



FRS Y&Ed Newsletter



#4 July 2021

Hello, and welcome to our last half-termly Youth & Education newsletter of this academic year! We hope that you are gearing up now for a summer of fun with your families, and that the end of the school year has been a good one for you. Do let us know (Karen.Bloom@frs.org.uk) if you have feedback on our programming, or if there is something you'd like to see added to these pages! Thanks, the Youth & Education team

Pre-School



Kindergarten

This last half-term of the academic year has flown by, filled with exciting events and activities in the run up to our end of year shows and graduation. We've also welcomed a number of visitors from other nurseries coming to see the outstanding learning environment which we've created here at Rubens House – a real testament to the hard work and vision by all at Kindergarten.

Our fantastic teaching team haven't taken their foot off the pedal for one moment, creating an inspiring curriculum covering all areas of learning in a fun and interactive way. One of the highlights was welcoming the 'Appreciating Animals' farm to Rubens House. It was certainly a sight to behold with goats and lambs happily exploring the patio area. The Swans Class also enjoyed an adventurous outing to Capel Manor Gardens in Enfield as part of their learning around Artist Week and the Chicks and Cygnets took part in an invigorating Capoeira class, a relaxing Yoga class and a

dynamic football class as part of their learning about 'Our bodies, our health'. Last week Rabbi Miriam led an emotional 'Leavers Shabbat' which left us all reaching for tissues. We wish all our leavers every happiness at their new schools and look forward to welcoming them back to FRS on Sundays at Kochavim.

For further information about places at Kindergarten, please contact Emma Wohl at kindergarten@frs.org.uk, or visit our website pages at www.frs.org.uk/kindergarten.html



The "Appreciating Animals" farm visits Kindergarten



A Covid-secure leavers' Shabbat

Kuddle-Up

Kuddle-Up Shabbat has settled into a lovely pattern of weekly services that alternate between being outside and online. With so many people collecting school points together with our regulars excited to be back, seats in the garden at Ruben's House with Tevey are selling out fast, so book early if you want to be sure of a golden ticket!

Primary School

Kochavim

We were finally able to bring Kochavim back in person this half term, which was absolutely fantastic! With current restrictions, we were only able to have half the children in the building each week, but we have been so thrilled to see these gorgeous children again after such a challenging year. They have been working on re-building their connections with each other, learning about Israel, and also getting an early taste of what the month of Elul is all about.

Sunday Sundae

Sunday Funday turned into Sunday Sundae for one day only this summer, as the better weather enabled us to offer an outdoor event, celebrating the arrival of summer and the ability to meet together outdoors again. The event was well-attended and there were plentiful smiles and ice creams all around!



Eliana and Talia enjoying their ice creams at Sunday Sundae

Pre-Bnei Mitzvah



Massu'ot

We were delighted to welcome the majority of our Year 5 cohort to Rubens House in

early July for the launch of their Massuot (Bnei Mitzvah) journey. They had a fantastic time moving around the building, hearing all about the different areas of the programme, meeting the staff and, most importantly, meeting each other. Some firm friendships were formed on the day and we look forward to watching them grow and develop as they head towards their Bnei Mitzvah in 2023/4!

For those already a part of our Massu'ot programme, this half term our year 6s have been discussing kashrut from an eco-aware perspective, whilst also being encouraged to picnic with another family as a way of beginning to (re-)build some well-rooted relationships.

Mitzvah Projects

Our current Year 7 B'nei Mitzvah students are now really fleshing out their plans for their mitzvah projects. This is where, in the run-up to their B'nei Mitzvah, our students will each run a social action project about an issue they care about. So far, these are likely to include projects concerning homelessness, animal welfare, and protecting the environment (to name a few!). Throughout the sessions, they have covered social issues, Tikkun Olam, Maimonides' ladder, designing a campaign poster, and fundraising skills. We're looking forward to seeing all these amazing projects develop!

Nitzotzot

A massive 'kol hakavod' shout out to our current top nitzotzot earners! Well done to **Raffi A, Pippa B, Talia B, Toby B, Ella C, Sophie E, Cally G, Elinor J, Lydia J, Gabriel L, Oscar P, Jake P, Chloe R-B, Elodie S, Danny S, Henry S, Rafi S-C and Kalli Z** for your fantastically active involvement in community life and learning!

Post-Bnei Mitzvah

Helper Training

No training took place this half term, as we awaited the next cohort of recent Bnei Mitzvah graduates to be ready to be invited to attend training to become Friday Group helpers. They will start this process at the start of the next academic year, and we look forward to working with them!

(fridaygroup@frs.org.uk for more info)

Hadracha Training

Over the past three months, 17 of our year 9s have been undergoing the FRS Hadracha course, this year completely online. Our fabulous youth workers, Maya and Joel, are very confident that this group of madatzim (trainee leaders) have exactly what it takes (and more) to be the future youth leaders of FRS, and have been so impressed by their commitment, participation and thoughtful leadership skills already. We cannot wait for them to graduate and join our tsevet (team)! To celebrate the completion of the course, they enjoyed a Shabbat of activities at Rubens House on 9th and 10th July.



Dinner in the garden at Ruben's House as part of the end of the Hadracha training course

Contact Maya (maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk) for more information



Ruach

If you've not had the chance to see/hear this yet, do take a look at our lockdown project, "Heal Us Now", which Ruach (our teen band) worked on with other musical members of the community. It's absolutely fabulous! (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfTa5d87of4>) We can't wait for their next project, and to hopefully hear them live and in person again soon! (karen.bloom@frs.org.uk for more info)

Youth Council

Our youth council met in May to discuss future facilitation for our older teens. We love hearing directly from our youth – constructive feedback is always well-received! There are a number of initiatives in the pipeline and Maya and Joel will continue to meet with our older teenagers to discuss how best to roll out such initiatives most effectively. Our youth council is always looking for more participants, so if you are year 9 or above, please do drop Maya or Joel a line if you're interested in getting involved.

(maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk for more info)

Inclusivity at FRS

You will have read in recent correspondence about the growing awareness of mis-gendering our community members. If you are someone for whom this conversation feels particularly relevant, and you'd like to see us doing something specific to enhance inclusivity at FRS, do please reach out – we'd be so thrilled to hear from you (karen.bloom@frs.org.uk and/or maya.gottlieb@frs.org.uk)

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding documents can be viewed at:

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