



21 Iyar 5769 / May 15, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Behar/Bechukotai Candle Lighting 7:47 pm

Dates To Remember:

May 2009

- 5/19-21: 8th Grade Senior Class Trip to Washington, DC
- 5/20: PAPANAS Presentation 8:00p.m. WDS*
- 5/21: **Gr. 5 Production - 7:30 pm Castle Shul**
- 5/22: Gr. 2: Chag Hatorah 9:15 a.m. Yom Yerushalayim
- 5/24: Rosh Chodesh/Sivan
- 5/25: Memorial Day - No Sessions
- 5/26 & 27: 7th Grade Trip to Boston, Ma.
- 5/27: WHHS Graduation at YIS - 7:00pm
- 5/28: Erev Shavuot 1:40 Dismissal
- 5/29 Shavuot No Sessions
- 5/31: **SALUTE TO ISRAEL DAY PARADE**

*Wed., May 20 - 8:00 pm - Castle Shul
Parents and Professionals Advocating for Students (PAPANAS) Presents:
 "Mom, Am I Fat? Dad, Am I Buff?"
 Families, Food, and Body Image
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Elissa Zelman

SAVE THE DATE!!!!
Tuesday ~ June 2, 2009
11:00 - 12:30
PTA Luncheon
All Parents Are Invited
At the home of:
Dana Bonime
46 Malvern Lane
Scarsdale, NY 10583

After School Dates/Changes:

- After-School Study Skills make up date is Tuesday, 6/9.

IMPORTANT BUS

INFORMATION - FRIDAY 5/22

We have just been informed that the New Rochelle School District will be closed on Friday, May 22nd. Therefore, there will be no bus service (to and from school) on Friday, May 22nd for students in the NR School District. It will be the parents' responsibility to arrange transportation to and from school. Please note: NR School District will be open on Tues. 5/26 and will be transporting. Thank you.



... This week got off to a bang as *Maccabiah* 5769 took place on Monday afternoon and on Tuesday, Lag B'Omer. This year's *Maccabiah* theme was *Torah Shebichtav*, the Written Torah (Red) and *Torah Sheba'al Peh*, the Oral Torah (Blue). The days were filled with all types of activities. There were art projects, sports games, singing competitions, trivia games and much more. Great spirit and sportsmanship filled the WDS halls and everyone had a blast. *Maccabiah* is a long standing tradition at WDS because it is so vital to the mission of our school. We believe in education, the whole child and *Maccabiah* allows for the athlete, artist, musician, academic and actor to all shine at some point during the excitement. The final presentations were capped off with a school-wide singing of "*Acheinu*" signifying the great unity and friendship in our yeshiva. And finally, a *Mazel Tov* is in order, for the **BLUE team**. Congratulations to all and a special thank you to the 8th grade students for running a fantastic *Maccabiah*.

Mazel Tov To:

- ... Jonathan Turek on becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- ... Richard & Sharon Pogostin on their son Bradley becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

School Happenings

...The culmination of Mrs. Lippman's 7th grade unit on energy involved creation of "marble" roller coasters. Student groups constructed coasters in the lab with 18 ft. of foam tubing, bricks, cardboard tubes and lots of duct tape. Application of concepts including momentum, mass, velocity and potential /kinetic energy relationships was evident throughout the building process as marbles flew off track and up/down inclines and loops. Culminating it all were energy conversions as marbles exited. Students used dominoes, scales, cups, golf /pingpong balls, ice cubes, string, eggs, mentos, coke, baking soda and vinegar [and even more] to illustrate conversions. We followed up with group meetings to write up diagrams, problems, solutions. Frustrations such as cooperation, consensus, creativity, patience and perseverance were apparent throughout the week and vital to the overwhelming success of a truly wonderful project. Submitted by: Mrs. Shelley Lippman





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(Morah Judith) found us. She wanted to know if we were doing Jewish things like reading the Torah. We fooled her and told her we were having a picnic and flying kites. And we did just that. We flew our kites and then had a lollipop hunt and enjoyed the beautiful weather. We rolled them 3 times a day, charted their temperature and humidity. We learned what was happening to them each day and marveled at their progress. Now we are the proud parents of baby chicks. We sing to them and they sing to us. Stop by and see our baby chicks any time.

Submitted by: Morah Lori & Morah Suri
Grade 3: The students have been learning Mishna Avot every week. We learn about 4 Mishnayot a week. This is in conjunction with Chai Life Line's Avot-a-thon. The Mishna we just completed teaches us that "Keter Shem Tov" the "crown of a good name" is the greatest. We spoke about how one can earn a "Shem Tov". B"H we are raising money for a very special organization while at the same time we are gaining Torah Knowledge. In return, may Hashem bless us that we never need the help of Chai Life Line.



... As a culmination of their Mishmar and Torah Bowl participation, the following students went to the Met Game on Wed., May 13th. They were accompanied by: Rabbi Rosenwasser, Rabbi Slotkin, and Ms. Friedman: Evan Blum, Ezra Einzig, Sam Soff, Daniel Mirsky, Elliot Beretz, Evan Blumenthal, Josh Eagle, Josh Kleinberg Adam Bandler, Michael Kesselman Jonathan Herman, Atayra Schonbrun Aviva Vinas, Ariella Reich, Meira Greenberg Amanda Klestzick, Stephanie Weinstein, Shira Greenberg and Michelle Kleiman. Congratulations to all!

Clips from the Classroom

Ganon Hay: On Tuesday we celebrated Lag Ba'Omer. First we walked all around to find a cave and then we climbed the mountains to the cave to read the Torah. Just as we started to read the Torah a Roman soldier

...Now to chumash - we are about to finish another parsha, Parshat Toldot and start Parshat Vayetzei as Yaakov runs away from Eisav and ends up in Lavan's home for 20 years. To survive a home like Lavan he sits in Yeshiva and learns Torah for 14 years to charge his spiritual battery. We are getting ready for Shavuot by counting Sefira everyday and of course learning lots of Torah. We spoke about the greatness of Rabbi Akiva and how much Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai contributed to the world by revealing secrets of the Torah. This is the cause for the great celebration on Lag Ba'Omer. The Maccabiah was a smashing success. I am really proud of the great sportsmanship the children showed towards each other.

Submitted by: Rabbi Dovid Leiman

ELA: Grades 6 & 7

During the early spring, students in ELA have been learning about utopias and dystopias, and to look beyond the smooth and plausible words that they read and hear to see the reality that lies beyond. In addition to the final tests and writing assignments for the novels, the students have continued to practice utilizing the texts to develop complete answers to study guide questions, understanding that textual support is critical to the strength and validity of their responses.

...In sixth grade, students read Lois Lowry's The Giver. They explored euphemisms and what it means to be fully human by studying the story of a young boy who lives, apparently, in a perfectly safe, organized, prosperous society, but who, as he grows, discovers the inhumanity and tyranny behind the lovely façade. We discussed the inherent ambiguity in the ending of the novel, and students used the text to support their own predictions.

...In seventh grade, students expanded upon this exploration of human nature and society by reading Animal Farm, by George Orwell, which adds the allegorical parallel to the Russian Revolution and Stalin's regime of terror. Students were introduced to the techniques of propaganda, and made wonderful posters exhibiting not only the propaganda used in Animal Farm to convince the animal workers that "reality" was better than it seemed, but also examples of current propaganda found in the real world. We concluded by considering again what it means to be human, and evaluating Orwell's definition of human nature as inherently greedy and power-hungry. In addition to our literature and writing units, students continue to learn and practice grammar and mechanics with practical exercises, and to study vocabulary using the Sadlier-Oxford textbook. For the final units of the year, the sixth graders have recently begun reading and studying Jane Yolen's The



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Devil's Arithmetic, and the seventh graders are reading the classic Anne Frank, Diary of a Young Girl. The Devil's Arithmetic is a powerful and moving novel which brings the modern-day twelve-year-old protagonist, Hannah, back to 1942, where she experiences capture and transport to a concentration camp before returning back to her life in the present day. Seventh graders have learned about 'hidden children,' and are considering what it might be like to abandon their privileged lives to escape, not completely prepared, into a secret existence of confinement and unvarying and sometimes unpleasant company, as well as the primary source material in Anne's diary which reveals the daily politics and war-time events in Holland.

Submitted by: Rachel Piven-Kehrle

Notes from the Nurse...

...**Infection Control:** Please encourage your children to wash their hands often, using soap & water. Hands should be washed for 20 seconds and make sure not to forget in between fingers. Remind your children to cough or sneeze into the crook of their elbow or upper arm. Please report all flu-like illness to the School Nurse especially during this season.

Community News...

...**Sunday, June 7th 9:00 - 5:00:**

All day conference entitled "Food, Body Image, and Eating Disorders in the Jewish Community" sponsored by The Renfrew Center Foundation for Eating Disorders and the Orthodox Union. To register or for more info, call 877-367-3383, or www.ou.org.

...**Tuesday, May 26th 7:00 PM:**

YINR Women's League invites you to the 2nd annual bake sale in memory of Sheri Raskas (a'h) to benefit the Mikveh of New Rochelle, at the home of Reva & Ilan Slasky 270 Trenor Drive New Rochelle. All are welcome.