

CHS TIMES

CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY

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Abigail finds the letter tzadik in Morah Nechama's Alef Bet lesson.

Dear Parents,

From the moment the doors opened at Chabad Hebrew School for the school year of 2013-2014, students and teachers alike were certain that the year was off to a good start. The halls quickly filled with the beautiful sounds of learning, laughter, and new friendships being formed. The students quickly acclimated to their new classes, and by the end of the day we were hard-pressed to remember that we hadn't been in school for a few weeks. As the year started smack dab in middle of the High Holidays, the classes contained lessons on the holiest day of the Jewish Calendar, Yom Kippur, and continued with the laws and customs pertaining to the holiday of Sukkot.

Even with so much to cover, we still had plenty of time to start off our Hebrew Language and Reading program. The students were divided into their Aleph Champ Classes, and the review commenced for our old-time students, while some of our newcomers were introduced to the letter Aleph for the very first time. With the holidays finished, we started our Judaic curriculum which is specialized for each age group, and covers a wide range of topics such as, the Jewish Home, Lifecycles of Judaism, Jewish Heroes, Stories from Bereishit, and Torahpedia.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year together as we continue to provide your children with a stimulating, meaningful, and enriching Jewish education.

Sincerely,
Henni Denburg

DON'T FORGET...



Please send a Kosher Pareve snack with your child each week to be eaten during recess break.



All students should have a homework folder & pens/pencils.



Reviewing Alef Champ lessons are crucial to our Hebrew Reading program. Please encourage your children to complete their homework assignments.

A PEEK AT NEXT MONTH

October 6 ~ Hebrew School

October 13 ~ Hebrew School

October 20 ~ Hebrew School

October 27 ~ Hebrew School

Classes start at 9:30 am and conclude at 12:00 pm.
Please drop-off and pick up your children by their classroom at the appropriate times.

Morah Nechama's Class

We had a great start to our class this year in Hebrew School!

We learned all about the letters of the Aleph Bet and got right into the swing of things by learning one letter each week in class.

With the letter Aleph we shaped veggie chips into its form, sorted Aleph letters on to our Aleph paper, and played a fun Aleph game!

We also learned all about Yom Kippur, thanks to our friendly fish puppet that came to our class. The students had a great time reenacting the story of Jonah with the puppet.

The next week we learned about Sukkot and we built a mini Sukkah in our classroom. We banged with a toy hammer, stacked wooden blocks for the walls, and colored wax for the Schach (leafy Sukkah roof). This really brought to life the building of a Sukkah.

We learned the letter Bet through our Bet box. The children guessed what was inside the box by pronouncing the sound the Bet makes. "Bubbles, blocks, bracelets" were just a few of the items in the Bet box.

The next week we learned all about the Torah. As part of our curriculum this year, each week we will take a Torah portion and learn all about it. We also learned our new letter Gimmel and had fun finding things that started with the letter Gimmel in the classroom. "Glue, glitter, gold.." So many "G" sounds that we can work on for our letter Gimmel.

Hebrew School is going fantastic so far! Looking forward to a terrific year!

Morah Shana's Class

Hebrew School has so far been off to a great start!

We learned all about Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur during the first week of school. We saw how our mitzvot (good deeds) outweighed our aveirot (mistakes) on a real scale. We also learned about the many things we should do on Yom Kippur, such as pray in a synagogue and wear white, and the things we shouldn't do, such as wear leather and, for adults, eating and drinking. We learned the story of Jonah through pictures and exciting sound effects.

We learned about the holiday of Sukkot during our second lesson. We built our very own model Sukkah, learned how to shake the lulav and etrog, and even got to decorate our four species coloring sheet.

We can't wait to learn even more exciting things this year!



Morah Shainy's Class

These past few weeks have been full of exciting classes all about the High Holidays.

We started off with the holiday of Rosh Hashanah. We dipped an apple (straight from our Morah's backyard) into honey. We did this as a sign that we would like to have a sweet year.

We then learned about Yom Kippur and the concept of Teshuva, repentance, and about asking our friends for forgiveness if we ever hurt their feelings. We made slippers to wear to synagogue because we don't want to wear leather shoes on this holy fast day.

Then Sukkot came around the corner filled with exciting Mitzvot, like lulav and etrog, and eating in a Sukkah! The Sukkah walls remind us of the clouds that Hashem protected us with in the desert.

We are now heading straight into a year filled with learning all about the Torah and Mitzvot that shape our life as a Jew.

Looking forward to another awesome week!

Morah Chani's Class

Our Hebrew school class is off to an incredible start!

We learned about the very special holiday of Yom Kippur through exciting and interactive activities. We played Babble-On to review the laws of Yom Kippur. We learned all about Teshuva, repentance, returning to who we really are. We discovered which areas in our personal lives we need to work on for the coming year.

Next we got to work learning about Sukkot! We went around the room reading about Sukkot and then played a true and false review game. We discovered what each of the four species represents and got to shake a real lulav and etrog. We even made up an awesome chant to remember which direction to shake them in. Then we made beautiful plates with the special blessing for eating in the Sukkah.

Finally, with the Holidays behind us, we got started with our new curriculum, the Jewish Hall of Fame!

We discussed and shared ideas about being famous and being a hero, and through a game of clues discovered which Jewish heroes we would learn about first, Adam and Eve. We learned about their lifetime, with a special focus on what made them heroes and what we can learn from them.

We can't wait for next week to continue meeting our Jewish Heroes!





Morah Rochel's Class

Hi and welcome to our Hebrew School class!

We had a great start to the New Year in Chabad of Westchester Hebrew School. This month was a very busy time as we learned in depth the many different meanings and insights of the High Holidays.

The girls had a chance to listen to the different sounds of the shofar and discuss which sound it was, as well as what type of emotion it evoked. We ended up with a discussion of why we listen to the shofar in the month of Tishrei.

For Yom Kippur, we explored the story of the Prophet Jonah, and studied the practices and customs of this holy day of the year.

Sukkot brought lessons on the Arbah Minim (four species) and how they correspond to four different types of Jews. We also explored the symbolism for why we shake the species all bound together. Additionally we learned the details and requirements for building a Kosher Sukkah. We ended our lesson with a discussion on the idea of unity, expounding on its importance for the Jewish nation.

It has been a pleasure teaching your children so far and I am looking forward to a great year together!

Did You Know...?

Sukkot commemorates the years that the Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Land of Israel. Some lived in tents while others built huts out of leaves and branches. These huts were called sukkot.

During the festival, Jews build their own sukkah in the garden or at the synagogue. Jews eat their meals in the sukkah for the eight days of the festival.

There are rules to making the sukkah. Each sukkah must have at least three walls. The roof of the sukkah must be made of material referred to as s'chach, which means "covering." This 'covering' must be something that grew from the ground and was cut off, such as tree branches, corn stalks, bamboo reeds or sticks. S'chach (the roof covering) should be left loose enough so that the stars can be seen through.

