



קשר KESHER

שבת שובה

Friday 18 September 2026

ז' תשרי תשפ"ז

End of term message

Shula Lazar, Principal

We have come to the end of a long and wonderful term. There have been camps, swimming lessons, interschool sports, science week, book week, scholars in residence, 2027 Captains announcements and, of course, a great deal of learning, laughter and friendship. It has been a busy term, but the good kind of busy, the kind that reflects a school full of energy, purpose and life.

Over Rosh Hashanah, it was so lovely to see so many Yavneh students in shule. From where I sat, I could see students sitting quietly, davening and respectfully asking to move past as they arrived for shofar. Such nachas!

Rosh Hashanah is quite a surreal time. Unlike the Australian New Year, which is celebrated with parties and fireworks, we welcome the Jewish New Year by turning inwards. Dressed in our finest clothes, we flock to shule and spend two days davening, hearing the shofar (this year only on one day :) reflecting on the year that was, considering the people we want to become and asking Hashem for a year of bracha.

Now, as we move from Rosh Hashanah towards Yom Kippur, that work continues.

One of the most powerful parts of the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur davening is U'netaneh Tokef. It expresses our vulnerability and reminds us that we do not know what the year ahead will bring. We stand before Hashem, one by one, knowing that our lives are in His hands, and ask that we, our families and our community be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life.

The tefillah ends with the words:
וְתִשְׁבֹּה וְתִפְלֶה וְצִדְקָה מַעֲבִירִין אֶת רֵעַ הַגֹּזֵר

This is commonly translated as:
"Repentance, davening and charity avert the severity of the decree."

פרשת האזינו

Shabbat Times



Light candles 5:54pm

Shabbat ends 6:52pm

End of term message continued...

It is tempting to read these words as a promise that, if we do the right things, nothing difficult will happen. Unfortunately, life comes without that particular warranty.

There is no way to guard completely against adversity. Life can sometimes be a little like We're Going on a Bear Hunt: "We can't go over it. We can't go under it. We've got to go through it." Every life has its challenges, some much greater than others. While we hope and daven that the year ahead will be one of health, happiness, prosperity and peace, we know that this cannot be guaranteed. Instead, in the words Teshuvah, Tefillah and Tzedakah, Chazal give us a Jewish instruction manual for navigating whatever the year may bring.

Teshuvah means return. It is not simply about feeling guilty or promising never to do anything wrong again, an ambitious target for most of us. It means returning to Hashem, to Torah and mitzvot, and to the person we know we are capable of becoming. Teshuvah asks us to look honestly at where we have fallen short, to take responsibility and to make a genuine commitment to do better.

Tefillah reminds us that we are not in control of everything. We must take responsibility for our choices and do our hishtadlut, but we also recognise that ultimately the world is governed by Hashem. Through davening, we turn to Him for guidance, strength, compassion and brachah. We ask Hashem to help us accept what we cannot change and give us the strength to change what we can.

Finally, Tzedakah ensures that our introspection does not become entirely about ourselves. Tzedakah is not simply charity. It is a mitzvah and an obligation to look outward, notice the needs of others and act. No matter our circumstances, we always have something to contribute. We can give money, time, care, attention or kindness, and in doing so become partners with Hashem in making His world better.

Teshuvah, Tefillah and Tzedakah are not only ideas for the Yamim Noraim. They are central to the kind of young people we are trying to raise at Yavneh.

We want our students to know who they are and to remain deeply connected to Hashem, Torah, mitzvot, Eretz Yisrael and the Jewish people. We want them to understand the power of tefillah and to feel at home in shule. We want them to take responsibility for their choices, to notice the people around them and to know that they always have something valuable to contribute.

Over Rosh Hashanah, seeing so many Yavneh students sitting in shule, davening and treating the people around them with respect, I felt that these were not merely aspirations. They were already being lived.

As we approach Yom Kippur, may we all find the honesty to return, the humility to daven and the generosity to give. May Hashem inscribe and seal the entire Yavneh family, and all of Am Yisrael, for a year of health, happiness, growth, brachah and peace.

גמר חתימה טובה וצום קל

Morah Shula

**Your invitation to the
Australian Jewish
Community Survey**

Are you in? ✓

Scan here:

Gen26

Your voice counts.
Help shape our community's future.

JCCV MONASH University AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR JEWISH CIVILISATION JCA Jewish Communal Appeal

ELC activities

Yael Lewis, Co-ordinator of Jewish Studies (ELC)

It was very special welcoming our Senior Kinder grandparents and special friends to the ELC for our Pre Rosh Hashana Challah Bake. The morning began listening to our enthusiastic Senior Kinder Yeladim singing their favourite Rosh Hashana songs. We had the privilege of hearing from one of our grandmothers, Jackie Hyman, who shared her feelings of being a grandparent as well as a past parent of children at our incredible school.

Together with our guests, the children prepared Challot, decorated Challah boards and made time capsules that will be put away till our students are in their Bat-Mitzvah & Bar Mitzvah years.

Seeing the wonderful connections between our young Kinder children and their special guests was truly incredible. It was a morning filled with nachas and smiles as our young students and their guests spent time together making memories to last a lifetime.

We were very lucky to have an amazing group of year 10 Yavneh students assisting us on the morning. We want to say a very big thank you to everyone for making the effort to join us at our Challah Bake, may the year ahead be filled with continued nachas from our wonderful Senior Kinder students.



Learning About the Chagim in Prep

Sue Ash, *Primary Jewish Studies*

Our Prep children have been enjoying learning about our special Chagim of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. Through stories, songs, discussions, games and hands-on activities, students have explored the traditions, symbols and values connected to each Chag. As they learned about Rosh Hashanah, the children discovered the significance of the shofar and the tradition of dipping apples in honey and other traditions. They discussed the idea of a new beginning and thought about their hopes and goals for the year ahead.

During Yom Kippur, they explored the importance of saying sorry, forgiveness and making positive choices. They reflected on how we can show kindness and improve our relationships with others. In preparation for Sukkot, the children learned about the sukkah and the Arba Minim. They enjoyed creative activities and explored the ideas of gratitude, sharing and appreciating the world around us.

These engaging learning experiences have helped our students build their knowledge of our important Chagim while developing a deeper understanding of the important values and messages they represent.

Gmar Chatima Tova



Extra, Extra! Year 4 Newsroom Sets Sail on First Fleet, Cook, and Country Inquiries

Natalie Ackerfeld and Jack O'Neill, *Primary General Studies*

If you have noticed your young historians coming home with ink-stained fingers and tales of 18th-century adventures, do not be alarmed—our classroom has officially transformed into a bustling newsroom. This term, we are blending our Unit of Inquiry on First Fleet, First Contacts, and Exploration with our Talk for Writing program to publish our very own historical newspaper recounts.

To make our historical reporting as authentic as possible, our student journalists have unplugged completely. Internet research has been officially banned for this project, forcing our newsroom to go old-school. Armed only with classroom non-fiction books, printed articles, and library texts, students are hunting down real facts, primary sources, and quote worthy historical moments the traditional way.

Each journalist has chosen a unique beat to cover. Some are mapping Captain Cook's 1770 voyage aboard the HMS Endeavour, while others are diving into the rich traditions and deep connection to country of First Nations culture before 1788. Other reporters are recounting the long, stormy sea voyage of the First Fleet, or tracking inland explorers as they ventured across unfamiliar rivers and plains.

Using our Talk for Writing framework, students are mastering the arts of sensational headlines, dropping extra commentary inside parenthesis (just like this!), and balancing direct quotes with proper nouns. Every article is being carefully crafted using a five-part newspaper structure—from a punchy intro packed with the 5 Ws, all the way to a conclusion that finishes with a hard-hitting fact.

Once our final reports are neatly published with columns, illustrations, and captions, we have one final, exciting destination for them. Instead of a standard wall display, we are rolling up these historic editions, aging the paper, and sealing them inside a class Time Capsule! Feel free to ask your children about their top-secret headlines! Once our vintage reports are sealed away inside our special presentation capsule, we can't wait to share their fantastic work!



BOOK WEEK 2026**Melissa Bloom**, *Library Operations*

Over several weeks during our library lessons, we read many of this year's Book Week finalists, voted for our favourites, and finally dressed up as our chosen book characters to celebrate all things books. Book Week isn't just a break from the usual routine; it's a reminder of why reading matters in the first place. Stories give children language for their fears, their humour, their courage and their sense of wonder.

What made this year's Book Week particularly memorable wasn't just the costumes, but the stories and explanations that came with them. One by one, students stood in front of their classmates and shared why they had chosen their character and what they loved about the book.

That's ultimately what Book Week celebrates: not just imagination and dress-ups, but the ripple effect of shared enthusiasm. When children tell their peers why they love a book, they pass that love of reading from one child to the next. That is exactly what we hope to foster in our library.

The library continues to be a busy and much-loved space, with students coming in to borrow, read and browse. Many will tell me that the library is their happy place. They regularly request new books for the collection and eagerly await the arrival of new titles.

Many of our students also visit their local public libraries. Unfortunately, this sometimes means that our school library books find their way into those collections! Please take care when returning books, as it happens quite often that our books are accidentally returned to local libraries and then go missing from our collection.

We are currently looking for popular Hebrew novels, so if you have any that you no longer need, we would love to hear from you. We have a few Hebrew copies of Harry Potter and Diary of a Wimpy Kid, but our students would love some more variety. We already have a good selection of Hebrew picture books, so we are particularly interested in novels suitable for our older readers.

If you have books you would like to donate to the library and they are in good condition, please email me with a photo or two. I'll be happy to let you know whether they would be a welcome addition to our shelves.

Meanwhile, keep on reading with your children. They love that special time with you and the stories you share. There really is nothing quite like a good book and a shared reading moment.



Tishrei Fun

Sara Amzalak, Jewish Life and Learning

Last week, we announced the winner of the Year 6 Leader's apple and lolly guessing competition. The winner was Hodel in 3B. Thank you to everyone who took a guess – together we raised \$116 for the Mizrachi Charity Fund.

This week, students, together with their JS teachers, recited Tashlich by the fresh water with fish, in the small pond near Hamerkaz. Just another way JLife Yavneh makes learning come to life!

With Sukkot around the corner, students prepared and got into the spirit by making paper chains in JLife craft club. Some students used staples, while some students used sticky tape, while some students teamed up together to make an extra-long chain, and other students made sequencing pattern chains. A fun time was had by all.

Please join us for a fun filled Primary Sukkot party on the first day of Chol HaMoed Sukkot – Monday 29th of September from 10-11am. Details on the flyer.

Wishing everyone a G'mar Chatima Tova and an easy fast.



JOIN US!!

JEWISH LIFE EDUCATOR

WE ARE SEEKING DYNAMIC AND ENGAGING EDUCATORS TO JOIN OUR JEWISH LIFE TEAM FOR 2027.

THE ROLE WILL INVOLVE:

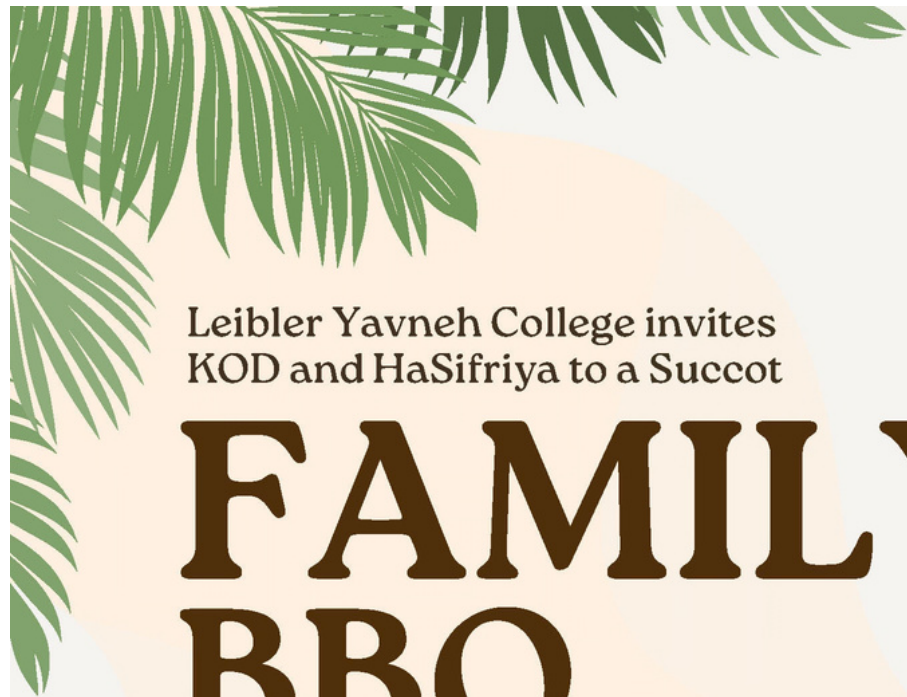
- ACTIVELY ENGAGING WITH A BROAD RANGE OF STUDENTS ACROSS THE SECONDARY SCHOOL
- DELIVERING EXPERIENTIAL AND EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS
- RUNNING EVENTS THAT PROMOTE THE VALUES AND IDEALS OF THE COLLEGE
- PLAYING AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN SCHOOL CAMPS AND SHABBATONS
- CANDIDATES WILL BE SELF-MOTIVATED, HAVE PROVEN ABILITIES IN ENGAGING WITH AND INSPIRING STUDENTS, DEMONSTRATE STRONG COLLABORATIVE SKILLS AND MODEL THE RELIGIOUS ZIONIST ETHOS OF THE COLLEGE.



Apply Now at: hr@yavneh.vic.edu.au

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR APPLICATION BY
OCTOBER 5TH 2026





Leibler Yavneh College invites
KOD and HaSifriya to a Succot

FAMILY BBQ

Wednesday 30 September 4:30-6:00pm
Elsternwick Campus

Sports activities, music and
arts and crafts!

No charge!

[RSVP HERE!](#)



Outstanding Leadership Opportunity

Head of Early Learning Centre or Head of Crèche and Head of Kinder Full Time Position

Consistently ranked as one of Victoria's top Independent Schools, Leibler Yavneh College is a Modern Orthodox Zionist coeducational Jewish school, home to over 700 students from Crèche to Year 12.

We are seeking an exceptional early childhood educator to lead our Early Learning Centre from 2027. This opportunity is available either as a single Full Time position — Head of Early Learning Centre — or split into two dedicated leadership roles, Head of Crèche and Head of Kinder, each with an active, hands-on role within the rooms.

Reporting to the Principal, the successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Leadership in early childhood curriculum development and implementation
- Outstanding oral and written communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to nurture young children and motivate staff
- Collaboration skills, contributing to a warm, connected ELC community
- A genuine passion for Jewish early childhood education, infused with Torah, tefillah, Hebrew and a love of Israel

**To apply, please email
your CV to
hr@yavneh.vic.edu.au**

*All applications will be treated in
strict confidence*

Expressions of interest close Friday 2 October 2026

yavneh.vic.edu.au

Leibler Yavneh College is a Child Wise certified school



**LEIBLER
YAVNEH
COLLEGE**

תורה ומדע • ציונות • דרך ארץ



Upcoming Dates 2026

September:

Friday 11 – Erev Rosh Hashana (early dismissal) 1pm
ELC 12.45pm

Mazal Tov

Mazel Tov to **Ravid Bar Gad** and Family on his Barmitzvah.

Condolences

Condolences to the **Hersh Family** on the passing of their Great Grandmother.

Condolences to the **Levy family** on the passing of their Grandfather.

LEIBLER YAVNEH COLLEGE

בס"ד

Mazal Tov

TO OUR INCOMING STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

College Captains
Josh Beebe & Gali Shaltiel

Vice captains
Ozzie Eckstein & Orly Mond

Spirit Captains
Yael Golbandi, Zac Ash, Seth Segal, Ruby Jotkowitz

Social Action Captains
Raph Teller & Ella Etzion

J-Life Captains
Oren Davis & Deena Eppel