



בס"ד

28 Tishri 5770 / Oct. 16, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Bereshet Candle Lighting 5:56 pm

Dates to Remember:

- 10/18-19 Rosh Chodesh/Cheshvan
- 10/25 WDS Open House
- 11/1 Daylight Saving Time Ends (Fall Back)
- 11/3* P/T Conferences Gr. 1-8 5:45 - 8:45 pm



No Bus Service for:

New Rochelle & Scarsdale

- 11/4: WHHS Open House
- 11/9: PAPAS meeting 7:30PM (flyer attached)
- 11/10 -11 WDS/PTA Book Fair
- 11/11: * **No Sessions** - Veterans' Day Book Fair

Parent/Teacher Conferences Gr. 1-8 2:00-5:00 & 5:45 - 8:45

11/23 School Photo Re-Take Day

No Bus Service for New Rochelle District

11/26 & 27: No Sessions - Thanksgiving

*Please Note: We are in the process of putting the P/T Conference schedule on-line for grades 1 - 5. Parents will be able to view teachers' conference schedules and reserve available time slots on-line. We will advise you when this is up and running. Thank you.

Clips from the Classroom

Ganon Bet

We started doing Parshat HaShavuah, beginning with - you guessed it - Bereishet! We rolled our classroom Torah all the way back to the beginning and learned what Hashem created on the first six days and that he rested on the seventh day (Shabbat). We closed our eyes to visualize a world of darkness. To understand that *shamayim* is water in the skies, we discussed how water falls from the sky in the form of rain. We utilized the wonderful natural surroundings we have on our school grounds to make concrete connections between the parsha and our lives. For example, in order to visualize the separation of the waters, we went to the beach to observe the horizon. The children also were able to observe where the water meets the shore to understand what it means when the Torah states that Hashem gathered the waters and created land. The children spent the week working on Breishet books, with each page involving the use of a different medium to represent the seven days of creation. We did a food tasting activity in which we used all 5 senses to examine a banana's properties. The children then had the opportunity to peel and slice (using a special cutter) a banana independently. We also went to the library for Story Time and Songs. What a fun and busy week - "ki tov"! Shabbat Shalom, Morah Angelica and Morah Judith

Grade 3 Hebrew

Third Grade started with a big bang. In Chumash we already completed Perek Chaf Gimel in Chayei Sarah. We are progressing in our knowledge of the Shorashim and we already had six tests, which the students excelled on. During Chol Hamoed Sukkot we had the opportunity to meet the Munkatcher Rebbe in his private Sukkah in Boro Park. He spoke to us and gave each child a half dollar in honor of Sukkot. We

really enjoyed the pizza at Mendel's and had a great time on the bumper cars and rides. Thank you to Mrs. Shlussel for coming along. For Parshat Breishit we made a very nice Briat HaOlam project. Please have your children bring back the project after Shabbat so that we can display them in the hallways. Submitted by: Rabbi Leiman

8th Grade ELA

8th grade English classes have just completed the magnificent novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. In this novel, we see the beauty of friendship between two men, and the harsh realities of taking care of someone who cannot fully function in society. The eighth grade has written three essays on this novel including a plot summary, a character description, and a comparison essay. We are now beginning our discussions about the major theme of the novel, mercy killings, and preparing to write an analytical essay on this work. Our unit will conclude with the reading of our comparison novel, *The Circuit*, by Francisco Jimenez and the short story "The Necklace" by Guy de Maupassant. Submitted by: Ms. Laurie Popiel

WDS Roving Reporter!

By Ezra Mannis (8th Grade)
This week was the first "full" week of school for the 2009-2010 school year. School is off to a running start with much accomplished during our "short" weeks! We also celebrated Columbus Day this week. Second graders put together a KWL Chart (K = Know, W= What to Know, L = Learn) on Christopher Columbus. This expanded their knowledge on the discovery of America. October came in with a chill - but all the students are enjoying the grounds during daily recess. Now, for the first time, we look out front and see the Ganon children playing on our new playground and riding their cycles around the circular driveway - looks like

**WESTCHESTER DAY SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS
EARLY CHILDHOOD - GRADE 8
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009
10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON**

Please join us if you have a child ready to enter Ganon, Kindergarten or Grade 1. If you know of any families who don't yet have children at WDS, please invite them to come on Sunday for a very informative program. If you would like to be a "Parent Ambassador" at the Open House, please contact Baila Weiss on Ext. 134 or bweiss@westchesterday.org



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fun!!! Children use the beautiful backyard grounds (near the L.I. Sound) to enjoy games, running, swings and just enjoying their recess break. 7th & 8th graders started electives on Thursday. This was the first of 8 exciting elective classes (of their choice). WDS kicks off another great year!

School Happenings

On Monday morning, volunteer fire fighter and WDS parent, David Kirschenbaum, (Julia & Nathan's dad) visited our Ganon and First Grade students for a lesson on "Fire Safety." He told the children what to do in case of a fire, how to stay safe, "good" and "bad" use of fire. He wore his fire fighter's uniform, boots and hat and explained the job of a fire fighter. The children were excited to see a real fireman and asked many questions. Thank you to Mr. Kirschenbaum!

Mazel Tov To...

... Mr. Gideon & Dr. Jana Romm (WDS alum) on the birth of a baby boy. Big brothers are Beni and Ilan, proud grandparents are Susan and Bob Chasan.

... Mr. Robin & Dr. Shiry Weisberg on the birth of a baby boy, big sister is Kayla in Ganon.

... Jeremy Orlian on becoming a Bar Mitzvah
... Rachel Aboodi on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

WDS Family Handbook & Directory

If you haven't picked up your copy of the new Directory, please stop by the school office to get one. Thank you.

LEARNING TO LOOK

This is the last chance to volunteer for Learning to Look. Classes for parents start Wednesday, October 28th. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact Laurie Lebowitz at lelebowitz@aol.com or call 65490181. No prior art or teaching experience necessary

Nurse's Corner: Reminder!

...Please call in all absences to ext. 500 (open 24/7!). This is for ALL absences - High School interviews, illness, medical, dental appt's. etc.



... Flu season is upon us! Don't forget to check with your doctor about getting your children and yourselves immunized against the flu.

PTA News:

SCHOOL PHOTO RETAKE DAY

Picture retakes will be Monday, Nov. 23rd. Any child may have their photo retaken due to an absence, missing individual photos or simply because you are not satisfied with your photos. Please return your photo package to the PTA box in the school office and send an email to nancyweinberger@msn.com for this or any other photo issues. Please keep your group photo as this will not be retaken. Thanks!