

Toras Emes E.C.E.

Parashas Toldos

November 20, 2009

5:13 P.M.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 26-
8:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Dismissal begins at 11:40 a.m.

Friday, November 27- NO SCHOOL

*Yeshiva Toras Chaim
Toras Emes Academy of Miami
Annual Dinner*

Sunday, January 10, 2010
Jungle Island

Guests of Honor
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Bloom

Kesser Shem Tov Award
Mr. & Mrs. David Goldis

Rabbinic Leadership Award
Rabbi & Mrs. Neal Turk

PROJECT CHAVERIM

This week, we practiced using whole sentences when we speak.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Toras Chaim/ Toras Emes is looking for someone to spearhead our Shalach Manos project. If you are able to help, please call 305-944-5344.

THANK YOU:

Mr. Zalmy and Miriam Cohen for donating educational equipment to the Kindergarten II class in honor of Devorah's sixth birthday.

Dr. Alex and Miriam Froimovich for donating educational equipment to the Kindergarten II class in honor of Chana's sixth birthday.

Dr. Mark and Suzy Pomper for donating educational equipment to the Kindergarten I class in honor of Yehuda's fifth birthday.

Mr. Mike and Ettie Schloss on their son Josh being honored as a Chassan Smicha at the Chofetz Chaim dinner in New York.

CHANUKAH PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Nursery I-
Thursday, December 10 - 9:45 a.m.

Nursery II-
Wednesday, December 9- 9:45 a.m.

Pre-KI-
Tuesday, December 8- 1:30 p.m. (Dismissal after program)

Pre-KII-
Tuesday, December 8- 9:45 a.m.

Kindergarten I-
Wednesday, December 9- 11:00 a.m.

Kindergarten II-
Thursday, December 10- 11:00 a.m.

NURSERY I & II- MOROT ETTIE & TAMI

The Chanukah spirit can be felt throughout our classrooms as we learn more about this wonderful chag. This week, we talked about the minhagim of Chanukah such as eating latkes, playing dreidle and lighting the chanukiah. The songs "Mama's Little Baby Loves Latkes" and "I'm A Little Latke Round And Flat" were taught to the children. We also learned several new Hebrew vocabulary words such as levivot, sevivon and nerot.

For Parashas Toldos, we learned about the birth of the twins Yaakov and Esav. The mitzvah of Kibud Av Va'eim was discussed. The children listened to the famous story of Dama ben Nesinah who was approached by a group of Rabbis to purchase a new stone for the "Choshen." Although they offered him a big bag of gold coins, he would not wake up his sleeping father to get the keys to the safe. Later, Hashem rewarded him for this mitzvah by having his cows give birth to the "para aduma."

We also listened to three additional stories which highlight the importance of honoring our fathers and mothers, Danny Three Times by Leibel Estrin, The Key Under The Pillow by Leah Shollar and Let's Learn Kibbud Av Va'aim by Bruriah D.

NURSERY I & II- MOROT NECHAMA & SUSAN

We had a wonderful week learning about fish, ducks, alligators, crocodiles, frogs, crabs and many other animals that live in the water. We created turtles and alligators out of paper plates, construction paper and pipe cleaners. What little artists we have become! The children also painted a beautiful mural of "Life in the Sea" and learned a new action song entitled Mr. Alligator.

Mr. Alligator

Mr. Alligator, Mr. Alligator
Don't you bite, don't you bite
(make alligator mouth with hands)
I can run away from you, I can run away from you
(run in place)
Out of sight, out of sight
(put hands over eyes)

The children loved listening to the stories Alligator Baby by Robert Munsch, Out Of The Ocean by Debra Frasier, The Fish Who Could Wish by John Bush and Korky Paul, A First Look At Fish by Millicent E. Selsam and Franklin's New Friend by Paulette Bourgeois and Brenda Clark.

During dramatic play time, the children pretended to be jumping frogs and jumped over a stream of water.

PRE-KI & II- MOROT ETTIE & HEIDI

In Parashas Toldos, we learned that Rivkah was expecting twins. When she wondered why she felt the babies kicking at different times, she was told that her children would be different; one would love Torah and the other would like to hunt. We spoke about how Yaakov and Esav looked very different when they were born. Esav was a rasha but we were happy to hear that he excelled in the mitzvah of Kibbud Av Va'eim. We discussed how special it is to be a "bechor" and how Esav sold his bechora to Yaakov. The children enjoyed making a two sided vest depicting the differences between Yaakov and Esav.

It feels like Chanukah is almost here, as many of the center areas have been transformed into Chanukah related themes. A hands-on Chanukah display is set up in the classroom where the children can examine candles, olives, olive oil, menorahs, dreidles etc. They are all excitedly beginning the long involved process of "creating" their own chanukiot.

We discussed the differences between the menorah in the Bais Hamikdash and the chanukiot we use today. As children form their chanukiot, they are learning the different halachos of what constitutes a kosher chanukiah. Through this enjoyable activity of creating the chanukiah, the children also learn sequencing, pattern making, math (numbers, addition, subtraction etc.) and aesthetic awareness. In the blocks area, the children created chanukiot out of blocks. They had to figure out how to construct the chanukiot in a safe, sturdy way. There were lots of experiments taking place as the children tried to balance their pieces of wood. Lots of chanukiot tumbled down until a sturdy base was found.

This week, we learned the letter "vav." The children enjoyed mixing paints together to make the color "varod." They enjoyed having a real "vered varod" (pink rose) in class to smell and touch.

Our midah of the week is Vatanut. We learned it is a mitzvah to be someone who is m'vater- a person who compromises or gives in, in order to keep things friendly and peaceful.

PRE-KI & II- MOROT BERNEY & JUDY

This was a very exciting week in Pre-K. We met Eli the elephant, brainstormed "Ee" words, and did science experiments. In art, we made exquisite elephants. While working on this project, we discovered that if you mix black and white together, you get grey- the perfect color for our elephants. We also added the letter "Ee" to our own individualized alphabet books which we will bring home at the end of the year.

In honor of the letter "Ee", we learned two poems.

Way Down South

Way down south where bananas grow
A grasshopper stepped on an elephant's toe
The elephant said with tears in his eyes
Pick on someone your own size.

One Elephant Went Out To Plsy

One elephant went out to play
On a spider's web one day
He had such enormous fun
He asked another elephant to come
Two elephants went out to play
On a spider's web one day
They had such enormous fun
They asked another elephant to come...

Among our favorite "Ee" books this week were The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper, Eggbert The Slightly Cracked Egg by Tom Ross and Eli And The Little White Lie by Goldie Golding. In our journals, we wrote about areas in which we are excellent, tried very hard to say "excuse me" and also "exercised."

In our unit on Colonial Times, we are learning American History. Over the next two weeks, we will try to reenact what life was like in Colonial Times. We will pretend to be the Pilgrims coming to America on the Mayflower. We will also pretend to "build our own houses", and even try sitting in a homemade tent (made by the children of course). We are planning on lots of fun experiences. All in all, we had an excellent week and we wish you an enjoyable Shabbos!

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BAYLA & RENA

With Chodesh Kislev almost here, can Chanukah be far behind? With much excitement, the yeladim in the kindergarten have started learning about the nissim of Chanukah. We heard how long ago the yeladim in Eretz Yisrael worshipped Hashem in the beautiful Bais Hamikdash. All this changed when Melech Antiochus became the ruler of Eretz Yisrael. We compared the menorah in the Bais Hamikdash to the chanukiah that we light now. We started learning songs for our Chanukah play and are looking forward to seeing you there.

The kamatz was introduced this week. We played games to reinforce our recognition of the sounds of the patach and kamatz. Please keep up with the homework assignments.

Parashas Toldos taught us about the great differences between the twin brothers Esav and Yaakov. Through Esav was a wicked person, we learned that he honored his father Yitzchak as if he were a king. The yeladim enjoyed reenacting the scene of Esav selling the bechora to his younger brother Yaakov. With Yaakov dressed in Esav's special coat which he took from King Nimrod, he was able to convince Yitzchak that he was Esav. Yitzchak subsequently gave Yaakov the special bracha of fruitful fields and rain and to be the master over others. Esav's bracha was that his strength was contingent upon whether Bnai Yisroel followed the Torah.

In Project Derech, we learned that it is a mitzvah not to contradict or correct a parent. (However, if it is important, you may ask in a questioning way so that you do not embarrass your parent.)

In Project Chaverim, we are working hard on using complete sentences when we speak.

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BERNEY & MIRIAM

Last week, we had such a super, spectacular "Ss" week, that we decided to continue our special activities. This week, we completed our "Ss" letterbooks. We started learning about plural nouns and read the words – dogs and dads. We even made a picture of a "Sad Dad" and are thrilled to know that we can read that phrase. The new book in our listening center was Stone Soup by Marilyn Sapienza. Our culminating activity for "Ss" week was a special spaghetti with sauce lunch. We topped that off with a spectacular dessert of ice cream sundaes. The children had a super time making their own ice cream sundaes with sprinkles, syrup and whipped cream. Thank you to all of the parents for going to the supermarket and sending in the necessary ingredients.

In math, we continued our lessons on simple sums and how we can join two small sets into one large set. We even illustrated this concept.

"Ss" is for science and we learned some interesting facts about snakes. We know that snakes are cold blooded animals, shed their skins and swallow their food whole.

In Social Studies, we continued our American History unit on the Pilgrims. We listened to the story of Squanto. The children were fascinated by how Squanto helped the pilgrims survive in the New World.

