

SPEAKERS AT YAVNEH



NYU Rabbi Visits Yavneh

Rabbi Joe Wolfson of NYU spoke with our Advanced Philosophy and Aggadata classes in the Beit Midrash, posing provocative and engaging questions about the nature of and goodness and G-d's role as arbiter and definer of such virtues. Tying universal questions of justice to three portrayals of Abraham in Vayera, Rabbi Wolfson generated a good deal on intellectual heat, and was very impressed by the students he met. Rabbi Joe was in Dallas as part of Learning Fest as visiting scholar in residence at Congregation Shaare Tefilla

Photo by Rosie Bernstein '17

Dr. Shira Lander, Professor and Director of Jewish Studies at SMU, spoke to the Yavneh community on the 50th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, which marked a high point in Jewish-Christian relations. Dr. Lander began by asking, "Who here thinks actions speak louder than words? I'm here to tell you that, sometimes, words can be more powerful than actions." Tying this week's Parsha (Chaye Sarah) and Abraham's interactions with the larger community to the Catholics' "180 degree turnaround in 1965 in the way the Church dealt with Jews and Anti-Semitism," Dr. Lander shared insights and stories about interreligious dialogue and explained why this week's Dallas event was so important.

Dr. Shira Lander



Rabbi Bentzion Klatzko



Our students were delighted with a visit from Rabbi Bentzion Klatzko, adjunct professor at Yeshiva University and founder of Shabbat.com, at a Friday Assembly. Rabbi Klatzko spoke about Judaism as a relationship-centered endeavor, and told stories emphasizing the loving nature of our relationships with one another and with G-d. Mixing humor and touching narratives, Rabbi Klatzko was a memorable speaker for our teens. His visit to Yavneh was made possible by DATA of Plano.

Photo by Seth Gerstenfield '18

Yavneh seniors were privileged to hear from Lea Roshkovsky, Director of College Programming and Teacher Training at Yad Vashem in Israel. Together with Rabbi Meir Tannenbaum, Ms. Roshkovsky spoke to our 12th grade about various Holocaust-related issues, as they begin to prepare for their Spring trip to Poland and Israel as part of March of the Living (MOL). It was a real honor to learn from Mrs. Roshkovsky, and Yavneh seniors will be studying with Rabbi T in depth starting next semester as they prepare for the MOL.

Yad Vashem Scholar Visit

