



24 Kislev 5770 / Dec. 11, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Vayeshev Candle Lighting 4:09 pm
Shabbat Chanukah

Dates to Remember:

- 12/11: Erev Chanukah
- 12/12-19: Chanukah
- 12/15: Afterschool Gruss and Study Skills in session
- 12/17 & 18: Rosh Chodesh / Tevet
- 12/21: NO Scarsdale Buses (parents must provide transportation)
- 12/24-1/01: Winter Break-No Sessions
- 1/4: Sessions Resume
- 1/11: SAVE THE DATE: PAPA's 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

After School Program - No Sessions

- 12/14: No Mishmar
- 12/15: No Peer Tutoring
- 12/16: No Torah Bowl
- 12/17: No BJE's

Parents of Students in Grades 1 - 8, Look for the 1st trimester Report Cards in the mail.

Mazel Tov to:

...Jonah Rudansky on becoming a Bar Mitzvah
... Jenna Goldschmidt on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Chesed:

Many thanks to all those who helped to make the WDS Chanukah Gift Drive so successful by donating a new gift to make Chanukah brighter for a foster child or adult with disabilities at OHEL Children's Home and Family Services/Bais/Ezra Lifetime Care Foundation.

8th Grade Parents!

Just-a-Reminder: Ads for the 2010 Yearbook must be submitted before **Friday Dec. 18th**. Thank you.

School Happenings



On Saturday evening, the fourth graders presented their Melave Malka production to the great pleasure of their families, friends and teachers. The children did a wonderful job singing, dancing & performing. What *nachas* it was for all to watch. We would like to thank all the fourth grade teachers: Rabbi Rodney Weiss, Mr. Andrew Slater, Morah Ronit Korenblit, Ms. Jill Friedman, Morah Miriam Arzt and Morah Ziva Dorf (art) - and a big thank you to Mr. Sandy Schmuely.



6th Grade Girls & Moms' Matan Bat Mitzvah Program: Wednesday night marked the second session in the 6th grade girl's Matan Bat mitzvah program.

Westchester 6th grade mothers and daughters studied this week about Miriam. We learned about her courage, leadership, and optimism, through Torah sources and mother-daughter skits. As Chanukah lights serve as hope amidst the darkness of galut (exile), so too was Miriam a beacon of light in difficult times, for the Jewish people. As one parent recounted, "to tell you how much we enjoyed the program, my daughter told me on the way home that she feels we learn and have fun at the same time which is such a good way of describing it!" The next class will be January 13th.

WDS Roving Reporter

Ezra Mannis - 8th grade student

The first trimester ended last week - WDS is still rollin' on. Report cards are in the mail. Hopefully the report cards will leave us with a Happy Chanukah! The WDS/PTA Spirit Wear (it is such a big hit) are still on sale and all kids are encouraged to wear WDS Spirit Wear next Friday, the 7th day of Chanukah. The "spirit" is enhanced on Friday afternoons with the Shabbat Shalom music piped into the hallways - it gives a great feel going into Shabbat. Middle School students finalized the WDS Chanukah Toy Drive for the needy - by overflowing the bin in the Shul with gifts which were picked up and given to Ohel. **Happy Chanukah!**

Clips from the Classroom

Physical Education: All classes have been going out doors since the weather for the past several weeks has been cooperating, and enjoying the beautiful grounds of WDS.. The boys in the middle grades have been playing both softball and two-handed touch football. The girls have been playing softball with some basketball. When inside the middle grade girls have been playing some basketball activities and recently some volleyball, while the boys



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have also played basketball and continue to play football. The students in the younger grades have been involved playing soccer games and various soccer activities. Also the younger students have been doing variety of exercises and some running to help build both strength and improve endurance. The younger students have been exposed to some games including steal the pin, jack pot, soccer, dodge, ball, find a base, partner running as well as various relays. Submitted by: Mr. Kaufman & Mrs. Lewis

Grade 2 Hebrew is fun! Everyday the children learn Chumash and enjoy reading and learning new stories about Avram and his life. The Smartboard is our "best friend" during class - we all use it to highlight the roots of the word so that the students will be able to understand the Chumash better. In our Hebrew Tal-Am program, our focus is, of course, on Chanukah! The students enjoy learning all the stories in Hebrew and love to sing all the Chanukah songs. The class even made a chart in order to compare the Jews and the Greek people. It was amazing to learn that such a few number of Jewish farmers won the long struggle against the many Greek soldiers - Submitted by: Morah Rossler

ELA Grades 6 & 7

As always, Room 308 is a busy place. ... In sixth grade, the students learned about themes, which are ideas permeating written works which readers might consider and learn from. We finished our intensive study of *The Watsons go to Birmingham - 1963*, identifying themes such as racism and prejudice, and the way in which violence that seems distant can suddenly, through no fault of our own, become personal. The students read either *Bud Not Buddy* or *Maniac Magee* as companion novels which share similar themes, and wrote essays discussing both books, in addition to taking a final test on

The Watsons. We continued our study of vocabulary, and because repetition and re-exposure aid in comprehension and recall, the students took a cumulative test of the first sixty words. Springing off of our study of *The Watsons*, we have begun a study of historical narrative writing and the mechanics of dialogue, and the students will be reading their next novel, Steinbeck's *The Red Pony*, shortly.

...In seventh grade, we finished our discussion of *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry*, and the companion novels *The Well, The Land*, or *Let the Circle be Unbroken*. The students learned about plot structure, and the way in which a single turning point can culminate in an inevitable conclusion. We considered theme and character development, and the students learned to distinguish between round characters who grow and develop, and flat characters who stay more-or-less the same. In addition to revising and typing their study guides, the students took a comprehension test and wrote essays considering both *Roll of Thunder* and their companion novels. The seventh graders also took a cumulative vocabulary test, and are beginning to work on Historical Episode writing, as well as doing revisions of their non-fiction research reports. They have begun reading Steinbeck's *The Pearl*, and will continue their study of grammar and punctuation, as well as doing more creative writing. Submitted by: Mrs. Piven-Kehrle

Todah Rabah!

On behalf of the staff and faculty we would like to thank the PTA for the wonderful Chanukah Bags. We would also like to acknowledge all those who assisted with the assembly and delivery of the Chanukah bags to the WDS student body and faculty, Sharon Pogostin, Jessica Klein, Sara Berger, Ariella Kleinhaus, Beverly & Emily Weisbrot Miranda, Simone and Raquel Schnall, Brooke

Shmuel, Adeena Rosen, Ariella Kleinhaus, Candice Fuhrman and Sara Berger.



Basketball

Girls: The 7th & 8th grade girls suffered their first loss to Moriah, 53-16. The girls, although disappointed, never gave up. They showed a very positive attitude throughout the game and continued to receive tremendous support from the bench and all their teammates. The girls showed outstanding sportsmanship and class..

Boys: The 7th & 8th boys team suffered their first loss to SAR 59-40. The team put up a strong resistance but was unable to withstand the strong physical presence and athletic ability of SAR.. Despite experiencing the loss, our boys gave their best effort, continued to play as hard as they could until the end, and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship. All players were encouraged and cheered by the WDS bench and the boys represented themselves and our school in a very positive way.

...The 6th grade boys team defeated Y.C.Q. 36-23 to capture their first win of the season. The boys were lead by co-captains Jake Mannis and Andrew Langer who each added to the scoring and helped to distribute the ball to all of their teammates. A strong inside presence was established by Daniel Alexander, Max Weisbrot and Ben Katz. Although being undersized when compared to Y.C.Q. they each gave an outstanding defensive effort. Avidan Rudansky, Jonah Halper and Corey Feldman played a suffocating team defense while also adding with key baskets. Other members of the team include Ezra Einzig, Matthew Rosenblatt, Sam Soff and



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Jonathan Wiener who each helped their team secure the win by showing, encouragement, enthusiasm, cheering and demonstrating a strong team effort. ...They captured their second win of the season by defeating Yeshivat Haar Torah 49-24. The team got off to an early lead with Andrew Langer and Jake Mannis taking control. Ben Katz put in an outstanding performance down low with both his rebounding and offensive production. It was so enjoyable to watch the starters get the ball to other teammates in order to increase their confidence for future games.



Hockey
In hockey news, the WDS Wild hosted NSHA for a Wednesday night game. After falling behind 3-0 early in the first period, the Wild settled down. The game remained competitive throughout with two goals by Captain Sammy Smigel and another by Jacob Ungar from a beautiful pass by Zach Green. The game also featured strong defensive performances by Josh Garfunkel, Elliot Beretz, Alex David and debut contributions by Daniel Mirsky in goal. After a Chanukah break from games the Wild returns to action for a visit to HAFTR on Monday, December 21st.

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! For more info, contact the PTA.

Community Events:

Young Israel of White Plains Chanukah Party
Sunday, December 13 from 2-4 PM
Fun for the whole family - crafts, snacks, and live music! Come and enjoy!

The Dreidel House- A Chanukah Wonderland for the entire family!

There will be crafts, an olive press show, candle making, a Chanukah dark room, giant Chanukah connect-four, dreidel mania, an archeological dig, and a gift shop!

Open Dec. 2 - Dec. 22

Mon.-Thurs. 12pm-6pm, Sun. 10:30am-6pm

1220 W Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck, NY

10538 Former location of Boater's World.

For more info please visit

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