

THE  
WEEK  
IN  
WORDS



October 12, 2018

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ג' חשוון תשע"ט

פרשת נח

# CALENDAR NOTES

## FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2

Professional Development Day

No School

## TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13 & 20

Parent Teacher Conferences

(Look out for information soon!)



We enjoyed a visit from the petting zoo this week in conjunction with learning about Parshas Noach. The children thoroughly enjoyed petting, holding and brushing a variety of animals including rabbits, baby goats, sheep, a lama, a pony, ducks and a donkey. This experience gave us a deeper appreciation of just how noisy and crowded the teiva was and just how much work Noach had to do. A wonderful time was had by all.



## **NEW PLAYGROUND**

The excitement was palpable as the children finally got to enjoy the new state of the art playground! You could see just how thrilled they were from their smiling faces and cheery voices as they explored the equipment and the field for the first time. Thank you so much to the Gruss Foundation and CIJE for their generous contribution and to the many individuals who spent countless hours working on this project and helping it come to fruition.



# MAZEL TOV

Rabbi Moshe and Penina Bernstein on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Mordechai  
Mr. Shimmy and Shulamit Levine on the birth of a daughter

Rabbi Ephraim and Sara Palgon on the birth of a granddaughter to their children Meir and Shira Palgon

Rabbi Noach and Chana Peled on the engagement of their daughter Shira to Elan Teichman



A strong Jewish voter turnout in Florida's November 6 elections is crucial to safeguard state scholarship and security funding that support our school

Even if your candidate doesn't win, the Jewish community wins when our community votes. Elected officials really do pay attention to communities that vote; it's that simple.

Thank you for being a strong partner for affordable and safe schools.

Shabbat Shalom,

Dr. Allan Jacob

Daniel Adler

Steven Jacoby

Mimi Jankovits

## CARPOOL UPDATE



To maximize the efficiency of our new digitized dismissal system, please inform the office of any bus or carpool changes M-TH by 1:30 and Friday by 12:30. The system cannot process changes after that time. For an emergency situation please call the office, Thank You.

On a separate note, the security guards have expressed their concern about cell phone usage on the carpool line. To ensure everyone's safety, please refrain from using your phone in the carpool line.

## YAHADUS EXPERIENCE

In Parshas Noach, we learned that Noach had to build a huge teiva to accommodate his family and all the animals. To help the children really understand how big the teiva was, we unraveled a rope that was 300 feet long throughout the school. The children were amazed at how long the rope was and even more shocked to find out that it was only half the length of the teiva! It was truly eye opening for them.



*Principal*  
Rabbi Kalman Baumann

*Director*  
Mrs. Talia Levine

*Erev Shabbos Parashas Vayelech 5778*

*Erev Shabbos Parashas Noach 5779*

Dear Parents,

There is an intriguing interchange that is recorded in last week's *Sidra, Parashas Bereishis*, that took place as *Hashem* was about to chastise *Adam and Chava* for eating from the forbidden *Eitz HaDaas – Tree of Knowledge of Good and Bad*. The *Pasuk (3:9)* says: *And Hashem the L-rd called to (the) Adam, and He said to him "where are you?"* *Rashi* is troubled by the need for such a question, as *Hashem* obviously knows where *Adam* is. *Rashi* explains *Hashem* acted in this manner to take the edge off the confrontation, to not come upon *Adam* suddenly and throw him into a state of shock and confusion.

*Rav Tzadok HaKohein (Resisei Layla sec. 38)* pointed out that the *Yetzer Hara* uses the element of surprise as one of its most potent weapons. When something unexpected happens, the usual rational thinking that can protect a person from sin doesn't take place, and therefore it becomes more likely that lusts and desires can take hold. When a person is thrust suddenly into a situation, he doesn't think clearly or rationally, and is prone to significant errors in judgment. We've all experienced moments of shock and panic, when our thinking either freezes or we become somewhat flooded.

It is common decency to not intrude suddenly upon others. *Chazal* teach us to always knock before entering a room, similar to the *Kohein Gadol* having bells on the bottom of his garment so people would know he was approaching. If someone dozes off we gently rouse him, rather than forcefully shaking him awake. The childish game of hiding and then suddenly saying "BOO!" is frequently fun for only one participant.

If rational thinking doesn't function properly in a surprised adult, then the same is true many times over for children. The awareness of this human reaction can be used to our great advantage in educating and disciplining children. By not springing demands and changes on children suddenly, we allow their rational thinking to guide their decisions and reactions. If we know we want to serve supper at 6:00, it is not wise to wait until 5:59 to first demand that the children come to the dinner table, NOW. Rather, 15, 10, 5 and 2 minute warnings that supper time is approaching will acclimate the children's thinking to the need to finish their games, and proceed to the kitchen.

I was reminded of this basic rule in human and child psychology this week, when we were finally able to begin using the magnificent new ECE playground. The children were understandably super excited to get to run and play in this gorgeous new play space they have been watching for weeks and months – from behind the barriers. As with everything, there is an appropriate time and circumstance for the opportunity, but the children were basically unstoppable when they arrived at school Tuesday morning. Telling them not to play, would have degenerated into raised voices, and unhappy and barely compliant children. Instead, the children were told to go play and have a great time – for 5 minutes. They jumped and ran and frolicked and climbed and slid and then were given a 2 minute warning. When the time arrived and they were told time is up and they needed to proceed to their classrooms, there was no resentment, no fuss and a good deal of compliance.

This 'technique' works because it is working with the child, not against the child. It is respectful in that it recognizes and honors the child's need, it gives time for the child's rational mind to take hold, and it avoids resentment and resistance which allows the child to do the right thing. It requires some forethought and creative thinking, but it is a real gift to both parents and children. By knowing and having some time to process what is going to happen shortly, children feel more secure. That subsequently translates into happier, more cooperative and even compliant children, a peaceful home and calmer, more satisfied parents.

Best wishes for a wonderful Shabbos,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

# JUNIOR PRE-K PRESS

## MOROT NAOMI & RIVKY

This week we learned all about Parshas Noach. Hashem told Noach that he should build a Teivah so he could be safe from the Mabul. Noach brought his family on the Teivah along with many different animals. After discussing all the different animals that Noach brought onto the Teivah, we had a petting zoo come to the school. The children loved petting, feeding and interacting with all of the different animals.

We also introduced our Brachos Unit this week. The first Bracha we talked about was the Bracha of Hagafen. We discussed the whole process of how grape juice is made and had fun making our very own grape juice. The children picked the grapes off of the stems, and squeezed them in a bag until all the juice was out. After the grape juice was ready we got to say the Bracha Hagafen together and drink the juice. It was such a fun activity.



## MOROT LINDSAY & SUSAN

The children were so excited to begin their new unit this week All About ANIMALS! This week we focused on Tigers and Zebras. We enjoyed learning very interesting facts about Tigers. We learned that they are the largest cats on the planet, they live alone and they are carnivores. We learned what it means to be a carnivore. We learned that unlike the lions, zebras are herbivores and eat mostly grass. They are social animals who live in groups called herds, and of course they have black stripes. The children enjoyed making black stripes on their very own zebras with marble painting. They also had fun cutting up different animal printed paper and creating collages with the different animal prints. During circle time we sang "5 Little Tigers Jumping in the Tree" and pretended to be tigers roaming through the jungle. We also sang a fun song called, "Jungle Song" to the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. We can't wait to learn about more animals next week!



# PRE-K PAGES

## MOROT NECHAMA, MIRIAM & MORIEL

What an exciting week this has been. We began our Alef-Bais program! Each week, the children will learn the name of a new letter, the sound that it makes and some vocabulary words that are associated with the letter. Throughout the year, the children will be making an Alef-Bais book. This book will remain in school until the end of the year; however, each week your child will bring home a separate Alef-Bais booklet highlighting the letter that was learned that week. We encourage you to use these booklets to review with your child at home.

We also started our Middah Alef Bais train. This weeks middah was ,אמת we spoke about how important it is to always say the truth. We really enjoyed reading the book Eli and His Little White Lie by Goldie Golding.

Some new words we learned this week that begin with the letter alef include:

אבא  
אמא  
אמת  
אח  
אדום  
אירון  
איש  
אחות

The children were so excited to learn about the story of Noach. We heard about Noach who was a big tzaddik. All the people around him were doing bad things, so Hashem had to bring a mabul. They learned that Hashem told Noach to build the teivah with three floors. One floor for the people, one for the animals and one for the food and garbage. They also learned how important it is to do the mitzvah of feeding the animals first. We especially enjoyed a visit from the petting zoo and gained a new appreciation of all the animals that Noach had to take care of on the Teivah.

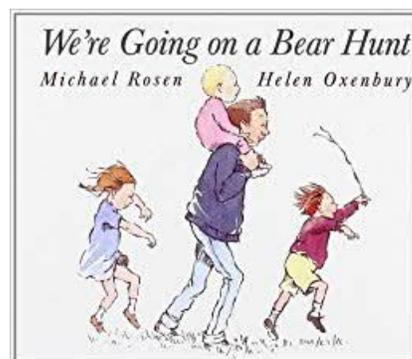
## MOROT ARIELLA, ELYSE & SARAH

We had a wonderful time this week in Pre K! This was our first full week of school coming back from the chagim. We reviewed the rules and routines of the class through the five characteristics star. The 5 characteristics we discuss are being responsible, careful, respectful, helpful and patient.

This week we also began our unit on habitat and the animals that live in each environment. We had our first show and tell related to our unit and each child got to bring in stuffed animals. We counted and sorted our animals into different categories. The children went on a "Bear Hunt" outside as modeled in the book We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury. We will be continuing our animal unit next week and delving more into their habitats.

In class we started learning about Mat Man. Mat Man teaches important readiness skills like body awareness, drawing, pre-writing and counting skills.

This week also marked the start of all of our specials including, "Second Step" with Morah Shiffy, Hebrew Language with Morah Tami and Yahadus with Morah Esther. It was such a fun filled exciting week!



# KINDERGARTEN CORNER

## MOROT BAYLA, DEVORAH, ESTHER, ESTY & RENA

This week was a really exciting first full week back at school. We jumped right into kria and introduced the letters gimmel and daled. The children had a great time decorating letters, making gemara wheels, matching the sound with pictures and practicing writing skills. We've also been doing a lot of reading in our kria books.

Thank you everyone for practicing the homework every night. Consistent review is so important to help maintain the children's fluency.

Tuesday brought a long special treat- our very first Rosh Chodesh program! We welcomed the new month of Cheshvan with yummy cupcakes topped with umbrellas to recognize the rainy month!

Parsha is a big focal point of our time in Kindergarten. Everyday we focused on another part of the Parsha- building our own teivas, decorating people to go on the teiva, sorting between kosher and non kosher animals, making animal cookies, and finished off with an amazing visit from the petting zoo! Seeing and touching the cute animals really made the parsha come to life!

Hebrew Language was another new activity on our schedule this week and the children were so happy to see Morah Tami. We practiced saying colors and greetings in hebrew with cards, motions and dancing. We can't wait to do it again next week!

Even with so much going on nothing could contain our excitement at the news that our brand new playground was finally ready! Swinging on the monkey bars, climbing all the uniquely shaped structures and pretend play on the boat and fire truck were just a few favorites during recess time.

With so much learning, creating, running and playing it's a good thing shabbos is here to rest for the week ahead. Enjoy the fun kria game and take the time to play it together over shabbos.



## MOROT HEIDI, PEARLY & SHAYNA

The first Superkid to be introduced to the Kindergarten is Cass! We learned that Cass starts with the letter Cc and she loves to cook with her cat Coconut! The children are learning Cass' song and practiced writing the upper and lowercase letter C. The children learned that the letter Cc has two sounds; a soft sound and a hard sound. Our focus is the hard sound of Cc such as the sound in the beginning of the words, computer, class and carrots. When Cass cooks in the kitchen she makes a huge concoction of food! The children learned that a concoction is a mixture of ingredients. The children came up with long lists of words that begin with the letter Cc. They also had a lot of practice getting more familiar with the Superkids writing paper. The paper has three different color lines for the children to use as a guide to help with handwriting. Strawberry is the top line, vanilla is the middle line and chocolate is the bottom line.

This week we introduced the concept of Sight Words. Sight words are commonly used words that sometimes follow phonetic rules and other times do not. Most sight words are memorized. We began with the sight words "I" and "a". The children decorated boxes that should be kept at home. Each week or two, new sight words will be sent home in a Ziplock bag. Please look out for these bags, so that your children can add them to their sight word box. Please review these words weekly, to keep them fresh in your child's mind and to build on each week's words.

If you have not already received it, all parents will be getting an email to the link for the Superkids portal. The parent portal contains resources explaining what is covered in each unit of the Superkids program. It also explains what the children will accomplish over the course of the year, and how you can support their learning at home.

This week we began Chapter 1 from the Go Math workbooks. We did a brief assessment and focused on recognizing numbers 1-4. The children practiced tracing the numbers, writing the numbers on their own and learned about the value each number has. Additionally, the children were introduced to a five frame and used manipulatives to show the quantity of an object.

Our Waterford computer program is now up and running! Next week, we plan on starting each child's individual assessment and then they will be set to begin working at their own pace throughout the school year. Each session is timed and the children get to practice math, science and pre-reading/reading skills.

We completed our "All About Me/Friendship" Unit and we hope you enjoy reading the "All About Us" books with your child. Stay tuned for more details about our next unit-Weather!

