



March 2018

Headteacher's Bulletin

Dear Parents,

The Spring term has flown by, it has certainly been a busy term. There have been many highlights, but for me, the most important has been the impact of the children's behaviour. I am so proud of the efforts they have made in improving their behaviour around school; remembering to walk and not run, not eating inside and always showing good manners when they wait by the door for an adult. They have become considerably more polite and without fail, every visitor notices. We have always been proud of our Behaviour for Learning during lessons, but now I would go so far as to say behaviour in lessons is impeccable – this is certainly a considerable achievement. The children know that we are now focussing on assembly behaviour leading in and out of the hall.

I have also been overwhelmed by the impact Elizabeth has had on our school. I knew that when I recruited her that she would be an asset to our Sinai team, but I did not imagine quite how far her service would reach. Having a psychotherapist on the staff team sets us above the other Primary Schools and means that we are focussing on our children's mental health and wellbeing and providing support for our families. I am really proud of that.

Speaking of Pride, Mrs Petar was a finalist in the PaJes teaching awards for championing mental health and wellbeing. She won £1,000 to spend in our school and I know she is excited about enhancing our provision. You probably would have seen on Facebook that we had 13 other nominations for our staff for awards. This is down to you and I thank you for recognising my staffs' hard work and dedication.

We have certainly been very active on Social Media over the past few months and I am grateful to Mrs Joseph for joining us to support us with our media, communications and PR. We didn't imagine we would receive 11,000 views on our school video within a weekend. We are so proud of our short film which shows a day in the life of our school. I am grateful to Mr Levi for making my vision of a film, to portray our school - a reality. We have had so much positive publicity and our numbers are increasing daily. We are in the midst of a very exciting journey and I hope that you feel the effervescence of enthusiasm and excitement from the staff and the children. I know, that your praise and positivity in the wider community, is the best publicity for our school and of course I thank you for that.

The excitement continues as we make plans for our Library Bus. Having seen our bus and begun discussing the renovations with Metroline, my dream of a Library Bus is finally becoming a reality. I am grateful to all of the parents who have offered their help and of course to the tireless work of Debbie Azagury Slattery.

I am delighted to announce that Sarah Wagman has been elected as the parent Governor and she has officially joined the Governing Body. Thank you to all of the parents who voted at the elections.

Over the Pessach holiday we will be renovating the toilets in the year 3 and 4 block. The toilets will be refitted and redecorated to improve the facilities for the year 3 and 4 children. We will also be building another office upstairs to increase Senior Leadership presence in that area of the school. The renovations will also include a separate Gender Neutral toilet. We will also be installing two screens in the playground

which we have obtained through sports funding, to give the children exercise ideas in the playground. Of course parents, please feel free to use the playground at the end of the day to do your keep fit too.

Sports Relief was resounding success last week, maybe because I allowed the children to wear their trainers all week? It was fabulous to see every child walk/run a mile every day. We are looking at ways to build this into our weekly routine, as research has shown the positive impact of physical activity on children's learning.

Next term, I am excited that we will return to longer Fridays, which will mean the return of our enrichment afternoons. The children will have an opportunity to engage in enriching activities outside of the National Curriculum to broaden their skills. The teachers will talk to the children after the holidays to share with them the activities on offer.


As always at the end of term, we must say goodbye to some members of staff and wish them luck on their professional journey. Mrs Steinberg, Mrs Curtis and Miss Berkeley will all be leaving at the end of this term. We thank them for their hard work at Sinai and wish them the very best in their future careers. Rabbi Sturgess will be leaving SEED, which will therefore mean that he will no longer be working in partnership with Sinai. I know many parents have enjoyed the wide variety of activities he has offered to us and we wish him luck in his new endeavours.

We also wish Mrs Mandell luck as left on maternity leave this term and Mrs Arnold who will be leaving at the start of next term to begin her maternity leave.

I hope that you all enjoyed the Seders this year. We felt that they were much calmer and more intimate with just one class at a time. The children really enjoyed them as did the staff. I would be remiss not to publicly thank the team of parents and the kitchen staff who lovingly organised every Seder. Thank you!

Next term will be a busy term as always. The month of May is always important with the children in year 2 and 6 completing their end of Key Stage SATS assessments. I know that they will do their best.

I will be looking closely at attendance and continuing our drive to improve attendance at Sinai. Please note that as always, I will only be authorising leave in exceptional circumstances. Remember that every day your child misses, is valuable learning missed.



Sinai Jewish Primary School

Getting your child to school and on time really matters. Did you know...

If your child's attendance during the school year is...	Your child would have lost approximately...	Or they would have missed approximately...	If your child's attendance during the school year is...	Your child would have lost approximately...	Or they would have missed approximately
95%	9 days	50 lessons	5 minutes	3.5 days from school	20 lessons
90%	19 days	100 lessons	10 minutes	7 days from school	41 lessons
85%	29 days	150 lessons	15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
80%	38 days	200 lessons	20 minutes	14.5 days from school	82 lessons
75%	48 days	250 lessons	30 minutes	22 days from school	123 lessons
70%	57 days	300 lessons			
65%	67 days	350 lessons			

You should not take your child on holiday during term time. Please encourage attendance and punctuality to maintain school attendance.

Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

I hope that you have a wonderful Pessach with your families and that you have a restful break. Please as always do not hesitate to contact me or speak to me in the playground when you see me.

Mrs Lipshaw
Headteacher

