

# HBHG TEAM NEWSLETTER



## OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE

Please contact us **@jfsbhgteam** via Instagram with any questions, suggestions, if you would like to promote an event, announcements or to write a comment piece for the newsletter. Our DMs are always open!



## SOCIETIES THIS WEEK

Debating Society  
Feminist Society  
History Society  
JiEP Lunch and Learn  
Maths and Physics Society  
Music Society  
Philosophy Society  
Politics Society  
**For more info [click here](#)  
or go to our instagram  
**@jfsbhgteam****

## HBHG TEAM WELLBEING AND CREATIVITY SCHEME

Creativity is an essential, cathartic outlet. Therefore, we have decided that over lockdown, we want you to send us your poems, short stories, art and photography. We will publish these in this newsletter and on our Instagram- this can be done anonymously if you wish. Sharing our lockdown experience as a community will help us all feel a little less alone and act as a time-capsule for future JFS students. You do not need to be perfect at poetry or amazing at art- we want to see the real JFS student experience of lockdown! Please get involved- together we will be recording history! **DM us @jfsbhgteam**

# COMMENT PIECE BY JAKE REBACK

The significance of Tu BiShvat has been transformed throughout our history and by the needs of our history. The archaic implication of giving trees a birthday was agricultural. After the destruction of the second temple, the practice became symbolic. And, not so long ago, the festival acquired an even greater purpose: ecological awareness and appreciation.

Today's celebration acts as a reminder of the Adam-Adamah (human-earth) relationship. It is a call to focus on our interdependence with nature and our responsibility to be active stewards of the earth; this entails addressing the climate crisis and recognising the part we play.

2020 was a stark warning of the relentless pace of climate change: Europe experienced the hottest year in its history, deforestation in the Amazon surged to a 12 year high, and the amounts of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere reached record levels.

In the grand scheme of things, our actions and the part we play seem utterly negligible. However, by taking responsibility for our behaviour, we can herald the change of consciousness required to set the wheels of change in motion. With President Biden rejoining the Paris climate accords, it seems this process is underway and, hopefully, 2021 presents a positive turning point.

Remember we need trees to celebrate their birthday so for the sake of Tu BiShvat act greener!

## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

**GIFT:** Giving is a great way to help others and to feel good! Find out the many ways to give this lockdown [here](#)

## BIG NEWS OF THE WEEK

Check out @jfshbhgteam Instagram to stay up to date with the BIG NEWS OF THE WEEK, posted every Thursday

## FIVE LITTLE THINGS TO GO MORE GREEN THIS WEEK

- 1) Turn off your lights when you leave the room
- 2) Use a reusable water bottle
- 3) Check if you can recycle something before throwing it away
- 4) Watch David Attenborough's 'A life on Our Planet' on Netflix
- 5) Reduce meat consumption

# D'VAR TORAH BY MICHAL BASSALIAN

## **Parashat Beshalach A fraction left for faith**

Parashat Beshalach explores the circumstances Miriam went through after her parents decided to place her brother, Moshe, in the river. Miriam finds herself witnessing the tide take her brother away. What on earth is one to do when watching an entire nation be swept into the river?

Miriam knew her task precisely. She confirmed that knowledge and rationality can only take you so far; the rest one must leave to faith. The parasha states that Miriam “stood from afar”. She simply watched to see what sort of miracle HaShem would perform. That decision to do nothing except trust HaShem was the agent to salvation itself. Miriam watched and waited until pharaoh's daughter came along and took Moshe out of the river. Miriam grasps the opportunity HaShem provided for her by asking Pharaoh's daughter “can I get a Jewish woman to nurse this child for you?”. Miriam's faithful mindset allowed this opportunity to help her brother - consequently saving our people.

Moshe grew up to use this same reflex as he guides the Jewish people out of Egypt. He follows his sister's footsteps by telling the people of Israel to “stand and watch” if they'd like to make it out of Egypt. Stand, watch and have faith that HaShem would get them through this. Moments after Moshe utters these words, the sea splits and our Nation survives.

These siblings' approach to challenges holds so much value. Right now, we're all confronted with testing challenges and habitually we ask what to do; how to resolve the situation. But sometimes our response needs to be to “stand and watch” and to leave that fraction of our response in the hands of HaShem.

**Shabbat is coming in at 16:29 on the 29th and going out at 17:36 on the 30th.**

# FINAL WORDS OF THE WEEK

Another week of lockdown and online learning. A stressful but also a relaxing period of time for some.

A year ago, you never would have thought that we'd be in lockdowns, missing school, staying at home. We're living in incredibly strange times but hopefully, we are starting to see the end of this horrendous disease, with the rollout of the vaccine.

Our message is to keep your head up, things will get better, and if you are feeling down, please simply have a chat with someone or do something that you enjoy.

**Stay safe and Shabbat Shalom,  
from your HBHG Team**

**Chloe Fouladbaksh  
Eden Field  
Chloe Miller**

**Jake Gilbert  
Daniel Grossman  
Saadiyah Klein**

