



1 Tevet 5770 / Dec. 18, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Miketz Candle Lighting 4:11 pm

Dates to Remember:

After School Program -

Study Skills last day was December 15th

12/12-19: Chanukah

12/21 - 23: NO Scarsdale Buses

(parents must provide transportation)

12/24-1/01: Winter Break-No Sessions

1/4: Sessions Resume

1/11: **SAVE THE DATE:** PAPAS presents a film presentation and Q & A period with Dr. Benoff & Dr. Herman 8:00 PM at WDS

1/15: Kindergarten

Kabbalat Shabbat 9:15am

1/18: No Sessions: MLK Day

Staff Prof. Development Day

1/28: Gr. 1 Chag Hasiddur - 9:15 am

Rosh Chodesh/Tevet at WDS

On Friday morning, Rabbi Bienenfeld (Young Israel of Harrison) spoke to our Middle School students after Rosh Chodesh davening. His presentation was entertaining and his message very meaningful. He spoke about how the Greeks forbade the Jews from keeping Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh and Brit Milah. A practical lesson learned from this is that the children should be aware of our Jewish calendar. They should know the Hebrew dates of all the holidays and their Hebrew birthdates. Following the D'Var Torah the students enjoyed a delicious Rosh Chodesh breakfast.

Chanukah continues at WDS...

Under the leadership of the Student Council, all Middle School students participated in a Jeopardy / Trivia game for Chanukah. The Student Council members selected the topics and questions and all students in grades 6, 7 & 8 enjoyed the "friendly" competition. Several of the topics included were: History, Chanukah, Something You Want To Know About Your Teacher (!). We look forward to the Final Jeopardy in the near future. Thanks to Mr. "B" for bringing the Jeopardy PowerPoint program to us.

WDS Roving Reporter

Ezra Mannis - 8th grade student

WDS is a great place to be - especially during Chanukah! Between the beautiful morning davening and the fun student "jeopardy" games, organized by the Middle School Student Council, all added to the brightness of Chanukah. The most meaningful moment in my Chanukah, so far, was putting a smile on the faces of our special guests from Ohel on Thursday. We danced and celebrated together with a ton of *ruach*. It was a touching experience and put a smile on the WDS students', as well, feeling that we brought light to their Chanukah. Spirit Day was an awesome way to finish Chanukah! On Friday the halls were filled with students and faculty decked-out in their WDS spirit wear. Everyone is ready for their long awaited winter break. See you back at Tidings in January 2010. Enjoy!

Clips from the Classroom

KH: We have been preparing projects for Chanukah including a Yehuda HaMaccabee mask and shield (to help us retell the story), wooden Chanukiyot with hand rolled candles, sivivonim (dreydles), matanot (presents), and our amazing Chanukah Counting books. We shared our Counting books and our custom Chanukah games at our Chanukah Chagiga. In fact, we are still basking in the warm glow of spending relaxed, quality and fun time together with so many of you. Of course, Chanukah is not complete without food, and we prepared levivot (potato latkas), chocolate candy lollipops and chocolate-marshmallow candy dreydles too. We learned the brachot, mitzvot, songs and story. In addition to learning about Chanukah, we have been busy acquiring skills in order to read lots of words, write numbers, and upper and lower case letters and words in our journals, create complicated patterns and more. In conjunction with learning how to write numbers, we are also learning how to recite our personal telephone numbers, complete

with a personal song to help us remember. Then, we will write them and compile a telephone book for each of us to take home and use. Acting out Parshat HaShavua is lots of fun, too. We are eagerly anticipating our siyyum and the completion of our special Sefer Bereshit Books that includes a page/project for each week's parasha. Submitted by: Morah Jane Grauer and Morah Sue Moskovich

4th Grade General Studies:

The students have been very busy learning in reading, math, writing and science. We would like to share our current exciting project in social studies. We have begun our interactive unit on explorers. It is a simulation of encounters between Native Americans and European explorers. Our focus is on the N.Y. Indian tribes: Iroquois and the Algonquin and New York explorers. The students will immerse themselves in the study of the Native American culture and lifestyle and consider what impact the European explorers had on them. Submitted by: Mr. Andrew Slater

6th Grade Gemara:

The students recently put into practice all the mishnah times for tefillah (latest time for shema, shacharit, mincha...) that they have been learning about and quizzed on. Each student received a "luach"--- a calendar with all the relevant daily times. We also figured out **how** to compute them: how many hours between sunrise and sunset? Multiply by 5 (60 minutes in an hour divided by 12 hours in a day) for the number of minutes in a "Halachic" hour ("sha'ah zemanit"). It was great (and timely!) fun. Submitted by: Rabbi Lyle Kamlet



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School Happenings

An Array of Talent!



In celebration of the third and fifth days of Chanukah, our first through fourth graders filled the Castle shul with merriment and music. Monday's third and fourth grade Talent Show featured many musicians: Sam Feder (3H) and Gabrielle Sadinoff (4H) played Chanukah songs on the keyboard, while Jake Klaristenfeld (4H), Jonny Povman(4E), and Yaakov Leibowitz(4 E) entertained us on the guitar. Third graders Shai Wexler and Bennett Schwartz performed solo on the violin, and then charmed us with a harmonious duet. Another musical instrument, the voice, was beautifully exhibited as Simon Morgenstern (4E) sang his version of opera. To continue the cultural trend, Emma Lorber (3H) displayed a work of original art. Words were put to good use as Zachy Davis (3E) told very funny jokes, his brother, Jonny, (3H) read a poem that he had written called, "World of Chocolate", and Orli Einzig (3E) said the alphabet backwards three times! Students needed to watch carefully as Benjamin Klestzick (4H), Zach Danzer(4H) and William Besharim (4H) performed magic, as did Daniel Blitz (4E) and Avi Fried (4E).

Slight of hand was also shown by Jake Singer (4E) and Gabe Fisher (4E), Alex Blum (4H) and Zach Wildes (4H), who tricked us with cards. Our love of athletics came through in performances by Judah Oppenheimer (3E) who dribbled two basketballs, one in each hand, and switching hands. Ikey Zeitz (3H) made us all see the seriousness of Karate through his intense moves. Sarah Gabay (4H) treated us to gymnastics. While Sarah Reich (4E), Joelle Orzo (4E) and Yael Hartman (4E) jumped rope!



Not to be outdone by their older peers, our first and second graders charmed the audience with their display of talent! The program began with the surprise entrance of Noah Orlian (2E) on his unicycle! This fun act was followed by Mitch Wolf's (2E) judo exercises in which he threw his father over his shoulders and onto the ground! Second grade girls got into the act physically with a display of hula hooping by Micaela Hartman (2H), Eden Shmuel (2H), Amanda Kleiman (2H), and Sophie Rozenshtyn (2E), followed by jump roping by Cameron Herzfeld (2H), Lucy Levin (2E), Natalie Trump (2E), Gillian Fried (2E) and Ellie Kosowsky (2 H)! Mendy Aizikovitch (2H) impressed us as well with his karate routine! Ayden Morgenstern (1H) combined the physical act of performing yo-yo tricks with his more cultured side of singing a high note from opera (High C??).

We had an array of artists showing their original compositions: Yakira Schonbrun (1H) Ben Englander (2H) Jacob Rivkin (2H) Ephraim Weitzman (2H), Elisheva Zemel (1H), and Emily Feldman (2H) shared their masterpieces. Rebecca Gilder (1H) even did balloon sculpturing for us! "Note"- worthy were Aiden Harris (2H) and Jonny Reich (2E) on guitar, Simone Schnall (1E) on the recorder, accompanied by Orlee Sadinoff (1E) who sang, and Miranda Schnall (1H) on the keyboard, accompanied by Maya Jamil, who sang. Micki Kleinman (2E) sang to the music played by Liana Weinberger (2E) on the keyboard. Josh Sidelsky(1H) was still another keyboardist who also displayed his art. We enjoyed the music of Anaelle Guigui (2E) on the keyboard, as well. The sweet sounds from Talia Halaas' (1H) violin playing were also appreciated. Toby Olson (1E) brought back Rosh Hashana with his blowing of the Shofar! A spark of humor was added by Nathan Kirschenbaum (1E) and Ray Lukashok (1H) the comedians in the crowd! Ilan Finkelstein brought life to his puppets, while Ethan Nachmani (1H) shared his snow globe collection! Our program came to an end with a rendition of a Chanukah song sung by Zachary Gold (2H) and the reading of a Chanukah story about dreidels by Benjamin Romm (1H). The talent of **all** of our children at WDS is yet another miracle of Chanukah!





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Todah Rabah!

The administration, faculty and staff would like to thank the PTA for their generous Chanukah gift.

Mazel Tov to:

...Anna (WDS '94) & Benjamin Bernstein on the birth of a baby boy, big brother is Harry (Ganon Bet).

...Joseph & Ilana Englander on the birth of a baby boy, big brothers are Tzvi & Benjamin.

Chesed

Our 8th grade students sold doughnuts on Wed. & Thurs. A percentage of all proceeds made from the sale will be donated to Tomchei Shabbos by this class. Congratulations 8th Graders!



Basketball

Boys:

..The 6th grade team defeated Magen Dovid 39-18 to bring their record to 3-0. WDS has never defeated a team from M.D.Y. and this was a very exciting victory. The team was lead by co-captains Andrew Langer and Jake Mannis who each played a suffocating and aggressive defense, made some incredible passes, lead numerous fast breaks while contributing many baskets. Both Max Weisbrot and Ben Katz contributed with strong inside play helping with rebounding and adding intense pressure. Jonah Halper came into the game early to provide a needed spark, played tremendous defense at the point position while Corey Feldman added more pressure from the forward position, each causing many turnovers which lead to much of the teams offensive production. Daniel Alexander helped out down low and Avidan Rudansky made added contributions from the guard position. The boys played an exceptional game and continued to demonstrate a total team concept with outstanding sportsmanship. Congratulations!!!!

PTA News:

WDS SPIRIT WEAR is available for purchase - sweatshirts, shirts, etc. from child small to adult XLmagnets, knapsacks and much more. - be a part of the spirit wave! Contact Amy Kirschenbaum.

Community Events:

...**Bone Marrow Drive.** A bone marrow drive will be held at YINR this Sunday, Dec. 20th from 9:00am to 1:00 pm in support of our member Stephen Lubofsky. It is important that everyone who is qualified be tested to help to find a match for Stephen or one of thousands of others who are in need. Please also consider a donation to help cover the cost of each test. Donations can be made online at

https://www.giftoflife.org/gol/donor_circle/dchome/Stephen-Lubofsky/blog.aspx

...Amit of Westchester invites you to "A Night at the Castle" this Sunday December 20th at 6:30 at Reid Castle featuring Ted St James. For more information please contact Shirah Jacobs (shirahrdoc@yahoo.com or 917-623-7332) or www.amitchildren.org