

Geshher Newsletter – 21/09/2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Yom Kippur and are looking forward to celebrating Sukkot next week.

The first few short weeks of school have been very well utilised so far. We have been working at supporting our existing children with getting back into the school routine, and getting to know our new pupils and finding ways to support them which has been great fun! Friendships are really beginning to form and supportive relationships between the staff and pupils are developing as well, and it's lovely to watch. I'd also like to say a huge well done to Rimon class for having full attendance since the beginning of the year – what a fantastic start!

There are a number of dates coming up so please do check the 'Dates for your Diary' section at the end of the newsletter which is updated weekly so you are aware of the exciting happenings coming up this half term!

Shabbat Shalom
Miss Colizza

Jewish Studies

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been an exciting start to the year at Geshher and it is still wonderful to see children settling into their classes wonderfully, making new friendships and developing older ones. We are excited to celebrate Sukkot together next week and have a few special activities in store for classes to enjoy in the Sukkah. Our children have already been busy creating decorations and will come in next Wednesday to see the Sukkah full of their creations. We are excited for the opportunity to celebrate together as a school!

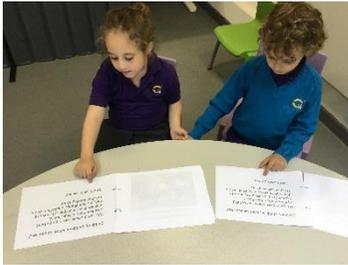
Wishing everyone a Shabbat Shalom and a Chag Sameach
Mr Harel

Seorah Class

Attendance since start of term –97.5%

Absence/Lateness – 2.5%

We've had a very busy week in Seorah Class – especially with it being a shorter week than usual! We began the week by learning about Yom Kippur, and how important it is to say sorry to our family and friends when we've upset them. Since



coming back to school, we have started making decorations for our next holiday, Sukkot, and are getting very excited for all the celebrations ahead. Next week we will be having snack and lunchtime in the Sukkah, which we are really looking forward to!



This week in Literacy we read the story "Brown Bear Brown Bear



What Do You See?".

Children were encouraged



to listen and participate in the reading, while other students spoke about what they saw in the storybook pictures, and predicted missing words whilst the teacher read!

In Maths we worked on mastering our counting and identifying numbers 1-10. Some children practiced adding one more to groups of numbers, while others identified different quantities. We listened to our favourite maths songs, and played some counting games during free play.

Have a lovely weekend, and a very happy Sukkot!

DVash Class

Attendance since start of term – 93%

Absence/Lateness – 7%

With the shorter week, Dvash class had a busy few days at school – we hope everyone had a meaningful Yom Kippur. This week we have been making decorations for our school Sukkah in the build-up to Sukkot. We look forward to sharing snack and mealtimes with the other children in the school when we return next week.



In Literacy, we looked at the book 'There's a Shark in the Park'. Children were encouraged to listen and attend whilst filling in the missing words as the teacher read the story. We then used props to role-play the character of Timothy Pope looking through his telescope. Visuals were used to expand our vocabulary, commenting on what we could see and hear.

In Maths we worked on identifying numbers 1-10, and writing/tracing or making marks over these numbers. Some of the children practised identifying different sized groups of marbles, while others identified the objects that were the same from those that were different. We look forward to next week's activities and lessons!



Gefen Class

Attendance since start of term – 93.2%

Absence/Lateness – 6.8%

This week in Gefen class, we have been exploring what the Antarctic might be like when we visit. We watched a video: it looks cold and icy and the weather is snowy, freezing and foggy! There are lots of penguins and seals that live there, so some pupils then drew a picture to describe what they saw in the video. Others demonstrated control in their gross motor movements and coloured in a picture of the Antarctic.



We played ten pin bowling with a twist in Phonics. The pins were labelled with Phase 2 and 3 sounds. When we knocked any of the pins down with the ball, we had to try to read the sounds on the pin.

Our Middah this week was 'saying sorry' linking to Yom Kippur. We have been practising saying sorry to our peers and to adults by using the 4-part apology which Miss Danielle taught us about in Jewish Studies. It is a very helpful visual for us to look at when we know we need to say sorry.

We are looking forward to eating in our Sukkah next week and we have made some decorations to put up.

Chag Sameach!

Rimon Class

Attendance since start of term – 100%

Absence/Lateness – 0%



This week in Rimon class, we have been continuing to explore what Antarctica is like. After our journey through icy cold winds and snow, we decided we would like to be explorers. We wrote letters to Shackleton asking him to let us go on his expedition. Then we came up with items to pack in our suitcase, describing them with interesting adjectives. Some pupils developed

their vocabulary through sensory journeys going under, over and through icebergs and tunnels!



In Maths, we have been practising our number work experimenting with different resources and images – we are experts in counting with dienes, place value counters, pebbles and even penguins!

Our Middah this week was 'sorry' We also learnt all about the importance of Yom Kippur, where Miss Danielle helped us practise saying sorry using the four-part apology in Jewish Studies.



This will be useful for helping us in apologise in the future.



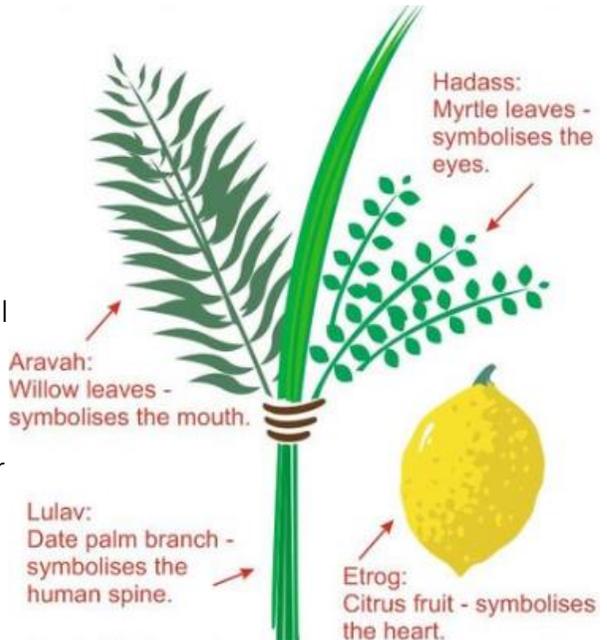
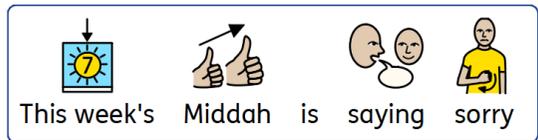
In Art, we created some beautiful pictures inspired by two different artist s. We experimented with pattern, texture and colour and are hoping to hang them in our new Geshher Art corner.

We have also made some space for our sukkah, which we are looking forward to eating in next week!



Kodesh corner

We are looking forward to celebrating Sukkot all together next week. Part of our celebrations will be taking the Arba Minim (4 species) and shaking them together in all directions to show Hashem is all around us. Some symbolism is explained in the picture, in addition to the fact that bringing the 4 species together also represents unity and appreciation of all types of people within our community.



PSHEE/British Values

We have been getting to know our new peers at Gesher. We have been working on introducing ourselves and asking questions to get to know others. We will be developing our class charters before half term. These help us to understand our rights and responsibilities in the classroom.

This week, we explored one of the British Values in assembly; democracy. We learnt that the people rule Britain and democracy means having choices and voting. We had a choice of songs for good morning assembly and we practised voting for the song that we wanted to listen to.

Dates for your Diary



Are emergency contact details/numbers correct for your child?

Please inform the school office of any changes at any time

Non-uniform day – takes place on the **last Friday of the month.** The next one will take place on **Friday 28th September.**

Breakfast Club – Thank you to those families who have returned their permission slip and fee for their child to attend. If you wish your child to attend, please ensure this is returned to the school office by **Friday 28th September.**

Monday 24th/Tuesday 25th September – School closed (Sukkot)

Monday 1st/Tuesday 2nd October – School closed (Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah)

Thursday 11th October – Drama club begins. Please return your consent form and fee to the school office by **Wednesday 4th October** if you wish your child to attend.

Monday 15th October – National History Museum Trip – Gefen and Rimon classes. Letters have been sent home to the relevant families. Please ensure that permission slips and donations are returned to school by **Friday 12th October.**

Friday 19th October – SEED Kabbalat Shabbat Assembly and Activity. Please RSVP to the school office whether or not you are able to attend.

Tuesday 30th October – Parent Morning – Fussy Eaters (9-11am)

Friday 5th/ 12th/ 19th October – School closes at 2:30pm

22nd – 26th October – Half term

Thursday 22nd November – Parent Morning – Emotional wellbeing/zones of regulation (9-11am. Please RSVP to the school office whether or not you are able to attend.

Friday 6th December - Seed Assembly and Activity and Gesher Chanukah Show

Health and Safety

As we say goodbye to summer and the weather is getting colder, please ensure that your child now has their jacket, hat and scarf in their bag for when they are playing and learning outdoors.

Safeguarding

Please adhere to the school's swift pick up/drop off policy to prevent a build-up of cars in the car park around these times to ensure the safety of all children and adults who are present in that area.

Swimming

As we now have 4 classes in Gesher, children will swim on either a Tuesday or Wednesday fortnightly, taking turns with another class. Please refer to the letter sent home for further details.

