



Shana Tova 5771!

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Editor's Note: All items in green type are Midot-related.

**Back
to
School
Issue**



Congratulations to Lana Rosenthal, winner of the Rosh Hashanah Card Design Competition (pictured below).



A Message from the Head of School, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine



Dear Parents,

With the conclusion of the Chagim, the school year begins anew. Although a mainstay of the rhythm of Jewish life, the Tishrei holidays prove to be a challenge when it comes to maintaining focus on school-related activities. The return of the five-day school week should help students regain the focus and intensity required for effective learning. An important component of effective learning, particularly in a Torah day school, is homework.

With the explosion of technology and the concomitant increase in information, greater demands are made of schools to adapt their teaching styles to accommodate the changing nature of knowledge. For instance, nationwide, the last decade has seen a decrease in instructional time of 31% in subject areas other than language and mathematics. This was necessitated by the need to accommodate the different approaches to teaching core subjects. Students now need to learn to access and process voluminous amounts of information and apply this information to solving the yet unknown challenges of the future. The higher order thinking skills involved in this teaching/learning process require more classroom time than did the more traditional curriculum of the past century.

Basic skills, however, cannot be ignored in this new paradigm. Students still need to learn to read and write, students still need to compute, and students still need to be able to translate a posuk from Chumash or Tanach. There is less time available to reinforce these skills in today's classrooms, hence the increasing importance of homework. Children must spend time at home honing basic skills and reviewing lessons taught. Time on task, defined as the period of time during which a student is actively engaged in a learning activity, is essential to acquire these basic skills. Some of this time on task, by necessity, must be spent at home. To be sure, homework should not become an onerous task. For children in the elementary grades, parents can help by providing support and guidance, by becoming homework coaches. This does not necessarily mean doing homework with your child. Before beginning homework, parents can help their children make a homework plan. The following questions should be asked and answered:

- What am I going to do first?
- What do I do next (and so on)?
- How long should it take me for each assignment?
- What is the total time needed?
- Why is this assignment important?

Finally, a cap should be placed on the amount of time spent on homework based on the suggested times found in the *Parent/Student Manual* (page 15). If your child has worked the suggested amount of time and has not finished, then simply write a note to the teacher indicating this.

We must remember that time plus energy equals learning. There is no substitute for time on task.

The Hillel Day School Emergency Hotline number is 866-544-5535. Please keep this number handy so that you can access school opening or closing information in the event of any emergency, weather or otherwise.

New Faculty & Staff



Rabbi Barak Bar-Chaim joins us as the 7th grade Judaics teacher. Specifically, he teaches Chumash and Navi while giving students textual skills and an appreciation of the depth and beauty of the Torah. Born in Johannesburg, South Africa, Rabbi Bar-Chaim and his wife, Aliza, have 3 children, Leora, Shira, and Aryeh, two of whom attend Hillel Day School. Rabbi Bar-Chaim is an avid tennis fan.



Rachel Keller teaches Hebrew to 5th through 8th grade students. She was born in Netanya, Israel, and has a son, Rony, daughter-in-law, Lisa, and grandchild, Aviv (2 1/2 yrs. old) who live in Scottsdale, AZ. Rachel has been in Jewish education for over 30 years. Highlights of those years include The March of the Living trips and her 8th grade Israel programs. She loves teaching and getting to know the students.



Batsheva Klein is a shadow teacher for a very special HDS student. Her priority is to teach and assist the student to learn in a mainstream classroom environment. Batsheva was born in New Jersey and has an 18-month-old daughter, Elizabeth. She has been in Florida for 6 years and lives in Hollywood. Batsheva is currently pursuing her Florida teachers license through Broward College. Other interests include spending time with family and friends. She is an avid runner and completed the Ft. Lauderdale half marathon last year.



Gwenn Lerman teaches Kindergarten at HDS as the new KC section lead teacher. She was born in York, PA, and has also lived in Amherst, MA. Gwenn is new to Boca Raton since she moved here a year ago with her husband Charles. She enjoys working with children, reading, and cooking.



Deena Lurie is our new 2nd grade Judaics Assistant. She has previously been a substitute teacher and Kids' Time Program instructor for HDS. A native Floridian, Deena has two children at HDS, Justin (5th grade) and Alex (2nd grade). Deena has a law degree and enjoys graphic arts, jewelry design, and creative projects.



Fay Nightingale has taken over for Joanne Goldberg as our supply purchaser for faculty and staff. Born in Philadelphia, Fay and her husband Larry have 4 children (Brian, Elliot, Selena, and Laura). Her son Brian and his wife Kym have one son, Sam, Fay's pride and joy. Fay also has a rescued dog (Buddy), cat (Izzy), and a rescued turtle (Mister T). She jokes that with chocolate on hand, all purchasing needs will be met. In her spare time Fay enjoys knitting, Sudoku, cooking, and eating.



Cheryl Rosen teaches math to 6th-8th graders and science to 2nd-4th graders. Due to her own early struggles with math as a middle schooler, she holds a special place in her heart for emerging math students while still enjoys challenging those more adept. Cheryl is new to Boca Raton. She has a son (Rabbi Avi who lives in Israel with his wife Malkie and their 4 children) and a daughter Tovah (an ER pediatrician who lives in Orlando with her husband Efraim and their son Ezra). Cheryl has previously taught in Brooklyn and Long Island for 25 years where she served as Math Coordinator, Talented & Gifted Program Director and Assistant Principal. She enjoys quilting and also tutors math in her spare time. She has degrees in education and psychology, and is a certified teacher of the gifted.



Francine Safdeye is an instructional technology specialist working with HDS, Donna Klein Jewish Academy, and Weinbaum Yeshiva High School, thanks to a grant from the Avi Chai Foundation. She works with faculty and administration to evaluate and integrate technology into the curriculum as well as increase skills. Born in Bogota, Columbia, and married to Adam Kolett, Francine has lived in Israel and enjoys hiking and the outdoors. She played volleyball in college and speaks three languages fluently (English, Hebrew and Spanish).



Silvi Schneider joins us as an ETGAR Judaics teacher. Born in Russia, Silvi moved to Israel when she was 7 months old. Silvi is also a speech therapist and has two children, Ariel (6th grader at Hillel) and Avi (HDS Alumna now attending Weinbaum Yeshiva).



Marjorie Tinio is teaching 5th-8th grade science. Born in San Marcelino, Philippines, and later moving to Japan and Guam, Marjorie grew up around the globe as her father was in the military. She attended FAU and married her high school sweetheart, Ryan, who is serving in the Navy. They have a Boston Terrier named Roscoe.

Look What Else is New at HDS...



Construction of the new Middle School building is well underway. Completion of the facility is expected in early 2011.



HDS now has its own school bus, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. We will surely make good use of it throughout the year! This magnificent new, 78-passenger, school bus will be used to provide transportation to and from school for our ever-growing Boynton Beach contingency. It will also help increase the number of out-of-classroom learning experiences for our students by reducing cost of transportation for field trips. It is a highly rated, state-of-the-art vehicle equipped with seat belts and air conditioning.



Joseph Stern is our new bus driver, and will be safely transporting children from Boynton Beach to HDS as well as for various field trips. Born in Israel in 1948, Joseph served as a paratrooper in the Israeli Army for three years. He then studied photography at the Technion in Tel Aviv and subsequently lived in New York, Curacao, and Canada. He has been in Florida since 1993. Joseph has hung out of helicopters in order to capture aerial photographs. Many of his interior architectural photographic works have been published in prestigious magazines. Joseph also enjoys scuba diving, and has a daughter, Nurielle, 26, who lives in Canada.

Meet the B'not Sherut



Yael Berkowitz was born in Alon, Israel. She has 4 sisters and 3 brothers. Last year she was a Bat Sherut in Jaffe. She loves singing, drawing, and gymnastics.

Shoham Malul was born in Dimona, Israel, and has 3 brothers. She worked last year as a Bat Sherut in SanSana (a small town south of Hebron). She loves animals and has swam with dolphins.

If anyone would like to host the girls for Shabbat or Yom Tov meals during the year, please contact Elisheva Levitt at 561-393-7607.



This year the Chagim descended upon us early, but here at Hillel, our students had ample time to learn the customs and Halachot in anticipation of the Chagim. The halls were resplendent with the aromas of honey cakes and apple treats prepared in the classrooms along with beautiful projects and classroom displays that the teachers worked earnestly to accomplish. One could feel the air and atmosphere of the Chagim as they approached.

During the month of Elul, the students all heard the sounding of the Shofar after Tefillah. On the first floor, Mr. Chayim Dimont, blew the shofar each morning for the children. On the second floor, the students heard inspiring words and lessons from Morah Hadassah, and then Rabbi Shai and Rabbi Drang took turns blowing the Shofar. (Ask your children to recount some of the stories they heard; ask them what "oldies but goodies" mean.)



We welcomed our new B'not Sherut, Yael Berkowitz and Shoham Malul to our Hillel family. The students gave them a very warm reception and the B'not Sherut performed a beautiful skit in honor of Rosh Hashana.

Each morning during the month of Elul, Morah Hadassah shares a story and the shofar is blown by either Rabbi Shai or Rabbi Drang.

Second grade listens during the morning story and shofar blowing.

We had our Oneg Shabbat and the students listened to Parsha questions and stories. We also recognized all the children who earned EMET bands! Yasher Koach for demonstrating Midot Tovot. We also enjoyed having Mr. Chaim Parchi, come and sing with the children after Sukkot for our weekly Oneg Shabbat.



By now, you should have read the second installation of the Midot in Motion. We hope you are enjoying the material and sharing the discussions with your children.

Wishing all of you and your families a G'mar Tov!

Our 3rd grade class opened the year with a bag full of mitzvot! We wish ourselves to be filled with mitzvot like the "rimon."

Morah Hadassah Smolarcik, Judaics Coordinator



Dear Friends,
I hope that the new year has been filled with only blessings for you and your families.

Baruch Hashem, it has been a wonderful year thus far in the Upper School. Our academic program is stronger than ever, the programming is exciting and innovative, and the students are truly enjoying their school experience. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the many enhancements to our already stellar program.

KAR²E: Our exciting, ever-evolving middot (character development) program, KAR²E (Kindness Always, Respect and Responsibility Everywhere), will have a major enhancement for this upcoming year. All Middle School students will spend 25 minutes each Wednesday participating in "KAR²E Circles." Small groups of students along with two of their teachers will have the opportunity to discuss a wide variety of KAR²E-related issues in a safe, non-judgmental atmosphere. Social inclusion, chesed/volunteerism, honesty, respecting parents, and peer pressure are only a few of the crucial topics that will be touched upon. Most importantly, these discussions will be largely driven by the students themselves.

Religious/Social Guidance: Each Middle School student will meet privately and on a regular basis with mechanech or mechanechet (teacher advisor). Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcik is the mechanech for the boys and Mrs. Rina Lanner is the mechanechet for the girls. Rabbi Smolarcik and Mrs. Lanner will have the opportunity to truly get to know your children well and help guide them through some of the challenges that face Middle School students.

The overall purpose of this program is to ensure that every student is having an enjoyable Middle School experience and is growing religiously, socially, and emotionally.

Science Enhancements: For the past two years, we have had the opportunity to bring 5th graders into the Science Lab on a weekly basis. Students have loved the experience, and the program is being further improved for this year. We will now be bringing the 4th graders as well to the Science Lab for this weekly, hands-on science experience!

Toshba (Talmud) Curriculum: We are now completing the second and final year of our ground-breaking, two year Toshba curriculum for 7th and 8th graders. Not only do our students learn Gemara in the traditional sense with a heavy emphasis on thinking and skills development, but they learn it within sections that are relevant to their daily lives, making Gemara study that much more engaging and interesting.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities: To complement our current array of out-of-the-classroom learning experiences such as sports teams and clinics, Art Institute, literature magazine, student council and math team, we will be adding various clubs/programs to encourage more students to get involved in areas they find interesting. Torah Lab, Israel Advocacy, Business Club, Kiruv (outreach) Club, and Chesed Club are only some of the programs that are currently in formation. The student body will be surveyed to assess student interest in other potential areas.

HillelTube! Approximately once every month, you will be emailed a link taking you

to a video highlighting the learning and excitement that is the hallmark of the HDS Middle School experience. Be on the lookout for photos and videos of your children!

Resources for Parents: Parenting an "upper school student" can be a complex and arduous task! To help you navigate through the challenges of Upper School and, in a healthy way, address with your child issues relating to peer pressure, homework, organization, discipline, reading for enjoyment, bullying etc., we will be e-mailing to you each month a two-sided sheet filled with short articles and stories that touch upon these and other topics.

Professional Development for Teachers: We are expanding our current professional development initiative known as "Critical Friends" to include a well known and highly effective component called "Peer Coaching." Both of these models encourage teachers to learn from the expertise of their colleagues on a regular basis and in the ideal, job-embedded environment.

Midot in Motion: To reinforce lessons learned in school, we will publish a bi-weekly newsletter that will focus on a variety of topics such as anger management, respecting parents, giving others the benefit of the doubt, empathy, and honesty.

Healthy Eating Habits: A professional health counselor will be teaching individual classes about healthy eating habits.

KidSafe Internet Safety Program: Students will experience a 4-week program that will empower them to research the Internet safely and

explore the world of technology properly and productively.

New Middle School Building: Last but certainly not least, we have plans to move into our new Middle School building at the midpoint of the year. The students and teachers are so excited to make use of the beautiful new classrooms, Beit Midrash, state-of-the-art science lab, student lounge area and so much more!

I look forward to sharing more exciting news about our Upper School in future editions of the *Hillel Herald*.

KAR²E Kolumn

By: Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcik,
KAR²E Coordinator

This month has seen a flurry of KAR²E activity in the Middle School.

The focus of our moral and ethical education program this month has been the kick-off of our weekly KAR²E Circles. The KAR²E Circles program is held every Wednesday with a period devoted to the discussion of moral dilemmas and ethical issues. The students have been divided by gender into small groups where they have an opportunity to discuss these issues with two teachers and their peers.

This month's KAR²E Circles covered the issues of inclusion, friendship, and honesty. The students were given appropriate triggers in the form of famous quotes and moral dilemmas, which solicited them to express themselves on the issues.

We look forward to continuing to imbue our students with the values necessary for them to grow not only educationally but as moral and ethical human beings as well.



Dear Parents,

What a wonderful first day of school! It has been wonderful to see all the smiling faces and renewed energy for an amazing newschool year.

As many of you may know, we spend considerable time throughout the year, particularly during the spring and summer, re-evaluating existing programs and thinking about how we can make our school better. Over the past couple of years we have instituted a new reading and math program. These programs have allowed our children to work at a variety of levels that meet their individualized educational needs. We have seen tremendous results from these programs, which have truly enhanced the emotional and educational requirements of our children.

Please take the time to read through the information provided below as it will give you a glimpse of the enhancements and improvements your children will experience in the year ahead.

EMET Bands (Excellent Midot Every Time) for students in EC3-5th grades:

In addition to our EMET notes, we are excited to announce EMET bands. Those children who go above and beyond and receive an EMET note, will now also receive an EMET band bracelet. The EMET band is another way that children can walk around school and be recognized for their commitment to Midot. I would like to thank Gwenn Lerman and Pam Gene for helping to make this program so successful.

KidSafe Internet Safety Program (Grades 1-3):

The students will take an 8-week educational journey to discover safe ways to do research and explore their world using technology. They will be meeting once a week with the KidSafe staff (October-November) to discuss how technology can be used as a positive tool to enhance our lives, as well as how to interpret the red flags that can pose potential dangers. Parents were invited to a parent workshop on September 12th, to hear about what the children are learning

and, additionally, received talking points to discuss with their children. We will also send out weekly updates letting parents know what was discussed during that week's lesson.

Science (EC4-3rd grade):

In addition to the science embedded in our regular curriculum, science instructors from "Hightouch Hightech," a company that specializes in providing hands-on science experiences for young children, will provide our students with exciting state-of-the-art science classes on a regular basis. Our children in 2nd and 3rd grades will be taught by Cheryl Rosen, one of our Middle School science teachers.

Judaics Kindergarten Curriculum:

We are excited to announce that we have finished a 2-year process that has greatly enhanced our Kindergarten Judaics curriculum. Thank you to both Talya Ovadia and Elisheva Levitt, who worked diligently to create and develop significant portions of our comprehensive curriculum, which include: Parsha, Chagim, Midot, letter recognition, reading, and much more.

Developmental Goals (EC2-K):

We hope you enjoyed reviewing our newly designed *Developmental Goals Informational Guide*. We worked hard to enhance its content and make it even more user friendly.

After School Programs:

Please make sure to check out all the new and exciting activities we have created this year for the Kids' Time Program. New programs include: rocketry, fitness, magic, Chinese, and much more.

Novels (Grades 1-3):

After a yearlong review and evaluation, we have restructured our required reading list and added several new novels to our curriculum. The Lower School students will engage in a critical thinking process that challenges them to think more about what they read.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words (EC2-K):

As you know, communication is extremely important to us. Teachers will share pictures with parents on a weekly basis so that parents can get a visual insight into all the fantastic activities and programs that children engage in over the course of the week.



Photo Credit: Ian Ibbetson

Last year's Kids' Time Program (KTP) performed "Annie, Jr." at the year-end performance. Congratulations to all of our student actors and actresses. For more information about this year's KTP, contact Chayim Dimont.



This year's KTP includes many new programs such as rocketry, fitness, magic, Chinese, and much more.



EC2 Shabbat Party



KidSafe Program

Spring Cleaning Turns out Big Profit at PTA's 2nd Annual Garage Sale



The PTA's *2nd Annual Garage Sale* raised nearly \$3,000 for HDS, thanks to a united effort by parents, students, administrators, teachers, and the broader community. The PTA expresses extreme gratitude to our co-coordinators, **Orlie Cohen** and **Andrea Zucker**,

and to all the volunteers who worked diligently before and during the summer, and at the sale, to make it an incredibly successful event. We also thank the many families who donated children and adult clothing, books, DVDs, electronics, housewares,



shoes, toys, and so many other items. Special thanks to **What-A-Pizza** for making delicious pizza, snacks, and drinks available to our shoppers. We would also like to express our appreciation to **Shlomi Lugassy** of **Express Moving**, who helped pack the items that remained after the sale. The majority of this merchandise was donated to **Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc. (AVDA)**, a Palm Beach County organization that has provided shelter and crisis counseling to victims of domestic abuse for over fifteen years.



to **Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc. (AVDA)**, a Palm Beach County organization that has provided shelter and crisis counseling to victims of domestic abuse for over fifteen years.

A Refreshing Summer-End Treat: Annual PTA Ice Cream Social



What better way to start off the new school year than to gather with family, friends, and teachers on a Sunday (or should we say sundae?). On August 22, parents and students gathered in the cafetorium for the annual *PTA Ice Cream Social*,

excited to reunite with friends, meet teachers and staff, and, most importantly, welcome new families to HDS. What a beautiful sight to see all the children enter with happy faces and warm smiles as they greeted their old friends and made new ones. The PTA thanks **Chuck** from our neighborhood **Carvel** store on Glades Road for generously donating the ice cream and toppings.



The PTA applauds **Lysee Stein** and **Rachel Yudewitz** for whipping up this exciting event, and thanks all the volunteers who helped make it possible: **Josh Bakst, Cara Beim, Gabi**

Englander, Shira Englander, Josh Fein, Ilan Gritzman, Yitzhak Kaminetsky, Tani Kay, Randy Reichenberg, Tzippi Rosen, Dovi Teitelbaum, and Uri Yudewitz.



Pre-Holiday Shopping Spree



On the evening of August 31, the Boca Raton Synagogue bustled with excitement as hundreds of shoppers took a break from holiday preparations to attend the *HDS PTA's Pre-Holiday Shopping Spree*. The semi-annual event, which the PTA hosts in conjunction

with **Torah Academy of Boca Raton (TABR)**, the **Boca Raton Synagogue Sisterhood**, and the **Boca Raton Mikvah**, raised over \$2,000 for HDS—bringing business to our community vendors and providing one-stop shopping for our patrons. Over 30 vendors participated, featuring clothing, hats, jewelry, Judaica, vitamins, toys, children's accessories, baked goods and so much more, often at discount prices.



The PTA commends **Orlie Cohen** and **Rachel Harow** for their outstanding work in coordinating and organizing the shopping spree and also thanks our parent volunteers: **Liora Adler, Cara Beim and Ranana Berger** (BRS Sisterhood), **Vanessa Brooks, Sharon Fein, Linda Gordon** (BRS), **Rachel Greenbaum, Chanoch Harow, Matthew Hocherman** (BRS), **Rivkah Lindenberg** (TABR), **Tanya Reinfeld, Tzippi Ringelheim** (TABR), and **Sabrina Romano.**

With Praise, Thanks, & Admiration...

The PTA thanks **Liora Adler** and **Lisa Houben** for organizing this year's *PTA New Mother's Brunch*. Over 30 women gathered at the Adler home on August 29 for a delicious breakfast, mingling with old and new friends, and learning more about the role of the PTA and exciting volunteer opportunities.

The PTA's *Photocopying Service* allows teachers to spend less time on administrative tasks and more time planning creative lessons for our students. Thank you to **Aliza Ben Shimon, Galit Freedman, and Tanya Reinfeld** for the many hours they spend each week making copies for our teachers.

The PTA applauds **Dvora Scher** for all her hard work coordinating our *Annual School Supply Sale* and overseeing the distribution of supplies in our classrooms. Thank you also to our volunteers: **Jake and Mikey Furst, Susan Herr, Jill Kaminetzky, Adina, Eitan, and Tanya Reinfeld, Vida Romano, Lana Rosenthal, Augusto Saldarriaga, and Sarit and Yosef Scher.**

Kudos to **Naomi Abramovitz** for assembling the *2010 PTA Summer Packet*.

The PTA thanks **Tzippi Rosen** for coordinating our dedicated *Carpool Brigade* and **Laurie Braverman** for volunteering in September.

Thank you to **Dvora Scher** for coordinating the *PTA's annual Rosh Hashanah card sale*.

The PTA applauds **Lillian Aharon** and **Deena Lurie** for making sure that *Safety Stickers* were available to HDS families before the Sukkot vacation.

Ongoing Happenings

The Torah teaches us that *Rosh Chodesh* is a mini festival, to be celebrated with the sound of trumpets and special sacrifices. Sponsoring a *Rosh Chodesh* breakfast is a great way to recognize our HDS teachers and staff, while cultivating a joyous atmosphere to start the month off just right. For information on upcoming sponsorship opportunities, please contact **Cara Freedman** at 561-750-3132 or carafreedman@yahoo.com. To help with shopping or setting up the breakfasts, please contact **Naomi Shapiro** at 561-477-5279 or nshap75@yahoo.com.

Help support someone in need by dropping new or used shoes in the *Shoes for the Cure* bin just outside the main school doors. **Adam Levine**, Vice President of Shoes for the Cure—a professional recycling company specializing in collecting new

and used footwear—will repair and donate shoes on your behalf. If your family has difficulty affording new shoes, please let **Nurse Robin Noble** 561-470-5000 know the shoe sizes you need and we can request assistance from Shoes for the Cure. Thank you to all the families who have participated in this effort. For more information about Shoes for the Cure, visit www.shoesfortheure.com.

If you have Shabbat clothing in excellent condition your family members can no longer use, please consider donating them to the *Shabbat Clothing Share Program*. This incentive helps provide clothing to families in need in our community. If you are seeking specific clothing sizes, please contact **Nurse Robin Noble** 561-470-5000 to let her know what your family needs.

The PTA is pleased to offer the *Israel coupon book*, which has coupons good for use in Israel at restaurants, tourist attractions, and more, throughout 2010. A coupon book costs \$25, which you can make back with the cost savings provided. Even better, Summit Israel (whose programs include foster care and psychiatric rehabilitation for youths in Israel) and the PTA will benefit from your purchases. To purchase a coupon book or for further information, stop by the front desk or contact **Tanya Reinfeld** at TanyaReinfeld@yahoo.com. Please make checks payable to Hillel Day School. Feel free to pass along this information to family and friends.

Featuring built-in clips, uniquely designed *Klipped Kippahs* are on sale for \$15 in a variety of designs and styles. We are pleased to offer several styles to choose from: lightweight linen, mesh, and spandex kippot customized for the Hillel Lions, or the classic suede kippah with the HDS logo. Supplies are limited. To order, please contact **Sharon Kay** at sharonakay@mac.com or 561-212-6352, or stop by the front desk. Proceeds benefit the PTA.

HDS *Flexfit* brand baseball caps are now available for just \$10. Students may wear these comfortable caps, featuring the HDS school name logo, during recess and PE. To order, please contact **Sharon Kay** at sharonakay@mac.com or 561-212-6352, or stop by the front desk. Proceeds benefit the PTA.

The PTA is pleased to sponsor *challot* from **Sweet City** for our Early Childhood weekly Shabbat programs. Thank you to **Dvora Scher** for coordinating this effort.

Celebrate your child's birthday with a gift to the class that can be opened again and again. For further details about the *Birthday Book Club*, please contact **Lisa Friedman** at nycrangers@comcast.net or **Tzippi Rosen** at LRosen_1@hotmail.com.

Remember to bring your full HDS *Tzedakah boxes* to **Susan Herr** at the front desk. To obtain a Tzedakah box, please call **Andrea Bernstein** at 561-212-3072.

HDS Happenings

HDS EMET CLUB WINNERS

E	xcellent	Sarah Amiel	Sofia Kestenbaum
		Shira Bar-Chaim	Zohara Lam
		Caleb Berman	Meir Lanner
		Ahava Bernstein	Jacob Levinrad
M	idot	Chloe Beylus	Yehudah Marcus
		Hila Blanka	Mayana Moshe
		Odelia Citron	Gabrielle Pomerantz
		Benjamin Cohen	Simcha Rosen
E	very	Eli Cohen	Elee Rubin
		Orly Dimont	Sarit Scher
		Noa Elmakies	Eliana Shapiro
		Hannah Friedlander	Talya Shapiro
T	ime	Kayla Friedlander	Ariella Sides
		Batya Fruhman	Shuey Silkin
		Tamar Goldberg	Adina Silverstein
		Max Goodman	Shayna Silverstein
	Judah Greenbaum	Isaac Slotnick	
	Lily Greenfield	Shoshana Stadlan	
	Carmel Henschel	Sam Stern	
	Yanki Kahan	Yoni Yudewitz	
	Chani Kaminetsky	Yahav Zahavi	
	Aidan Kaner	Sydney Zucker	

Mazal Tov to all of the winners!

(as of 10/14/10)



The 1st and 4th graders work together several times during the year sharing in Chavruta learning.



Middle School science students practice their measurement skills during the year's first lab. They are learning how to use triple beam balances to find the mass of small objects, convert length measurements

from English units to SI units, and take volume readings in graduated cylinders. In addition to becoming familiar with lab equipment, they are also observing lab safety procedures.



The 2nd graders work on their Rosh Hashanah card designs for the 5772 contest.

Art Department Announces Card Contest Winners

Mazal Tov to the winners of the Art Department's Holiday Card and Birthday Card competition, under the direction of Barbara Rose, Art Specialist.

This year's winners are:

Lana Rosenthal - Rosh Hashanah (pictured on cover)

Gabrielle Pomeranz - Chanukah

Ty Kay - Passover

Shira Levitt - Birthday

Yael Sacher - Birthday

The winning art works are displayed on the lobby bulletin board. Congratulations to our artists.



HDS Happenings

New Parent Orientation



New families to Hillel Day School received a warm welcome at the New Parent Orientation held on August 23. New parents were greeted by Lori Landa, Board Member and Parent & Community Chair, and Suzanne Rice, Director of Development, and received a welcome gift bag. Also greeting new parents were Rabbi Adam Englander, Upper School Principal, Chayim Dimont, Lower School Principal, and Hadassah Smolarcik, Judaic Studies Coordinator.

Teacher of the Month



**Morah Elana Mordechai
October 2010**



The *Jewish Journal* interviewed HDS leadership and faculty for a story about the new Middle School building.



Head of School, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine, and Board President, Daniel Katz, welcomed parents in their opening remarks while stressing the importance of Jewish education and Hillel Day School's commitment to excellence.



Faculty member and Technology Integration Specialist, Leonardo Moran, gave an interactive presentation using the Smartboard to show parents important technological tools and resources to use during the year to stay connected.

Sharona Kay, PTA President, introduced parents to all of the wonderful programs the PTA coordinates, and invited them to get involved in the many volunteer opportunities and projects.



A big thank you to Lori Landa for coordinating the event as well as to all of the new parents and board members who attended. This orientation is a wonderful way to make our new families feel welcome and meet administration, Board of Trustees members, and PTA Board members in an intimate environment.



Student Council Elections



President
Jordan Stauber

Vice-President
Jacob Katz



Secretary
Shara Saketkhov



Treasurer
Elie Zaghi

6th Grade Representatives
Leora Golish and Izy Muller

7th Grade Representatives
Maya Borzak and Simcha Stadlan

8th Grade Representatives
Moshe Markowitz and Jonathan Schumer



Students get "techy" during computer labs.

FALL SPORTS - Hillel Lions Roar into a New Season



Maia Shaffer, Athletic Director

Now that we have kicked off the school year and athletics are in full gear, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some key successes. This year we are proud to be able to offer 15 new clinics in Hillel's Athletics Department. This will provide our children with great preparation for the coming years. Flag Football with Coach Grubbs made vast improvements this year and was only a few points away from the playoffs. The Girls Volleyball with Coach Lavoie was very strong and also challenged by the diverse competition. We are very excited about the upcoming season for the Girls Basketball with Coach Harris and Boys Soccer with Coach Moishe. As always, the Hillel Day School athletes continue to reflect the highest level of sportsmanship and commitment. This inspires the younger students and sets an example to follow. Go, Lions!



Thanks to the PTA, a new trophy case has been placed in the gymnasium to show off all of HDS' successes! Dedication of this trophy case is available through the Development Office. Also made possible by the PTA, the IAL South Florida Girls Basketball Championship banner will be permanently placed in the gymnasium.

Boys Flag Football



By: Coach Brennen Grubbs

With a tough loss to rival school BMA, in a "win or go home playoff game," the boys flag football team finished the season with a winning record of 4-3 overall. Improving from last year's record of 2-4, the coaches, school, and fans are extremely proud of the student athletes on the team for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. The team finished 3rd overall in the conference after losing the final game of the season, which would have advanced them into the playoffs for the first time in school history. The leadership of 8th graders Jordan Stauber, Yitz Kaminetsky, Brian Agus, and Donny Fixler led the team to the best record in school history. Quarterback Sam Glaun, under the center Jacob Henschel, provided the team with a well-structured nucleus on offense. Running backs Tani Kay, Jacob Katz, and Brian Agus helped dissect opposing team's defense with their ability to split defenders and break away with explosive speed. Jordan, Yitz, Jacob, Brian, and Donny all played both sides of the ball and played huge roles for the team.

The defense was held down by safety's Brett Wolff and Jordan Stauber and 6th grade linebacker Sammy Baum. Rusher's Dovid Halbstein, Jacob Katz, and Judah Baum pressured the quarterbacks all year. The defense as a whole did an outstanding job of limiting teams to fewer than 12 points during 4 games this season.

Brennen Grubbs, Sean Alarcon, and Brent Crews coached on behalf of Advanced Performance Training, LLC, located in Boca Raton. Advanced Performance Training will be offering a number of different training events for the school in the future. Please see APT4ATHLETES.com for more information.

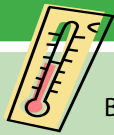
Girls Volleyball



By: Coach Alicia Lavoie

Hillel's volleyball team had a great season. The girls showed their desire to learn the game at all practices and matches. Even when they were down, the girls put all their heart and soul on the court. We will truly miss those 8th graders who will be leaving us this year. Captains Jessica Griff, Kayla Petrover, and Raquel Zimmerman, it has been a great two years! Also to: Ellin Gurvitch, Kayla Gross, and Hannah Katz, you were a wonderful addition to our 2010 team! Good luck in high school!





EPC Turns Up the Heat

By: Gila Stern, Every Parent Campaign Chair

This year, we are turning up the heat on our annual Every Parent Campaign (EPC)! Our goal is 100% participation of all HDS families through a meaningful donation to the Annual Campaign, no matter the amount of your gift. These financial gifts provide scholarship assistance to those families who cannot afford a Jewish education for their children. Watch the thermometer, located in the lobby, rise as we track the participation of families in the EPC.

Presently financial assistance totaling \$1,551,000 is extended to over 35% of Hillel students. Given the current environment this number is bound to grow. The school also raises money, beyond tuition revenue, to enable technological advancements in the classroom, facilities enhancements, and staff developments. Our Annual Fund Campaign provides the critical dollars necessary to bridge the gap in our budget.

Because of the challenges we face individually and as a community, we must continue to support Jewish education and observe the mitzvah of tzedakah. That means everyone's donation, from \$18 to \$18,000, is more important than ever. Every contribution, no matter how large or small, makes a difference in the lives of our children. For those families who have already made their annual gift, we thank you. For those who have not, please help our thermometer climb to 100%!

You can participate in the Every Parent Campaign with a contribution to the Hillel Annual Fund Campaign any time during the year in any of the following ways: donating to the Annual Campaign; participating in the Annual Journal Event by placing an ad in the journal, joining the Tribute Committee, or attending the event; or by participating in the Annual Golf Tournament by purchasing a sponsorship, playing in the tournament, or purchasing a raffle ticket. For more information or to make a donation, contact Suzanne Rice, Director of Development, at 561-470-5000 x225 or email suzanner@hilleldayschool.org.

Attention Parents, Grandparents and Special Friends of Hillel:

Welcome back to a new year--with Hashem's help and yours--a blessed year! Last year we kicked off our first attempt to reach out and encourage school participation from our Bubbies, Zaydies, Savtas, and Sabas. It was a strong beginning in making those connections. We want to

be inclusive and to generate another layer of lovers of Hillel. We have lots to impart from "our generation," so, let our experienced voices be heard. Let us provide all the help we can with our enthusiasm, with our volunteerism, with our participation, and with our financial support to our great Hillel Day School of Boca Raton. The future of our grandkids depends on us, too. These days, especially, our school certainly needs all the help it can generate.

We are going to make every effort to keep you apprised of Hillel activities and give you opportunities to be involved with the school. Please make sure that the school has your updated contact information by contacting Suzanne Rice, Director of Development, at 561-470-5000. Also, please plan to join us at the Annual Journal Event on December 13, 2010, honoring Head of School and grandparent, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine and his wife Breindel. We would love to have a few grandparent tables at the event and encourage you to attend!

Two Hillel Bubbies

Helen Cohan Anna Freedman



SAVE THE DATE

HILLEL DAY SCHOOL OF BOCA RATON

Annual Journal Event

December 13, 2010 - 6 Tevet 5771



Honoring **Rabbi & Mrs. Samuel J. Levine**
"Educating Generations"

Oht Hameseroot Faculty Dedication Award
Dianne Groendyke & Hadassah Smolarcik

Event Co-Chairs: **Sal & Leslie Abady ~ Daniel & Caroline Katz**
 Journal Co-Chairs: **Eli & Orlie Cohen ~ Dan & Sue Kaskel ~ Nancy Markovitch**

Call 561.470.5000 for ad journal information and dinner reservations.

1st Day of School 2010



Bird's Eye View



Students from Morah Elisheva Levitt's class wave to parent and pilot Nathan Zucker as he flies over Hillel Day School.

Save These Dates:

- Chanukah Fair/Open House - November 21, 2010**
- Annual Journal Event - December 13, 2010**
- Annual Golf Tournament - March 28, 2011**



If you have information to include in a future *Hillel Herald*, please e-mail suzanner@hilleldayschool.org.
Editor: Suzanne M. Rice 561-470-5000 x225

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2010-11 Calendar At-A-Glance

November

- 2 ▫ All Grades Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
- 3 ▫ All Grades Parent/Teacher Conferences (day)
- 21 ▫ Open House/Chanukah Fair
- 24 ▫ End of First Trimester (noon dismissal)
- 25 ▫ Thanksgiving Break (school closed through Nov. 28)

December

- 13 ▫ Annual Journal Event
- 17 ▫ Fast of 10th of Tevet
- 27 ▫ Winter Break begins (school closed through Dec. 31)/HDS Vacation Camp Dec. 27-31 (registration required)

January

- 3 ▫ Classes Resume
- 17 ▫ Midterms for 7th & 8th grades through Jan. 21
- 20 ▫ Tu B'Shevat
- 24 ▫ Mid-Year Break begins (school closed through Jan. 28)/HDS Vacation Camp Jan. 24-28 (registration required)
- 31 ▫ Classes Resume

February

- 21 ▫ Presidents Day (school closed)

March

- 1 ▫ Grades 1-8 Parent/Teacher Conference (evening)
- 2 ▫ Grades 1-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (day); regular school day EC2-Grade 5; no school for grades 6-8
- 11 ▫ End of second Trimester
- 17 ▫ Fast of Esther (2:15pm dismissal grades 6-8)
- 20 ▫ Purim
- 27 ▫ Federation Super Sunday
- 28 ▫ Annual Golf Tournament

April

- 4 ▫ SAT's through April 8 (grades 2-8)
- 18 ▫ Pesach Break begins (school closed through April 27)
- 28 ▫ Classes Resume

May

- 2 ▫ 8th Grade Israel Trip (through May 11)/ Yom Hashoah
- 9 ▫ Yom Hazikaron
- 10 ▫ Yom Ha'atzmaut
- 16 ▫ 6th Grade Sea Camp Trip
- 17 ▫ 7th Grade Trip to Washington, DC
- 18 ▫ Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening) EC2-K
- 19 ▫ Parent/Teacher Conferences (day) EC2-K; regular school day for all grades
- 22 ▫ Lag B'omer
- 27 ▫ Final Exams for Grades 7 & 8 through June 6
- 30 ▫ Memorial Day (school closed)

June

- 1 ▫ Yom Yerushalayim
- 5 ▫ 8th Grade Graduation (11:30am) / Kindergarten Graduation (4pm)
- 7 ▫ Erev Shavuot/Last Day of School (noon dismissal)

Hillel Day School is a "Makom Torah," a place where Torah is studied. As such, dress should conform to what would be appropriate when visiting a synagogue.



JEWISH FEDERATION
of South Palm Beach County

To Life.



SACSCASI
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

TORAH UMESORAH
National Association of Hebrew Day Schools

