



END OF TERM NEWSLETTER 2018

It has yet again been an extremely busy and exciting term at Brodetsky Primary School. As always there has been a lot to celebrate and be proud of and we hope this newsletter captures just a glimpse of what we have all been up to.

We came back after our Summer holiday and settled straight back into our school year for all of 5 days before the Yom Tov period. Reception have done extremely well and the reality has hit home that they have to come to school everyday all day and most recently even saying goodbye to their parents from the reception gate independently.

Brodetsky Ethos Statement

We have recently updated our ethos statement based on the work we have done with the staff and children over the past couple of years. This has been shared with the children and now we are sharing it with you.

Brodetsky Primary School is an Orthodox Jewish faith school where the success of every child is achieved through creativity, independence and resilience. Our high expectations ensure that our children reach their potential whilst feeling confident to talk about their own beliefs and experiences in a happy and nurturing environment.

We aim for our core values to be instilled in all members of our school community so that they underpin the strong moral purpose of our being, developing reflective and responsible citizens.

Tzedek: Integrity & respect for one another and our different beliefs and cultures

Chessed: Kindness, especially to the sensitive and the vulnerable

Mishpat: Deep respect towards the rules and laws of our school and society

Rachamim: Compassion & Forgiveness

School Council

We owe a huge thanks to our 2017/18 School Council who have done an incredible job driving positive change as well as proudly representing the school at events, including their visit to Donisthorpe Hall.

UJIA Shinshinit and Hemed

We are very lucky at Brodetsky to have welcomed Gali into our school who is our UJIA Shinshinit for the year. She has spent a lot of time getting to know the children and is eager to run lots of activities around Israel and Ivrit when we return in 2019. Gali has already taught the children a special song adapted from our UJIA partner school in Israel, Hemed, which we hope to use as our school Hebrew song. Mr Y spent a week in Israel teaching both English and Ivrit reading at Hemed and came back to school with lots of new ideas, which we have already started implementing across some of the year groups.



New Lunch Menu

We have reviewed our lunch menu and will be introducing jacket potatoes and sandwiches with a varied option of fillings as well as the main meal choice for the day. This will allow for even more healthy choices alongside the current colourful salad bar we offer.

House Music

All the children and staff have really got involved in this year's House Music Competition which will see one of our Houses crowned winners 2018 thanks to their spectacular performances from a West End top musical. All participants, including staff, put on an incredible show enjoyed by everyone including our star judge panel made up of our Chair of Governors, Jason Broch, Executive Head Teacher, Susy Jagger, Catering Manager, Charles Ross and the sensational Susan Wilcock who performed the classic 'These are a Few of My Favourite Things' from 'The Sound of Music'.

The British Legion

We are proud to say that we raised £277.81 tzedakah for The British Legion in order to mark the Centenary of World War 1. We held a commemoration service in the memorial area where the whole school gathered and held a silence led by Rabbi Kleiman who encouraged us to think about the soldiers and their families who are affected by war but also to think about a peaceful future for the world.



Brodetsky Shabbatot

Forty five of our youngest members of the school from EYFS performed a selection of their favourite Yom Tov songs on Shmini Atzeret at BHH making the audience 'oooooooo', 'aaaaah' and 'kvel'! Following in their footsteps Year 2 also did the school incredibly proud at their special Shabbat where they sang a medley of Chanukah songs to the delighted congregants at BHH led by Mrs Kupperman. Year 4 received their brand new green siddurim during a moving presentation in school led by Mrs Cohen; this was a celebration of how well our children are capable of leading Shacharit (morning prayers).



Educating For Impact

As you may be aware Brodetsky, along with 4 other Jewish schools across Europe are participating in a 5 year programme run by EFI (Educating For Impact) which is a charitable initiative in order to drive forward the future sustainability of the Leeds Jewish community by recognising what role the school plays in securing this and identifying areas for development that will allow us to create a community shared vision. Mrs. Bhogal, Mr. Y, Mrs. Skolnick Dr. Jason Broch and Susie Gordon form a Steering Group who are leading on this project. We have spent 3 days in Rome, where we embarked on a journey to identify our vision. Following this, we held a community event at school to engage with a wider steering group of ambassadors. The next step for the Steering Group of 5 is to join their facilitator from EFI, Carloyn Bogush on a 3 day retreat in Madrid in January 2019 along with the rest of the schools involved in the programme. This journey is bespoke to our needs and though no tangible results will be seen in the short term, the underlying aim is to develop our school in line with what our community needs in order to be thriving in 30 years time.

The Link PTA

We would like to thank our wonderful PTA, The Link, for all their hard work fundraising and providing some priceless resources in school including playground equipment and resources for the library. We really do rely on their fundraising so if you would like to be part of this then please get in contact.

School Trips

As always we like to make the children's learning come alive by going on trips or running workshops. This term Years 3 & 4 have enjoyed a Roman workshop and banquet as well as a visit to the Jewish Heritage Centre and Year 6 have been on a residential for one week up in the Yorkshire Dales. The cost of events such as this do not extend to our school budget therefore we have to rely on your financial support in order to do things like this in school.



Attendance

In assembly this week we presented 20 children with certificates for outstanding attendance in the academic year 2017/18. This is a group of children who had either 100% or 99.73% attendance during the school year and we are super impressed with both them and their families for making this happen- well done!



Physical Education

Our PE coach, Dane, represented Hungary in the Emerging Nations Rugby League World Cup in Australia in September 2018. He has kindly donated his signed shirt from all members of the Hungary team to our school in the hope that it will continue to inspire our children in the sports. We would like to thank one of our parents, Shelley Frieze, who has professionally framed the shirt and donated it to school. Look out for it in the main entrance area. On this note please encourage your child to complete the PE 30:30 Challenge if not already doing so. Our PE provision is a real strength of ours due to the work of Mrs Moore and Mrs Benton and we are proud of our achievements both in and out of school.



Assemblies

Over the course of the term there have been some memorable assemblies each with their own theme showcasing the children's breadth and depth of knowledge. Reception excelled in their Chanukah show and we enjoyed Year 1's remake of the Lion King which gave the West

End production a run for its money. Year 5's assembly All About Space showcased how our children grow in confidence throughout their school life in their ability to be able to stand and perform in front of a large audience: we learnt lots of facts about space and were impressed with the quality of their knowledge.

Reading Buddies

Our Reading Buddies system has taken off the ground well; the children are benefiting from reading to each other. Last week it was lovely to hear a Year 1 child saying that a child in Year 5 is their 'buddy' whilst in their House Music rehearsal.

Message from Executive Head Teacher

It has been another amazing term at Brodetsky. I would like to say a big thank you to all of our families who have continued to support us in all areas of school life. It is only due to this partnership that we can do the best for the children. Best wishes, Miss Jagger.

Message from Chair of Governors

Members of the governing body have spent lots of time in school this year being part of school life. Our visits have shown the magnificent new library facilities and enjoyable Kabbalat Shabbat services. Governors have also been aligned to Key stages and some subjects, so have visited with particular focus on the education that is being delivered. Brodetsky has a fabulous vibrant atmosphere and through the work of the Governing Body sub-committees, we are happy that progress is good and that we are continuing to focus on the right key areas. We have also spent some time in Early Years, which has repeatedly been praised by external agencies.

I would like to say thank you to my fellow governors, who give up so much of their time to carry out this important work. We are extremely lucky to have such skilled and generous people volunteering in this capacity.

Of course, the school continues to face tremendous financial challenges, especially with the costs associated with our pastoral care and security issues such as the gate and lock repairs. We really want to ensure the best possible school experience for our children and also help them achieve their best. I would like to encourage as many families as possible to support the school through voluntary contributions, on which we are very dependant.

On behalf of the Governing body, I would like to say thank you to all staff, at the end of an incredibly busy term.

Wishing you all the best for a happy 2019, Dr Jason Broch

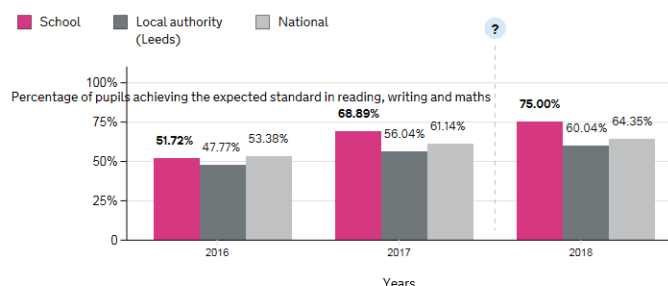
Standards at a Glance

Take a look at the increasing percentage of children achieving Age Related Expectations (ARE) or higher in Year 6 SATs over the last 3 years in Reading Writing & Maths combined. We are very proud of the hard work the teaching staff are putting into each child to ensure that they reach their potential despite the ever decreasing budgets within which we are required to teach.

Reading, writing and maths combined

Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard or higher ?

Number of pupils in 2016 = 29
Number of pupils in 2017 = 45
Number of pupils in 2018 = 28



Volunteers

As ever we are extremely grateful to the large group of volunteers who come in to school every week to help our children with all aspects of school life from listening to readers, working with groups, escorting on trips, running the library, helping in class, running workshops and much much more. We do rely heavily on their support and they are a valuable asset to our staff team.

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to Mrs McIntosh who brought in her brand new baby in to school to meet the children and staff.

Festivals of Light

There were lots of highlights during Chanukah week including family candle lighting, the choir performance at The Town Hall, the chanukiah competition, doughnut and latke making and of course doughnut eating! Nursery 1 & 2 celebrated Chanukah in style with very special and interactive parties for the children and their families. This term, the children have also learned about another festival of light; Diwali and also found out about the lighting of a candle in a Christingle at Christmas.



Parent Survey

Thank you to all families who completed the Parent Questionnaire at the recent Parents' Evenings. We are analysing the results and will report back to you in the new Year.

We hope you have enjoyed reading about our memorable moments and are looking forward to more exciting things to follow next term. Whether you have been lighting candles of a chanukiah, a Diwali diva, a Christingle or using any other source of light, in the words of our choir, "this little light of ours we're going to let it shine."

Have a happy, safe and healthy holiday and see you on Monday 7th January 2019 at 8.30am bright and ready to go!

Mrs Bhogal & Mr Y

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