



26 Cheshvan 5770 / Nov. 13, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Chaye Sarah Candle Lighting 4:21pm

### **Dates to Remember:**

- 11/17-18: Rosh Chodesh Kislev  
11/17: **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Gruss After School Cancelled**  
Nov. 18: Matan Bat Mitzvah Program  
6<sup>th</sup> gr. girls & their mothers 6:30-8:30 pm  
11/24: Reenactment of the Landing of the Mayflower on our beach by Ganon & Kindergarten  
11/22: BJE Exam - Good Luck 8<sup>th</sup> Graders!  
11/23 School Photo Re-Take Day  
11/25: **DISMISSAL TIME IS 1:40PM. No Bus Service for New Rochelle School District, Grades K-6 ONLY! All other buses will be transporting.**  
11/26 & 27: **No Sessions** - Thanksgiving  
11/30: Sessions resume  
12/2: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Ganon & Kindergarten  
(Look for On-line registration instructions in the mail. On-line registration will open on Tuesday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 am Any questions, please call ext. 100.)  
12/3: 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Chesed Trip - Bronx Jewish Community Council (Food Packaging)  
12/4: End of First Trimester Gr. 1-8  
12/5: Grade 4: Melave Malka Production  
7:30 pm  
12/8 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Ganon & Kindergarten  
12/11: Erev Chanukah  
12/12-19: Chanukah

### **Mazel Tov to:**

...Mrs. Shelley Lippman & family on the birth of a granddaughter born in St. Louis, Mo.  
... Aliza & Steven Major on their son, Reuben, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

### **WDS Roving Reporter**

Ezra Mannis (8<sup>th</sup> grader)

I would like to begin by congratulating all the winners of the Student Council Elections, The Student Council held its first meeting and will begin instituting their new ideas shortly. This week also marked the annual WDS/PTA Book Fair. This Book

Fair was very successful as was the new WDS Spirit Wear collection. This is a very stylish new line of clothing! The Middle School mourned Krystallnacht on Monday by hearing a story, read by Middle School students, of a survivor. This was very meaningful. We also commemorated all the lives lost by joining a project that was collecting 1.5 million crayons in memory of the children lost and donating the crayons to children from low income educational and healthcare facilities. This week's Parsha begins with the death of Sarah and then goes on to talk about new and better stories. This can be compared to Krystallnacht, as we remember those lost but also look forward to happy things in the future.  
Shabbat Shalom!

### **Clips from the Classroom**

**Ganon Hay:** The children have been learning about many acts of chesed (kindness). We learned how Avraham and Sara invited weary travelers into their Ohel and how Rivkah gave water to all 10 of Eliezer's camels. Every Monday is the beginning of a new Mitzvah of the week. The children have come up with many acts of kindness to practice. Helping a friend clean up, pushing in chairs so no one trips, making a special card to make someone feel good and many more. We have so much to be thankful for and we hope to continue learning new ways to do good deeds for everyone. We read the story of the first Thanksgiving and learned that the Native Americans did many acts of kindness for the Pilgrims. They taught the Pilgrims how to plant, hunt and fish so that they would be able to survive in their new homeland, America.  
Shabbat Shalom!

Submitted by: Morah Lori & Morah Suri

**The Library** has been a busy place this month with many teachers gathering materials for upcoming research reports. The second grade is preparing for their first research report on the topic of sea life. Fourteen titles have been purchased to support this project. The third grade is beginning its first research report of the year with a study of explorers. Twenty one titles have been purchased on this topic. Earlier in the year, the seventh grade used current titles in the library to support its research on Jim Crow laws in preparation for their reading of the novel Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor. Finally, seventh and eighth graders are using biographies from the library to support their social studies research reports on pre - and post - Civil War Americans (respectively). In addition to all this research, over 700 books have been circulated for pleasure reading since school has begun in 39 classroom visits. Four Ganon classes have visited the library for story time and I have visited Ganon Tots and Mommy & Me. It is wonderful to see library materials being utilized in so many different ways!

Submitted by: Mrs. Laurie Popiel

**In Fourth Grade** we journeyed to the cities of Shchem and Dotan, as we followed Yosef on his mission to find his brothers. Unfortunately for him, his brothers had other plans for him. After their moral conscience stopped them from killing him they went from throwing him in a pit to selling him to the spice merchants. We will pick up our story with Yosef in Egypt. Also watch out for our upcoming Melave Malka. ...In the **Fifth Grade** we are following the travails of the Jews in Egypt as they went from being accepted with open arms to forced slavery. We also saw the beginning of the redemption as we learned about the birth of Moshe. It was an enlightening experience. Stay tuned as the saga



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continues. We have also delved into the world of Mishna where we were introduced to the concepts of the requirements of building a succah. We will spend much of the year analyzing these concepts and come to understand the full oral tradition on the holiday of Succot.

Submitted by: Rabbi Rodney Weiss

### **School Happenings:**

**Chesed** - This month's tzedakah collection will be donated to Bnei Rafael Chesed Organization, a kosher food pantry and distributor of food to poor people throughout the NY area. Please be generous. Tzedakah will be collected on Rosh Chodesh Kislev. Thank you.

### **Chesed:**

Hannah (gr. 6) and Sam (gr. 3) Backer did their share of chesed this week in honor of the soldiers and veterans of the USA. On Tues., Nov. 10, at pre-Veterans Day Celebration held in Times Square, they performed with other children, a song called "Stand Up, America". The song was written by composer Dave Rebels, with the assistance of their father, Mr. David Backer. Also performing was a marching band made up of one thousand children. The event was sponsored by the Veterans Administration in conjunction with the City of New York. On Veterans Day, there was a repeat performance held at the Armory in NYC before a crowd including soldiers, dignitaries and other musical artists. We are proud of Hannah and Sam, and we salute our veterans.

### **Hockey News:**

A Hockey Team e-mail account has been established through Edline. Please make sure you registered your account to receive all hockey communications.

### **PTA News:**

**SCHOOL PHOTO RETAKE DAY** will be Monday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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 [nancy\\_weinberger@msn.com](mailto:nancy_weinberger@msn.com) Please keep your group photo as this will not be retaken.

**WDS SPIRIT WEAR** is available for purchase - sweatshirts, shirts, etc. from child small to adult XL ....magnets, knapsacks and much more. - be a part of the spirit wave! For more info, contact the PTA.

**BOX TOPS** Please submit your clipped box tops into the pink box top box next to the school office. Clip 10¢ Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products. It's so easy to earn cash for our school!

### **Community Events:**

**The Virtual Parent: Jewish Parenting in the Modern World** - Join us on Tuesday night, Nov. 17th, at 8 pm at the Young Israel of New Rochelle, for a special community-wide event featuring Internet and Media expert Rabbi Shu Eliovson, as he explains the impact of today's media culture on our children, and teaches the best approaches to raising healthy children in a modern world. The program is being sponsored by YINR, YIS, the Westchester Jewish Conference and the New Rochelle Jewish Coalition.

... **Sun. Nov. 22: 2:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Emelin Theatre in Mam'k.** WDS parent, Mrs. Vered Reznik-Wexler (mother of Shai 3H) will be performing in an interactive family concert with storytelling and classical music, called "Animal Wisdom". It includes Aesop's fables and other animal stories. This event is sponsored by The Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council. Tickets are \$5.00 - for more info call: 698-0098.

...**JBL is back!** Jewish Basketball League! New & Improved! New coaches, updated approach! Season Begins Sunday Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Girls: K-6th grade; Boys: K-4th grade. For more info, or to register, please visit [www.jblhoops.org](http://www.jblhoops.org) or contact [jblhoops@yahoo.com](mailto:jblhoops@yahoo.com)