

Gesher Newsletter – 23/11/2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had more amazing adventures at Gesher School this week! As well as celebrating Mitzvah Day today in school we also celebrated Diwali. It has been so lovely to see the children engage so positively as a collective during these celebrations! They have really begun to build foundations for lasting friendships - I absolutely love to see this! Well done to Rimon Class for achieving 100% attendance this week – keep up the good work!

Gesher's first official fundraiser takes place tomorrow evening which will hopefully help us to raise further funding so we can continue to take Gesher School forward – again I would like to thank you for all the continued family support that we receive. It is hugely appreciated!

Shabbat Shalom
Miss Colizza

Jewish Studies

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to celebrate Mitzvah Day as a whole school today and see the children getting involved in and excited about social action! A big thank you to all who donated towards our Camp Simcha collection, we looked at our collection box today and celebrated the great work we did in collecting toys to be distributed around hospitals in the UK.

Please see the back of the newsletter for a collection of photos we took of children celebrating Mitzvah Day and giving back to their community.

Shabbat Shalom
Leor Harel

D'Vash Class

Attendance this week – 80%

Absence – 20%

Lateness – 0%

This week, D'vash class have looked up to the sky and the stars above for inspiration during their lessons, as we have continued with our theme of 'Space'.

In Literacy, we looked at the story 'Goodnight Moon'. We listened and engaged as the story was told using different props, before we began working on our individual targets. Some of us worked on requesting the props we wanted to explore further, while others worked on sequencing the story. Other targets included answering questions about the story and demonstrating our comprehension skills.



In Attention Autism (AKA 'Bucket time'), we watched the adult closely as they made swirling glue patterns all over a large black sheet, before sprinkling stars on to turn it into the night sky. We then took turns to use a torch and colander to make our very own night sky on the ceiling.

On Tuesday, we had the opportunity to celebrate a different kind of event in Diwali. We thoroughly enjoyed having an

outside guest come in to share her wonderful ideas and talk to us about her faith. We made a mouth-watering fruit salad with yoghurt, which was tasted by everyone...even if just on the tips of our tongues! We then completed a special art activity, where we looked at 'Rangoli' patterns, before creating our own using sequins, jewels and sticky gems. We look forward to more special events like this where we can learn more about other cultures and traditions.



Next week's topic is 'The Planets – hopefully, we are going to figure out once and for all if Pluto really is a planet or not!!

Shabbat Shalom
Miss Tammy

Seorah Class

Attendance this week – 90.7%

Absence – 9.3%

Lateness – 2%



And we've officially reached the half-way mark of term! Despite the arrival of the cold winter, our students have been showing up to school with big smiles ready to learn.



This week during our Space themed lesson the students learned all about Space Food. We discussed why it's important for astronauts to eat healthy foods in space, and we discussed the differences between Space Food and the food we eat here on earth. The students all had a chance to try 'Space Food' – tasting different dried fruits and vegetables!

In Maths, some of the children achieved their colour identification targets, while others recognised, sorted and completed simple addition sums with 1p, 2p, 10p and 20p coins.



We wrapped up our learning on Diwali with a special activity; we had a guest come visit us at school and taught us how to cook traditional Diwali treats and make celebratory decorations. The students worked together with D'Vash class, and had a really fun time participating in the different activities.



Enjoy the weekend, and we will see you back at school on Monday!

Shabbat Shalom
Miss Marli



Gefen Class

Attendance this week – 92.6%

Absence – 7.4%

Lateness – 16%

This week in Gefen class for Literacy, some pupils have been working on creating their own stories based on the following statement 'An amazing thing once happened to me. I was wandering in the woods when I tripped and found myself falling down, down, down. When I woke up...' Each pupil had a very different narrative! Other pupils have been practising retelling the events in the Stone Age Boy and others have been practising searching for the puppet when it disappeared from view in the Stone Age story.



In Maths, we have been working on following directions and using directional language. We have practised using our own bodies to move forwards, backwards, left and right and using directional language to record a route to an item on a map.

In Topic, we discussed a day in the life of a Stone Age person. We learned that their names were often derived from nature, for example the Stone Age boy in the cartoon was called 'Otter'. We also learned that the stone age people were able to travel by boat and they used fire to cook their food.



Shabbat Shalom
Miss Nicola

Rimon Class

Attendance this week – 100%

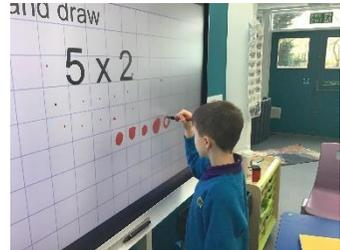
Absence - 0%

Lateness – 2.8%



This week Rimon have been busy as ever. In Maths we have been exploring multiplication and division through the use of arrays, bar models and the bus stop method.

In Literacy, we have been writing and planning our own stories based in the Stone Age. We have been describing what they look like, where they live and what their problem is. We will finish these off on Monday!



We had a special Diwali workshop on Tuesday, where we made delicious salad wraps and sweet yoghurt with exotic fruit. It was delicious and even better because we made it! We also made some rangoli art out of CDs, decorating them with intricate and sparkly jewels, with a plastic candle in the middle as

Diwali is a festival of light.

Swimming was another great success with some of us developing our arm stroke while kicking our feet. It was really impressive and we were rewarded with some exciting free play.



During Science, we conducted more experiments. We first learnt all about how light reflects in order for us to see. Then to check Miss Rowan was right, we used mirrors and a torch to reflect light all over the dark tent.

Next week we are looking forward to new friends joining our class and even more exciting activities planned.

Shabbat Shalom

Miss Rowan



This weeks



Middah

is



working together

If you would like to carry on from where we left off at school here are some ideas to help children carry on the spirit of Mitzvah Day!

Mitzvah Day

- Helping with recycling at home
- Sorting some old clothes/toys to drop off at a local charity shop
- Make a tzedukah (charity) box to use at home for giving a few pennies each week to charity before Shabbat!
- Get involved in one of Mitzvah Day's Social Action projects. List available here <https://mitzvahday.org.uk/get-involved/available-projects/>



PSHEE/British Values

This week we learned more about Diwali, the festival of light. We were delighted to welcome Pula, who visited Gesher. She showed us how to make some typical Diwali food and art. Every pupil made some Rangoli art using a cd, jewels and a candle. In cooking, D'vash and Seorah class made Shreekhand, a sweet yoghurt dessert. Gefen and Rimon class made salad wraps with a variety of vegetables and hummus.



Dates for your Diary



Are emergency contact details/numbers correct for your child?

Please inform the school office of any changes at any time

Friday Early Closures – School will close at 1pm on Friday afternoons up to and including Friday 15th February 2019.

Wednesday 28th November - Tzivos Hashem - Olive Press Workshop

Please ensure your child's £5 donation to this is made by Tuesday 27th November.

Non-uniform day – takes place on the **last Friday of the month.** The next one will take place on Friday 30th November.

Friday 6th December - Seed Assembly and Activity and Geshher Chanukah Show (9-11am).

Health and Safety

Please ensure that your child now has their jacket, hat and scarf/gloves in their bag for when they are playing and learning outdoors.

Safeguarding

- Trips offsite -When the children are taken offsite it would be ideal if they could either have the purple Geshher coat or Blue Geshher Baseball to wear as a means of identifying them. This helps to uphold our Safeguarding protocols and ensure the children are safe when not on school grounds
- In keeping with Geshher's Safeguarding policy please ensure that if you require your child to be picked up by an alternative adult, please inform the school office **via email** ahead of time. Photo ID will also need to be presented upon their arrival at the school before they will be able to collect your child.

