



Headteacher's Bulletin

End of Summer Term 2018

Dear Parents,

As the term draws to a close, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the last academic year.

Curriculum Developments

This year we reintroduced French back to our Key Stage 2 (KS2) curriculum. We know that this has provided the children with a wonderful opportunity to learn a Modern Foreign Language and immerse themselves in French culture. Mrs Dutch has encouraged a classroom filled with 'joie de vivre', winning over the hearts of the children who have all enjoyed the engaging lessons taught predominantly in French.

Another success we must celebrate is the return of our music lessons, led by the Brent Music Service. Our children have developed their music skills and I have enjoyed watching their progress. A particular highlight for me was the year 1 violin concert, I think we were all pleasantly surprised by how tuneful it was!

Celebrating Success

We have enjoyed many triumphs on the football pitch this year both for the boys and the girls. We have experienced success in athletics, gymnastics and swimming. As we welcome a new set of year 4 children we look forward to them experiencing the same progress in swimming that our current year 4 children have made.

At Sinai we nurture a generosity of spirit. The year 6 Young Enterprise 'fiver challenge', exemplified the focus on charity and the joy of performing *mitzvot* as they collectively made the decision to raise money for the charity Kisharon, where they had been involved in an integration project this term. The children raised over a thousand pounds for the children they have spent time with - helping them to develop life skills, helping them with their wheelchair exercises and joining in with their lessons. The work with Kisharon has shown all that we have nurtured in our pupils and I am proud of the difference they have made.

The work we have done in developing our support for mental health and wellbeing has been highly effective this year. In recruiting Elizabeth, our onsite school counsellor, we were forward thinking, ahead of other primary schools, who are now using a similar model to offer support to young people. Elizabeth will continue to work with us next year supporting children and parents.

We continue to celebrate achievements in the classroom with children making fine progress against their starting points. We continually strive for academic improvement and excellence in all that we do.

The highlights of our data are as follows:

Phonics

Year 1 phonics

	Number of pupils	Percentage of pupils	National
2018	74	98.6	82.6%
2017	84	95.5%	81.4%
2016	86	95.6%	80.6%

KS1 data 2018

	Reading		Writing (TA)		Maths		RWM	
	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National
Percentage of pupils that met age related expectations	86.5%	75.5%	80.8%	70%	84.2%	76.1%	76.4	65.4%
Percentage of pupils that exceeded age related expectations	32.6%	25.7%	17.9%	15.9%	33.7%	21.8%	11.2	11.7%

KS2 Data 2018

2018	Reading		Writing (TA)		SPAG		Maths		Reading/Writing/ Maths		Science	
	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National	Sinai	National
Percentage of pupils that met ARE	82.2%	75%	84.4%	78%	93.3%	78%	82.2%	76%	77.8%	64%	83.3	
Percentage of pupils that exceeded ARE	45.5%	27.8%	25%	19.7%	54%	34.2%	27.7%	23.4%	18%	9.7%	(-)	

I am sure that you will agree that these results are well deserved. The staff have worked hard to ensure that all of their pupils meet their potential. Well done to the children for showing resilience and determination.

Email Communication

We pride ourselves on our open door policy and our open communication with parents. We know how important it is for you to be able to email us directly. I must respectfully remind parents that my Senior Leadership Team and my staff are here to educate the children and have only their best interests at heart, they will not respond to emails that are aggressive, confrontational or abusive in any way.

Please can parents be mindful that when staff are teaching they will not see their emails until the end of the day. If you have an urgent message, please call the school and a member of the office team will see to it that the teachers are informed. I know that you will support me to ensure a healthier email culture in the school.

Building Improvements

Over the summer, we will be using the government grant for building work in further developing our Key Stage One (KS1) block. This is the continuation of our project to modernise the main school building. The year 2 area will be redesigned and refurbished to create a brighter working space for the children.

Our main project is the refurbishment of the kitchen to create a state of the art kitchen to further improve our school meals offered to the children.

I hope that more children will partake of the school meals which will be more varied and of higher quality.

Senior Leadership Team

Over the year I have recruited members of the Leadership Team and we now have a full complement of staff. I would like to clarify roles for your reference:

Mrs Juliette Lipshaw	Headteacher
Mrs Claire Gough	Deputy Headteacher – Teaching/Learning/Assessment
Mrs Julia Kaye	Deputy Headteacher – Inclusion/Pupils/Wellbeing
Mrs Gemma Cowen	KS2 Leader/Logistics
Mrs Katie Matlin	EYFS/KS1 Leader/Safeguarding

Jewish Studies

It is with a heavy heart that I say farewell to Rabbi Goldmeier. Albeit that he will be returning next term to lead some educational programmes in year 6, he will no longer be a full time member of staff. Rabbi Goldmeier has used his leadership to influence and inspire so many young people.

I know that he leaves behind a powerful legacy, a love of our traditions and a love of our culture, knowledge of our history and knowledge of our customs. Rabbi Goldmeier has ensured that his staff are empowered to lead the next generation of Sinai pupils to be passionate about their Judaism.

Looking forward, we have an excellent team of Jewish Studies staff who will continue to deliver an outstanding curriculum to your children. Jewish Studies remains the heart of our school, central to our ethos and core of our values.

At the start of next term I will be advertising for Jewish Studies leadership roles within the school. My intention is to have an EYFS/KS1 Leader and a KS2 Leader to ensure that we continue to embed a rich Jewish learning at Sinai.

Staffing

Goodbyes:

Danielle Petar leaves us at the end of this term to work at Geshar. As you are aware, we hope to be working closely with Geshar in the future, but for now, whilst they are based in Willesden, Danielle will be teaching there. We are so grateful for all of her input and knowledge in Special Educational needs and we will surely miss her, albeit that in the first term she will continue to work at Sinai one day a week to ensure a smooth transition and handover.

Mrs Black will be working full time from September, part in class and part in the SENd department to work on her SENdCo accreditation (from the Institute of Education) as she becomes a training SENdCo.

Miss Robeson and Mrs Kropp, Teaching Assistants in Reception, will also be leaving us this term. I know that they have enjoyed working with Reception children over the years and have supported many children's learning.

Mrs Levine will be leaving us to work at Immanuel and Mr Waltz will be leaving to teach at Noam. Miss Birkett will be leaving us to teach mindfulness and Yoga. We thank them for their inspirational teaching and wish them every success in the future.

Welcome:

We welcome Miss Gillian Lucas, Miss Yasmin Judah, Miss Rebecca Lockwood and Mrs Gemma Gilbert to Sinai as class teachers and we know you will give them a warm welcome as they get to know our school and our pupils.

We welcome back Mrs Laura Lane who will be returning to us in September to job share in year 1 with Miss Judah.

Governors

The governors play an important role in the Leadership and Management of the school, challenging me and my senior team to strive for excellence in all we do. They are a group of very hard working individuals, who volunteer and give their time over and above what is required. I am grateful for their wise counsel and care for all pupils in the school, keeping the children at the centre of all we work to achieve.

External Validation

Last year we were moderated in KS2, this year it was KS1. Once again the moderators were full of praise for the children's writing, impeccable behaviour and for the robust internal systems in place at school to mark and assess the children's work.

We commissioned a review from the local authority this term to externally validate our judgements. The team were so impressed with our school, with the teaching and learning and especially by your children. Our pupils continue to be a shining example of excellence for all who come to visit, keen to share with anyone who will listen their love for learning at Sinai.

Year 6

Following the success of the year 6 play Mary Poppins and the siyum last night, it is time to say a fond farewell to a fabulous cohort of children. We have given the children the academic tools to set them on a path for their future learning in secondary school and we have taught them to believe in themselves and to meet our high expectations of them.

I am proud of their achievements and know that we are sending them on the next stage of their learning journey as confident, articulate, hardworking and resilient young people.

PSA

Or PSA has worked tirelessly this year, from selling ice-lollies during the heatwave, the summer fete, supper quizzes, discos, cinema afternoons to name just a small number of the many events that they put on.

We are so grateful to Debbie Azagury Slattery and her amazing team of volunteers who never fail to smile and do just what needs to be done to raise much needed money for the school.

Thank you to the parents who support the events and thank you to the volunteers who give of their time so generously.

Thank You

As we cross the finish line of the summer term, I would like to thank you, the parent body.

I love our school, I am truly proud of all that we have achieved. I know that you support me, my Leadership Team and my staff and I know that you believe that we want what is best for your children.

As our school returns to a three form entry in Reception, I have to thank you for your positive publicity and for spreading the word about what a special school we have.

As you know I stand by our principles that we are a big school, offering big opportunities and with a big heart.

It is an honour and a pleasure to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school with such a warm community of parents, staff, governors, friends and of course children.

I wish you all a restful summer break with your children. We will certainly miss the children but we look forward to seeing them in September.

Mrs Juliette Lipshaw
Headteacher
Sinai Jewish Primary School