

THE GESHER GAZETTE

www.gesherschool.com

The Bridge

3rd November 2023

Council Campaigning



learning, and the school council is an excellent way to increase participation and emphasise a sense of community amongst the students while teaching skills like teamwork and self-confidence. Why do we have a School's Council? The responsibilities of the School Council are to create a school project that positively contributes to the school community. Some previous school projects that Gesher School Council have successfully completed include the Clothing Charity Bank onsite and the Year Book. School Council provides opportunities for students to express their feelings, ideas and views relevant to the school, as well as those of their peers. The School Council comprises of a president, two Vice Presidents and a Class Representative from each class in primary and secondary. All secondary students are welcome to run for the position of President and Vice president and the whole school will take part in the voting process. Class representatives are elected by their immediate classmates. Members of the Council will meet fortnightly to take part in discussions and votes relevant to the school project. They are also responsible for relaying the relevant information back to their class. Members meet regularly with Miss Rearne to help keep track of progress.

Meet The SLT

As our school expands, so does our team and their roles across the school. So please meet our Senior Leadership Team below. Our Co-Headteachers Tammy and Nikeisha have overall responsibility for the operational running of the school, as well as the strategic vision alongside Governors. Tammy leads on the Primary curriculum, while Nikeisha leads on the Secondary curriculum. Our deputy Chris is our Pastoral lead supporting students with their social, emotional and mental well-being. Chris also heads up the Safeguarding team as the school's designated safeguarding lead as well as the Admissions team with the therapy team. Danielle is our Assistant Head of Inclusion, her role includes ensuring students EHCP are robust and meeting the needs of students. Her role extends to implementing interventions through the key stages, heading up the Life Skills team and leading Reading across the school. Victoria heads the Therapy Team, facilitating the design of a therapeutic curriculum across the school and continuing to broaden the team's bandwidth to support the students. Bradley leads on Jewish Way of Life and Education across the school. Through this role he not only supports students but staff to align our school ethos and values. Graham is our School Business Manager who oversees the financial running of the school, as well as leading the support team in maintaining the school grounds, and facilities including the kitchen.

We are thrilled to announce that the Gesher School Council is starting again for the 2023/2024 school year. Students in secondary school are excitedly creating their presidential campaign posters. Voting will take place in week two of Autumn 2 and the successful candidates will be announced in week three. Gesher takes a great deal of pride in giving students opportunities to take ownership of their

Kodesh Corner

This term, the Kodesh topic is Tefillah (Prayer), and with events in Israel, it is such a pertinent topic. The students have learnt that Tefillah is about connecting with Hashem (G-d) and the concept of 'Praising, Asking and Thanking'. We have connected this to what they did in their half term last week, how they enjoyed their activities and trips if they said they were grateful, and what they would like to ask for their next school break (sorry parents). We have also been working with the Jewish arm of the PTC to think of special Jewish activities, events, Enrichments & Shabbats for our students that parents can lead on, participate in or attend in the forthcoming calendar year. If you have any ideas, please share them with Lucy, Emma, Rivki or Mr Bradley. Thank you. Shabbat Shalom.

Therapy Corner

This year, Gesher has launched Scribble Squad interventions! This is an OT group that focuses on hand-strengthening, handwriting and improving fine motor skills using fun and simple activities to support the students. So far, we have explored strengthening fun with sensory trays, challenges, games and worksheets. There are simple ways to get that input in with limited items. Some simple warm-up activities can be found below that you can try at home:
Playdoh activity: <https://bit.ly/40sJ7C4>
How to hold a pencil: <https://bit.ly/49bqwhE>
Fine-motor activity using tweezers: <https://bit.ly/40nu2l3>