

Volume 9, Issue 1

Elul 5771

Aug. 31 – Sept. 28

MITZVAT HAHODESH:

Teshuvah - Repentance

נ'עזין HOD-SHEET

Our Monthly Newsletter
by Iris Bendahan

www.cbdshulschool.wikispaces.com

Visit us on Facebook!



Abraham and Miriam Gannes
Religious School

Todah Rabah – thank you to our former students Janine Adelberg (and all who gave input) for designing our new logo, and Alex (Drabovskiy Photography) for scanning and reprinting all the photos in memory lane!

IT'S THE CLIMB THAT COUNTS!

One of our important goals is to help kids live Jewishly by having doing mitzvot and behaving with middot (M&M) become a natural part of their life. Although now each class has an M&M chart to 613 which kids should aspire to climb, hopefully later in life they will do so w/o the stickers and rewards. You can help by supporting and promoting the climb – for it's the climb, not the final reward that counts. Here are some ways (See the Parent Handbook for more ways):

- ✓ Reading Jewish books from our library – fill out *Sifriya* Tloosh.
- ✓ Doing mitzvot such as bringing tzedakah, doing holiday/Shabbat observances at home – send in a Mitzvah note.

This month our M&M board features the of mitzvah of Teshuva – we remember our Teshuva RAP: Reflect on what we did wrong, Apologize to those we may have hurt, Prevent our behavior from happening again.

- ✓ Behaving with *middot* –e.g. kindness, generosity, humility & tolerance.
- ✓ Attending school regularly and on time!
- ✓ Coming prepared with kippah, pencils, and homework.
- ✓ Using Hebrew expressions as learned through our *Milot HaShavua* program.
- ✓ Attending Youth Services and Shabbat *Mishpaha*.
- ✓ Family attendance at *Mishpaha* programs.

PIZZA & PRIZES PARTY!

2nd-7th grade students who turn in their Black Hole Prevention summer review packets are invited to our PPP on 9/26 from 12:30-1. Also invited are Ganon – Alef and NEW students!

LIMUD MYUHAD!

Of course, all Jewish learning is *Limud Myuhad*, special learning, but if your student does have special learning needs, it's especially important to let our Learning Specialist – Irene Swedroe – know, so your student can get any special attention he/she needs to keep the *Limud Myuhad* special and not a struggle! “Myuhad” is the name of our Special Needs program. So, make sure your student info form is fully updated with learning needs AND allergy and medical info!

Commemorating 9/11

The SVJCC is hosting a Community Art Project to help commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Drop off a memento anytime during Sept. or come to their Patriot Day Reception from 1-4 on 9/11. Free.

BACK TO SCHOOL FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS on 9/1

All parents are requested to attend Back to School on the first day. Tentative schedule:
9:30 -11:00 am

Parents: sanctuary for minyan (until 10), activity/conversation with Iris & Rabbis.
Students in classrooms until break at 10:40.

11:00 am -12:00 pm

Parents: in student's classroom
Students: in sanctuary - icebreaker activity.

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

All: Student presentations, conclusion, food.

216 BN **Elul Bnei Mitzvah**

11 – Betty Cherkasskiy (9/10)

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DATES

Sept. 24/25 – Check out the *Visiting Scholars!*

October 30 – *Sense of Shabbat*

November 12 – Vav Bonding Shabbaton 10-6

November 13 – Conferences 1st-5th

Traditions Fair for students K-5th

December 11 - Hanukkah Mishpaha Program

December 18 – Annual Meeting

Israel Culture Tour

This summer Morah Barbara and I had the opportunity to attend a workshop in Atlanta hosted by Emory University's "Center for Israel Education". The workshop both attempted to convey the extraordinary need to teach our new generation about *Yisrael* and the importance of it's existence, as well as alternative teaching techniques. The program inspired us to refocus last year's Passport to Israel program on *Yisrael's* cultural diversity rather than on geography. Students will still visit the Culture Tour board in the hall monthly and get their passports stamped, Kita Vav's curriculum will revolve around these ideas. Below are the "enduring understandings" we hope the students will glean from the tour. You're encouraged to take a visit each month as well.

ELUL: *Yisrael* places a high value on education and makes college level opportunities available in all its cities and for all citizens.

TISHRE: *Yisrael* is a modern country which blends Jewish holidays and traditions with unique everyday life experiences.

HESHVAN: *Yisrael* is a country whose values have been shaped by both leaders of its biblical past and modern times.

KISLEV: Jews and Arabs live in close proximity in *Yisrael*. They can work together to and strive for peace, or live with friction.

TEVET: Religious traditions and rituals are woven into the fabric of the State of *Yisrael* and followed by both the secular and religious Jews.

SHVAT: The JNF/KKL was key in the formation of the State of Israel ; this organization continues to work to preserve Israel's environment.

ADAR: Half of *Yisrael's* population growth has been due to immigration – Aliyah - from other lands all around the world.

NISAN: The Crossing of the Sea was a defining moment for the Jewish people. The concept of "let my people go" was important even in the establishment of the modern state of Israel.

IYAR: *Yisrael* values its history from biblical through modern times and weaves many ways of remembering into Israeli life.

Pinat Ivrit פינת עברית Hebrew Corner

Teshuvah – Repentance. Root "Shuv" means to return.

Tzedakah – "charity". Root "tzedek" means justice.

M&M: Middot (virtues) & Mitzvot (commandments)

Milot HaShavua: Words (of) The-Week. **Ivrit:** Hebrew

Hodesh: Month **Yisrael:** Israel; means "struggles with God"

Limud: Learning **Myuhad:** Special

UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth Services

Shabbat Mishpaha (First Friday 6:30)

9/2, 11/4

Haverim (10:30 -11:30)

9/17, 10/15

Youth Congregation (10 – 11:30)

9/10, 9/17, 9/24

Events

Back to School – Parents and Students

9/11 9:30 – 12:30 (see front for details)

9/18 – Ganon Begins 11 – 12:30

Torah Trope Class for Kita Hey

9/25 9-9:30

Also new 6th-7th; interested parents.

9/25, 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 12/4, 12/11, 1/8, 1/9, 1/22

9/25 – Pizza & Prizes 12:30 – 1

High Holiday Youth Services

Groupings K-3 & 4-7 – Babysitting for <5

9/28 Erev RH 6:00 pm

9/29 RH1 10:00 am

- 7th graders will be given option to join the teen Storahelling! program from 10:30 -11:30 then return.
- 12:00 – 1:30 – Teen led activities (special Storahelling! activity for 3rd-7th)
- Tashlikh at 4 pm

9/30 RH2 Family Service 10:00 am

10/7 Kol Nidre 5:45 pm

10/8 YK1 10:00 am

- K-3 Services will be led by Rabbinical student Gail Swedroe; 4th-7th will be led by Barbara Biran.
- 4:45 pm – K-5th activities; kids will be brought into main service for concluding Shofar blow.

Sukkah Decorating Event

10/9 11-1 (no regular classes)

Up Coming Family Education Hours

9/18 – Zayin Family Ed. 11:30

10/2 – Zayin Parent Ed. 11:30

10/23 – Bet/Gimel Family Ed. 11:30

Upcoming Kadima Events

Kadima Youth Group is now for 5th-7th

9/7 – First Kadima Board meeting 6:15

9/11 - Kadima Elections & Pool Party 2-4

ELUL WOMAN OF VALOR

Each *hodesh* we present a poster of a "woman of valor" from a collection by the Jewish Woman's Archive on our M&M board. This *hodesh* we look at Gertrude Weil (December 11, 1879 - May 30, 1971) who was involved in a wide range of progressive/leftist and often controversial causes, including women's suffrage, labor reform and civil rights.