



2 Nisan 5769 / March 27, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Vayikra Candle Lighting 6:56 pm

Dates To Remember:

- April 2009 .
- 4/1: Pesach Yom Iyun at WDS -
- 4/6 - 4/17: No Sessions Pesach Break
- 4/7: Search for Chametz
- 4/8: First Seder / Passover
- 4/20: Sessions Resume
- 4/21: Yom Hashoah
- 4/24-25: Rosh Chodesh / Iyar
- 4/28: Yom Hazikron
- 4/29: Grandparents' Day Gr. Ganon-5
Yom Ha'Atzmaut

Upcoming Events

- ...**Mon. 3/30:** Annual pre- Pesach Food Drive: All food collected will be donated to the Mamaroneck Food Pantry on Monday, March 30th. They are requesting cereal, dry milk, cans of tuna and beans etc. Food will be delivered on Monday, March 30. Please bring in your donations on Monday. Thank you.
- ...**Mon., 3/30: After School Girls Sports Gr. 1 & 2:** Make up day for After School Sports with Mrs. Lewis.

Wed. 4/1: There will be a special Yom Iyun for the middle school students in preparation for the upcoming holiday of Passover. The morning will be dedicated in memory of Rabbi Jacob and Debbie Rubenstein who passed away last year at this time. Wednesday is their *yartzzeit*. The program will be both inspirational and educational.

**GRANDPARENTS' AND
IMPORTANT PERSONS' DAY
FOR CHILDREN IN GANON - Gr. 5
YOM HA'ATZMA'UT
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

Mazel Tov To

.... Jenny Kleiman on becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

School Happenings /Chessed

As part of our ongoing **Chessed** projects, we are pleased to report that on Thursday, March 26th our 8th graders, accompanied by Rabbi Mahler traveled to 2050 Bartow Avenue in the Bronx. The students helped put together over 300 Pesach packages to be delivered to homebound seniors on Sunday. What a wonderful way to begin preparing for the joyous holiday of Pesach!

Sharing The Past - Holocaust:



(Mrs. Frankie Salsberg and 6th grade boys)

As part of Mr. Dan Bulgarelli's 's (Mr. "B") sixth grade's class on the Holocaust, three special visitors addressed the students about their experiences as childhood survivors of the Holocaust. The students welcomed Mrs. Frankie Salsberg, grandmother of Zachary Green, Mr. Henry Katz, grandfather of David Zucker, and Mr. Stanley Berger, family friend of Isabelle Muss. Mrs. Salsberg, who survived the war along with her eight siblings, lived in a monastery for boys along with her brothers. She advised the students: "Be proud of your heritage always." Mr. Katz's father chanted the "Shma" as they reached Luxemburg after escaping from Germany. He urged the students to "Never abandon hope". Mr. Berger's Jewish survival was due to the righteous deeds of a non-Jewish couple and

their parish priest who later became Pope John Paul II. His lesson to the boys and girls was to continue their lessons of the Holocaust and share its message. The guests spoke to the students with respect and warmth, and they in turn listened with interest and thoughtfulness, realizing that they are a link between their ancestors and future generations to whom they need to impart the story.

Condolences To:

... Steven Cohen and family on the loss of his father, Joel Cohen, grandfather to Jeremy Cohen in Ganon.

Basketball News...



Westchester Lady Wildcats Win Consecutive Metropolitan Yeshiva Day School Basketball Championship



The 7th & 8th girls defended their title by defeating Moriah of Englewood 41-30 to repeat as undefeated champions for the second year in a row. The Lady Wildcats opened up the game with a suffocating 1-2-1-1 full court press which Moriah had a hard time breaking. WDS lead by co-captains Amanda Povman and Nina Leibowitz did not let Moriah get the ball down court! Michele Bengualid and Amy Robbins added with more pressure defense and the team got off to a 15-2 lead in the first quarter. Aryln Goldberg protected the basket on her



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defensive end of the court with blocked shots, altered shots, rebounding and with her other teammates provided a defensive presence that helped to intimidate Moriah from the very start of the game. There was a long delay at the start of the second quarter because of clock problems which led to a loss of momentum that the WDS girls had established in the previous quarter of play. Moriah regained their composure, was able to adjust to the pressure and made their first run at the Lady Wildcats. Amanda Povman hit a shot from around the top of the key and Nina Leibowitz also hit a long distance shot which slowed Moriah down. Amy Robbins took some very hard fouls trying to get some offensive charges and got into foul trouble. Povman also got into early foul trouble and the second half ended with W.D.S. leading 24-12. Moriah made a come back and was able to cut the lead to six points with about 3 minutes to go in the game. The Lady Wildcats withstood the rush from Moriah with strong guard play from both Povman and Leibowitz, demonstrated why they were previously unbeaten, rose to the occasion, and opened up an eight point lead by the foul shooting of Povman. 8th grade team members: Michelle Kleiman, Edith Chess, Alexa Wachtenheim, injured player Cindi Zucker and 7th grade team members; Sophie Levinson, Ellie Bonime, Rebecca Malits, Rachel Weintraub and injured player Yaela Halper were an integral part at all practices and really helped with encouragement and cheering. The girls, in the last thirty seconds went into a delay and were victorious!!! Throughout the season the Lady Wildcats received strong praise from their opponents, spectators from all other schools and basketball officials. This team always represented WDS and themselves with positive midot and compassion for all opposing players. Although going undefeated, they showed great sensitivity in their wins. The Lady

Wildcats demonstrated a team ethic with unselfishness, hard work, intensity, and a mature attitude. When called upon to play in a game, they gave their best effort and when on the bench, always provided positive encouragement to their teammates. This incredible achievement will be remembered for years to come, admired by all basketball fans, and provide a standard to be attained by any basketball program!! Congratulations to this wonderful group of girls. A big "congrats" to Coach Frank Kaufman (Mr. K) for another winning season and for his devotion to WDS and the basketball program. It's been a great 24 years!



Clips From The Classroom

...The children in **Ganon Dalet** have been very busy getting ready for and learning about Pesach. We reenacted the story of Pesach. Some of the children dressed up as slaves while others acted out the roles of Baby Moshe, Pharaoh, Yocheved, Miriam and the Princess. We discussed how "Seder" meant order and that Hagadah was the book that showed us the correct order. Each day in maagal we use our taste buds to take in the different flavors of Passover. We even tried "Karpos" and dipped it in salted water. We had a great time making charoset out of apples, honey, raisins and grape juice. Some of the children even tried to make bricks out of the charoset. Everyday we practice singing the "Ma Nishtanah" and work on our Hagadahs. On Thursday we celebrated Rosh Chodesh Nisan. We sang Mazel Tov V'

Simon Tov and ate round shaped moon cookies. All of the Ganon students gathered together with Morah Karen and sang and danced to celebrate this special day. Submitted by: Morah Meri Rosenblatt

Grade 3: Integrating the curriculum is an ongoing process in Grade 3. In Reading, the classes read the story called *Mr. Popper's Penguin's*. The children answered comprehension questions, analyzed the characters, learned new vocabulary, and summarized the book. They used their artistic talents to create their own unique rookeries. In Science and Social Studies the students learned about the Arctic and Antarctica and visited the Lab each week to do experiments on insulation. They even got to make ice-cream. In Writing, they were asked to use their imagination to write a polar land adventure story after learning about the explorers who ventured to these areas. Spring is here and grade 3 is "blooming" with activities. Submitted by: Mrs. Rosen & Mrs. Cochrane

Grade 8 English: Science fiction literature uses fascinating devices such as strange creatures, advanced technology, and unique locations to highlight deficiencies in our own world. The eighth grade has been studying the elements of science fiction and refining its writing skills through analysis of this genre. Beginning with the exploration of the "masters" of science fiction, we studied short stories by Isaac Asimov and Ray Bradbury that involved children facing the common problems of bullying and neglect on alternative planets and in future time settings. After reading our major novel of study, *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer, students completed oral presentations in which they pretended to be members of alternative worlds trying to convince "potential adherents" (their classmates) to join them. Students practiced "thinking on their feet" as they



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sought to answer pointed questions about deficiencies of their civilizations. We next turn our focus back to Earth as we commence our study of survival literature such as Lord of the Flies by William Golding and "To Build A Fire" by Jack London.
Submitted by: Mrs. Laurie Popiel

Physical Ed: All groups are running laps and doing sit-ups as we begin to prepare for the National Fitness Program. A few more degrees on the weather charts means spring sports involving flag football, kickball, softball, and tennis are almost here. We are eagerly awaiting the sunny days ahead!
Submitted by: Mrs. Arlene Lewis and Mr. Frank Kaufman

PTA...

...All the Passover candy has been distributed. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped to make the Passover candy sale so successful!!!

...BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:

Remember to clip the box tops from your chametz and send them in to school!

General Mills will send our school 10 cents for each qualifying box top submitted. A qualifying box top is the top flap of General Mills and other products carrying the "BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION" symbol. We have collection boxes near the school office in Wolfson Hall and in the entrance of the Coach House. The box tops really add up -- it is an easy way to raise money for our school. Any questions, please contact Joan Goodman at 723-2696.

Community News...

... Tues. March 31: First Annual Rabbi Jacob and Debbie Rubenstein z"l Memorial Lecture and Program at the YIS at 8:00 pm. For more info, please call YIS: 914 636-8686.