



קשר KESHER

Friday 24 April 2026
ז' אייר תשפ"ו

פרשת אחרי מות - קדושים

The Yavneh Difference: What Makes Our Yom Ha'atzmaut Unlike Any Other

Shula Lazar, Principal

This week, scroll through your social media feed and you'll notice something. Schools and community organisations across the country have draped their pages in blue and white. Flags, filters, celebrations – to the naked eye, it all seems much of a muchness. Everyone is marking Israel's birthday. Everyone is joining in.

But look a little closer at what's happening at Yavneh, and you'll find something different. Something that goes deeper than decorations.

At Yavneh, Yom Ha'atzmaut is not a single event. It is a journey that begins in the creche and travels all the way through to Year 12 – and beyond, reaching our graduates who are currently living and learning in Eretz Yisrael. Every age group, every stage of life, has its place in this day. It is a celebration that holds the entire community together, from the child who barely knows the words to Am Yisrael Chai to the young adult standing on Israeli soil, feeling the weight and the gift of that reality every single morning.

If you want to understand the Yavneh difference, watch the Grade 6 flag dance. From the moment a Yavneh child is old enough to sit in the audience and watch, they are waiting for their turn. They count the years. They imagine themselves up there. And when the moment finally arrives – when they are the ones holding the flags of Israel and waving them with pride – it is not about being on a stage. It is not a performance. It is something far more profound. It is about the flag itself. About what it means to hold it in your hands, to feel the weight of our history and our hope, and to wave it with every ounce of pride in your body. That moment stays with a Yavneh student forever.

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Shabbat Times

Light candles 5:23pm

Shabbat ends 6:20pm



The Yavneh Difference: What Makes Our Yom Ha'atzmaut Unlike Any Other, contd...

Shula Lazar, Principal

What also sets Yavneh apart is that this is not just a day off the regular timetable – it is a day on something greater. Our students learn. They explore the land of Israel, its history, its people, its layers of meaning. They engage with the kedusha of Eretz Yisrael not as a distant concept, but as something living and real and relevant to who they are. Understanding why we celebrate is as important as the celebration itself, and at Yavneh, that understanding is built with intention and care.

And at the heart of it all lies something even deeper: for Yavneh, Yom Ha'atzmaut carries profound religious significance. The establishment of the State of Israel is reishit tzmichat geulateinu – the dawn of our redemption. This is not merely a national holiday. It is a sacred day. And so we daven with gusto. We sing Hallel with full hearts and full voices, grateful to the Almighty for what He has given us in our generation. In a world where the miracle of Israel can sometimes feel ordinary, Yavneh insists on seeing it clearly – as the extraordinary, G-d-given gift that it is.

But here is the deepest truth of all: the Yavneh difference doesn't begin and end on Yom Ha'atzmaut. It lives in us every day of the year. Every day, we are grateful to Hashem for the State of Israel. Every day, we honour and appreciate the men and women of the IDF who stand between our people and those who wish us harm. This love for Israel is not switched on for a single day and then packed away with the bunting. It is in our blood. It is in our hearts, our minds, and our deeds – woven into the fabric of what it means to be a Yavneh student, a Yavneh family, a Yavneh community. So yes, this week the whole Jewish world is blue and white. But at Yavneh, it always has been.

Chag Ha'atzmaut Sameach.

**Shula Lazar
Principal**



Thank You

A BIG thank you to the Yavneh Team

Shula Lazar, Principal

As we finish the 5786 season of the "Yoms", I say thank you. Thank you to all of you for making these days meaningful and memorable for our students and everyone in the Yavneh family.

Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, Yom HaAtzmaut. Together, they form a remarkable journey through memory, grief, pride, joy and hope. And this year, as every year, it was our staff who made that journey come alive for our students.

What you all created, both in and out of the classroom, in our assemblies and commemorations, was truly special. To our remarkable Jlife teams, led by Yael, Sara and Noah, Thank you!!!! You must be completely spent! Please know that your hard work has made a difference to the souls of our precious children.

We delighted in having the newly appointed Senior Rabbinic team of Rabbi Daniel and Rebbetzin Ilana Epstein participate in all our events and we look forward to their continued involvement in partnership at the College.

The precious Yom Hazikaron exhibition constructed in less than 6 days provided our staff and students with a glimpse of the lives of our IDF soldiers who died al kiddush Hashem protecting Am Yisrael.

Thank you Nick and our amazing students who performed so many times across the period. Your music enhanced each an every event enabling students to find expression in the lyrics and music.

And it seems like a life time ago, but it was only last week, thank you Rabbi Sammy and the HASS team, and Sara and her team in the primary school, thank you for a meaningful Yom HaShoah.

Thank you to our leadership team for their guidance and support. Thank you to our admin team for doing schedules, organising, ordering, and all the other things that make these days 'magically' happen.

Thank you to our maintenance team for all their set ups, pack downs, and clean ups.

To every teacher, support staff member and administrator who played a part, whether you stood on a stage, ran an activity, set up a display, or were simply there to cry and cheer. Thank you.

You are the reason these days are so meaningful at Yavneh.

**Shula Lazar
Principal**

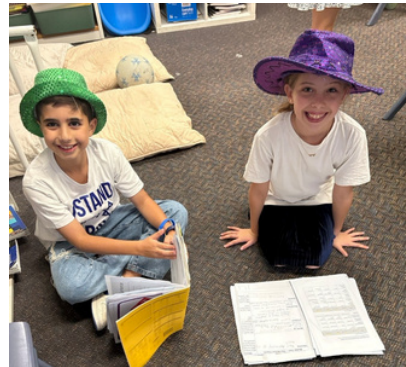
Hebrew Learning Through Fashion and Presentation

Michal Avitan *Primary Hebrew*

During Hebrew class, students have been learning about the weather, the clothes we wear, and the seasons of the year.

One of the tasks combined language, creativity and self-expression. The students prepared for a fashion display where each student chose an outfit they like to wear that matches a season.

Each student wrote a short Hebrew text describing what they were wearing and then presented it to the class. This activity supported Hebrew language development while also building confidence and encouraging self-expression.



Year 6 Flag Dance

By the students of 6A and 6B

Flag Dance is our Year 6 rite of passage, something we have looked forward to since our early years in Lower Primary. It begins with the girls and boys learning the dance separately, before coming together as one cohort. There is something incredibly special about that moment; moving in unison, connected not just to each other, but to something much bigger.

Knowing that we are dancing to celebrate and commemorate Israel's Independence Day makes it even more meaningful. Holding and dancing with the Israeli flag filled us with a deep sense of pride and belonging. It reminded us that no matter what is happening in the world, we will always have a place to call our own; our home, Eretz Israel.

But the celebration didn't end there. It continued with a range of activities that reflected the daily life, culture, and foods of Israel, allowing us to experience and connect in different and memorable ways.

We look forward to one day looking back on our time in Year 6, knowing that it was us, the class of 2026 who had the privilege of leading such a special and meaningful Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration.



Yom Ha'atzmaut





Yom HaZikaron in Primary

Sara Amzalak, Head of Jewish Life and Learning

This past Tuesday – Yom HaZikaron, primary Year 3-6 students had a very moving assembly.

The assembly started with the singing of the Hebrew song – Shvurei Lev and was sung beautifully by high school student Aviel. H. The song – broken hearts – was explained to the primary students – aptly describing exactly how we feel on Yom HaZikaron – sad, with broken hearts but also filled with hope!

Students stood for the lowering of the Israeli flag, the lighting of a memorial candle, lit by principal Morah Shula, and for a minute of silence.

We were very touched by our Tzevet members, Orly, Chedva, Shaked and Neshamel, remembering close friends or relatives of theirs. We learned about a very special Midah Tova – good characteristic which those fallen soldiers possessed and took it upon themselves to try and emulate them as much as possible. Neshamel and Shaked lead us through the Kel Ma'aleh Rachamim for the fallen soldiers, and the tefillah for our current soldiers, while four Year 6 students said the Tefillah for Shalom for the State of Israel.

The assembly concluded with everyone singing Ani Ma'amin and Hatikvah.

A full report on Yom Ha'atzmaut will appear in next weeks Keshet



Year 11 Economics – The Housing Market Guest speaker

Zachary L and Eliram U, Year 11 Economics Students

Recently, our Year 11 Economics class had the privilege of welcoming real estate professional Oren Flamm, who shared valuable insights from more than 20 years of experience in the property industry. His presentation was both informative and engaging, providing students with a practical understanding of real estate, economics, and career development. This experience supported classroom learning about a contemporary market example.

Mr Flamm spoke about operating a successful real estate agency through challenging economic periods and explained the importance of resilience, adaptability, and long-term thinking during uncertain times. He discussed the current economic climate, noting that interest rates have risen to over 6%, which has significantly impacted buyers, homeowners, and investors.

A key focus of his talk was the difference between renting and owning a home through a mortgage. He explained how property ownership can create long-term wealth through capital appreciation, particularly when land is involved. He noted that while short-term market changes may occur, periods such as two years often do not significantly affect long-term property growth. In contrast, he mentioned that many apartment owners may face weaker long-term returns compared to those purchasing land-based homes.

Mr Flamm also highlighted the importance of demographics in the housing market. He explained that many families seek larger homes to host Shabbat dinners, Yom Tov gatherings, and time with children and grandchildren, which increases demand for spacious family properties.

On a personal level, students were inspired by his career journey. Although he did not complete his original university course, he used determination, communication skills, and initiative to build a successful career. He said that enjoying accounting, working with people, and completing sales helped shape his path. He also shared how religious Jewish professionals often work collaboratively in teams to manage business commitments around Shabbat. Overall, Mr Flamm's visit was highly educational and motivating for VCE Economics students.



School Photo Information

Are you ready for 2026 school photos?

Leibler Yavneh College Tuesday 26th (Secondary) &
Thursday 28th (Primary) May 2026

There's no need to do anything
before photo day

Further details will be provided when
portrait and group images are ready

Student access codes and order details will be provided to you when
images are ready to view and purchase online

Sibling/Family Photos will also be taken at your school

If you would like your children to be photographed
together, go online **BEFORE** photo day to request
a sibling/family photograph

1. Grab your phone and go to -
<https://arphotos.typeform.com/to/O7JKKX>
2. Enter the name and class of the eldest sibling
3. Enter the names and classes of all other
siblings to be included in the photo

Please **NOTE** - Sibling Photograph requests close at midnight
the night **BEFORE** photo day

Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.
A.E.N. 40 520 494 590
Telephone: (03) 5243 4390
Email: info@arphotos.com.au





Upcoming Dates 2026

May:

Tuesday 5: Lag B'Omer
 Thursday 21: Erev Shavuot College Closed
 Friday 22: Shavuot Day 1 College Closed
 Saturday 23: Shavuot Day 2

June:

Monday 8: Kings Birthday
 College Closed / ELC Early Dismissal

Condolences

Condolences for the passing of Sonia Nochomowitz in South Africa, mother in law of SKA teacher, Gail.

Host our Beit Midrash Tzevet

We warmly encourage all Yavneh College families to take the opportunity to host members of the Hesder Tzevet for a meal. Welcoming them into your home is a meaningful way to show support, build personal connections, and give them a taste of our community's warmth and hospitality. Even a simple meal can make a lasting impact, offering them a chance to relax, recharge, and feel appreciated during their time with us.

Contact Andi 0419 335 748

OUR BEIT MIDRASH TZEVEET

Chedva Krengel



Neshamel Tick



Orli Americus



Shaked Carmel



Please contact Andi on 0419 335 749 if you would like to host the Tzevet for Shabbat & Yom Tov Meals

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Yavneh Tuckshop is seeking helpers.

*Great remuneration!
 Healthy food,
 big smiles,
 happy faces and
 lots of thanks from
 the staff and kids*


Interested in joining us?

Please Contact
 Glenda:
0412 532 244



תורה יבנה וחכמיה

We're excited to announce the return of The Yavneh Academy!
 Join us every Friday morning from 8:20 - 9:00am in the VCE Study Centre at our Elsternwick Campus for inspiring LaLaf-style learning sessions.
 Stay connected and never miss an update, scan the QR code here to join our WhatsApp group for all upcoming session details!



SCAN HERE