




Tidings

23 Adar 1 5768 / February 29, 2008 Erev Shabbat Vayakhel Candle Lighting : 5:27 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 3-5: Gr. 4 NYS Math Test
March 5: Gr. 5: Jewish Heritage Museum/Eldridge Synagogue 8:45-4:00
March 6: Gr. 4: Bruce Museum Trip
March 7: Rosh Chodesh Adar II,
Gr. 6-8: Guest Speaker: Rabbi Marder
March 9: Daylight Saving Time Begins (spring forward) 
March 11: Parent Teacher Conferences*
1:40 pm dismissal
Gr. 1-8 2:30 - 5:20 / 6:20 - 9:00 p.m.
March 12: Gr. 2: Maritime Aquarium Trip
March 13: 5H: Bruce Museum Trip
March 13: 8:00 pm at WDS
PAPAS: Parents and Professionals Advocating for Students (formerly Parents Supporting Parents) - see attached flyer.
March 17: Parent Teacher Conferences *
Gr. 1-8 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
March 18: Gr. 3: Purim Production 9:30 a.m.
March 18: 5E: Bruce Museum 12:30-4:00
March 19: Gr. 3: Sara Neuman Nursing Home
March 20: Fast of Esther/1:40 pm dismissal
8th grade students will read Megillah in Castle Shul at night
March 21: Purim / No Sessions

March 28/29: 7th gr. Shabbaton in Queens

****Note: Please call ext. 102 to set up your Parent/Teacher Conference. Thank you.**

SCHOOL SPIRIT - RUACH

The Wild will be hosting ASHAR in the first round of the playoffs this Sunday, March 2nd at 11 am in the WDS gym. **Come on down and cheer our boys on.**

Let's Go Wild !!!

SCHOOL SPIRIT is in the air! We have an exciting new line of clothing and kippot which will be available for sale in just a few weeks. Look for the new "Klipped Kippahs" which are suede and have a clip already built in. There will be four styles to choose from - hockey, basketball, WDS and our logo. Keep a look out - these items will all be arriving soon!

Chag HaSiddur

Mazel Tov to our first graders on receiving their first Siddurim. They sang, danced and performed beautifully for their parents, grandparents, teachers and siblings at their Chag HaSiddur celebration. They are now proud to be davening from their Siddurim. A big **Todah Rabah** to all the teachers who prepared the children so well for this special performance: Morah Sabrina Gaffney, Morah Miriam Dollman, Mrs. Debbie Briks, Morah Kim Siegel, Morah Ziva Dorf (for her beautiful artwork, too!) Morah Jill Friedman, Morah Rina Bergman, Mrs. Erica Yadlovker, Mrs. Helena Froyton and Mrs. Brenda Starr. Thanks to Mr. Shmueli for his lively music, Chris Price & Staff for the delicious refreshments and to Bob Price & Staff for all their work.

Clips From The Classroom

Grade 2: The students have been very busy. We started our biography reports on important African-Americans and American Presidents. They loved learning interesting facts about people who have helped change society. We compared the traditional story of Little Red Riding Hood and the Chinese version Lon Po Po. The children had a great time drawing and then painting their comparisons of the two stories. We have been very busy learning about clocks. The children enjoy being able to tell time for themselves and knowing how much longer we have until we go to gym or lunch. We are having a great time in second grade.
Submitted by: Mrs. Dina Lehon & Ms. Antonia Tracy

Grade 4: The students have been working with and developing an understanding of money. We have opened the 'S' Factory (S for Slater). The students understand that a factory is a place where raw material is brought, a change occurs, and a finished product is produced. Fourth graders enter and work through their curriculum, thereby becoming fifth graders. In this living ECONOMICS experience, students are paid, in "S" dollars, (play money), according to their grades on their tests, homework etc.

They then use their school "play" money to support themselves in the classroom society, which is implemented through the use of checks. Students add to their INCOME with jobs that help run this society. They will also incur EXPENSES which they will pay for with checks. For example, they will pay RENT, FOOD and UTILITY bills. To further add to the development of the idea of free enterprise, we had our first Flea Market. Students bought and sold many items including toys, games and food. It was a rousing success, and we look forward to our next one. Many thanks to Mrs. Farago (Hannah, 4E) for her assistance with our banking simulation. The students were introduced to banking services and then participated in actual transactions done by banks. They had lots of fun as they donned colorful caps designating them as Tellers or Customers and acted through the skits with professionalism. Bravo 4th grade! The students began our science units with rocks and minerals. They did hands-on experiments discovering the characteristics of many minerals in the WDS lab. The students experienced similar discoveries with their recent trip to the Bruce Museum. Future lab activities include making our own sedimentary rocks, creating electrical circuits, and learning about magnetism.
Submitted by: Mr. Andrew Slater

8J: The students in 8J discovered who, in their family tree, they most closely resemble. After making a family tree and questioning family members about their dominant traits, the students deduced whose genes they received. They also learned which of their traits were dominant, which might include having hair on their middle finger! While reading novels that are Newberry Award winners, the students are writing the beginnings of their own novels. They are also analyzing poetry and writing poetic memoirs of their own lives. This includes memories of WDS which will be published in the 2008 yearbook.
Submitted By: Mrs. Lois Rednick



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Setting Achievable Goals

by Mrs. Francine Greenberg

It was the last sentence on the board which caught my eye: *we'll celebrate presidents day on February 18 2008* The students were being asked to correct this sentence and four others, each containing many grammatical errors, including missing commas, missing capital letters, incorrect spelling, and no punctuation marks at the end of the sentences. This assignment followed one in which the children were identifying in writing and creating their own common nouns, proper nouns, action verbs and state of being verbs. Perhaps none of this would sound outrageous if I had been standing in a fourth grade classroom or even higher. But the truth is, the responses were being given by Mrs. Debbie Briks' first grade students. Only five and six years old, yet the children are reading, writing, spelling, and even taking dictation! Mrs. Briks is cognizant of the fact that effective writing instruction begins with specific goals and thoughtful, detailed plans, as well as a clearly defined structure and organization for each writing day. She believes that her students must learn to originate the sounds, following set patterns and rules. In her dictations, she utilizes all decodable words which the children spell according to their sounds. The students stretch the words as they listen to their sounds, often writing the words on their own personal mini white boards. Once they learn a rule, they practice transferring the knowledge to new words with the same sounds. By providing them with the proper environment, tools and informed instruction, she allows her students the joy of written expression, allowing them to develop their own voices as writers and thinkers. Indeed, a great accomplishment for a first grader!

New Smartboards....

We thank the Silber Family and an anonymous donor for their generous donation to WDS to enable the purchase of ADDITIONAL Smartboards. We recognize that technology enhances our children's learning and we look forward to continued progress in this area. Todah Rabah!

Mazel Tov

... To Akiva Marder on becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

... Mr. & Mrs. Barry Novick on being honored at the Westchester Jewish Center Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 1st.

From The Nurses...

REMINDER! Please read all snack food labels carefully - if it states **MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF / OR CONTAINS NUTS OR TREE NUTS** the snack **CANNOT** be brought into school or on the bus. Please cooperate with this to ensure the safety of all our students.



Chessed: Several weeks ago, students were given a yellow tzedakh box shaped like a tractor in which to collect money for Keren Hashvi'it in Israel. Our collection for this organization will conclude next week.. Rabbi Weiss will go to each classroom to collect the tzedakh boxes. Thank you.

School Happenings...

Doodle 4 Google

For those students who love creating art, Google is extending an invitation to create their own "Doodle" design, inspired by this year's theme, "What if...?" Judging will be done in four groupings: K-3; 4-6; 7-9; and 10-12. Please keep in mind that Doodles

*Must be presented on white, landscaped 8.5 x 11 inch paper

*Must have a title

*Must have a statement explaining the student's vision (up to 50 words)

*Must have an entry code (to be assigned upon to our school upon registration)

*Must clearly show the Google logo

*Can be done in pencil, crayon, felt-tip, paint, or computer drawing/design software (no 3-D effects permitted).

WDS may submit a total of only six entries (regardless of how they are spread among the grade groupings). Each entry must be accompanied by a parental consent form.

The deadline for submitting your entry to us is Wednesday, March 26, 2008.

Ms. Shoshana Golin will be available to assist any student in their creations. Mrs. Sharon Pogostin, will help students do their work on the computer or help them access reference pictures. Mrs. Francine Greenberg will be there to help in the writing of the student's statement. For further information including helpful guidelines and rules, please visit: <http://www.google.com/doodle4google/> Good luck to all.

WDS Dinner Video

If you would like to purchase a copy of the 2008 Dinner Video (in DVD format) please send \$15.00 to the school office in an envelope marked "Dinner Video".

BAR/BAT MITZVAH REGISTRY..

Just a reminder that registration is on-going. You can register the date of your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah up to two years in advance. Forms are available in the office and on our website, under "Newsletters." For more info or to check if your date is already reserved, contact Linda Zucker (914) 633-7416.



PTA Corner...

The **ANNUAL PESACH CANDY SALE** is underway. This is one of the PTA's biggest fundraisers of the year - we receive 40% of all sales. Let's make this our most successful year yet! The deadline has been extended to March 5th. Additional order forms are available in the school office. For more info, contact Jennifer Lorber (914) 654-8746 or Lisa Reich (914) 698-0730.

...The **PTA MISHLOACH MANOT** Committee is hard at work creating what is sure to be a delicious, fun-filled treat for our faculty and staff. Our goal is 100% participation by our students. If you have not yet sent in your form, please make sure and do so ASAP. Forms are available in the office and on our website, under "Newsletters". For more information, contact Ilana Schreiber (914) 636-2466.



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...It's not too late to order **PURIM CARDS**.

These are a great way to send best wishes to friends both near and far in lieu of Mishloach Manot. The cards cost \$3 apiece, 15 for \$40 or 30 for \$75. The cards will be available by the first week in March. For more information or to place your order, please contact Dina Katz (914) 722-9095 or Ruth Zisholtz (914) 722-5920.

Community News....

Bake Sale: Thursday, March 6

12:00 - 8:00 pm at the home of Monica & Henry Aboodi (22 Heathcote Road).

Proceeds will go to the UJA Fund to benefit Corey Greenbaum.

Sunday, March 30th 2:00 p.m.

The 2008 AIPAC Westchester Community - Wide Event: **Faith and Action: The Impact of Pro-Israel Christians** will be held at the Larchmont Temple (75 Larchmont Ave..) Well known author, David Brog will also be present. Pre-registration is strongly recommended, space is limited. For more info contact: call 212-750-4110 or dgreenwald@aipac.org

Wednesday, April 2nd 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

The Young Israel of New Rochelle presents its Women's Spring Boutique. The YINR is located at 1228 North Ave, New Rochelle. For more info, contact Debbie Cohen (917) 750-9202 or Sandra Weinstein at (917) 562-9741.