

StartUp Graduation Ceremony

8 April, 2024

StandWithIsrael
StandWithUs

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE DOUBLED
19/20
MAY



StandWithUs

UNITED KINGDOM

MAY 2024

TEACH WITH US

STANDWITHUS MONTHLY
MAGAZINE FOR EDUCATORS



**ANY TIME.
ANY PLACE.**



YOU CAN NOW DOWNLOAD THE LATEST EDITION
OF TEACHWITHUS FROM OUR WEBSITE.

SIMPLY GO TO:

<https://www.standwithus.com/resources-uk>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	1
Editor's Note	2
Review of the Past Year	3-8
Current Events in Israel	9
Tough Question of the Month	10

Follow us on:



@StandWithUsUK

Number
E-mail
Website

07706587313
yehuda@standwithus.com
www.standwithus.com/uk

TEACH WITH US

Stand With Israel, Stand With Us

Welcome to a special edition of *TeachWithUs*, as we look forward to our annual fundraising campaign on the 19th and 20th May!

With your support, every donation is doubled by our matched funders to ensure that we continue the work that we do, and expand our reach across the UK.

The Schools & Youth Department at StandWithUs UK celebrates its second birthday this month, and we have been so honoured by the response to what we offer.

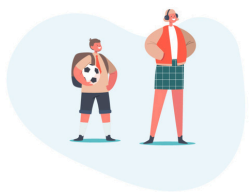
Since May of 2022, our department has reached over 10,000 school-aged children in-person through our various projects and courses. In the past 6 months alone, we have reached over 4,000 of those pupils, and increased our school reach by 25%.

Our vision is to empower a generation of pupils to embrace Israel in a positive manner. Israel is a wonderful country, with a quite incredible history that we should all be proud of. It has led the way in technology, innovation, humanitarian aid, democracy and diversity. Whilst it has been very easy to focus on the negatives of Israel, we should be providing pupils with pride in all that is great about this tiny country.



Yehuda Fink, Director of Schools & Youth Programming and Editor of *TeachWithUs*

**Schools
& Youth**
25%↑



Over the past year, StandWithUs UK has provided a 250% increase in our programmes across the community. Over 13,000 people took part in our educational sessions and events, and over 13.5 million engaged on social media. These staggering numbers show us how substantial the need is for our vital services and educational content. StandWithUs UK was created for unprecedented moments like this. We believe that education is the cornerstone to building a strong identity and resilient community and want to continue to empower the community and fight against misinformation.

In this month's edition of *TeachWithUs*, we look back on the work we have done over the past 12 months so that you can see what your donations will be supporting.

Help us to bring *Explore* to more Sixth Formers across the UK, help us to give an amazing experience for pupils in Year 10 as part of our *StartUp* leadership programme. Help us bring hundreds of pupils together at future editions of *Swipe Up Rise Up*. Help us to support you in all of your wonderful efforts as teachers and educators.

I invite you to join our campaign to help us ensure that we can continue to: *Stand for the truth, Stand for our next generation, Stand for Israel, Stand With Us.*

I thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to further collaborations in the future!

RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 7TH

In the hours after the atrocities of October 7th, we worked on developing a presentation to be delivered to school pupils. The presentation, titled "Israel Under Attack", was delivered to thousands of pupils across many schools, synagogues and youth groups in the UK.



7th February, Bnei Mitzva Workshop at Woodside Park



16th January, special session at Yavneh College with Year 10



30th January, "Israel Under Attack" Session at JFS



15th October, a talk to youth at Chabad Belgravia



24th January, Explore session at JLE

Follow us on:



@StandWithUsUK

Number
E-mail
Website

07706587313
yehuda@standwithus.com
www.standwithus.com/uk

SWIPE UP RISE UP

28th March 2024



200 Sixth Formers from multiple Jewish schools united together on March 28th at *Swipe Up Rise Up*, the conference that gives young people the confidence to stand up against antisemitism on social media.

Despite it being a rainy afternoon, that did not dampen the spirits of the attendees when they arrived at the StoneX Stadium with warm smiles and excitement to see friends from other schools!

The event opened immediately with an expo, and the guests were greeted with music and food, with a buzzing atmosphere! A number of communal organisations were present to offer the students a variety of opportunities and ideas for their future plans, be it on a gap year, campus or straight into work!



The highlight of the event was a panel with Emily Schrader, a journalist from Israel, Rachel Riley MBE, a TV presenter and vocal activist against antisemitism. With them was Konstantin Kisin, a comedian and YouTube personality who is a Times best-selling author.

The three were faced with excellent questions from the pupils, ranging from specific issues regarding antisemitism, to what the future may look like for UK Jewry.



STARTUP

October 2023 – April 2024

StartUp 2024 saw a cohort of 22 students completing the leadership programme that empowers them in the entrepreneurial and creative spirit of Israeli innovation.

The participants were put into two groups, each completing the same course over a number of Sundays at the *StandWithUs* UK office from October to February.



For two months, the students were split into teams to create a project that brings the UK and Israel closer. Teams presented their ideas at the *StartUp Graduation Ceremony* in April, in which students were also handed out awards for completing the course. Five outstanding students will be heading to Israel with *StandWithUs*.

StartUp has enabled these students to develop their leadership and teamwork skills, whilst also enhancing their understanding and own love of Israel from a different perspective.



Follow us on:



@StandWithUsUK

Number
E-mail
Website

07706587313
yehuda@standwithus.com
www.standwithus.com/uk

EXPLORE GRADUATION EVENTS

April 2024



Launched in 2022, *Explore* is the name of our workshops on Israeli history, culture and society. We offer these workshops to Sixth Formers across the country.

To date, *Explore* has reached nearly 10,000 pupils across the UK and engaged them with education and discussion about the story of Israel.

In April, we visited JFS, Immanuel College and Yavneh College to run a special final session to congratulate the pupils for completing the full course of workshops, known as *Explore+*.



EMERSON FELLOWSHIP GRADUATION

15th April 2024



Outside of the Schools & Youth Department, we also saw wonderful success with our flagship *Emerson Fellowship* course for university students. The students (aka *Emersons*) were selected last summer to take part in the course, which provides them with opportunities to learn, network and make an impact on their respective campuses.

The *Emersons* are supported by our Campus Affairs department, ensuring that they have all they need when being at the forefront of the fight for Israel at universities. With such a challenging year for Jewish and pro-Israel students, the 2024 cohort has produced exceptional graduates.



At a graduation ceremony at the House of Lords on April 15th, the *Emersons* were addressed by Mike Freer MP, who has worked hard to support the Jewish and Zionist community in the UK for nearly 25 years.

We look forward to seeing how the graduates continue to impact their community, and for next year's cohort! Applications are open!



Follow us on:



@StandWithUsUK

Number
E-mail
Website

07706587313
yehuda@standwithus.com
www.standwithus.com/uk

TEACH WITH US

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR



23rd November, UK-Israel Relations Booklet launch at House of Lords



25th February, Einat Wilf addresses over 200 people at South Hampstead Shul



1st February, StandWithUs hosts a roundtable discussion regarding antisemitism at UK universities between students and members of the House of Lords



16th March, The Blue & White Club for Young Professionals Purim Party in London



5th July, Bnei Akiva UK group visit the StandWithUs office in Jerusalem

CURRENT EVENTS IN ISRAEL

The Israel-Hamas war has raged on, entering its seventh month, whilst escalations continue to threaten to erupt in northern Israel.

Here is what we know as of May 8th, 2024:

- On April 13th, the Iranian regime fired hundreds of suicide drones and missiles at Israel, in an unprecedented attack. Israel responded two weeks later by hitting the radar system of one of Iran's main nuclear sites.
- IDF eliminated terrorist cells in Zaytun and the IDF is continuing to dismantle terrorist infrastructure in Khan Younis.
- As part of cooperation between Israel and the international community, airdrops of food packages have continued. Medical supplies have reached residents in the southern Gaza Strip.
- Soldiers of the 932nd Battalion Combat Team have been operating against Hamas in the Zaytun area in the northern Gaza Strip.
- As operations continue in Gaza, the IDF located weapons and rocket launchers. The IDF apprehended several terrorists who tried to flee under cover with the civilian population.
- A 10-kilometre tunnel was found by the IDF which passed underneath a hospital connecting to an university. This tunnel connected the south to the north of the Gaza Strip.
- The IDF has apprehended 200 terrorists and coordinated the aid of hundreds of portions of food, water and medical equipment as operations conclude in the Nasser Hospital.
- Over 32,000 Palestinians have been killed since October 7th. Over 74,000 Palestinians have been injured since then.
- The IDF locate a rocket launcher in medical laboratory in Gaza.
- The IDF has reopened the Erez Crossing which was destroyed on October 7th. Israel has allowed aid trucks to travel through this crossing.
- Since the beginning of the war over 600 IDF soldiers have been killed in Gaza.
- After evacuating 100,000 Palestinians, the IDF has taken operational control of the crossing between Gaza and Egypt.

On the northern border of Israel, clashes with Hezbollah continue:

- IDF fighter jets struck several Hezbollah terror targets in Jabal Blat, including launch posts and a military site in which terrorists operated.
- Several launches were identified crossing from Lebanon towards Adamit and Shlomi in northern Israel. The IDF struck the source of fire.
- IDF fighter jets struck Hezbollah terrorist infrastructure in the areas of Kafra and Seddiqine in southern Lebanon. In addition, the IDF artillery struck in Houla.
- The IDF are constantly preparing for an offensive in the north. Residents of the north have been evacuated since October and it is not safe for them to return to the north.



Follow us on:



@StandWithUsUK

Number
E-mail
Website

07706587313
yehuda@standwithus.com
www.standwithus.com/uk

TOUGH QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Each month we will address a tough question about Israel and the conflict. These questions may be ones that your pupils may have asked, or you have thought of yourselves. Our suggested answers are aimed to support you in navigating these topics in the classrooms when pupils have thoughts or concerns about Israel and the conflict.

Send in your tough question to [**yehuda@standwithus.com**](mailto:yehuda@standwithus.com)



Are the pro-Palestinian encampments on campus free speech?

In April and May, there have been large protests from university students across the West, mainly in the US. These protests have been largely shut down by law enforcement, and there are accusations of antisemitism from the protestors. Are there boundaries to free speech such as in this case?



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said in an interview that 'the right to free speech does not include the right to harass people and incite violence.' The encampments we have seen in the UK and around the world have disrupted campus life for other students. In the USA, the First Amendment guarantees Americans free speech and assembly. The encampments have forced students, administrators and the police to wrestle with the outer limits of free speech. To many universities, the encampments are a clear violation of the rules, and they disrupt university life. Jewish and pro-Israel students have been filmed being barred from certain areas of campus by protestors. There is no doubt that free speech is an inherent right. The participants of the encampments on campuses have argued they are exercising the right of free speech, but free speech does not mean disruption and intimidation.

Now more than ever

StandWithIsrael

StandWithUs

MATCH FUNDING CAMPAIGN



- ☒ **SCHOOLS**
- ☒ **CAMPUS**
- ☒ **COMMUNITIES**
- ☒ **SOCIAL MEDIA**
- ☒ **YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**



We need your support!