

# Happy 2022! Thank you for your wonderful support in 2021



## Ministry of Justice Award

We were so proud when Dan Reshel, the Commissioner for Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities presented Ohel Sarah with a prestigious award in December 2021. The Ministry of Justice recognises our role in advancing the rights of people with disabilities and promoting the values of a better, more tolerant and equal society in Israel.

He praised our innovative book series which we distributed to more than 50,000 children in local schools and book shops. We have published 4 books about the adventures of 3 children, including Nati who has Down's Syndrome. The stories show the value and importance of inclusion and equality. Please get in touch if you would like to receive a copy to share with your children: [info@ohel-sarah.org.uk](mailto:info@ohel-sarah.org.uk).

## New Respite Centre

Parents and families often need a break, as caring for children with special needs is challenging. We ran a Respite Programme during the chagim in 2021 for 6 children with severe behavioural difficulties. Our caring staff created fun activities and provided a safe and loving environment. It was a huge success – both for the children and their families. Now we are planning to open a permanent Respite Centre open all year round to help more families in central Israel.



## A second children's home: Another first for Israel

Ohel Sarah has just opened its second home for young boys aged 9-12 with severe disabilities. They are all non-verbal and communicate either with an iPad or hand gestures. The boys come from loving families, but their complex disabilities mean it is impossible for their parents to care for them at home.

Our dedicated team are creating a supportive and loving environment for these boys. They help them become as independent as possible by focussing on basic life skills – getting dressed, eating and communicating.

# Special Olympics

The Special Olympics is an amazing global organisation, providing sports training and competitions for people with cognitive disabilities. Through sport, it helps to improve confidence and health, and advance acceptance and inclusion of all people.

Ohel Sarah has now joined the Special Olympics and training has just started for a group of men at Immunit (our day care and employment centre for men with moderate to severe disabilities). They are being taught volleyball each week and can't wait to enter competitions in Israel!



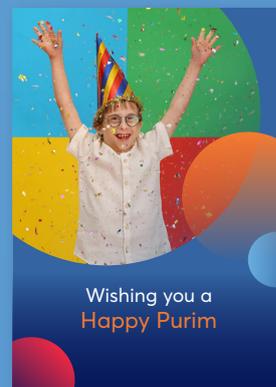
## Meet our students

This is Yonatan. He is 12 years old and a student at our Wohl school. He has a severe cognitive disability and is wheelchair-bound. When he was born, doctors didn't think he would be able to master any life skills. His family never gave up hope, and since joining the Wohl school, he has slowly learned to communicate and his physical skills have started to improve. Regular physiotherapy has strengthened his legs and his favourite activity is riding his specialised bicycle. He is now able to work short distances by himself with a mobility device – a real achievement and one which makes him very happy!



## Cards for every occasion!

Stuck for present ideas? There is now an easy way to send a charitable gift card for birthdays or other events. Simply choose the amount you want to give and you can choose between many different designs, visit: [www.tinyurl.com/oscards](http://www.tinyurl.com/oscards)



## Yom Ha'atzmaut 'Walk to Israel 2022'

Save the date! This will be our fourth year when the community comes together to walk the 3000 miles distance from the UK to Israel.

Please join us in our biggest nationwide walk to date, on Thursday May 5th 2022. We already have 4000 children in 30 schools and nurseries across the UK taking part! More details to follow...

