

Toras Emes E.C.E.

Parashas Mishpatim

February 12, 2010

Parashas Shekalim

5:55 P.M.

PURIM CRAFT WORKSHOPS:

We hope to see all of you at the Purim Programs next week. The children are looking forward to preparing a craft project with you.

FLAMINGO GARDENS TRIP

A puppet show about plants, a tram ride and a planting activity made this trip an amazing experience for the children. Thank you to Mrs. Shanit Corcos, Mrs. Karen Feldman, Mrs. Merav Goldsmith, Mrs. Amy Salzman and Mrs. Nehama Tzur for accompanying the children on this wonderful trip.

REGISTRATION 2010-2011

Registration packets will be in the mail this week. In view of the fact that many classes remain at capacity enrollment, it is important to bear in mind the school policy that has been in place for several years:

Registration cannot be completed until all fees are paid and the give or get requirement for 2009-2010 is fulfilled. Space in the class can be assured only to those families who complete registration and are current with all tuition and fees for this current school year.

PURIM CARDS:

Purim cards are now available from the Parents' Association, through the school office. Suggested donation is \$2.00 per card (including envelope) or 10 cards for \$18.00.

INDIVIDUAL AND CLASS PICTURES-COMING SOON!

We appreciate your patience as we prepare the picture packages for you. We hope to bring you your child(ren)'s smiling face(s) very soon!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday, February 15- Presidents' Day.
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Tuesday, February 23- It's A Small World Puppet Show.
All Classes

Monday March 1- Shushan Purim Carnival.
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. We need sponsors for the performance of Brent The Magician. If you would like to be a sponsor, please send in a check for \$10.

NICHUM AVEILIM:

Rabbi Dovid Lehrfield on the loss of his brother, Mr. Jeremy Lehrfield. Rabbi Lehrfield will be sitting shiva at 1345 NE 171 Street, until Tuesday morning.

THANK YOU:

Mr. Mendy and Rachel Breier for donating educational equipment to the Nursery II class in honor of Zachy's fourth birthday.

FAMILY FUN DAY:

We are so happy to see the vast majority of families represented at TY Park this past Sunday. The delicious food was devoured down to the very last morsel and the rides and activities were enjoyed by all. An event of such great caliber doesn't happen by itself. A tremendous amount of effort and energy went into the day's preparations and programming. Our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation is extended to Mrs. Chanie Berkowitz, chairperson of Family Fun Day and Mrs. Natasha Len, the chief organizer. Thank you to all of the families who sponsored this wonderful event and to all of the volunteers who kept the day running smoothly.

NURSERY I & II- MOROT ETTIE & TAMI

I have a little gragger
Among my games and toys
And when I shake my gragger
It makes a lot of noise
Haman, Haman, Haman
Rash, Rash, Rash, Rash, Rash

As they yeladim in the Nursery prepare for the Yom Tov of Purim, they are becoming more and more eager for the arrival of this holiday. We continued learning about the story of Purim, working on our megillas and learning to distinguish between a Sefer Torah and a Megillah. Many new Purim songs were taught to the children. We also listened to several stories about Purim such as The Hamantashen That Ran Away by C. Helpem and A Very Special Gift by Shifra Gettinger.

Parashas Mishpatim includes many new mitzvos. We talked about the importance of always telling the truth and learned the basic kashruth laws for the separation of basar and chalav products. We listened to the story Eli And His Little White Lie by Goldie Golding. We hope that this story will help us remember to always tell the truth.

NURSERY I & II- MOROT NECHAMA & SUSAN

This week, we started a unit on Insects. The children finger painted insects, decorated ladybugs and created lacing cards of beetles. We read the books The Very Hungry Caterpillar and The Very Lonely Firefly both by Eric Carle, Quick As A Cricket by Audrey Wood and Effie by Beverly Allison.

The children collected bugs in the playground and looked at them under a magnifying glass. They loved looking at many different insect books and pictures from our library. They looked at ladybugs, fireflies, ants, butterflies, dragonflies, grasshoppers and bees. During dramatic play time, the children played with insect puppets. They learned the action song "I'm Bringing Home My Baby Bumblebee":

I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee
Won't my mommy be so proud of me
I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee
Oh-It stung me!

The children created a new bulletin board on the theme of insects. The children will be adding pictures of all the new insects and their habitats to the board.

PRE-KI & II- MOROT ETTIE & HEIDI

The letter Nun was added to our Aleph Bais book this week. Niyyar, nes, nachash and naalayim were some of the words that were learned. The children enjoyed reviewing all of the letters from Aleph to Nun. That are all so proud of how much they remember.

This week's Parsha is Parashas Mishpatim. The mitzvah of kashrus was discussed. We learned that we do not eat milk and meat products together. To help reinforce this concept, we went around the classroom asking the children if a particular food was basar or chalav. We learned about the kedusha of Shabbos and how we must rest on the seventh day. The concept of muktzah was introduced to the class. We made a special Shabbos switch plate cover to help us remember not to turn on the lights. We also talked about Parashas Shekalim.

Purim is in the air. We learned to distinguish between a Sefer Torah and a Megillah. The children sat entranced as the story of Purim unfolded. Our favorite stories were A Very Special Gift by Shifra Gettinger and Sammy Spider's First Purim by Sylvia A. Rouss.

New Hebrew vocabulary words were taught this week which include megillah, mishloach manos, masecha, melech, malka, raashanim, leitzan and oznei Haman.

PRE-KI & II- MOROT BERNEY & JUDY

This week, the Pre-K children completed their art portfolios. They were proud of their projects that reflected all their experiences during the "Famous Artists" Unit. Painting in the style of Jackson Pollock seemed to be the most popular activity of the art unit.

The children reviewed the letter Nn, and were introduced to the letter Oo. They came up with words such as, ostrich, octopus, owl, oven and oval.

The Pre-K children were thrilled to see the growth of their class plants. It was exciting to look through a magnifying glass to see the changes that occurred. They counted and sorted seeds, compared sizes of seeds and created patterns.

The children started a unit on presidents. They were interested to hear about the first president, President George Washington as well as President Abraham Lincoln. They learned about the role of the president and that the president and his family live in the White House in Washington D.C. The children also liked to hear about Air Force One - the special plane used by the president for travel.

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BAYLA & RENA

Even though our week was a short one, it was filled with many exciting activities.

Ladder Lamed was introduced this week. Being the tallest letter, it is easy to identify. We stressed the mitzvah of not speaking Loshon Hahrah and we are trying to be more careful when speaking to our friends.

The Purim atmosphere is felt throughout the classroom. Many delightful songs were taught and are being sung. Megillas Esther is being acted out in full detail and the children are caught up in the excitement of Chag Purim.

For Parashas Mishpatim, we discussed some dinim in the parsha. We learned about the division between basar and cholov in our homes and made beautiful trivets for basar and cholov. We learned about the concept of "Midvar Sheker Tirchak"- how telling a lie is wrong. We listened to this song from the "Marvelous Midos Machine" tape.

Because this Shabbos is Shabbos Mevarchim for Chodesh Adar, Parashas Shekalim is also read. We learned that when Moshe Rabbeinu wanted to count B'nei Yisroel, a machatzis hashekel was donated and that was how the nation was counted.

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BERNEY & MIRIAM

What a blockbuster of a week our kindergartners had. They were very busy planting seeds in our own Toras Emes garden. The children can hardly wait to see the fruits of their labor (or in this case- the vegetables).

Believe it or not, our 100th day of school is quickly approaching. The 100th day projects that you (the parents) have helped the children make are really great. They are hanging in prominent places in our hallways and room. We are looking forward to our big celebration on Tuesday, February 16.

"Bb" was our letter of the week and in its honor, we made blue binoculars, balanced books on our heads and played "Boggle" and "Bingo". Outside, in the playground, we practiced walking on the balance beam and playing basketball.

In Social Studies, we started a new unit on presidents with an emphasis on George Washington. The children learned about the early life of George Washington and how difficult it is to be the first (of anything) and to set precedents.