

# Forever Young: Class of 2025



## LJFS NEWSLETTER

## JULY 2025

"For the mitzvah is a lamp, and the Torah is light, and reproofs of discipline are the way to life" (Proverbs 6:23).

Each lesson learned this year—whether academic, personal, or moral—is like a mitzvah, a small lamp that now lights your path forward.

The knowledge you've gathered is the light of Torah, illuminating your understanding and shaping your perspective. Even the difficult moments—the corrections, the setbacks, the hard-earned lessons—were the "reproofs of discipline" that helped you grow. As you step into summer and beyond, you carry with you not just memories, but light: a light that can guide you, and perhaps even guide others.

## Announcements

We look forward to seeing you all!

Return to school

TUESDAY 2ND  
SEPTEMBER 2025



best of  
**LUCK**



### Miss. Lawson

We're sad to say goodbye to Miss Lawson, our incredible Deputy Headteacher, whose dedication, and warmth have made such a lasting impact on the school community. Your support and guidance have meant so much to both staff and students, and your presence will be deeply missed. As you move on to new adventures, we wish you all the success and happiness in the world—good luck,

## Goodbye

### Miss. Mchale



We're all going to miss you so much, Miss. Mchale! Your passion for English and the way you brought stories to life in the classroom truly inspired us all. Thank you for your kindness, patience, and all the laughter along the way. We wish you the most amazing adventures on your travels—may they be filled with unforgettable experiences, new friendships, and plenty of great books. Safe travels and don't forget to send us a postcard!

Good  
Luck





Thank you to every student, parent, and visitor who brought ruach (spirit), curiosity, and heart to Jewish Studies this year. You've helped build something truly special: Rabbi Topp

## A year of wonder, wisdom & wellbeing in Jewish Life at LJFS

### END OF YEAR REFLECTION

As the academic year wraps up, we're feeling giddy with pride at all that's been achieved in Jewish Studies here at LJFS. From the first days of Elul to the final bell of the summer term, our classrooms have been buzzing with deep questions, creative projects, and meaningful connections.

🚩 What did we learn this year?

- 🎨 Designed pyramids of good deeds 🧱
- ✨ Explored mitzvot that build a better world
- 📖 Unpacked ancient Jewish texts and made them relevant today
- 🗣️ Learned about Jewish global activism and moral courage
- 👑 Met inspiring figures like Deborah the Judge, Rabbi Akiva, Ruth, and Maimonides
- 🔥 Celebrated Jewish festivals with hands-on activities and edible learning!



## Friday Morning Minyan: A weekly Highlight

Each Friday morning, our inclusive, guided minyan has become a treasured part of school life.

- 🏠 Open to boys and girls, parents, and guests, this song-filled tefillah brings the school community together to greet the day with purpose and positivity.
- 👉 Pupils step up to lead.
- 🎵 Singing lifts the spirit.
- 🌸 And guests like The Leeds Kollel bring inspiration and encouragement — while fulfilling their own mitzvah of morning prayer.
- 💖 The atmosphere is welcoming, meaningful and joyful — the perfect way to end the week on a spiritual high.
- 📷 [Insert photo of students or minyan room in action]

## More than just a subject: A living Journey

At LJFS, Jewish Studies is a heartbeat, not just a timetable slot. It's where identity is built, pride is nurtured, and students discover how ancient wisdom guides modern lives.

👁️ Looking ahead, we're excited to grow this energy even further next year — with more:

- 💬 Discussion-based learning
- li>• 🧠 Creative challenges
- 🤝 Community collaboration







The end-of-term trip to Blackpool was an unforgettable adventure for the students of LJFS. From the moment they arrived, the excitement was palpable as they explored the iconic Blackpool Pleasure Beach, screamed their way through thrilling roller coasters. It was the perfect way to celebrate the end of a successful school term.

## PTA: Thanks for your support



A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for their recent fundraising efforts, which have enabled us to purchase new sports equipment and a microphone with a stand for school events. Your support makes a real difference to our school community. We'll be reviewing the PTA and its membership in September—if you're interested in getting involved, we'd love to hear from you! Please send an email to [daibi@ljfs.org](mailto:daibi@ljfs.org) to register your interest.

Looking ahead, we're excited to be planning a "Girls' Night" in the first half term, where our girls will have the opportunity to showcase their talents in dancing and singing, accompanied by a Challah bake—a celebration not to be missed!

## Awards Congratulations!

At LJFS, we believe that every step forward, no matter how small, is a milestone worth celebrating. Our students' journey through school is not just about the grades they earn or the awards they receive, but about the dedication, commitment, and kindness they show every day. Over 200 awards were given for achievements and endeavours, as well as 100% attendance. We also added a Staff nominations award, which allowed each year group to nominate a staff member for their hard work and dedication.



## Student Council



We made great progress on the representation of other faiths within our core Jewish ethos at LJFS, we enabled student participation in the hiring of new staff, we provided students with a forum to discuss new directions for the school and to raise concerns with governors; and we gained a valuable donation of gardening equipment from Homebase. Next year, we will elect a new council in September (existing councillors can stand for re-election if they wish) and focus on developing fundraising and environmental projects, so we encourage students who might be interested in these two areas in particular to apply..



LJFS proudly hosted its inaugural performance evening, the "Winter Warmer," a spectacular event that brought together students from all year groups to showcase their talents in drama, music, and comedy. The school hall was filled to capacity, buzzing with excitement and anticipation, as the community gathered to support and celebrate the diverse talents of our students. The "Winter Warmer" this year will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025





We bid a fond farewell to our incredible Year 11 students, who have shown remarkable resilience and determination throughout their exams. We are immensely proud of all they have achieved and the way they have conducted themselves during this important time. Their journey at LJFS concluded with a wonderful Prom, where every student looked fantastic in their suits and dresses, celebrating in style. This has been an extraordinary year group, full of character, kindness, and potential. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours—they will be truly missed.

## School Community

LJFS celebrated Israel Independence Day with great enthusiasm and pride, bringing students together for a joyful and meaningful day. The school was filled with blue and white as students took part in a variety of activities, from Israeli dancing and music to arts and crafts, learning about the history and culture of Israel along the way. The LJFS tradition of a BBQ was enjoyed, and the atmosphere was full of energy, unity, and celebration. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to connect with Israel's heritage and celebrate its independence as a community.



## A day of Remembrance



Israel's Memorial Day for (יום הזִכרון), At LJFS, Yom HaZikaron fallen soldiers and victims of terror, is commemorated each year with deep respect and reflection. Students and staff come together for a meaningful ceremony that includes prayers, readings, and moments of silence to honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who gave their lives for the State of Israel. Through stories, music, and educational activities, the school fosters a sense of connection and gratitude, ensuring that the memories of the fallen are never forgotten. It is a solemn and powerful day that strengthens the community's bond with Israel and its history

