



15 KISLEV 5769 / December 12, 2008 Erev Shabbat Vayishlach : Candle Lighting 4:09 pm

Upcoming Events

December

Fri. 12/12: End of 1st Trimester: Gr. 1-8 Report Cards will be mailed home prior to the December vacation.
Sat. 12/13: Gr. 4 Melave Malka Presentation 7:30 pm - WDS
Wed. 12/24 - 31 Winter Recess/No Sessions

January

Fri. 1/2: No Sessions
Mon. 1/5: Sessions Resume
Tues. 1/6: Asara B'Tevet / Fast Day 1:40pm dismissal
Fri. 1/16: Kindergarten Kabbalat Shabbat 9:30 a.m.
Mon. 1/19: MLK Day / No Sessions Staff Development Day
Mon. 1/26: Rosh Chodesh/Shevat
Thurs. 1/29 Gr.1 Chag Hasiddur/9:30am

Westchester Summer Day cordially invites you to attend an informative Parlor Meeting on **Wed., Dec. 17 at 8:00 pm** at the home of Jessica & Joel Klein, 69 Daisy Farm Dr. New Rochelle. View photos, hear plans for 2009, meet our directors and learn why WSD is the summer program you want for your children. For more info or to *rsvp*, contact the WSD office 698-8900 ext. 153 or email: sgasner@westchesterday.org.

SAVE THE DATE !!!

**WESTCHESTER DAY SCHOOL'S
61ST Anniversary Dinner
Sunday Evening
February 8, 2009
6:00 PM
Greentree Country Club
New Rochelle, NY**



Chessed: As part of our ongoing *Chessed* projects, we are pleased to announce that on Wednesday, Dec. 10th our 8th grade students, accompanied by Rabbi Mahler and Mrs. Ben-Bassat, travelled to 2050 Bartow Avenue in the Bronx. The students helped put together Chanukah packages for the poor and elderly. It was a very worthwhile trip and a true hands-on learning tzedakah experience.



... WDS is holding a Chanukah Gift Drive for the children at OHEL Children's Home & Family Services. Only NEW gifts please! All gifts must be at WSD by Fri. Dec. 19th.

Night at the Museum in Review...

Everyone had a fabulous time at the WDS "Night at the Museum" Gala Auction this past Saturday night. The event began with a Chinese Auction filled with wonderful prizes, a Teachers' Silent Auction with special gifts for our children and a wonderful Children's Art Gallery. Many thanks to all our teachers and parents who donated prizes - you helped make this evening a success. The highlight of the evening was the Live Auction which had many exciting items to bid on. The food was delicious and WDS parents, alumni parents, faculty, administration and friends all enjoyed a fun evening right here in our own gym! The success of the event is due to the hard work of the entire auction committee but a special thank you goes to the Chairpeople: Jennifer Fischer, Michelle Nachmani, Rachel Rosenfeld, Shlomit Storfer, Raquel Zeitz and also to Baila Weiss for coordinating this event. Special thanks goes to our entertaining Auctioneer and WDS parent, Alan Wildes, for doing such a stupendous job and also to WDS parent, Joey Bernstein for taking the pictures at the auction. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard before the auction as well as to those who worked at the event. Everyone went home a winner! Once again, thank you for your continuous support ...One of the highlights of the evening was the beautiful Children's Art Gallery that was on display. Students in Ganon - gr. 5 created one-of-a-kind artistic paintings on canvas which were framed and displayed in the gallery. Parents were able to purchase the paintings at the auction. For those of you who were unable to attend, your children's paintings are still available for purchase. What a special Chanukah gift this would make and/or be a meaningful keepsake of your child's time at WSD! If you are interested in obtaining your child's artwork please call: Baila Weiss at 914-698-8900 ext 134 or Raquel Zeitz 914-472-7677.



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Clips from the Classroom

Ganon Gimel is getting ready for Chanukah. We heard the story and pretended we were the brave Maccabees. Then, we began to make chanukiot. First, we're grouping items by eight. Then, when we learn the concept of eight, we'll be able to attach our eight candleholders. But, mostly we're spinning like dreidles, melting like candles and sizzling like latkas. We also began our first author study of the year. We're reading the books of Eric Carle. He is very prolific and the children are finding delight in each new story.
Submitted by: Morah Lynn & Morah Joanie

KH: No sooner had K-H gobbled up Thanksgiving complete with Native American totem poles, headdresses adorned with real and "mitzvah" feathers, Pilgrim hats, pumpkin tartlets, and Thanksgiving lists to HaShem, we are gearing up for Hanukkah! We have already begun to learn the story, sing songs, create Hanukah counting books and design dizzy dreidles that adorn our bulletin board outside. We will also create our own hanukiyot, candles, wooden dreidles, Maccabee costumes, latkas and chocolate candy. Our Hanukkah preparation will culminate with a Chagiga complete with parents and family members. Kabbalat Shabbat will follow just around the corner. We have begun to learn the songs and will start working on our special Shabbat projects and our parts for the play. All of this takes place amidst our regular curriculum of reading, writing and 'rithmetic as well as Hebrew letter of the week, parshat haShavua (which we LOVE acting out), Shabbat celebrations, birthday parties, library, music and gym. We are so excited to have started computers. Finally, we are grateful for our newly refurbished classroom and lunchroom. Submitted by: Morah Jane Grauer & Morah Sue Moskovich

Grade 4: The students have been working diligently on preparing for the upcoming NY State ELA test by practicing our listening and note taking skills. They have used several graphic organizers to apply to different types of writing and are quite proficient at becoming active readers. The students have been working on paragraph writing and working with a 4-square method of organization. This, along with other graphic organizers help lay the foundation for tightly focused paragraph writing. In reading Mr. Slater's group is studying Susan B. Anthony and her important contribution to women's rights. Morah Debby's group, is studying Dear Mr. Henshaw. The children are working on Summarizing, Making Connections, Main Idea, How to Monitor Meaning and How to Question.
Submitted by: Mr. Andrew Slater & Mrs. Debby Epstein

Middle School - ELA

In room 308, the sixth and seventh grades have completed their first novel units by writing essays, and have started studying one America's foremost authors, John Steinbeck. The sixth grade is reading The Red Pony, and the seventh grade is reading The Pearl. We continue to study vocabulary and will be having a cumulative test on words from units 1-3. All grades are also focusing on their writing, exploring not only the novels via study guides, but also by doing additional writing in class and for homework. Students have been exposed to the concept of analysis, which is what readers do after they have finished understanding the details of a plot. We have discussed point of view, character and plot, consistency and integrity, the use of language, various literary techniques and devices, as well as motif and theme, with the idea that the way a book is constructed affects the reader's relationship with the text. Finally, students are also studying grammar, and have learned about nouns, adjectives, appositives, verbs

(including verb tense and the forms of simple, perfect, and progressive verbs), and adverbs.
Submitted by: Mrs. Rachel Piven-Kehrle

2009 Yearbook: Reminder to all 8th grade parents: The yearbook ads must be submitted by Fri. Dec. 19th. For more info or any questions, please contact Shmarya Gasner at: sgasner@westchesterday.org.

Inclement Weather

In the event of a school closing or delay, please: check your e-mail or WDS website www.westchesterday.org, call WDS, ext. 100.) listen to radio stations: WFAS, WVOX, or your local cable news station.

Congratulations

...To our own little "Blue Ribbon Winner", Odelia Jesselson (KJ) for her outstanding performance on Sunday at the Boulder Brook Horse Show. She amazed the judge with her skill and poise and by winning 3 ribbons!

Notes From The Nurse...

OUTDOOR RECESS/PLAY TIME: Please note that if the actual outside temperature or wind chill factor is below 20 degrees, there will be no outdoor recess or playtime. ... On days when the children do go outside, please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor play (hats, gloves, jacket, boots, etc.) Thank you.

Basketball News...



...The 6th boys lost to Magen David on Sunday afternoon 24-23. The boys trailed by 12 points, but made a spectacular effort to get the lead with under a minute to play when Joshua Eagle hit a base line shot. Magen David got a one point lead, but WDS still had one more chance to win at the end. Joshua Blustein gave his best effort but



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WDS ended the game one point short. ...This team defeated Har Torah on Monday night 36-15. The boys got off to an early lead by the unselfish efforts of Elliot Beretz who made great passes to his teammates and hit lay ups and outside shots. Josh Blustein, Benni Tuchman, and Jacob Ungar also helped to get the big lead by including all of their teammates playing in the game, and equally important, by supporting their teammates cheering from the bench. The entire team demonstrated great sportsmanship, compassion for the other team, and showed how a WDS team member conducts themselves whether winning or losing a game.

... **On Wednesday, the 7th & 8th boys** won their first game against A.S.H.A.R. on Wednesday night, 61-38. Daniel Oppenheimer poured in 23 points, provided great leadership, and helped lead his team to this victory, on his birthday. Jeremy Wilson, and Daniel Schub played outstanding defense, and each added to the scoring. Joshua Goldschmidt, Akiva Marder, and Ben Dalezman gave their team a strong inside presence, got needed rebounds, all added to the scoring, despite being physically out matched.

Congratulations on your first win!!

... The 7th & 8th boys defeated Park East Day School 58-27 on Thursday night to capture their second consecutive win. The entire team scored in the game and helped to secure this victory. The team was supported by numerous parents and friends who made the trip to the game, which added to a wonderful night for all the boys. Their next game is against A.S.H.A.R. at home on Monday, December 22 at 7:45.

...**The 7th & 8th girls** defeated a very strong Moriah team 45-29 on Monday night. This undefeated team was tested but showed what they are made of with outstanding guard play from Amanda Povman and Michele Bengualid. Each provided great defense and added to the scoring. Nina Leibowiz and Amy Robbins, despite each being injured, helped with the inside defense, provided needed points, and put in a tremendous effort. Arlyn Goldberg gave an incredible effort in the middle and did not let her team down. She rose to the occasion, got rebounds, blocked shots, and hit important free throws. The girls continue to demonstrate a strong team game and remain undefeated.

... On Wednesday, the 7th & 8th girls defeated A.S.H.A.R. 44-11 on Wednesday night to bring their record to an impressive 3-0. The starters got off to an 8-0 lead and the entire team provided quality minutes to capture the win.

Community News...

...The Young Israel of New Rochelle, in partnership with Y.U. Center for the Jewish Future, presents the Stuart Perlman Memorial Lecture Series. This educational program will explore the holiday of Chanukah from historical, social and halachik perspectives. Rabbi Daniel Feldman, director of rabbinic research at CJF and faculty member of the Beit Midrash Program at YU will discuss *Celebrating Chanukah: Past, Present and Future* on **Wed., Dec. 17 at 8 PM**. Rabbi Reuven Fink, Rabbi of YINR, will address the community on **Tues., Dec. 23 at 8 PM** on *Miracles: Literal or Figurative?* All lectures will take place at the YINR- 1149 North Avenue New Rochelle, NY