



Hirsch Lyons Primary School

“Thank you, Hirsch Lyons, for the amazing year my family has had at your school. At first we were worried about uprooting a happy child from another school; but now I don’t just have a happy child - she is an absolute delight.”

It is messages like these that we receive from parents that just make everything worth it.

Hodu Lashem Ki Tov. We thank Hakadush Baruch for another incredible year at Hirsch Lyons. With immense gratitude and kakaras hatov we thank Hashem for allowing us at Hirsch Lyons the zchus to work with such precious children and an incredible, committed and dedicated staff, together with our partners: our parent body, who share our values and mission.

What an incredible year it has been. We at the school have the privilege of being able to listen to the voices of our children’s tefillah every day and to the kol Hatorah emanating from the classrooms and hallways. So important is the learning of Torah that the Gemora in Shabbos 119 says that if the opportunity to build the Beis Hamikdash arose but in order to build it children would need to be taken out of school, away from their Torah learning, then the children’s learning actually takes precedence. If the *Mashiach* were to arrive, even if he were in need of manpower to help build the Beis Hamikdash, we would not take the children out of school in order to help build the Beis Hamikdash, because their learning is more important.: One would think that the building of the Beis Hamikdash takes precedence, as it has such long-term and far-reaching implications; what could be more important than building G-d’s house?

Yet we see from this Gemara that children’s Torah learning is paramount. There is nothing comparable to the power of Torah learning in sustaining the Jewish people – both on a national level and for each one of us in our own personal lives. It is our heart and soul, collectively and individually. The Gemora puts this so succinctly: “The world exists in the merit of children learning Torah.”

We take this statement of the Gemora very seriously and it is in this light that everything in the school is centred around Torah learning - and this is the tremendous zchus we have at the school: to be able to teach our children Torah. Torah with love; Torah that is non-affiliated; Torah that is non-political. It is through the Torah that we learn the importance of Derech Eretz, good character traits, love of our fellow man, honesty and integrity.

It’s not just the number of siyums that our children have had over the year that is extraordinary, but also the quality of their learning and the incredible role models that they have had in those who have taught them. To witness a siyum and watch the talmidim’s faces full of simcha is simply remarkable.

I would like to thank all our wonderful dedicated staff for an incredible year of growth, a year of taking each child for who he or she is and igniting the tremendous potential that is within each one of them. A special thanks to Coach Ryan and Mrs Raella Carr for putting this magazine together and highlighting some of our year’s achievements.

May Hashem continue to give us nachas from our children and continue to guide us in forming them into *menschen* who are confident, happy and delightful; and may they bring honour to Hashem's name and bring light into this world.

Wishing you all a happy Chanukah and a restful, enjoyable holiday.

Rabbi Froom
Principal– Primary School