



# Tidings

30 Adar 1 / 3/7/08 Erev Shabbat Parshat Pekude Rosh Chodesh Shabbas Shekalim Candle Lighting : 5:35

## DATES TO REMEMBER

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

March 13: 5H: Bruce Museum 12:30-4:00

March 13: 8:00 pm at WDS

### **PAPAS: Parents and Professionals**

**Advocating for Students** (formerly Parents Supporting Parents)

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

Mincha will begin at 6:40 pm in the Castle Shul.

We will then have the pleasure of hearing our 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys read Megillat Esther at 7:35 p.m.

March 21: Purim / No Sessions

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

**NOTE: Tuesday, May 13, 2008:**

**No Sessions** for 2 year olds, Ganon & Kindergarten - Early Childhood teachers have a BJE Conference. Thank you!

## Mazel Tov...

... To Jared Danzer on his upcoming Bar Mitzvah.

... To Yosaf Slotkin (Rabbi Slotkin's son) on his upcoming Bar Mitzvah.

... Mr. & Mrs. Joel Levin on the birth of a baby girl, sister to Lucy (K).

... To Mrs. & Mrs. Michael Rosenbaum (former WDS parents) on being the Guests of Honor and to Mr. & Mrs. Michael Nachmani (parents to Ethan in Ganon) on receiving the Young Leadership Award at The Young Israel of Scarsdale Annual Dinner.

## School Happenings...

On Tuesday, the Middle School students were privileged to have Rabbi Menachem Leibtag address us. Rabbi Leibtag is a noted lecturer and educator in Israel, as well as the webmaster of a very popular Torah

website. He spoke about what it means to be "The Chosen People" and why G-d chose us as His special nation. He explained that we are special because we are chosen, not chosen because we are special. Now that we are chosen, we have the responsibility to make a Kiddush Hashem and be an example for other nations to follow. Thank you to Rabbi Leibtag for inspiring us and making us aware of our awesome responsibilities as Jews.

Submitted by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:  
Suri Bandler & Ariela Weinberger

**Rosh Chodesh Adar II:** On Friday, following davening, Rabbi Chaim Marder of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains spoke to our middle school students on the meaning of simcha. We are now entering the month of Adar II which brings increased happiness as we look forward to Purim. However, when we enter the month of Av we decrease in happiness because both of the temples were destroyed.

Submitted by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:  
Gabi Rudansky and Nechemiah Zemel

## Grade 8 Presents a Mock Trial in the Castle Shul!

Extra! Extra! Read All About It! President Andrew Jackson on Trial for Genocide! Was Andrew Jackson responsible for the deaths of thousands of American Indians on the "Trail of Tears?" How would you judge this case? On Thursday, the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade (after weeks of preparation) put Andrew Jackson on trial for the acts which he committed against the American Indians prior to and during his presidency. Classes 8E and 8H enacted their own separate trials with students split into teams of defense and prosecution. The students in 8J acted as jury for both trials. Students were assigned the roles of attorney, research attorney, witness, journalist and bailiff. Parents, Eli Moore and Barry Schwartz, acted as our esteemed judges. The efforts at research and presentation provided a truly professional final performance!

Throughout, students took their positions seriously, worked amazingly well within their teams and reached an impressive level of comprehension of the subject and a keen sensitivity to both the defendant and the plaintiffs. This exercise in "hands-on" history helped to develop critical thinking skills, teamwork, presentation skills, listening skills, and exposure to various print media styles. Way to go Grade 8!  
Submitted by: Mrs. Marsha Sternstein

## Clips From The Classroom

**Grade 3:** B"H We have completed Parshat Vayaira and we are now half way through Parshat Chayai Sara. The class is looking forward to our major siyum which we will have in honor of the completion of these Parshiot. At the same time, we are extremely thrilled that we have completed the entire Rashi Book and we are now able to read and locate the Rashis in Chumash. The excitement in the air is palpable, as we prepare for our third grade Purim performance. We are looking forward to greeting you on March 18<sup>th</sup>. I am really proud of the children who continue to review Parsha and bring in those "Parsha Notes". Let's not forget their "Mitzvah Notes" - a note from a parent is true encouragement. Have a Great Shabbos!  
Submitted by: Rebbe Dovid Leiman

**Grade 5:** Fifth grade students are busy reading books from our class library and then writing a book report in Hebrew! The students are also working on writing their own Megillah in simple Hebrew. Once they have completed this project, each student will present it to the class. We are all very busy preparing for the upcoming joyous holiday of Purim.  
Submitted by: Morah Ronit Korenblit

**Grade 8 :** In 8<sup>th</sup> grade English the students have been discussing the topic of morality in societies and the institutions that serve them. Each class worked together to define morality, which included principles such as



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fairness, equality, justice and kindness. We then looked at three novels, To Kill A Mockingbird; The Ear, the Eve and the Arm; and Petey, and examined the morality of the institutions found within these literary works. In Mockingbird, we examined the legal system in the South in the 1930's. In The Ear, we looked at the traditional and military governments in Africa, and in Petey we evaluated the psychiatric institutions of the United States in the 1950's. Students discussed how the missions of these institutions and the people who serve them worked toward or against positive societal goals in the novels. The students then synthesized our discussion into individual essays, in which they developed their own thoughts on the morality of these institutions. This lesson serves as an introduction to our study of the novel Night by Elie Wiesel, and the immorality of the German government and society during the Shoah.

Submitted by: Mrs. Laurie Popiel

## Addressing the Spatial Learner by Francine Greenberg

According to learning specialist, Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences, in order to ensure that the material a teacher is presenting is understood by all the students, it is important to present the material in a variety of ways. Since no two students learn the same way, at WDS, we offer our students classes addressing the strengths of kinesthetic learners (gym), linguistic learners (English and Hebrew language), logical learners (math and Gemara), rhythmic learners (music), interpersonal learners (social studies), naturalist learners (science), intrapersonal learning (electives, yearbook, tzedaka projects) and spatial learning (art). This past Monday, I observed the latter as students from the sixth grade, under the tutelage and supervision of art teacher Ms. Shoshana Golin, were in the process of creating three dimensional representational

sculptures. The students explored the process of sculpture beginning with two-dimensional images, followed by creating an armature, overlaying it with plaster, and completing it with a painted finish. The elements of visual arts explored were line, shape, color, size, space, texture, pattern and symmetry. It was wonderful to observe each student standing and working architecturally and creatively, unaware that their teacher, Ms. Golin, was helping them develop the cognitive and motor skills of visual analysis, pre-planning, translating a 2d image into a 3d form, and manipulating a multiple medium. According to Seth, "It's the greatest way to begin the week because we can talk to our friends as we create. Working with our hands wakes us up!" So the next time you need a cup of coffee, join Ms. Golin's art class instead.

## School Spirit - RUACH



**Hockey News:** In front of a large home crowd at WDS, The Wild met up with a strong ASHAR team in the first round of the playoffs this past Sunday and emerged victorious, 8-3. The turning point in this hard fought and physical game was when Jon Klaristenfeld knotted the score at 3 with less than a minute left to go in the second period. Captain Matthew Povman then followed with a goal on a blistering slap shot from beyond the redline with 10 seconds left in the period to provide The Wild with a lead they would not forfeit. Matthew Povman led the way with 4 goals as Josh Schub, Jon Klaristenfeld, Josh Marks and Sammy Smigel rounded out the scoring. After the game, a ceremony was held to mark The Wild's participation of the construction of an indoor playground in Sderot, Israel. We can be very proud of our boys!! **The Wild's next playoff game against Har Torah is scheduled for this Tuesday (March 11<sup>th</sup>) night in Queens. LET'S GO WILD !!!**

## Basketball News...



The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls defeated Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy 48-34 to remain undefeated and capture their first play-off win! The girls continue to demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship. It is a real pleasure to watch this team perform on the court! The date and time for the semi-final game will be announced shortly. We hope to see many fans supporting WDS at the game! Good Luck!

## Learning to Look

The last two weeks we continued our exploration of late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth century European art. We studied Landscape paintings and saw three artists who used very different painting styles to achieve their very different goals. Salisbury Cathedral from the Bishop's Grounds by John Constable is an example of Constable's love of recreating scenes from nature that reminded Constable of his very happy and tranquil childhood. The Grand Canal, Venice by J.M.W. Turner is an example of Turner's belief that landscape paintings are not photographic representations of reality, but a chance to recreate the effects of light and color on a canvas. Finally, we examined The Gulf of Marseilles seen from by Paul Cezanne. We discussed his radical ideas of representing nature by reducing it to geometric forms and creating depth by placement of warm colors in the foreground and cool colors in the background. The children then did their own art project to reinforce what they had just seen. Tearing up pieces of colored construction paper into rudimentary shapes, our students then made landscape collages, focusing on color, shape and foreground, middle ground and background. Submitted by: Dr. Laurie Lebowitz



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## Volunteers Needed!

On Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> during our gala Yom Ha'atzmaut Program, Ms. Shoshana Golin (WDS Art Teacher) will, once again, display our students' original art work. Last year's

Art Gallery was fabulous and this year's will be even better! **Ms. Golin needs volunteers beginning immediately to help with the mounting of the art work on Mondays from 9:00 - 12:00 and 3:00 - 4:00, also on Thursdays from 9:30 - 12:00.** If you would like to help, please email Ms. Golin at [sgolin@westchesterday.org](mailto:sgolin@westchesterday.org) or call ext. 325.

## 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".

## From The Nurse...

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. Thank you.

## PTA Corner...

...**MISHLOACH MANOT**: Our goal is 100% participation by our students. If you have not 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 info contact Ilana Schreiber (914) 636-2466.

...It's not too late to order **PURIM CARDS**. The cards cost \$3 each, 15 for \$40 or 30 for \$75. The cards will be available by the first week in March. For more info, please contact Dina Katz (914) 722-9095 or Ruth Zisholtz (914) 722-5920.

## Community News....

### Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dgreenwald@aipac.org)

### Sunday, March 30 from 4:00- 7:00 pm

The Young Israel of White Plains' Sisterhood is proud to announce its Spring Boutique, at 135 Old Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains. There will be over 20 fantastic vendors, food, drinks, raffles. For more information, please call 646-271-1117

### Wednesday, April 2 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.

### Tuesday, April 8 6:30-9:30 pm.

The Young Israel of Scarsdale Sisterhood presents its annual Pre Pesach Boutique. We worked hard to bring you new vendors! Come and check us out. Call Boutique Chair, Holly Halpern at (914) 632 8870 for more info.