Dear Parents

On Wednesday 27th January, International Holocaust Memorial Day, JiEP ran three assemblies throughout the day encompassing every year group. The assemblies, each an hour long, involved an introduction to the day, guest speakers including Michael Rainsbury and Rabbi Garson from JRoots and Rabbi Hanoch Teller from Jerusalem, a student led presentation including experiences of our Year 13 students who went to Poland, and a concluding message from Mrs Fink.

We had over 1500 students take time out of their normal schedule to focus on Holocaust Education and to understand the importance of the day. The theme this year was ‘Being a light in the Darkness’, which our assemblies were centred around. Both speakers from JRoots focused on the story of a survivor called Dov Landau and showed videos of him revisiting the town he grew up in. One of the survivor’s stories reminded us to think of the light that emerged from our darkest period in history. The parting message for students this year was to use Holocaust Memorial Day not just as a day of remembrance, but to remember to act - to act in a way that constantly keeps the Jewish flame alive.

Directly after this, starting on Wednesday night, was the festival of Tu B’Shevat. During JS lessons on Thursday, Year 7 and 8 took part in the JiEP led Tu B’Shevat Seder. Students were sent shopping lists in advance so they could create their own seder at home and actively be involved on the day. The JiEP Instagram page was filled with thoughts and ideas about Tu B’Shevat, all of which culminated in a live cooking demo with our Head Girl Chloe Fouladbakhsh.

One of the school's official charities this year is the JNF project in Yerucham. One of the initiatives is to create public gardens and JiEP have set up a JFS fundraiser, in honour of Tu B’Shevat, to donate money to help build these gardens and plant as many JFS trees as possible. All the details can be found below or follow this link <https://www.jnf.co.uk/jfsgreensunday>

