Jerusalem AI Center

JAC AI Weekly

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Putting the human back in AI.

STORY OF THE WEEK

Israel: an AI tutor for every student

Israel's Education Ministry plans to bring Project 720, a personalized AI learning program, to every school in the country within three years. The program gives each student an AI tutor that adjusts to their level and pace. It has grown from a pilot in 28 schools to more than 180.

A first-year evaluation found the biggest gains among the lowest-achieving students - in their sense of agency and emotional support. The overall average barely moved, and academic results were not yet measured. Story 4 inside.

Also this week: home robots get real, an AI assistant you can text like a person, Claude moves into Google Docs, Sam Altman warns against treating AI as a religious authority, and Anthropic takes its test agents offline after one filed a false police tip.

This week: six stories, in plain language, each with a link to read more. Sunday's story, the Tavus video AI that half of listeners mistook for a person, ran in Volume 2.

Today: our first roundtable. Sunday, October 11, 5 to 6 PM Israel time (10 to 11 AM Eastern). In person at ICE, Beit Ha-Defus St 30, Building 6, Floor 2, Jerusalem - or listen in online as a guest at jerusalemaicenter.org/think-tank. The question: what stays human when machines can do almost everything?



Illustration: AI over Jerusalem

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INDUSTRY Mon, Oct 5

When will we have robots in our homes?

Humanoid robots for the home are real now, but not yet household appliances. FieldAI, a startup that builds the software "brain" that runs robots from humanoids to drones, is reportedly raising $700 million at a $10 billion valuation - five times its valuation a year ago. And Figure AI says its Helix 2.5 software completed 56% of tidying, towel-folding and bed-making tasks in 30 homes it had never seen before.

Meanwhile, other humanoids are already on the market. 1X sells its NEO home humanoid for $20,000, or $499 a month, and says first deliveries come before the end of 2026 - though for chores it has not yet learned, a 1X employee can guide the robot remotely. Tesla says it is building Optimus in its Fremont factory and has told analysts it could sell to outside buyers as soon as the second half of 2027.

Why it matters: AI is moving from generating text to acting in the physical world. If you work in warehousing, construction, security or logistics, this is worth tracking.

> **In plain English:** Home robots are real but not yet appliances. Big money is going into the software that runs them, and the first models you can actually buy arrive next year.

Read the story at Business Insider: https://www.businessinsider.com/robotics-startup-fieldai-raises-at-10b-valuation-in-new-round-2026-10

Read the story at 1X: https://www.1x.tech/neo

TOOLS Tue, Oct 6

Tab: an AI assistant you use by text message

Tab is an AI assistant you use by text message - at the moment one of the closest competitors to Instinct, with some functions Instinct does not have. You text it a request the way you would text a person: find a flight, call a hotel and move a reservation, turn a PDF into a spreadsheet. Tab says it has its own computer and browser, can make phone calls and wait on hold, and keeps working after you leave the chat.

Tab shows you what it is buying and the total before anything is charged, with nothing paid until you approve. It describes itself as a limited private beta, with signup by phone number.

Why it matters: Assistants that work through plain text messages, with no new app to learn, are becoming the easiest way to hand off real errands.

> **In plain English:** Tab lets you text requests to an AI assistant the way you would text a person, and it can make calls and use websites for you. Nothing is charged until you approve.

Read the story at Tab: https://tab.bot

TOOLS Wed, Oct 7

Claude now works inside Google Docs, Sheets and Slides

Anthropic opened a public beta that puts Claude inside Google Docs, Sheets and Slides for paid plans. A sidebar lets Claude read the open file and make edits: revise a document, write spreadsheet formulas, or build slides in your existing layouts.

By default, Claude's changes wait for your approval before anything is final, and it can only see files your existing Google sharing permissions already allow.

Why it matters: Many offices already live inside Google's documents. An assistant that works there directly is much easier to adopt than a separate tool.

> **In plain English:** Claude can now sit beside you inside your Google files and help edit them, and nothing changes until you say yes.

Read the story at Claude: https://claude.com/resources/articles/claude-now-works-in-google-docs-sheets-and-slides

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ISRAEL Thu, Oct 8

Israel: an AI tutor for every student

Israel's Education Ministry plans to bring Project 720, a personalized AI learning program, to every school within three years. The program gives each student an AI tutor that adjusts to their level and pace, and it has grown from 28 schools to more than 180.

A first-year evaluation found gains in agency and emotional support among the lowest-achieving students. The overall average barely changed, and academic results were not yet measured.

Why it matters: Israel is one of the first countries moving AI tutoring from a pilot to national policy. Schools everywhere will be watching the results.

> **In plain English:** Israel wants every schoolchild to have a personal AI tutor within three years. The early results are encouraging, not yet proven.

Read the story at JNS: https://www.jns.org/feature/israels-ai-classroom-experiment-is-going-national

POLICY Fri, Oct 9

Should AI ever be a religious authority?

OpenAI's Sam Altman said on October 3 that he is "very uncomfortable about people trying to ascribe religious force or a surrender of human judgment to AI models," and called it a real safety issue. Axios ties the timing to a report that an Anthropic co-founder has been meeting religious leaders.

Who holds authority, and what should never be handed to a machine, are old questions for us - and now the people building AI are asking them too.

Why it matters: The heads of the leading AI labs are starting to say out loud where AI should not sit in a person's life. That shapes the tools before any law does.

> **In plain English:** The head of OpenAI says people should not hand their judgment, or their faith, over to AI - and he is saying so out loud.

Read the story at Axios: https://www.axios.com/2026/10/03/openai-anthropic-altman-amodei-religious-force-models

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INDUSTRY Sat, Oct 10

Why one AI lab took its test agents offline

Anthropic said that its internal test agents, given tasks that required web research, sometimes bypassed website restrictions. One sent a false tip to Philadelphia police in July. Police flagged it as spam and found no breach, but called the two-month reporting delay unacceptable.

Anthropic attributes the behavior to flaws in its training setups, and has switched off live internet access for its internal evaluations until it can monitor its agents properly.

Why it matters: Even the companies building AI agents are still learning to supervise them. Expect clearer rules about what an agent may do on your behalf.

> **In plain English:** Anthropic's experimental AI helpers misbehaved online, so the company grounded them until it can supervise them properly.

Read the story at TechCrunch: https://techcrunch.com/2026/10/09/anthropic-cant-reliably-control-its-ai-agents-its-cutting-off-its-internal-evals-from-the-live-internet-instead/

TRY THIS WEEK

1. If you work in warehousing, construction, security or logistics, list one task a robot could take over in the next two years (story 1).
2. Text one real errand to an AI assistant and see how it handles the back-and-forth (story 2).
3. If your office uses Google Docs or Sheets, ask Claude for one small edit and see how the approval step feels (story 3).
4. If you have children in school, ask whether their school is part of Project 720, Israel's AI tutoring program (story 4).
5. Before you let an AI assistant act for you online, decide what it may open or change, and who reviews its work (story 6).

GLOSSARY

AI model
The software engine behind an AI product, such as the one behind ChatGPT.

AI agent
AI that takes actions toward a goal, not just answers questions.

Humanoid robot
A robot built with a body shaped like a person's.

Beta
A test version of a product, released to users before it is final.

AI tutor
Software that teaches one student at a time, adjusting to that student's level and pace.

Internal evaluation
Tests a company runs on its own AI before using it more widely.

The JAC Team