

According to the Jewish practice of Gematria (the assignment of numerical values to letters), the letters of the word Chai, or Life, equals the number 18. The number 36 has special significance as a double life number.

In many ways, our school has lived two lives to date. The foundational 18 years of the school, founded at Beth David and relocated to the former Berry School campus, were important years of building a base, starting with a preschool (pre-JCC) and K-5 school community. The next “life” of our school moved Yavneh to the Blackford Campus, and then onto our current Levy Family Campus (on the site of the Berry School), adding a middle school and continuing to evolve our program. These past 36 years have been significant for our Silicon Valley Jewish community and Yavneh has played its part in providing quality education to two lifetimes worth of generations. As the Jewish population in our part of the Valley has grown in recent years, so has Yavneh. While we have been blessed with a wonderful campus that has more than met our needs, one needs only attend our Kabbalat Shabbat to see that as we enter our next phase of life, we are in the fortunate position to need to expand. As such, our thirty sixth year will be marked with a theme of growth. We look forward to beginning construction of a new Multi Purpose Room in the coming month and engage, as a community, in the planning of new and renovated classrooms that are suited for our growing population and for the needs of tomorrow’s learners.

It is an exciting year that faces us, and I look forward to enjoying it together as a community. Happy birthday world. Happy birthday Yavneh! Wishing you and yours a year of growth and learning, of taking on new challenges and enjoying what we already have... and of course a year of good health and good times.

Shanah Tovah - Zvi