



2 Cheshvan 5769 / October 31, 2008 Erev Shabbat Noach Candle Lighting: 5:34 p.m.

Upcoming Events



November

- Sun.: 11/2: Eastern Standard Time
Fall Back
- Mon: 11/3: PAPAS Meeting 7:30 PM at the home of Helene Walisever-Berkson
- Tues. & Wed: 11/4 & 11/5: **Book Fair Share the Fun & Adventure of Reading**
- Tues: 11/4: Election Day Meeting for 8th Gr. Parents
8:00-9:00 pm- in Castle Shul
- Wed: 11/5: 1:40pm Dismissal
Parent/Teacher Conferences Gr. 1-8*
2:30-5:00 5:45-8:45
- Sun: 11/9: **WDS OPEN HOUSE**
for Prospective Parents/10:00 am - 12:00
If you know of any family who has recently moved into the neighborhood and has young children, please call Baila Weiss on Ext. 134
- Mon.: 11/10 Parent Teacher Conferences
Grades 1-8 6:00-9:00
- Tues.: 11/11 **No Session / Veteran's Day:**
Staff Professional Day
- Sun: 11/23: BJE Exam for 8th graders
- Wed: 11/26: 1:40 **Dismissal**
(No Bus Service for students in the New Rochelle School District / Mile Square Transportation. **Parents must arrange for transportation to and from WDS.)**
- Thur. & Fri: 11/27 & 28: Thanksgiving Break

***P/T Conferences Gr. 1-8:**

Gr. 1 - 5: Pre-Schedule Appointment

CALL ext. 102 to schedule your appointment.

Procedure for Middle School: Conferences will take place in the gym. Kindly adhere to the 5- minute time period per teacher.

JOIN US AT THE WDS AUCTION
"NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM"
DECEMBER 6, 2008
PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS
AND DON'T FORGET TO HIRE YOUR
BABYSITTERS ASAP!
TO GET INVOLVED PLEASE CALL:
MICHELLE NACHMANI 646-765-3964

Edline...Just a reminder to all parents of students in grades 1-8, please activate your Edline account. If you need assistance, contact the school office (ext. 100).

Almost All Moved In!

The Wolfson Hall renovation is complete and the entire building is now ready for our children and faculty. On Friday Oct. 31st all Ganon students were happy to move into their beautiful new classrooms in Wolfson Hall. Very shortly, the entire 2nd grade will return to their bright new classroom also in Wolfson Hall. The 4th and 5th graders will move back to the Coach House and this year our 3rd grade will have a new "home" in the Coach House! Everyone back where they belong in bright new classrooms! What an amazing accomplishment!

Rosh Chodesh / Cheshvan

Over the years, it has been the school's *minhag* to invite one of the community *rebbeim* to our yeshiva to speak to our Middle School students regarding a pertinent topic on Rosh Chodesh. This morning, Rabbi Bienenfeld, the *Rav* of the Young Israel of Harrison, shared an important message regarding the holiness of the beginnings of the Jewish month. Rabbi Bienenfeld brought to life, through *Rashi's* first comment on the *Chumash* as well as Game 5 of the World Series, the importance of being cognizant of the Jewish calendar. He spoke of becoming familiar with important Hebrew dates and that every child should be sure they know their Hebrew birthday. We are a people who follow the waxing and waning of the moon. Just as the moon is a reflection of the sun, so too is it our duty as Jews to be a constant reflection of the light of *Torah*. It was an extremely meaningful assembly. Todah Rabah to Rabbi Bienenfeld.

...Following the assembly, our students celebrated Rosh Chodesh with a wonderful breakfast in our lunchroom. Thank you to Chris & Staff!

School Happenings:

Elections - WDS votes for Student Council President



Patriot Party: Akiva Marder, President
Jeremy Wilson, VP

American Party: Amy Robbins, President
Sammy Smigel - VP

On Friday, the candidates for Student Council President and VP delivered their speeches, to the Middle School students, explaining why they feel they are the best for the job citing their abilities. It was followed by a D'var Torah. It was very informative and the candidates did a great job! All students in grades 4-8 will have the opportunity to vote for Student Council on Tues. 11/4. The election will not be based on popular votes. Instead, each class (4-8) will represent a certain number of electoral votes, just as the US President is chosen. Results will be announced during Mincha on Tuesday. Good luck to all!

... On Monday, There will be two teams, each consisting of approximately five Middle School students debating the stances of both John McCain and Barack Obama on the topics of energy, education, foreign policy/aid to Israel, and health care. The debate should last about 40 minutes and standard debate rules will apply. The moderators for this debate will be Mrs. Greenberg and Mr. Bulgarelli.

... There will also be a school-wide election, on Tuesday, Nov. 4th, to find out if our school wants Barack Obama or John McCain as the next President. Look for results next week!

Mazel Tov To:

... David Wildes on becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
... Rebecca Klestzick on becoming a Bat Mitzvah.



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Clips from the Classroom

What's Going On In Ganon Hay?

This week was very busy. First our Chazan and Chazanit took out our Torahs so we could read the first parsha, Bereshit. We learned that in the beginning Hashem created the whole world in just 6 days and on the 7th day he rested. Then, we went out to see the beautiful world that Hashem created. We went to the beach and saw the beautiful blue sky and the warm sun. We watched the sparkling water and the sea birds. Then we collected some water and some sand. We caught air in a bag and poured it into a jar. Ask your child how we did that. The children love to find shells, big ones, little ones, white ones and dark ones. Everything Hashem created is beautiful. Kee Tov. We took a walk around the school grounds and collected all different kinds of leaves. Red ones, yellow ones, orange, brown and green ones too! We saw acorns, sweetgum seeds, maple seeds and pinecones. Everything was so beautiful. Kee Tov. We began learning the Hebrew names for the days of the week and made a "World" just like Hashem's. We talked about ways we can take care of the world that Hashem gave us and how to keep it beautiful. Kee Tov. As you know, we are moving back into Wolfson Hall on Friday. The children have been very helpful with packing up all of the toys and making sure we didn't forget anything. We are looking forward to celebrating our first Shabbat in our new room. We are sure that everything will be Kee Tov. Shabbat Shalom, Submitted by: Morah Lori & Morah Suri

... **Fourth Grade** is growing up with Yosef as we learn about his struggles with his brothers and his eventual sale. We will follow him to Egypt and experience his new life with him.

... **Fifth Grade** is already in Egypt after the generation of Yosef. They have learned how

Pharaoh has turned evil and life for the Jews has gotten very difficult. We await the arrival of Moshe on the scene with the help of Hashem to save the day.

Submitted by: Rabbi Rodney Weiss

8TH Grade: Our 8th grade is well on their way to finishing Parashat Kedoshim. We've had many lively discussions regarding the myriad of Mitzvot discussed in the Parsha - such as the principal rule of: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself" - is that possible? Can one love a stranger as much as they love themselves? How about: Don't take revenge or even bear a grudge - How does one control themselves and not harbor any ill feelings toward one who did them harm? We had many great answers to these questions from students as well as exploring some of the answers given by our great Mussar personalities. Soon we will be discussing Mitzvot that only apply in Eretz Yisrael or that only apply to a portion of Klal Yisrael. We can hardly wait for our Siyum when we finish the Parasha. Then it is on to Ki Tetze in Sefer Devarim.

Submitted by: Rabbi Rosenwasser

PTA NEWS...

... **Book Fair:** Please come join us this coming Tuesday & Wednesday for our PTA Book Fair. Anyone wishing to volunteer an hour or two - your children would love to see you there- please contact Suzanne Beretz @suzanneberetz@aol.com. There will be a special presentation for grades 1-5 on Wednesday morning by our own WDS alum Penny (Finkelstein) Harow. All are welcomed to attend.

... **School photos** were sent home with the students this week. If you have not received your pictures, contact Linda Zucker linda.zucker@gmail.com

... **PHOTO MAKE UP: Monday - Nov. 24** For all absentees and retakes. More information will follow shortly. Thank You.,

... **Felt Kippot:** The PTA will, once again, be selling the enormously popular WDS Felt Kippot. They are available in the following colors: royal, navy, black, red and white. \$5.00 each, or 5 for \$20.00. Look for them at the Book Fair and Parent/Teacher Conference Night.



Notes From The Nurse...

...Please remember to call ext, 500 if your child is going to be absent for illness or any other reason- this line is available 24/7! ...All students go outdoors daily for recess, kindly be sure your children are dressed appropriately for outdoor weather. Thanks.

Condolences To:

Mrs. Karen Daitchman, music teacher for our Ganon & Kindergarten students, on the passing of her father, Mr. Morris Segelstein