



בס"ד

12 Cheshvan 5770 / Oct. 30, 2009 Erev Shabbat Parshat Lech Lecha Candle Lighting 5:36pm

Dates to Remember:

11/1 Daylight Saving Time Ends (Fall Back)



11/3* Election Day - VOTE!
P/T Conferences Gr. 1-8: 5:45 - 8:45 pm

No Bus Service for:

➤ **New Rochelle & Scarsdale School District Buses Only**

(First Student buses will be transporting including: White Plains, Harrison and the New Rochelle private bus for 7th & 8th graders only)

No After School: Reminder:

There will be no After School Study Skills or Peer Tutoring on Tues. Nov. 3rd.

11/4: WHHS Open House 6:30pm

11/9: Krystallnacht Assembly
PAPAS meeting 7:30PM

RSVP: hwalisev@optonline.net

11/10 -11 WDS/PTA Book Fair

11/11: * **No Sessions** - Veterans' Day Parent/Teacher Conferences Gr. 1-8
2:00-5:00 & 5:45 - 8:45

11/18: Rosh Chodesh Kislev

11/23 School Photo Re-Take Day

11/25: **NOTE: CHANGE IN DISMISSAL DISMISSAL TIME WILL BE AT 1:40PM**
No Bus Service for New Rochelle District

11/26 & 27: **No Sessions** - Thanksgiving

Mazel Tov To...

- ...Adeena & David Rosen on the birth of a baby boy, big sister is Noa (Ganon Aleph)
- ...Lisa & Steven Solinga on the birth of a baby boy, big sister is Sarah (Ganon Gimel)
- ... Mr. & Mrs. Netaniel Munk on the birth of a baby boy. (Mr. Munk is our 8th grade Navi teacher)
- ... Sammy Smigel on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

WDS/PTA BOOK FAIR: Nov. 10-12

The Book Fair will be open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Tuesday and 2:00 - 10:00 pm on Wednesday. We will be open Wed. throughout Parent Teacher Conferences.

Gr. K-8 will visit the Book Fair on Tuesday (see schedule below). Main Street Books will provide English books as well as a selection of Judaic books. In addition, Sifrutake will provide us with new and interesting Hebrew Language books. **'Wish List' order forms and payment must be returned to the Book Fair no later than Thurs., Nov. 12th.**

Book Fair Schedule: Tues. Nov. 10th.

| | |
|---------|---------------|
| 1H & 3H | 9:30 - 9:50 |
| 4H & 7E | 9:55 - 10:15 |
| 5H | 10:20 - 10:40 |
| 6E & 7H | 11:00 - 11:20 |
| 2H | 11:10 - 11:30 |
| 6H & 8E | 11:40 - 12:00 |
| KH & KJ | 12:50 - 1:10 |
| 2E & 3E | 1:15 - 1:35 |
| 1E & 5E | 1:45 - 2:05 |
| 4E | 2:15 - 2:40 |
| 8H | 2:40 - 3:00 |

WDS Roving Reporter!

By Ezra Mannis (8th Grade)
Today I report to you as ballots are being counted for the Middle School Student Council primary elections. The candidates are anxiously awaiting the results! The elections will be held next Friday. The 2nd grade, while learning about Parshat Lech Lecha and Avraham's welcoming attitude, applied this message by welcoming the new student in their grade. Ganon also learned about this Parsha and did a virtual re-enactment in class of Avraham traveling around on his camel spreading his message. What a fun way to learn! Our Learning Center is working hard to teach our young students how to read and write fluently in both English and Hebrew. What a challenge! Lots of exciting new activities at WDS!

PAPAS News...

As PAPAS (Parents and Professionals Advocating for Students) enters its 3rd year at WDS, we wanted to re-introduce ourselves to new and returning WDS parents

and teachers. PAPAS was begun in 2007 as an initiative of the Education Committee.

PAPAS is dedicated to promoting a quality education that addresses the individual needs of every student. We do this via three avenues: Providing peer support to parents; Collaborating with WDS administration to provide a supportive environment to all types of learners; Fostering a partnership with the Mamaroneck school district and encouraging a team approach to advocating for our children.

PAPAS has established a network of over 40 members to offer guidance, and share information and resources for advocacy of our children's educational needs. We communicate regularly via e-mail and offer Fall, Winter, and Spring evening meetings. Our meetings provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to hear experts on relevant topics. In the past two years, speakers have presented on the following topics:

- *Families, Food and Body Image*, Dr. Elissa Zelman, Director of Cedar Associates
- *Teacher and Parent Strategies for the Disorganized Child*, Dr. Caren Feldman, Ph.D. and Helene Walisever, Ph.D.
- *Understanding psychological Evaluations*, Dr. Caren Feldman, President of Westchester Psychological Association, School Division
- *How Special Education Law and Section 504 Applies to Private School Students*, Carol Boccumini, Esq., Legal Director of Student Advocacy
- *Meet Dr. Anthony Minotti*, Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services, Mamaroneck School District
- *The Parent- Educator Team: How We Can Advocate for Our Children* - Westchester Day School Administrators



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We recently printed a *Resource Guide of Professionals and Service Providers* (you may request a copy from a PAPAS co-chair or Dr. Benoff, WDS School Psychologist) and published our first PAPAS Bulletin. The Bulletin is an informational newsletter addressing educational and parenting issues.

PAPAS has also facilitated professional development programming for our teachers, including a program on Classroom Strategies for Children with Tics, ADHD, Anxiety, and other Learning Differences. Several WDS parents have participated in Mamaroneck's Committee on Special Education (CSE) Parent Member training, which allows WDS parents to participate in and support other parents in the CSE process. Mamaroneck SEPTA's newsletter, *Special Edition*, recently featured an article on WDS, and WDS parents and teachers are encouraged to join SEPTA (Special Education PTA) and partake of their offerings as well. (Check out <http://mamkschoolspta.org/septa/> for more information).

You do not have to have a child receiving special education to benefit from membership in PAPAS. PAPAS is open to all parents, teachers, professionals, and anyone with an interest in the topic of learning differences. We provide support, information and share reference materials and resources to help promote a better understanding of individual learning needs.

We invite you to join us at our next meeting on Monday Nov 9th. To subscribe to our e-mail list so you can receive notices of our meetings and participate in our online support network, please e-mail a co-chair, Helene Walisever at hwalisev@optonline.net, or Caren Feldman at drcarenfeldman@msn.com. The co-chairs are parents of children at WDS. They are also psychologists with personal and professional experience with children who learn differently.

We're looking forward to exciting and informative programming in 2009-2010

Clips from the Classroom

Kitah Aleph is off to a fabulous start. It's only October and already children are answering and asking questions in Hebrew. Our most recent topic features Ma Yesh Bakitah (What is in the classroom)? The children have been learning to identify in Hebrew many objects in the classroom, both in the singular and plural form. Our virtual Tal Am classroom is an exciting adventure for the students. We finally were introduced to all the characters in the virtual classroom, who are helping to teach the children. The students are not only studying Hebrew in their Tal Am workbooks, they are also learning through the computer. When students have a free moment, it is not unusual to find them on the computer learning more Hebrew in the Ariot programs. Keep up the great learning. Submitted by: Morah Sabrina Gaffney

Middle School Social Studies:

We are off to a great start in Middle School Social Studies. The 6th graders have learned how the physical aspects of the earth create different climates around the world and how that affects people who live there. We also learned how to study cultures and the differences that have developed between them and even within them. If your children haven't talked to you about it already, I am sure they will get a kick out of telling you about dialect and asking you to take our quiz! 7th graders have switched gears from last year when we learned about the Eastern Hemisphere. This year we are focusing on American history and going way back to when the Native Americans first came to North and South America. Christopher Columbus will soon be knocking on our door. 8th grade has picked up where they left off from last year. We just finished our RAFT project where the students had to write as if they were a person working in a factory during the Industrial Revolution. We are also learning

about the quickly expanding borders of the 19th century United States, as the students learn the states and capitals.

Submitted by: Mr. Dan Bulgarelli (Mr. "B")

Art: We are having an exciting time in Art. We love our new classroom on the lower level of Wolfson Hall. The room is very comfortable with lots of room to work and everything we need to create great artwork. ...In the 1st Grade we learned how to make art from all sorts of materials. We used different textured items, including the walls and chairs, to make fun rubbings. We then made a drawing of a fall landscape using things around us, including leaves, and the reds, oranges, and yellows of the season. It's amazing how a leaf can be transformed into a tree with a little imagination. Now we are experimenting with different types of paints. We experimented with watercolors and learned how to paint wet on wet and wet on dry. When the paper is wet the colors 'bleed' and they mix with each other creating all sorts of new colors.

...In the 2nd Grade we are making funky fish. We learned how artists see shapes in the world around them and how to see the many shapes and parts that together make a fish. We then used different shapes and lines to draw our own patterned fish. There are almost as many different types of fish in our class as there are in nature. I even saw a few swim by wearing baseball hats and necklaces!

Submitted by: Ms. Shoshana Golin

School Happenings

Chessed: This month's tzedakah collection will be donated to the Bnei Rafael Chessed Organization, a kosher food pantry and distributor of food to the poor throughout the NY area. Tzedakah boxes in each classroom will be emptied on Rosh Chodesh Kislev for this cause. Thank you.



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...Look for an article written by WDS 7th grader Jenny Kleiman entitled "Acts to Kindness" in an upcoming issue of the *Westchester Jewish Life*. Jenny writes about our Middle School students' participation in the "Crayon Project", a tzedakah project which is striving to collect crayons for impoverished children in memory of the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust. Other deeds of kindness performed by several WDS Bnei and Bnot Mitzvah are also glowingly described by Jenny.

Remember the Children: One Crayon at a Time... 1.5 million children perished in the Holocaust. We are asking our Middle School students to donate new boxes of crayons to honor their memory. The project, initiated by a synagogue in Fairlawn, NJ, has set as its goal the collection of 1.5 million crayons. The crayons will be distributed to children from low income educational and healthcare facilities. By participating in this program, our students will be performing the mitzvah of giving to those in need while honoring the memory of those children who perished. **This special project will run from Mon. Oct. 26 - Mon. Nov. 9th - Krystallnacht.**

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. There will be no practice this Wednesday night.

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 nancy_weinberger@msn.com for this or any other photo issues. Please keep your group photo as this will not be retaken. Thanks!

BOX TOPS... Please submit your clipped box tops into the pink box top box next to the school office. You can clip 10¢ Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products such as Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Pillsbury®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Hefty®, and more! It's so easy to earn cash for our school! Thank you.

Community Events

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

...There will be a blood drive on Nov. 1st at the **Young Israel of Scarsdale**-For more information please contact Barbara Simon at 472-8335 or BarbaraRsimon@aol.com.

... **Young Israel of New Rochelle Women's League** presents: **On Jewish Love and Life: Something Old, Something New** A 2-Part Series for Women, given by Rebbetzin Peshi Neuberger, with an Introduction by Rebbetzin Abby Fink Nov. 4th and 11th - 8:15 PM at the YINR.