BUSHEY GAN

Michelle Peters



Life at Bushey Gan is busy and fun, with no two weeks being the same. The nursery currently has thirty-five children, with new children starting throughout the academic year. Last September the entry age was lowered, and we now welcome children from eighteen months old. We continue to accept both two and three year old funding, as well as offering thirty hours of free education per week.

The Gan is open for thirty-eight weeks a year, and this year we successfully ran a winter camp, and have a summer camp in the planning stage, which allows us to provide extended care for the children. We operate under the umbrella of the United Synagogue, and all the staff benefit from the training they provide, which is in conjunction with the teachers from all of the other US nurseries.



The children are taught using the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, delivered by our passionate and experienced staff. The Chagim form the basis of our term's topics, and we enjoy celebrating all of the festivals with the children. This is often through our stomachs, as we had a fruit party for Tu B'Shevat, ate doughnuts and latkes for Chanukah, and dipped apple in honey for Rosh Hashana.

Our curriculum is further enhanced by weekly extra-curricular classes, with yoga and mindfulness classes recently added to our selection. The children are practising hard at their downward dog and sun salutations, and it is adorable to watch them perform these positions almost effortlessly.



The Baby Nurse Food Company has now become our lunch provider, and they supply us with a daily hot and healthy meat lunch, which is free from gluten, nuts, soya, wheat, dairy, egg and genetic modification. Their food is organic, made using healthy grains, and contains no added sugars or preservatives. The children thoroughly enjoy the food, especially the homemade yummy desserts.

The Bushey Shul Rabbis are an integral part of the children's Gan experience; Rabbi Nick comes in every Monday morning to perform Havdalah to his excited and eager audience, making Monday mornings an exciting part of the week. Whilst Rabbi Feldman provides monthly musical entertainment, with fun songs and a guitar accompaniment, another highly anticipated activity. Rebbetzens Jacqueline and Shira are huge Gan supporters, and helped to organise the first Gan Chanukah activity day. As this was an enormously successful event, we hope to repeat it again this year.



The Gan receives enormous support from our PTA, who raise lots of money for us to spend on exciting things to enrich the children's learning. They sponsored our Chanukah activity day, and Shabbat UK challah bake, and we are so grateful for their continued support.

A special mention is due to the dedicated team of teachers who work at the Gan, providing fabulous activities for the children. Recently the children attended a tea party to learn about British values, and about the country in which they live. They even painted large empty boxes to recreate our very own Bushey Big Ben. They ate noodles for Chinese New Year, have participated in lots of science experiments, and even enjoyed meeting some of the teachers pets.

We support many communal projects under the Bushey umbrella, and are proud to be a part of the community. Our Gan families brought in toys for Camp Simcha, and all of the children participated in a challah bake as part of Shabbat UK, with

Rebbetzen Shira's expert guidance.

If you would like to become a part of our nursery, you can be assured of a warm welcome. If you have a little one, who you would like to attend the Gan, please get in touch. Or if you have some spare time on your hands, you are more than welcome to pop in, to read to the children. We can be contacted on 020 8386 1515 or nursery@busheyus.org





