

From the Head of School ~ *Dr. David Portnoy*

Dear Yavneh Family,

Amidst the sadness surrounding the tragedies in Paris, Israel and elsewhere, we are mindful of our role as educators and models for our students. We have spent a good deal of time recently teaching them about coping with loss and comforting others, while at the same time encouraging them to be hopeful and focused on their daily work and commitments.



One of the strengths of a school like Yavneh is the diversity of our student body and of wide range of talented speakers we attract to the school. In recent weeks, we have enjoyed visits from special guests as far away as Israel and as close as SMU. With topics ranging from Anti-Semitism to interreligious dialogue, to philosophical debates over the true nature of Judaism and finding meaning in Tanakh, such speakers enrich and expand our community's understanding and perspective on Jewish life and our role in broader society. Many thanks to our partner organizations – our Federation, local synagogues and universities – for making Yavneh a center of learning where diverse opinions and deep learning take place every day.



We look forward to welcoming our Alumni and Alumni Parents next week – we miss y'all and cannot wait to see you!

Shabbat Shalom and Go Bulldogs!

Dr. P