

KESHER . קשר

LEIBLER YAVNEH COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | 17 MAY 2024 . 9 IYYAR 5784



YOM HA'ZIKARON & YOM HA'ATZMAUT

RIVKA MEASEY. Head of Student Spirit and Community Service

Each year as Term Two begins, we enter a period of meaning, inspiration, commemoration and celebration as we mark the important days of Yom HaShoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut. In marking these days, staff and students deepen their connection to their Jewish and Zionist identity, reflect on their place in Jewish history, and celebrate the importance of Israel in our lives. This year the Yom's have been especially impactful as we have marked a year that he tested the Jewish spirit and reminded us of the preciousness of our homeland.

On Yom HaShoah, the day of Holocaust remembrance, both the Primary and Secondary schools dedicated time to honouring the memory of the 6 million Jews who perished during this tragic period. The secondary school's HASS team, under the leadership of Morah Sonia Slonim, organised a specially tailored program for each year level. Year 7 explored the values upheld by Jewish people during the Holocaust, while Year 8 focused on children in the Holocaust and

PARASHAT EMOR

SHABBAT TIMES

Light Candles - 4:59pm Shabbat Ends - 5:59pm

UPCOMING DATES

MAY/JUNE

Sunday 26 Lag B' Omer

Wednesday 5 Yom Yerushalayim (CO)

Monday 10 Kings Birthday (CC)

Tuesday 11 Erev Shavuot (Report writing) (SFD)

Wednesday 12 Shavuot - Day 1 (CC)

Thursday 13 Shavuot - Day 2 (CC)

Friday 28 Last Day Term 2

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their unique capacity to maintain their spirits despite dire circumstances. Year 9 delved into Rabbi Ephraim Oshry's Halachic responsa, shedding light on the fateful issues Jews faced in the Kovno Ghetto. Year 10 studied last messages left by Holocaust victims, seeking to understand their interpretations of reality and the messages they wanted to convey. Year 11's exploration centred on women in the Holocaust, highlighting their strength and resilience in the face of adversity. Finally, Year 12 delved into the legacy of Janusz Korczak, using poetry and art to gain a personal understanding of his impact. We were fortunate to have Zikaron BaSalon sessions during lunch where students had the opportunity to learn from Holocaust survivors about their extraordinary stories of survivals.

The Primary Yom HaShoah assembly, led by the JLife team, was a meaningful and moving event where Year 3 to 6 students remembered the 6 million Jews who perished. Students lit 6 candles in honour of their grandparents, the non-Jewish people who risked their own lives to save Jewish people, the children who did not have a chance to grow and become adults, the brave soldiers who freed Jewish people from the camps and offered kindness and to remember never be a bystander and stand-up for human rights and tell the world what happened to us so that it will never happen again.

As the candles burn, they symbolise the importance of shining one's individual light in the world, forever honouring the memory of those lost.

Yom HaZikaron, Israel's day of remembrance for Israeli soldiers, who died defending Israel and Israeli citizens who lost their lives in terrorist attacks, was another important day we observed. Our dedicated Tzevet put together the annual Yom HaZikaron exhibition that had a profound impact on Secondary students, staff and community members who visited it in the lead up to the day.

On Yom HaZikaron, students from Year 7-10 engaged in meaningful programs led by the Jewish Life team and volunteers from Bnei Akiva. Year 7 and 8 learned about the 'Lamed Hey', the convoy of 35 heroic Haganah fighters who were killed on their way to protect and resupply the kibbutzim of the Gush Etzion region in January of 1948, months before the establishment of the state of Israel. Year 9 and 10 explored the ethics of the IDF and how they manifest within operations and battles. They read some of the final letters written by soldiers to their loved ones before their deaths and learnt about Gal Eisenkot, son of former chief of staff of the IDF Gadi Eisenkot, who was killed in Gaza in December.

This year's Yom HaZikaron Tekes was more raw and painful, as we commemorated over 76 years of sacrifice for Israel and over 25,000 fallen soldiers and victims of terror, whilst maintaining a particular focus on the losses we have endured since October 7th. We struggled with the question of how to grieve when the loss is ongoing, and paid tribute to the 'mishpachot shkulot' the bereaved

families, whose pain we can only try to grasp. We honoured 3 giborei Yisrael (heroes of Israel) in particular; Yakir Hexter, Rose Lubin and Daniel Perez Hy"d. We also had the privilege of hearing reflections from Tzevet member Tziki Himelstein on his experience of Yom Hazikaron as an Israeli citizen and Eli Tawil, Yavneh alumnus and soldier in the IDF, honouring his fallen commander Neta.

Following Yom HaZikaron, we transitioned to Yom HaAtzmaut, celebrating 76 years of Israel's independence, which was celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy with our unique Yavneh ruach and passion.

The school was filled with blue and white decorations, symbolising the colours of the Israeli flag. Year 6 students proudly showcased their flag dance at the tekes to some of our favourite Jewish tunes. The ELC also joined in the festivities with bubbles, music, and smiles. Families were greeted with Israeli music, and we loved seeing everyone in their Am Yisrael tshirts. The highlight of the ELC celebration was the Year 6 students' flag dance, which captivated the younger children and created a joyous atmosphere. The celebrations continued back in the ELC classrooms with Israel-themed activities and a falafel lunch, uniting everyone in honouring and celebrating this momentous day.

Primary students enjoyed a variety of activities to learn about and celebrate Israel. These included Israeli drumming, Krav maga, various popular Israeli games, gaga ball, badge making and a dance party. And, as if that wasn't enough, the day culminated with an Israeli station rotation competition that included biscuit decorating, Israeli salad making, puzzles and trivia for Years 3-6.

The Secondary students also had a vibrant Yom HaAtzmaut experience. Years 7 – 9 enjoyed hiking in nature and in small groups learnt about the special mitzvot one can only fulfil in Israel and an insight from Rabbi Sacks who taught us to see Israel as a place that enables a fuller manifestation of ones Jewish religious identity.

Meanwhile, Years 10 - 12 rotated through different stations and enjoyed making salataim, crocheting kippot, making pita, baking rougelach, matkot, playing favourite games, mural painting, musical kumzitz, Zumba, gaga ball and capture the flag. The day ended with an epic Israel Trivia event

These past weeks we have united on so many occasions to remember, to acknowledge, to honour, to respect, to understand and to celebrate. We are so fortunate to have so many diverse experiences to share, as we work our way through our Jewish calendar each year and this past month was no exception. What an expansive tapestry to reflect upon and such an enriching privilege for us all!



ALIYAH HONOUR BOARD

Please contact the College at reception@ yavneh.vic.edu.au to let us know if any ex-students have made Aliya, so we can update the Aliya Honour Board.

BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

Please remember to register the date of your son or daughter's Bar/Bat Mitzvah at Reception on 9528 4911 or email reception@yavneh.vic.edu.au

בנות & בחורים HESDER

If you would like to host the Hesder Team, please email

















ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZAL TOV

To Natalie and Yossi Feiglin family on the birth of their daughter.

May you continue to have Nachat from your families.

CONDOLENCES

The Yavneh Family mourns, with our brothers and sisters in Israel and prays for the safe return of the hostages.

May your family know no more sorrow

To include your announcement in Kesher, please email reception@yavneh.vic.edu.au with relevant names and contact information.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

YPO Second Hand Uniform Shop welcomes your donations of pre-loved uniforms in good condition. All proceeds from sales support our Yavneh children via YPO projects.

Contact SecondHandUniform@yavneh.vic.edu.au if you wish to buy or donate pre-loved uniforms.

Join over 350 members in the <u>Yavneh 2nd Hand Uniform</u> & <u>Books Facebook group</u> to buy and sell your pre-loved uniforms, books or extra-curricular gear (eg. ballet, karate, cricket kit). Please restrict the sales and requests to items relevant to education.

Please note: The YPO will no longer be accepting secondhand books but you are welcome to buy, swap and sell them via the Facebook page.































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YOM HA'ATZMAUT

DEVORA LEVIN, RIFKA GROSSMAN, CHAVA COHEN, SHIRA BRULL, Jewish Studies ELC

Israel is 76 years old, what an amazing country we have, and this year for the first time on Independence Day there will not be complete joy. The captives have not returned home, there are many dead and many wounded and our brave troops are fighting to ensure our security in Israel and in the world.

We have been through Yom Hazikaron where we remember the fallen soldiers and those killed in terror attacks. Yom Haatzmaut is the day that we thank Hashem for our country and all the miracles He does for us to continue.

In our kindergarten, the children learn about the Land of Israel, its capital, Jerusalem, and life in the land.

We learn about the Israeli flag, the Menorah and the Kotel. We have created our own flags and discussed

what Isreal means to us.

We learn to sing the songs of the Land of Israel, and the hope that we all carry with us. We sing in loud and proud voices and learn the Israeli national anthem.

We strengthen our ties with all our brothers and sisters in Israel as we bless the soldiers and security forces and pray for peace and for those kept in captivity.

All of us in the ELC celebrated Israel's Independence Day – Yom Ha'atzmaut together by singing and dancing.

May we know better days because the people of eternity are never afraid.

























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YEAR 4 INQUIRY

NATALIE ACKERFELD AND HELEN KRECHMAN, Year 4 General Studies Teachers

As a culmination of learning in Year 4, the students completed their Unit of Inquiry research projects about governments and a community service that they wanted to investigate further.

The development of skills such as researching, reading, questioning, analysing, recording and sorting were evident in their presentations. The students demonstrated the dispositions of curiosity, interest, engagement, and open-mindedness and were fascinated by their new learning.

Students showed their learning in various ways such as PowerPoints, posters or pamphlets. The students shared their new learning to an attentive audience. Questions were posed by their peers to the presenters with great interest. Students were able to have a clearer understanding of rules, laws and governments and their roles. They learnt 'what' services are available in our community, 'why' there is a need for services and 'how' services are accessed.

We look forward to our Term 2 Unit of Inquiry about Forces and their Effects.















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YEAR 2 HEBREW READING

MAI WEINBERG, Hebrew Teacher

The Year 2 students are enthusiastic Hebrew readers. They enjoy practising their Hebrew reading sheets and playing our fun reading games. One of their favourite games is the "stealing game", where two students will begin reading the text. If they make a mistake, another pair can 'steal' it by saying the correct pronunciation. This continues until the text is completed. Whoever finishes reading the text at the end is the winner. The purpose of this game is to practice accurate reading of the Hebrew words.









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CONDARY NEWS

PARSHAT EMOR

AVIGAIL WONDER, Head of Secondary

A group of people were faced with a quandary around the fulfilment of the Mitzvah of the Pesach sacrifice on the 14th of Nissan. They were ritually impure and would not be able to fulfil the Mitzvah of bringing up the Korban to the Mishkan and eating of the Pesach sacrifice on the night of Pesach. Distraught about the prospect of not being able to partake of this Mitzvah, they approach Moshe and said, (Bamidbar 9:7)

וַיּאָמַרוּ הָאַנָשִׁים ... אַנַחָנוּ טָמֵאִים לְנַפַּשׁ אַדָם **לָמַה נָגַּרְע**

ָהַקְרִיב אֶת־קֶרְבָּן ה' בִּמְעֻדֹּוֹ בִּתְוֹךְ בְּנֵי ישֵׂרְאֵל:

"We are ritually unclean [because of contact] with a dead person; [but] why should we be excluded so as not to bring the offering of the Lord in its appointed time, with all the children of Israel?

It's important to note that these men were involved in holy pursuits at the time and had legitimate reasons to miss out on the Mitzvah. Commentaries explain that their impurity was because they were the pallbearers carrying the bones of Yosef Hatzadik from Egypt to Eretz Yisrael - fulfilling the promise made to Yosef that he would be buried in the holy land. Another opinion cites that these men had been appointed to bury Nadav and Avihu, the two sons of Aharon HaKohen who had died during ambitious service in the Mishkan. Further, these men were not to blame for their ritual impurity - they were forced into the situation. We can be inspired in our own lives to ask ourselves the same question - למה נגרע ? -Why should we ever miss out? We should never short-change ourselves in the opportunities we have to fulfil Mitzvot and develop our closeness to Hashem. And further,. They had not chosen to be impure before Pesach, they had not sought to be unavailable for the Mitzvah.

Yet they came to Moshe and Aharon with a problem – a complaint – a demand. למה נגרע ? Why should we be excluded? Why should we be diminished from the opportunity to fulfil one of the most seminal Mitzvot of the Jewish calendar and part of our Jewish identity?

Stirred by their urgency, Moshe consulted with ה' and in the merit of their passionate plea, the festival of Pesach Sheini was instituted by G-d. Any person who was ritually impure or was too far from the Beit Hamikdash on Erev Pesach, would be able to make תשלומין – a rectification, and bring up the sacrifice one month later on the 14th of lyar.

There is another instance in the Torah where we see the same terminology of למה נגרע used. It is in the story of the daughters of Tzlafchad - five sisters whose father had died with no male heirs. Knowing that soon Am Yisrael would enter Eretz Yisrael and the division of the land would soon take place, the daughters approached Moshe with a unique problem - with no sons, their father's portion would not be given to their family. In their plea, they said to Moshe (Bamidbar 27:3)

לַמָּה יָגַּרֶע שֵׁם־אַבִּינוֹ מַתְּוֹךְ מִשְׁפַּחַתְּוֹ... תַּנָה־לַנוּ אֲחַזָּה בְּתָוֹךָ אֲחֵי

:אַבֵינוּ

Why should our father's name be eliminated from his family because he had no son? Give us a portion along with our father's brothers. "

These women were fuelled by their love for Eretz Yisrael and the Mitzvot that could be kept in tilling and settling the land, and this drove them to approach Moshe in front of the people and demand their father's land, crying 'why should our father's name be left out? '?למה יגרע

In both stories we see the same root word שרש echoed. We also see the same drive, passion and love for Torah and Mitzvot. Both groups approached Moshe with holy 'chutzpah'. Their heartfelt appeals stemmed from a love of Hashem and a yearning to be close to him. And in both cases, Moshe saw the urgency of the request and consulted Hashem for the ruling.

And in both cases, Hashem taught Moshe the halacha - in the name and merit of these Jews who didn't want to miss out on their part. We can be inspired in our own lives to ask ourselves the same question – למה נגרע ? – Why should we ever miss out? We should never short-change ourselves in the opportunities we have to fulfil Mitzvot and develop our closeness to Hashem. And further, we can show our children our love and commitment to Torah and Mitzvot by modelling how we prioritise 'grabbing' each Mitzvah we can - above all other priorities. We can show them how much we love Mitzvot by running to catch the minyan, pursue a Shiur Torah, or put something on the backburner so we can help someone in need.

And in the merit of our 'grabbing' every Mitzvah, may we be able to offer up and partake of the Korban Pesach Sheini in our beloved Eretz Yisrael - this year!

Shabbat Shalom





LEIBLER YAVNEH COLLEGE 21 MAY, 2024 | TUE 7:30 PM

JOIN US FOR OUR

Year 7 2025 parent information evening

> Please RSVP Your Attendance Here

Discover a Yavneh Education

Transition to Secondary

> Handover & Support

Teaching & Learning

Hands-on Jewish & General Studies

Meet our Team





https://yavneh.vic.edu.au/events/year-7-info-evening/

קשר KESHER קשר הער KESHER קשר KESHER AN EXCITING NEW PROGRAM FOR YEAR 7, 10 & 11 STUDENTS

Yavneh x Flying Fox Camp

Select students will partner with Flying Fox participants with for a four-day camp (September)!

INFORMATION EVENING MONDAY 20 MAY, 2024

7.30-8.30 PM

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Please register your interest: Here

A zoom link will be made available prior to the session to those registered

Attendance is essential before application.

The evening will cover the training and dates for the program and applications will open afterward.



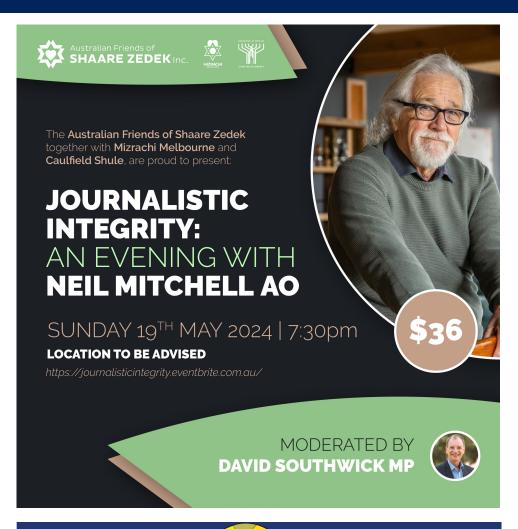


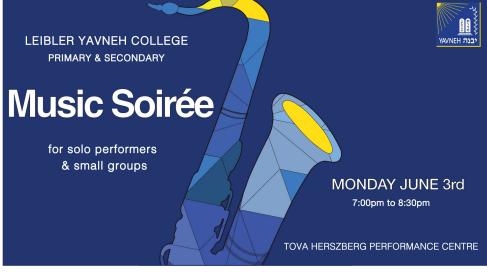




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TEENS SELF DEFENCE & AWARENESS SESSIONS

*For Years 8 - 12

Amidst a surge in antisemitism, CSG Victoria is offering FREE self defence and awareness training for Jewish community teenagers. This opportunity is made possible by the generous support of sponsors who recognise the significance of CSG's role within the Victorian Jewish community.

CSG, a community organisation, is hosting these sessions as a component of our commitment - To Protect Jewish Life and Jewish Way Of Life.

Experienced, qualified Krav Maga instructors will lead the sessions, aiming to empower our children.

Teenagers in Years 8 - 12, from any school, are welcome to join these free sessions.

Teens will learn...

HOW to look after themselves HOW to get out of trouble **HOW** to spot threats **HOW** to stay safe Krav Maga!

To learn more about upcoming training sessions for teens, please register your interest via the provided link below



https://csgvic.link/csgteens







