

Our best wishes for a
Shana Tova U'Metukah—
a year full of blessing,
nachas from our
children, good health,
happiness and shalom.

שנה טובה



Toras Emes E.C.E.

Parashas Nitzavim

September 14, 2012

7:07 P.M.

SHOFAR FACTORY:

A fascinating program on how shofars are made was presented to the preschool children by Rabbi Yosef Gansburg. The **children actually saw how a ram's horn** is cleaned, sanded and polished. They were shown a variety of shofars and even had a chance to practice blowing a shofar.



Music Program

Under the direction of Mrs. Zelda Zemel, our music teacher, the children are learning many new songs for Rosh Hashana.

THE VOICE OF THE SHOFAR

Thank you to Rabbi Baumann for blowing shofar for all the preschool children.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
TZOM GEDALYA
CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.

CARPOOL TIDBITS

- ◇ Pre-school children must be escorted to their classes by a sibling, a parent or a teacher. Children are not permitted to walk unaccompanied along the carpool walkway.
- ◇ Please be advised that on Monday through Thursday school ends at 2:45 p.m. and outdoor carpool procedures conclude at 3:10 p.m. On Fridays, dismissal is at 1:45 p.m. and carpool ends at 2:10 p.m. After 3:15 p.m. on Monday-Thursday and 2:10 p.m. on Friday, all staff who supervise outdoor carpool return to the school building. We ask that you please make every effort to pick up your children before those times.
- ◇ The carpool lane is only for moving vehicles. Please do not stop in the carpool area and leave your car unattended after 2:30 p.m.
- ◇ If there are any carpool changes (i.e. If your child is being picked up by you rather than going with the planned carpool or if a **child is going to a friend's house with a different carpool**) please call the school office as well as the carpool driver to inform them of the change. Try to make these arrangements as early as possible to avoid last minute confusion.
- ◇ If you wish to pick up your children before the regular dismissal time, please go to the school office for a release form.

NURSERY – MORAH TAMI

The yeladim in Nursery have adjusted beautifully to school. They are making new friends and are having fun exploring the classroom and outdoor play areas.

We started our unit on Rosh Hashana with a “big blast”- the blast of the shofar. What fun we had trying to make the special sounds of the shofar-Tekiah, Shevarim, and Teruah. We learned that it is very important during Chodesh Elul to do as many mitzvos as possible. Our Nursery children are trying very hard to daven with kavanah, give tzedakah, share their toys with their new friends and say the brachos before they eat.

The yeladim also learned about the many minhagim associated with Rosh Hashana such as **blowing the shofar, eating tapuchim b'dvash, round challos, and the head of a fish.** We sang many songs about Rosh Hashana. Our favorite book was Shofy and Blowfy by Malkah Danziger. What fun we had baking honey cupcakes for Rosh Hashana.



NURSERY - MORAH SUSAN

Welcome to our new Nursery class. We had a very exciting week. The children are having a great time greeting each other in our afternoon meeting. They also enjoyed seeing a puppet show at this meeting.

To start off circle time, the children learned a new song:

Touch your head
Touch your shoulder
Pat your heart
Our group time is about to start!

We started a unit on feelings. We discussed with the children various feelings that can be expressed such as happy, sad, angry or lonely. The children were shown many pictures expressing different feelings and **also had the opportunity to play with “feelings puppets.”**

During art center, we made faces out of clay to express our different feelings and also created easel paintings.

The children listened to the stories I Was So Mad by Mercer Mayer, Sometimes I Feel Like A Mouse by Jeanne Modessitt and Nobody Asked If I Wanted A Baby by Marth Alexander. The children also selected books from the class library on the topic of feelings.

During music time, we learned the fingerplay **“Happy Little Ball.”**

I have a little ball
(make hands like a ball)
It has a happy face
(draw a smile on face)
It rolls to me
(point to yourself)
It rolls to you
(point to your friend)
It rolls every place
(outstretch arms)

During circle time, the children enjoyed learning how bees make honey and pollinate apple trees.

PRE-KI, II & III- MOROT ETTIE & HEIDI

We started off the week getting comfortable in our new classrooms, making new friends and being reunited with our classmates from last year. We played the game "Hasheim Sheli" as we each had a turn to introduce ourselves. We discussed Chodesh Elul and are concentrating on doing mitzvos in preparation for Rosh Hashana. We learned the word "Teshuva" and how it pertains to all of us.

At the Shofar Factory program on Monday, we learned that a shofar comes from a ram's horn and we listened to the various sounds of the shofar. Our favorite two stories this week were Shofy and Blowfy by Malka Danziger and The Hardest Word by Jacqueline Jules.

Rosh Hashana is just a few days away. We have been learning about the many different minhagim that we do such as eating challah and apples dipped in honey, eating the head of a fish and a rimon. We tried counting how many seeds there were in the rimon. We have learned many songs and have made many projects for Yom Tov. Our favorite activity was baking honey cupcakes.

Additionally, we are focusing on a Hebrew Language unit that consists of phrases related to our families and the Yomim Tovim such as:

יש לי תפוח אדום
יש לי תפוח צהוב
יש לי תפוח ירוק

שלום מורה
שלום אמא
שלום אבא
שלום אח
שלום אחות

שנה טובה מורה
שנה טובה אמא
שנה טובה אבא
שנה טובה אח
שנה טובה אחות

PRE-KI, II & III-MOROT JUDY & NECHAMA

The Pre-K children are happily adjusting to their new routine. It was wonderful to welcome back friends from last year and to meet the new children.

The children are excited to develop new friendships. Our first two weeks were all about becoming familiar with the Pre-K routines and rules. The children learned how to be responsible for classroom materials, how to transition to and from activities, how to be independent in the classroom setting and when to seek the Morah's assistance.

Part of our routine this week also included practicing our listening skills. Our circle time activities introduced the children to the concepts of cooperation and patience as they listened to other children share information.

Our theme this week was Apples, Bees and Honey. The children counted and sorted different types of apples. We created a graph of our favorite kind of apples. The Pre-KI class preferred Granny Smith, Pre-KII Golden Delicious and Pre-KIII Red Delicious. The children were delighted to see the star in the center of the apples.

The world of bees was fascinating to all the children. Each child was given a chance to dramatize the life of the honey bee. Some bee facts that you may want to share with child are: the bee in charge is the Queen Bee. She communicates with the worker bees (the drones) by doing a "waggle dance." Their home is called a beehive and where they live in is called a colony. Their job is to make honey and wax.

Our favorite books this week were Bees by Gallimard Jeunesse, The Apple Pie Tree by Zoe Hall and The Bee Hunt by Stan and Jan Berenstain.

It was wonderful to meet so many parents at Back To School Night.

KINDERGARTEN I, II & III- MOROT BERNEY & HEIDI

Our Kindergarten classes reverberated with the happy sounds of excited children entering a brand new world! The children adjusted easily to their morot, new rules and new routines. We wrote down and reviewed the rules. We also discussed that we need rules in order to have a better, safer environment for learning.

This week, a big event for the children was the **introduction of the "letterbooks."** They are beautiful to look at and very colorful. We started with the letter **"Cc" (K sound).** We practiced writing uppercase and lowercase "Cc's" and found many words beginning with the letter "Cc." You can reinforce this at home by having your child find objects that begin with a "K" sound. We heard stories such as Caps For Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina, Curious George by Margaret and H.A. Rey and Corduroy by Don Freeman. We even **wrote book reports!** In honor of the letter "Cc" and Rosh Hashana, we baked yummy honey cupcakes.

In Social Studies, we started a unit entitled **"All About Me."** We talked about what makes each of us unique. We discussed out similarities and differences-how each of us is part of a family unit, and yet each family is different and unique. This concept was carried even further in Science where we talked about our bodies and how each of us have different eyes, noses etc., and yet we all have similarities. Each of us is unique!

We enjoyed seeing you at our Back To School Night and sharing our plans for the New Year. May Hashem bless us with a healthy, happy and successful year!



KINDERGARTEN I, II & III-MOROT BAYLA AND RENA

Bruchim Habaim L'Kitah Gan. The first two weeks went very well. We learned about the month of Elul and how we can grow closer to Hashem by doing mitzvos. We compared the shofar which we blow each day in Elul to an alarm clock waking us up to do Teshuva. Therefore, during the month of Elul we try to accumulate as many mitzvos as we can.

Songs, projects, stories and hands-on experiences all created an exciting atmosphere for the upcoming Yom Tov of Rosh Hashana. We have been reviewing the special foods that we eat on Rosh Hashana such as rosh shel dag, tapuach b'dvash, challahs b'dvash, gezer and rimon. We added an individual Yom Tov wish on our Rosh Hashana card. We also baked round challas lichvod hachag.

Rosh Hashana is the birthday of the world which Hashem created during the Sheshes Yimei Beraishis.

In our listening center, the children enjoyed the story of Shofy and Blowfy by Malkah Danziger.

For Parashas Nitzavim, we learned that Hashem promised Bnei Yisroel that Moshiach will come. We also discussed the pasuk **"Ki karov aylecha hadavar meod beficha u'belvavecha la'asoso"**. Hashem's Torah is very close to us. We should never think that it is too difficult to accomplish. If we want to, we can do it.

The Aleph-Bais was introduced last week. We have learned the letters Aleph, Bais and Vais. We learned many new words and are trying to be very careful to say amen after our brachos. The yeladim loved working in their aleph-bais workbooks.

Our best wishes for a ksiva v'chasima tova. May you have a year filled with good health and nachas from your entire family.



Honey Cupcakes

2 ½ cups flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 eggs

¾ cup honey
1 cup sugar
½ cup oil
1 cup strong coffee, cooled

Turn oven on to 325 degrees. Grease muffin pan. Place muffin cups in pan. Put the flour, baking powder, baking soda and cinnamon in a medium sized mixing bowl. Mix well with spoon, counting 35 to 40 strokes. This will keep the batter from having holes or lumps. Set aside. Beat eggs in a large bowl until foamy. Slowly add the honey, sugar and oil to the eggs while continuing to mix. Add half the coffee and half the flour mixture. Mix until smooth. Add the rest of the coffee and the flour mixture. Pour into the muffin pan. Bake 25 minutes or until a toothpick comes out dry when you poke it into the center of the cupcake.

