

Toras Emes E.C.E.

Parashas Yisro

February 5, 2010

5:50 P.M.

MAZEL TOV:

Dr. David and Nechama Bistriz on the birth of a grandson to Kasriel and Rochela.

Rabbi Nechemia and Shully Feigenbaum on the birth of a daughter.

Rabbi Yerucham and Aviva Goldenberg on the birth of a daughter.

THANK YOU:

Mr. Craig and Orly Kulman for donating educational equipment to the Pre-KII class in honor of Mishael's fifth birthday.

PROJECT CHAVERIM:

We spoke about not using hurtful words when we talk to our friends.

FAMILY FUN DAY

We are eagerly anticipating our annual Family Fun Day on Sunday, February 7 at TY Park in Hollywood. We need volunteers to assist before and during this event. If you are able to help, please call Mrs. Chanie Berkowitz at 305-651-4727.

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 7- Family Fun Day

February 9- Nursery Class trip to Flamingo Gardens. Children should wear their Toras Emes T-shirts and sneakers. Boys should wear caps. We need parent volunteers for this trip. If you are able to accompany the children, please call the school office.

February 12- Teacher Workday. No school

TORAHNASTICS:

The focus of the Torahnastics Program in Pre-K this week was Parashas Yisro. The children held tambourines and danced as they crossed the Yam Suf.

Playing with a parachute was also lots of fun. The children pretended that the parachute was Har Sinai. They raised and lowered the parachute as they sang "Torah Tziva Lanu Moshe."

NURSERY I & II- MOROT ETTIE & TAMI

The Nursery children returned with wonderful stories of how they spent their vacations. They were so happy to be back with their friends.

The children are fascinated by the story of Purim. They learned about Melech Achashverosh and how Vashti Hamalka refused to come to his party because she was covered with pimples. What a wonderful time they had acting out the roles of the various characters in the Purim story.

Several stories about Purim were read to the children. Our favorites were The Purim Parade by Jane Berman, A Purim Story by Linda Davis and Tova And Esty's Purim Surprise by Judith Belsky. We started working on our megillos and learned the songs "Chag Purim" and "When You Hear the Name of Haman."

When you hear the name Haman- stamp your feet

When you hear the name Vashti- say oy vei

When you hear the name Achashverosh-
put on a crown

When you hear the name Esther- clap your hands

When you hear the name Mordechai HaYehudi-
Shout hurray!

Our new Hebrew Vocabulary words for this week were megillah, melech, malka, keter and raashan.

For Parashas Yisro, we learned how the Jews prepared for Matan Torah, and how Hashem chose the humblest of all the mountains as the mountain upon which to give the Torah. We talked about how a Sefer Torah is written and listened to two stories, The Scribe Who Lived In A Tree by Michael Muchnick and The Place Where I Belong by Abie Rotenberg. For our parsha project, we made a picture of Har Sinai and all the beautiful flowers which surrounded it in honor of Matan Torah.

NURSERY I & II- MOROT NECHAMA & SUSAN

This week, the Safe Child Program was introduced into our classroom. We started with a unit entitled All About Strangers. We discussed the importance of not speaking to people that we do not know. We learned four important rules about strangers:

1. Stay an arm's distance away from anyone you don't know.
2. Don't talk to strangers.
3. Do not accept anything from a stranger.
4. Don't go with a stranger.

We learned the motto "If you don't know, don't go." We also listened to the stories Yoni Ploni, The Little Yeshiva Boy Never Talks To Strangers! by Yehoshua Danese, The Berenstain Bears Learn About Strangers by Stan and Jan Berenstain and Safety Town, Strangers by Dorothy Chad.

PRE-KI & II- MOROT ETTIE & HEIDI

Parashas Yisro taught us about so many mitzvos! We learned how excited Bnei Yisroel were to accept the Torah. We discussed how they prepared themselves for many days for this special gift from Hashem. We spoke about the mitzvah of Kibbud Av Va'am and how it is important to have proper Derech Eretz for our parents. We made special placemats to place on the dining room chairs so that we will be reminded not to sit in our parents' chairs.

Mem was our letter of the week. Some of the vocabulary words that we focused on were מלה, מגפיים, מורה, מזוזה, מלך, מלכה and מלכה. We practiced tracing and cutting the letter "mem" and made a mezuzah and magafayim for our aleph-bais books.

For a Purim craft project, we would like each child to bring in a shoe box and a water bottle with a sports cap. Thank you.

Have a wonderful Shabbos!

PRE-KI & II- MOROT BERNEY & JUDY

It was so nice to see everyone back at school this week. Sharing vacation experiences with each other was definitely a lot of fun. We welcomed the letter "Nn" to our class, and brainstormed words that start with that letter. We talked about our names, and learned that the proper way to write them is to make the first letter in capital letters and the others in lowercase letters. We can recognize our own names and can read most of our friends' names as well. We even played a Name Game. We looked at a name, and tried delivering it to the right person.

We turned numbers into funny objects, worked with our flannel board numbers and listened to lots of stories beginning with the letter "Nn". We also played Number Bingo and added the "Nn" page to our alphabet book.

Pre-K is still immersed in the world of art. We have explored the works of many famous artists and of course, we have tried to reproduce their styles. We can't wait to bring home our portfolios.

Our unit on plants is also emerging. We learned that plants come in different sizes, shapes and colors. They have different parts and each part has a job. We have been busy planting seeds and observing their development.

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BAYLA & RENA

Welcome back! The kindergarten children returned to school with lots of energy, ready to enjoy all the exciting activities happening in our kindergarten classrooms.

The letter kaf, chaf and chaf sofis were taught this week. We compared the kaf and chaf and learned how to differentiate between the two. We also compared the kaf and chaf to the bais and vais. The mitzvah of Kibud Av Va'am was stressed for these letters. We enjoyed creating a special game to play at home to reinforce this concept.

Purim songs, decorated classrooms and happy faces were some of the sights and sounds in Kindergarten this week as we started preparing for Purim.

We heard about Melech Achashverosh and how he wanted the Yehudim to come to his party. We learned why Mordechai HaYehudi did not want the Yehudim to attend this party and how the story of Haman Harashah and his plans to harm the Jews began to unfold.

For Parashas Yisro, we heard how Moshe Rabbeinu's father-in-law joined the Jewish nation and the wonderful idea that he had to help Moshe lead the people more effectively.

In Project Derech, we learned that it is a mitzvah to help serve parents and grandparents cheerfully.

KINDERGARTEN I & II-MOROT BERNEY & MIRIAM

Our kindergartners had an unbelievably exciting week. Our letterbook this week featured the last of our five vowels- "Uu". We were amazed at how we could change the vowel in a word, and come up with an entirely new word- cat, cot, cut- hit, hat, hot, hut etc. In our letterbooks, we read the story Tug and we are really getting better at reading. Please review the stories in the letterbooks at home during the weekend. We made umbrellas in our art center and listened to the story The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Anderson.

The kindergarten children are now keeping their own journals. The children are encouraged to write about anything they want. The teachers do not help with spelling. The idea is to encourage the children to write and think. As long as the children can read what they write, they feel successful and good about themselves. During the week, we asked each child to complete the following sentence "I am unhappy when..." We were amazed at how varied the responses were.

We began a unit on Plants and Seeds this week. We learned that plants comprise flowers, trees and grasses. We also learned what some of the differences are between plants and animals and some of the many uses and benefits that we derive from plants. We discussed what a plant needs in order to grow and learned that roots carry water to the stems and leaves. During the week, we placed lima beans in a baggie lined with wet paper towels. Through this method, we are going to watch as the beans absorb the water and crack open. Hopefully, we will watch the roots and plants emerge. (Stay tuned!)

The highlight of our week was the planting of our very own Toras Emes garden. In the coming weeks, our children will watch the plants grow and learn a little about gardening. (It is very exciting for the children to see something they planted emerge from the ground as a plant.)