

**Hello**, and welcome to our latest Youth & Education newsletter. In this publication, you'll find out what's been going on for our youth at FRS since the start of this academic year, and gain some insight into what to expect after the winter break. Hopefully this provides a lovely snapshot of what we've been up to. Do continue to keep an eye on your FRS News every week in your email inbox for up-to-date information on what's coming up. Enjoy reading about what's been keeping us busy, and do let us know if there is something you'd like to see added to these pages ([Karen.Bloom@frs.org.uk](mailto:Karen.Bloom@frs.org.uk))! Wishing you a warm and cosy winter break!

Karen and the Youth & Ed team

## Pre-School



### Kindergarten

We were delighted to welcome eleven new families to the Kindergarten this term – eight in our Chicks and Cygnets class and three in our Swans Class. The Autumn Term is always filled with celebrations as we mark the chaggim, including celebrating Diwali and Chanukah together.

During the first half-term, the focus was on settling-in and getting to know the children and supporting them in becoming familiar with their new teachers, classmates and the routines of the day. Enjoying shared experiences together, such as when the beekeepers came to visit, was an important part of this process.

During the second half-term, our topic of 'Darkness and Light' provided the children with opportunities to explore, create and develop their understanding of these words in a variety of contexts, supporting their learning across all areas of development. We've had fun creating shadows, collecting autumn 'treasures', cooking on the fire pit, building a dark den, making our own chanukiot and divas, creating firework splatter paintings and much, much more. We are looking forward to our end of term

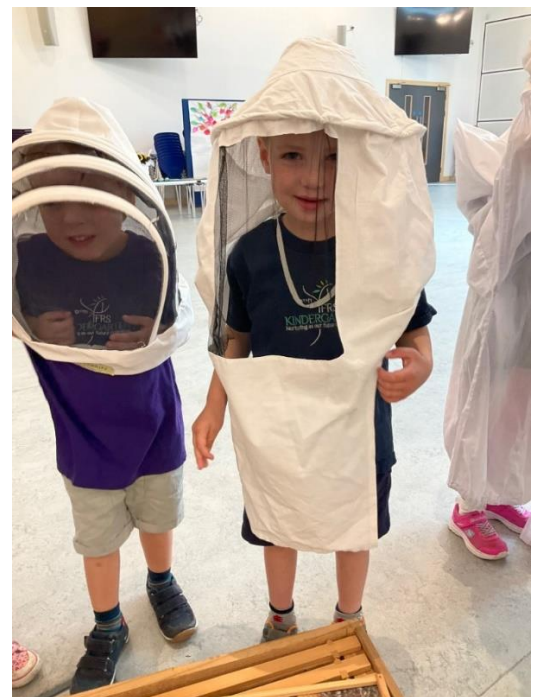
outing to the Arts Depot theatre and to welcoming some more new starters in January.

For further information about the Kindergarten and to book a tour, please contact Emma Wohl at [kindergarten@frs.org.uk](mailto:kindergarten@frs.org.uk) or by phone on 020 8445-6807.

Please note: FRS Members get priority places on waiting lists.



Looking for the queen bee in the beehive



Dressing up as beekeepers



Lighting the candle for the 1<sup>st</sup> night of Chanukah



Recycling pumpkins for a fun fine motor activity



Enjoying our delicious Diwali feast

## Kuddle-Up

Kuddle-Up continues to be a huge success, with lots of parents and grandparents showing up week after week. We used to notice a big difference in numbers of attendees at times of the year that counted towards school point collecting and those periods that don't. However, we are now just a big group celebrating Shabbat together all year round. Our lovely young helpers are wonderful, especially with the addition of Esther's Torah teaching slot. Special thanks, as always, to Gila for her unwavering support. Remember, Kuddle-Up continues weekly throughout the holidays – and while Rabbi Miriam is away for a couple of weeks, we are excited to have Jess Gold, a Jewish musician, stepping in. See you there!

## Primary School

### Kochavim

The weeks have flown by this term, as we have covered a combination of the High Holidays, Shabbat, Mitzvot and Chanukah at Kochavim. We delved into the stories behind the chaggim, the "why"s and the "how"s of Shabbat, and the miracle of the Chanukah story. We were also excited to participate in the mitzvah of hospitality on Mitzvah Day, opening our building to and sharing activities with some local asylum seekers. We are currently in discussion with our partners at 8<sup>th</sup> Rung to see how we can take this forward, ensuring that we don't stop at one event for Mitzvah Day.



A sweet Torah – good enough to eat!



## Sunday Fundays



Learning DJ tricks at Sunday Funday

We have had so much fun at our Sunday Fundays this term, with lots of children exploring new activities or reacquainting themselves with something they've done before. One of our favourites was the DJ Sunday Funday, where the kids learnt to mix music on a real DJ deck! Our January Sunday Funday is already fully booked, so don't forget to sign up soon for the later ones, so that you don't miss out!

More info from [maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk](mailto:maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk)

### FRS YOUTH CALENDAR 2023/24

A GUIDE TO UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS AT FRS

**SUNDAY FUNDAYS:**  
12:30PM-2:30PM

Jan 21 - Chocolate Sunday Funday - fully booked!

Feb 25

April 14

May 19

June 16

July 14

**FEB SCHEME:**  
FEB 12-15

Feb Scheme is back and this year is running for **4 DAYS!!** For kids in reception-year 6

**PURIM CARNIVAL:**  
MAR 24

Come along to our Purim extravaganza at FRS, feat. our famous Purim Spiel!

**SPRING RESIDENTIAL:**  
APR 19-21

Our annual fun-filled weekend residential for years 5 and 6 at an external venue TBC!

**LAG BA'OMER SLEEPOVER:**  
MAY 25-26

Sleepover at FRS for Years 7-8!

## Donut Sleepover

We had an amazing time at our Donut Sleepover event for Years 5 and 6!

Donuts galore, a Maccabees peulah (programme), and staying up all night with friends - a real celebration of the light that we find together at FRS!



Save-the-date for our **Spring Residential for Years 4-6**, which will take place **19-21 April 2024**. More info coming soon!



## Feb Scheme

We're so excited for Feb Scheme coming up very soon, this year running for four days!

Our half-term day camp is open for all those in Reception to Year 6, for both members and non-members.

Four fantastic days of fun at FRS, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, Monday 12th - Thursday 15th February.

Please note - there is a discount if you sign up to all four days of Feb Scheme. Make sure you tick the box 'Monday 12-Thursday 15 (all four days)', rather than the individual dates, for the discount to appear.

Sign up at <https://www.frs.org.uk/form/febscheme24>

## Festival Fun & Family Services

You can always find the dates of family services here: <https://www.frs.org.uk/familyservices>

Our upcoming musical RnJ services will be at FRS on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> March, and we can't wait to see you there!

Don't forget, also, to save the date for our Purim activities – the Purim Carnival will be on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, and we can't wait!

<b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>RnJ musical family service</b>
<b>Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	<b>RnJ musical family service</b>
<b>Sat 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>RnJ musical family service</b>
<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Purim Carnival</b>
<b>Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Day Pesach</b>
<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Day Pesach</b>

## Pre-Bnei Mitzvah



Massuot

Massuot continues to bring our year 6-8 students into community. Our year 6s and 7s have enjoyed Friday night dinners together this term, and our year 8s led their own shacharit service. Our year 6s also went to the British Museum, as well as exploring the question of science vs religion, with the help of the Wonderdome. And our CLaL sessions have been a thought-provoking way to spend a Shabbat morning for our year 7s. We are working hard to ensure that our Bnei Mitzvah

students have plenty of opportunities to get to know each other better, as they continue to explore their Judaism and see where the journey takes them.

Friday Group has now reached its peak in terms of numbers, as we welcome almost 50 pairs of helpers and pupils into the building on Friday afternoons. It is the most wonderful version of controlled chaos and one of our favourite parts of the week! And with Betty's Bike open on Friday afternoons, there are plenty of reasons to be in the building!

## Nitzotzot

If you or your child(ren) is/are currently in the Massuot programme, do remember to **log your nitzotzot for each community event that you come to**, whether that's a synagogue service, a CLaL session, maybe your child is going on a Progressive Jewish winter camp... all these things count towards them showing us that the BM students are engaging with community life, and we look forward to hearing about these things. Remember that the goal is for all Bnei Mitzvah students to have achieved a combined total of 118 nitzotzot by the time they reach the date of their Bnei Mitzvah.

## Post-Bnei Mitzvah

### Helper Training

With our huge numbers at Friday Group, we are working back-to-back to train up our new helpers. We have just completed training for the first group of year 8 students and are all set to begin our next round of Helper Training for new Friday Group helpers in January. For more information on when this is happening, please be in touch with [fridaygroup@frs.org.uk](mailto:fridaygroup@frs.org.uk)

### Hadracha in Action

Our current year 9 students have received their invitations to join our Hadracha (leadership) course, beginning in January, and we can't wait for them to get started! There will be plenty of opportunities for them to put their new skills to good use, whether that's at Feb scheme, Sunday Fundays or at Kochavim later in the year. We are excited for them

to join the team! If your year 9 student is not signed up yet, it's not too late! Please message [maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk](mailto:maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk) for more information.

Lynne Matkovits, for working so hard to make it happen.

## Teen Events and Activities



Some of our madrichimot enjoyed a day out in London in October half term, playing mini golf and enjoying some food together. We are always looking for more ideas of places to go with our young adults, so if this is something you would like to be involved in, please do get in touch! ([maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk](mailto:maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk))

We also planned and hosted our first FRS Careers Fair this autumn, inviting various community members to offer their advice to our students in years 11-13 on their pathways to their current job/career. It was a useful event, and we hope to run it again in the future. Our thanks to members of the Youth & Education Committee, in particular,

## Youth & Education Committee

Our Youth & Education Committee is seeking new members! If you would like to be more involved in what we do and how we do it, we'd love to have a chat! Please email [Rachel.Fidler@frs.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.Fidler@frs.org.uk) and you will be put in touch with the right people to have an initial conversation. We'd love to welcome you aboard!

## Safeguarding

Our safeguarding documents can always be viewed at:

<https://www.frs.org.uk/youth-ed-policies.html>



## The FRS Youth Journey

