their ideas about what Tikkun Olam means to them to the whole school and had a deeper understanding of this quote ‘As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others’. We also had the streetwise RSE session which children were very curious about and are looking forward to their session 2.

**English** –We are still reading ‘There’s a Boy in the Girls’ Bathroom’ by Louis Sachar. This week we explored the theme around Bradley’s relationships with his friends and family. Children were very busy writing a diary extract from Bradley’s point of view and enjoyed up-levelling this to present their final draft.

**Spelling**-The words to practise are: disabled, despicable, difficult, detective, dignity, determine, dimension, definitely, description, devious. 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.

**Maths** –This week we have been learning about the properties of angles. The children know that angles are measured in degrees. They learnt about a full rotation which is 360°. A half-circle is therefore 180°, and a quarter-circle, or right angle, is 90°. They also learnt to identify and measure an acute, obtuse, right angle and reflex angle. They calculated missing angles on a straight line.

**Topic** –In geography the children located some of the world’s mountain ranges on an atlas eg: Andes, Himalayas, Rockies, Pyrenees, Urals, Transantarctic mountains and researched how mountain ranges are formed. In science, we looked more closely at how different creatures are adapted to living in the deepest areas of the oceans. Children learnt about the qualities which are needed to survive in the ocean and compared different animals which are adapted to surviving under the sea. They also researched some of the adaptations deep sea creatures have to survive these extreme conditions:

**ICT**- We are continuing to learn about how to create a spreadsheet in Excel for budgeting and how to find totals using  $\Sigma$ . They learnt how to enter a formula, using fill down, using +, - and /., change format of numbers, using chart wizard to create a line graph.

**Art**- We researched and developed design criteria that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups. The children were given area of Jerusalem to research on and present their researched information in the sketch books using labels.

**Jewish Studies** - The children prepared for Lag BaOmer by researching the lives of three leaders who played a significant role on Lag Baomer: Shimon Bar Kochba the soldier, Rabbi Akiva the teacher and Shimon Bar Yochai the holy student. We continued our Hebrew reading in guided groups and looked at the value of respect linked to the parasha of Emor.

**Ivrit**– 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.

#### **Reminders:**

- PE will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please remind your child to bring their PE kit.
- 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 Wednesdays. We are very lucky that our library is running as many schools have closed their libraries due to Covid restrictions. However many children are opting out of choosing books. ***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. You can even browse our selection on Junior Librarian:***

<https://juniorclassic.microlibrarian.net/?customerid=U020627&loggedin=OGFXdk8xejQzSGtNd2hpcVNVbytlWHoxZUVWSFpPYnRNYWtEcGpjeExPST0> Please see Seesaw for the Username and Password.

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 99.64%. Weekly attendance needs to be over 96%.

Shabbat Shalom,

The Year 6 team