

JFS JOURNAL

JFS School

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

To those of you reading this in Year 13, who are looking back on their time at JFS, I hope you will treasure this alongside your school memorabilia.

To those who contributed, thank you for wearing your heart on your sleeve.

To those of you reading, who are still on your JFS journey, I hope you will see the potential of what you can experience, and the boundless opportunities you have ahead, the world is your oyster!

Wishing all students success in all that you endeavour

Ms Wolfson

SO LONG, FAREWELL

What a privilege it has been for me to watch the Year 13s transition from Year 12, supporting them as Assistant Head of Year and subsequently Acting Head of Year.

"JFS IS SPECIAL TO ALL OF US IN SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS."

When I joined JFS in 2018, I was blessed to work with some truly inspirational colleagues and forge valued friendships that helped me to expand my learning horizons: very similar I expect to the Year 13s experience of transitioning through Sixth Form! JFS is special to all of us in so many different ways. In this very strange year where the

Covid 19 pandemic has cut short our collective time together, I will always remember the hopes, fears and aspirations the Year 13s have shared with me along the way. A parting thought for the Year 13s; always remember that dreams can come true, if you have the courage to pursue them. I look forward to myself and the Sixth Form team's final reunion with the Year 13s – social distancing allowing!

Ms Davis



MORNINGS TUTOR BASE WITH 13AT

Talkers and non-talkers, earphones out, kippot on, skirts longer, sweatshirts in lockers, lanyards on, careful Miss Thumim is in a bad mood, is Amichai part of this tutor group?

Different colour nail polish, tears in the morning, hidden struggles, spoken struggles, smiles, grimaces, Miss Thumim is smiling-what's in her mug?

Take your earphones out, messages, Dr Walton is checking uniforms, my

attendance is low coz I don't need to go to Business, put your phones away...

SCREECH TO A HALT...lockdown.

I think of you, and I hope you doing well, and I find it strange to imagine morning routine at JFS without you. Thank you for sharing your JFS times with me, it has been an honour.

Love Miss Thumim



Dear fellow Year 13 students,

Firstly, we want to say well done and congratulations, whilst this may not be the ending we expected, our seven years has come and gone, and what a seven-years they were. Our year has had its trials and tribulations, whether it was the change in the GCSE system, adapting to new headteachers, and now the effects of Covid19 on our A levels. Whilst many see this as a curse, we see this as a challenge to which we have overcome. We want to wish everyone a huge Mazel Tov, because despite the challenges, we have succeeded, and our seven years have not gone to waste. We want to thank everyone for being part of such a dynamic and special year group. We have been the backbone of support for one and other, growing and maturing together throughout the years.

In this farewell message, on behalf of the Head boy/Head girl Team, we would like to wish everyone a huge good luck to the future. Whilst we are currently living in such uncertain times, we feel confident that no matter the challenges life throws at us, the people in our year group will not only overcome them, but be successful in all that we do. We want you to remember that this is only one small hurdle in a lifetime of success.

Mazel tov and Good luck to the class of 2020!

By Leah Patchick Malkinson and Joseph Sassoon Head Boy and Girl

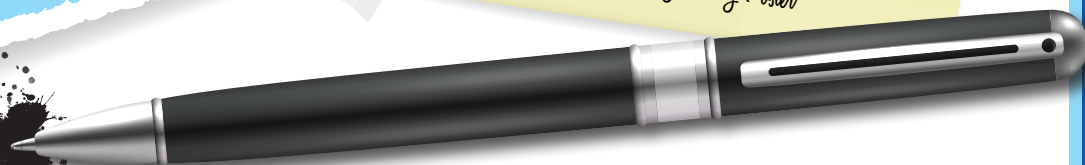


It is a strange feeling to leave JFS and the routine that came with it - the routine that has been my life since 2013. I remember getting my schoolbag in Year 7, and stuffing it with everything I could possibly need and more - just in case. I remember it was so big I would regularly push people off the stairs in the rush up and down the Yarneh staircase in between lessons. It's these little things I will miss most - the chaotic rush to the lunch halls, messing about on the pianos in the music rooms at lunch, that feeling when we were told we were watching a movie in English lessons, and when all phones went out for Kahoot in History. Thank you JFS for these great times, you will always have a place in my heart.

By Ore Gazit

JFS always will be a huge part of my life. It has shaped my teenage years and played a large role in the person I am becoming. I loved my time at JFS, I loved the social aspect, and the commitment of the teachers, but I most of all loved the community we created at JFS. I truly do feel as if we are a family, and I would not sacrifice anything for the amazing memories I made throughout school. I will miss it every day and I will hold on to everything I learnt in all aspects of my life for a long time to come. Thank you JFS, I miss you already.

By Libby Poster



Teenage years are vital for our development, both socially and intellectually; we create friendships, find passions, discover likes and dislikes and build upon our character, shaping ourselves and those around us into the young adults we are today, ready to face the world after our school years.

To me, JFS has been an important and special facilitator in this process, instilling in me a love of learning and enabling special relationships to form. JFS is, in many ways, a community as well as a school - it has a rich history, it's full of traditions (one of my favourites being the Purim shepil) and school-wide jokes dating back many years (no one can forget the Dambalaga song!)

I know I will always appreciate what JFS has given me: be it the memories of the school trips to Israel and Spain, the care and time my teachers put into our learning, particularly in my A-level years, or the opportunities provided to connect with the Jewish community. There were certainly challenges we faced as a year group along the way, but these only made us a stronger collective, ratifying the bond we created throughout our time at JFS.

A big thank you to all the staff at JFS and good luck to the class of 2020! :)

By Hannah Stanton

My last day of compulsory education was something I'd looked forward to my entire life; the day when I am free to do whatever I want. The problem is, I was woefully unprepared. One day I was a child and the next I was an unemployed adult.

I always wanted to grow up, but when the opportunity came, I realised that I would miss being a child as well. On my last day of school, I talked to my friends in the Mezz, but I will never do that again, I played football with my year on the astro, which I will never do again, and I had my final lesson, which I will never have again. Maybe most importantly, I will never have the feeling of not having a care in the world again, and I will forever be burdened with responsibility.

I took the same bus home every day of school for the past 6 years, thanking the bus driver each time, and as I got off the bus for the very last time, and ended my journey with JFS, he hooted his horn as a solemn goodbye. It was like the sounding of the Shofar, not just to mark the end of the past year, and the beginning of a new year but the end of my old life and the beginning of my new one.

The protection of the walls and gates of JFS facilitated my learning and my progress, not just as a student, but as a human being. A structured workday, and curriculum guided me through the majority of my life, but now that it is gone, the ball is in my court, and I can live to my fullest potential.

Even though I have no idea how to be an adult, I know I'll use the skills and experiences gained at JFS to make sure I can flourish and am able to live life to the fullest without the restriction of school but with the lessons learnt from. I hope, that to live, really will be, an awfully big adventure.

Samuel Kelly



After being at JFS for seven years, a short reflection is nearly impossible to write.

I have had so many experiences, which have all shaped me into the person I am today. Without doubt, JFS has provided us all with a loving Jewish community to bond with as we grew up as a cohort.

We have seen just how much the school has developed since we joined in Year 7, from progress records, to the biometric scanners, as well as how much we as individuals have changed.

When I think of the many lessons we had, it puts a smile on my face. Even if we were learning about Fleming's left-hand rule in science, or how to draw perspectives in art, there was always a funny moment.

The way we interacted with Judaism will always stick with me, whether that be through a GCSE Jewish Studies lesson, to hearing a Holocaust survivor talk about their experience, or Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

I was lucky enough to go on the Lavi trip to Israel in Year 9. This was an opportunity of a lifetime, where 29 of us lived on a kibbutz, attended an Israeli school, met amazing people, volunteered and travelled around the country, tried new foods, and explored different sites across Israel while connecting to Judaism in a way that I had never before.

On behalf of 13AT, I would like to thank all the staff at JFS for the continuous support and for making these years so special. I would also like to thank Miss Thumim for being a caring and encouraging tutor who would always put a smile on our faces, even at 8:30 in the morning.

By Alison Renton 13AT





In a Class of your Own!



Dear Year 13,

I never imagined that I would be writing to say goodbye to you rather than doing it in person, but if the last few months has taught us anything it is not to take anything or anyone for granted.

At least I have the opportunity to tell you now, what a wonderful cohort you are (and that includes everyone) and I couldn't have wished for a better group of students in my first year as Head of Sixth.

I had a sense of your specialness on our Poland trip. I saw first-hand the care you showed one another, your sensitivities, but also your fabulous sense of humour. That was a heart-breaking trip, my first, but you helped to make it a trip that I will never forget.

I know that we have had our ups and downs. It is true that I am pedantic about the dress-code, about assemblies, PE and JS and that I always pushed some of you very hard, but that is because it was worth the effort. If I have high expectations, it's because you show yourselves to be worth it.

There are many of you I would like to thank personally for what you have contributed. We have had a wonderful HBHG team, full of talent and I don't doubt for a minute I will see their faces in the future,

on the telly, as they continue to strive to make the world a better place. The commitment Y13 show to student well-being is a lesson to us all. But all of you in one way or another were involved in some project that has helped to make the world we live in a better place, whether that was epic bike tours or always making disabilities visible. There are also those of you I would like to thank for brightening up my day by just coming in to my office and telling me something funny, or those of you who saw I hadn't had a drink all day and made me a cup of coffee. If I had to sum up this year group in one word it would be: kindness.

I know you will keep on being kind, to yourselves, to one another and those around you.

I look forward to seeing you all again in the near future, hopefully at the Graduation Ceremony, but I wish you all the very best in whatever you go on and do. And remember, you are always part of the JFS family so never hesitate to be in touch.

With the very best of wishes

Dr O. Walton
Head of Sixthform



On some of our Y13's first day - September 2013