

# THE GESHER GAZETTE

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27th April 2026

## VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers at Gesher are an integral part of the school. Many of our volunteers come from the local community, Pinner Shul and Northwood Shul. Others come to us after having researched SEND schools and hearing about the amazing work we do here at Gesher. Roles vary from one-to-one reading (English and Hebrew) to supporting in class or in small groups. The addition of volunteers allows our students a deeper level of enrichment as our volunteers bring a wealth of experience. For example, our Hebrew readers have worked with generations of children, supporting them through Bat and Bar Mitzvahs. Some of our younger volunteers bring high energy and the latest innovations, such as our final year OT students. These OT students support both preparing for PE (laces, buttons and zips etc) as well as PE (catching, balancing etc). Having volunteers helps build confidence in a number of ways. Many students work with volunteers' therapy dogs, learning animal safety and reducing fear of dogs. In addition to our growing community of weekly volunteers, we also invite additional helpers for enrichment days and festivals. This allows us to run workshops and other activities. Some of our volunteers have been with us for many years and enjoy returning to Gesher.

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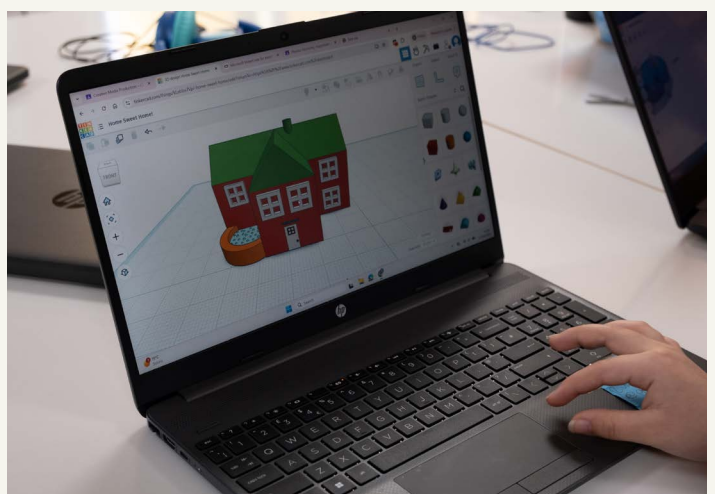
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## Class updates:



Rimon class learn more about what animals need to survive in a recent PBL lesson.



Chesed and Hodaya students use tinkercad software to design 3D structures as part of a media project.

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## Kodesh Corner:

Only a few weeks of the new term and it is as if we've never been away. Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day), Yom Hazikaron (Fallen Soldiers of Israel Memorial day) and Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel's Independence day) interjected with a school Bar-Mitzvah have been just a few of the things that we have been learning about, remembering and celebrating since being back for the summer term. With a few weeks until Lag B'Omer (33rd day after Pesach) and Shavuot (Giving of the Torah festival) shortly afterwards, there is no shortage of special events or special foods this term to immerse ourselves in.

In between the 2nd day of Pesach and Shavuot are 49 days, which are called 'the Omer', a time to develop our spiritual, physical and emotional character to become better people before receiving the Torah. That is one of the wonderful things that the modern festivals of recent weeks give us: an opportunity to reflect on our past to influence our present and (hopefully) inspire a better future. May we all use this time wisely and productively to help us become better in every aspect of our lives.

## Conversation Corner:

The suggestions of Primary and Secondary conversation starters are for a guideline only, please do feel free to use both suggestions, whatever the age, if you so wish! Also if you have any great ideas for conversation starters please do send them in to Miss Victoria [victoria.rutter@gesherschool.com](mailto:victoria.rutter@gesherschool.com)

**Primary:** What is the worst thing you have ever eaten? What is the best?

**Secondary:** If you had three wishes, what would they be?

## Announcements:

### Staff News:

We are delighted to welcome Miss Ciara back from maternity leave and Miss Katie back from her travels. Both staff and students are very pleased to have them return to school!

Welcome to our new TA, Miss Caitlin. Miss Caitlin is supporting the students in Tamar class and enjoying getting to know everyone.

Miss Hannah will be leaving us in mid-June to return home to New Zealand. Miss Hannah has been such a valued member of our team for the past three very happy years, and we are all very sorry to see her go. Good luck Miss Hannah!

We are delighted to share that Miss Bella is expecting a baby in Autumn 2026. This is such happy news, and we know you will join us in congratulating Miss Bella and sending your very best wishes. Further details of who will take over Jewish Studies lessons for primary next year will be shared next term.