



# The Hillel Herald

Hillel Day School of Boca Raton

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Fall 2015/5776

Vol. VIX ~ Issue No. 1



Congratulations to **Malka Leizgold**, winner of the Rosh Hashanah Card Design Competition (pictured above).

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# Rabbi Adam Englander, M.S. Ed. Head of School



## All In The Family

The High Holidays are over, *Sukkot* has come and gone, and we just started reading from the beginning of the Torah once again with *Sefer Bereishit*. We are, indeed,

on many levels, entrenched in the beginning of the year. For the Hillel Day School family, it has been a great start. We welcomed 101 new students as we celebrated another year of record enrollment at 520! New teachers, new programs, new curriculum and many other educational enhancements - much of which you will read about in this publication - will ensure that this year is better than ever.

In his introduction to *Sefer Bereishit* in the book, *Covenant and Conversation*, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks notes the significance of the institution of family. "Not by accident is Genesis a book about the family. The family is where we learn emotional and spiritual intelligence." In conjunction with this thought, he emphasizes that this is one of the reasons that the story of "the family" comes before everything else in the Torah. To put it simply, family comes first.

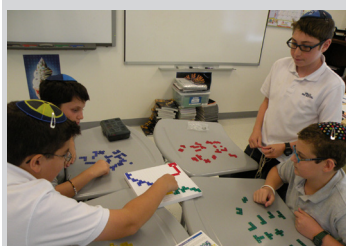
So as we delve into this school year, it behooves us all to grow in this area. Chumash, math, homework, birthday parties, extra-curricular activities, appointments, there is so much that is important and it's all time consuming. But we must make sure we never lose focus upon that which is most important. My humble suggestion (and I am certainly speaking to myself as well) is that we all choose at least one small way that we can demonstrate that family comes first. Do we give our children the kind of hug, smile or attention when we first see them at the end of the school day that lets them know they are the most important thing in our lives? Do we spend even a small amount of quality time with each child every week? Do we eat/watch a show/have a discussion/go out somewhere together as a family? There are infinite ways we can accomplish this so choose something that is meaningful to you and your family.

Let's make sure that this new year starts and ends with family and may that bring blessing into all aspects of our lives.



**Rabbi Efreim Goldberg** of Boca Raton Synagogue and **Rabbi Yaakov Gibber** of the Boca Jewish Center each addressed Middle School students to inspire them before the High Holidays.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES



- 90s Trivia
- Art
- Brain Teasers
- Cake Decorating
- Chess
- Cookie Decorating
- Drumming
- Golf
- Grill Masters
- Jewelry
- Photoshop
- Robotics
- Scrapbooking
- Sports Statistics
- Spanish Culture
- Zumba

## E2K Program Launches

Excellence 2000 (E2K), has been created by the **Gruss Foundation** (sponsors of the "Gruss Lab"), and is generously donated by **Dr. Joshua and Sara Light** in memory of Joshua's beloved father, **Dr. David Light, z"l**.

This program has been successfully modeled in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, and Iowa. The driving force of this program is to address the needs of middle school students who demonstrate high academic achievements and are self-motivated in math and science and wish to excel beyond the classroom studies.

E2K develops student capabilities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). The program began in September for those 7th and 8th grade students who were accepted through the application process. **Mrs. Vine** (Math) and **Mrs. Tinio** (Science), who both run the program, have each spent 20+ hours in training workshops in New York and Israel and will continue to get professional development throughout the course of this program.

**Chayim Dimont, M.S. Ed.**  
Principal, Early Childhood - Grade 3



Where is the line between being an advocate for my child and not allowing him or her to struggle a bit with the process? When am I just watching out for my child and when am I being that overprotective mom or dad? As a parent and administrator, I, too, struggle with these questions. How can I teach my children--both biological and those I'm ultimately responsible for educating and caring for at school--that challenges, difficulty, and emotional and educational pain can be lifelong lessons for the future; constructive and beneficial, if evaluated through the lenses of growth.

In the past I have written about the ideas articulated by Carol Dweck in her book, *Growth Mindset*, that the ability to look at failure as a growth opportunity is vital. If we look at challenge as an opportunity rather than an obstacle, we can have a positive growth experience. However, even with the best of intentions, efforts, and positive mindsets, failure does happen. So how do we recover? How do we teach our children to rebound, when they often feel all is lost? I would like to answer these questions with some words by Brenè Brown from her book, *Rising Strong* as well as, some of my personal "take aways." Although space does not allow me the opportunity to delve too deeply into the topic, I would like to share some thoughts.

1. The evidence of failure must be examined, whether it be a test, friendship, or not making the sports team. Examine the facts and name the failure and what it is really about, rather than the story created in our heads. Often times, the evidence and the stories in our mind are vastly contradictory.

2. Emotions related to that failure must be articulated into words and conversation. By doing so we make the failure real and emotionally manageable.

3. Courage can be an aspect of failure if we are "all in." When we reflect upon our failures, do we put in maximum effort or did we do this half-heartedly? Knowing that we were entirely committed reduces regret on the back end.

4. Asking for help is not synonymous with weakness. Dr. Brown writes, "Offering help is courageous and compassionate, but so is asking for help." Teaching ourselves and our kids to ask for assistance to solve problems does not necessarily mean that we eliminate the problems. Oftentimes it means that we listen, advise, and mirror back conversations in order to allow others to define the issue.

In short, understanding failure is half the battle; the courageous part is taking the next step. During my read I did not always identify with all of Dr. Brown's research, but I could not help but to deeply reflect upon some of her thoughts and probing questions. I encourage you to read her book and allow yourself to wrestle with the opportunity to reflect upon these ideas of failure, since that is one aspect of our children's lives that will always be unavoidable. And maybe that's a good thing.

**EMET LOGO DESIGN CONTEST WINNERS**  
**Tayla Stern and Zachary Rutner**




As part of "Colors, Shapes and Numbers Week," **Seth Prezant** and his *Wacky Wild Marine Show* visited EC2-K students showing them a variety of marine life.

**HDS EMET CLUB WINNERS**

<b>E</b> xcellent	Eliana Berman	Avi Hamburger	Zachary Rutner	
	Liba Berman	Gavriel Hollander	Matan Scher	
	Maya Bornstein	Sholom Ber Kahan	Joey Schoenfeld	
	Eliana Burack	Abby Karsh	Ella Schwarzman	
	Noa Carmel	Netanel Kieffer	Anna Shimonovitz	
	<b>M</b> iddot	Shayna Cohen	Sari Kirschner	Rafi Solomon
		Elie Dahan	Talia Kroll	Adina Spodek
		Shlomo Ehrlich	Benjy Landau	Simcha Spolter
		Haim Elmakies	Jake Landau	Nate Stern
		Ailey Frohlich	Maddie Landau	Aidan Struhl
Hymie Frohlich		Adina Lazar	Elana Tilis	
Isabella Gately		Tamar Mayer	Arielle Tripp	
Sarah Goodfriend		Ari Mergui	Yehudis Weg	
Dovid Grajower		Shayna Moskowitz	Daniel Yudewitz	
Tzvi Greenstein		Batya Nachim	Gavriella Yudewitz	
<b>T</b> ime	Shira Grunhaus	Naomi Nachim	Hillel Zisquit	

Mazal Tov to all of the winners!



## Hadassah Smolarcik, M.S. Ed. Principal, Grades 4 & 5 and Judaic Studies



This past summer, Rabbi Englander recommended a book for a “good summer read” entitled *Daring Greatly* by Dr. Brenè Brown. The words, “daring greatly,” are quoted from a speech given by Theodore Roosevelt in 1910 called “The Man in the Arena.” I was interested in a good book and thought mistakenly that this book might be connected to history and leaders who impacted the world they lived in. I eagerly picked up the book and read the blurb on the cover which stated, “How the courage to be vulnerable transforms the way we live, love, parent and lead.” Initially I was less than excited, to say the least, to be reading another self-help book that forces you to reflect and be in tune with your emotions! Vulnerability!? Isn’t being vulnerable uncomfortable? Don’t we do everything to avoid being hurt or criticized; isn’t vulnerability weakness? I decided to give the book a try and thought that something might inspire me.

The last chapter of the book, won me over and I recommend it to all parents. The chapter is entitled “Wholehearted Parenting - daring to be the adults we want our children to be.” As parents, we wish that each child came with a handbook of instructions and guarantees. The terrifying truth is that there are no manuals that provide all the answers and there are certainly no guarantees. As parents, we identify ourselves as “Tiger Moms,” “Helicopter Parents,” “Obsessive Parents,” “Indulgent Parents” ...the list goes on. If we had one ingredient to give to our children to help them in life--what could we give? Dr. Brown believes that we should give our children hope. What is hope? It is a combination of setting goals, having the perseverance and tenacity to pursue them and believing in our own abilities. For children to learn hopefulness--children need relationships that are characterized by boundaries, consistency and support, so that when they struggle, they learn to believe in themselves. “If we’re always following our children into the arena, hushing the critics, and assuring their victory, they’ll never learn that they have the ability to dare greatly on their own.”

I thank Hashem every day for the opportunity to work with the students at Hillel and to believe in them and what they are capable of. When we say Modeh Ani in the morning--we end with the words “RABBAH EMUNATECHA”— great is our faith in You, Hashem, but we must also read it to mean Great is Hashem’s Faith in You! Let us impart this message to our children and let them know that we are there to support and to love--and may this year be filled with great opportunities and exciting adventures as we grow and learn together.



The Middle School students divided up the entire book of Tehillim and they each read a different portion simultaneously so that they could complete the entire sefer together. A beautiful example of Tefillah B'Tzibbur during Aseret Yemei Teshuva!



Rabbi Drang blows the Shofar each morning during the Hebrew month of Elul as students in 2nd through 5th grades gather in the hallway and **Morah Hadassah** shares a story and lesson with the students.



## NEW ORAL HISTORY PROJECT: Names, Not Numbers®

On October 26 we officially kicked off our **Names, Not Numbers®** project, a Holocaust oral history project for 8th graders. The students are working in small groups with individual Holocaust survivors as they create a professional quality documentary about the lives of these incredible people as well as their own journey learning about them. More specifically, groups of about 6 students have been paired with a survivor (9 local survivors are part of this program) and they will research their backgrounds, design interview questions, conduct the actual interview, learn how to use professional cameras and video editing equipment and, ultimately, help create the complete documentary. This project will take place over the course of the year and a culminating major presentation.

This program has been around for about a decade and has been implemented successfully in other Jewish day schools. **Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Smolarcik**, an experienced Holocaust educator, will be the faculty advisor for this program.

We are incredibly grateful to **Harry and Marilyn Wanderer** for generously sponsoring this program in memory of Harry’s father, **Yehoshua ben Zelig A”H**.



# THE LION'S DEN

Maia Shaffer, Athletic Director



Hillel Day School's Fall sports season has come to a close and one of the biggest highlights of the season was our Girls Volleyball Team. They made remarkable improvement over the course of seven weeks and with many holidays in between, still, steam-rolled through to the playoffs for the very first time. They challenged, competed, performed, and overcame, but unfortunately ended up losing in the first round against Weston Christian School. Congrats to these persistent athletes!

Also as many of you know, our Middle School Flag Football Team had a very competitive season. These warriors learned valuable lessons about the game, camaraderie, and fought hard all the way until the end. Congrats to the Middle School Flag Football Team!

Another significant milestone this season was the formation of our 4th and 5th grade Flag Football teams. Their season began with an unprecedented number of students trying out, engaging, competing, and ultimately being chosen for the new teams.

The Hillel Athletics Team is so honored that this year there are not only more sports programs than ever before, but also that the participation is at an all-time high. Together, we will continue to hone the strengths of our teams and push forward into the next season and the challenges that we will overcome. Go Lions!



## BOYS FLAG FOOTBALL

*Coach Noah and Coach Jason*

The 2015 Flag Football season has flown by. First, a big thanks to all the parents for their support and time. Sometimes those early Sunday mornings can be difficult but it pays off in the long run. Second, congratulations to all the athletes. They competed at the highest level in all the games and practices, while improving every day. We are so proud of them!

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

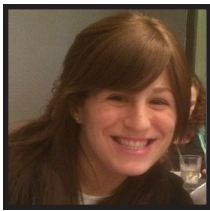
*Coach: Samantha Witzum*

*Assistant Coach: Taylor Andreychuk*

The volleyball season for Hillel Middle School girls took them all the way to the playoffs. The team had a good number of returning players from last season, as well as a few new members. The veterans have been very supportive and have welcomed the new team members with open arms. The group has shown great teamwork, a good work ethic, determination, commitment and a willingness to learn. These impressive attributes have not gone unrewarded, as the team made it to the playoffs for the first time in Hillel history! The volleyball team finished the season with a record of 4-4! Go Lions!



## NEW FACULTY & STAFF



**Elizabeth Austein** joins HDS as the EC3-A co-teacher with Morah Beth! Elizabeth was born in New York and has two children, Moshe (EC2-B), and Simi (who was just born right before Sukkot). An interesting fact: Elizabeth's maiden name is Goldstein and her married name is Austein; on the periodic table Au= gold, so, in essence she didn't change her name.



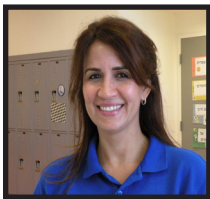
**Iris Borjas** is teaching Science to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. She was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and she and her husband have two children, Nicole (age 25) and Sergio F. (age 22). She moved to Florida last year due to her husband's job and they have also lived in California and Honduras.



**Sivia Dreyfuss** is our new music teacher for grades 1 through 5. She teaches percussion to the elementary school students and as an elective to Middle School students. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Sivia has five children, Gadi (age 19), Eli (age 18), Zohi (age 15), Ella (age 12/HDS 7th grade) and Neshama (age 9/HDS 4th grade). She has been teaching hand drumming and facilitating drum circles in a variety of settings for the past 15 years and has recently received 501(C)(3) status for her nonprofit organization, Angel Water Project, whose mission is to provide atmospheric water generators to communities in need.



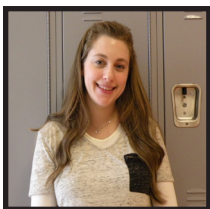
**Diego Gonzalez, a.k.a. "Mr. Diego,"** as he is affectionately referred to by our students, has been part of the HDS family as a member of our fantastic maintenance crew, and is also assuming the position of Bus Monitor. His conscientious and pleasant demeanor are much appreciated in his various roles at the school. Born in Columbia, Diego enjoys walking on the beach, dancing and camping.



**Joselyn Hernandez** has been a temporary bus monitor at the end of the last school year, but now is at HDS full-time. Her warm and caring demeanor was welcomed by students and parents and her primary job is the safety of the children. She will also ensure a peaceful environment for them during transport. Joselyn was born in the Dominican Republic and has two children, Emily (age 15) and Alex Javier (age 13). She enjoys constructive conversation with family and friends, music and singing, and always dedicates time to pray.



**Chanie Kirschner** is the 2nd grade Judaics assistant. Born in Atlanta, GA, she and her husband have 4 children all attending HDS, Jakie (age 6), Sari (age 5), Ari (age 4), and Bailey (age 2). Chanie has 15 years of experience in Jewish education and is excited to be at HDS.



**Mindy Koperwas** is teaching Judaics in our ETGAR Program. Born in West Hempstead, NY, she and her husband just had a baby girl in October and now live in Hollywood after moving from Toronto. Mindy completed her degree in special education at the University of Toronto and she enjoys reading, relaxing and spending time with family.



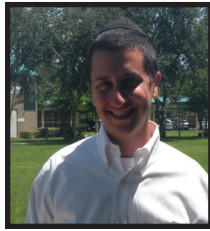
**John Leon** has many years of exemplary service in other schools and he is now our full-time Bus Driver. Previously, John has filled in as our bus monitor and was the Camp Ruach bus driver. Born in Columbia, John enjoys the beach, camping, picnicking and sharing time with family and friends.



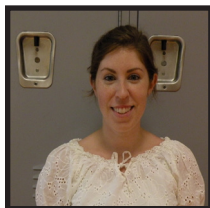
**Sarah Lipson** is teaching secular ETGAR and working with all the children from 2nd through 8th grade to support them with skills including English, math, social studies and science. Sarah is a native Floridian. She was a HDS student when the school was first operating out of B'nai Torah.



**Maynu (Menucha) Peter Melotek** is the new movement and dance teacher for EC2-K. She was born in Petach-Tikva, Israel and moved to the U.S. eight years ago. Maynu has been an Israeli folk dancer for over 20 years. As an Early Childhood certified teacher, she has developed a unique program that she has been teaching for the past 17 years. While in Israel, she worked at numerous early childhood, Kindergarten, community centers, and after school programs. She has brought her unique program to Florida and continues to implement her method while teaching in different schools. She has two children, Mor (age 23) and Shani (age 21).



**Rabbi Ari Mirzoeff** is teaching 5th, 7th and 8th grade Judaics including Chumash, Mishna, Hebrew, Navi, Dinim, Parsha, Toshba and other subjects. Born in Queens, New York, Rabbi Mirzoeff and his wife Rachel have one child, Meira, who is an EC2 student at HDS. He loves playing sports, following sports and everything about sports. He also is enjoying getting to know his students and connecting with them both in and out of the classroom.



**Jackie Moster** joins HDS as an ETGAR secular teacher. She is excited to get to know the students while offering academic support and hopes to facilitate executive functioning skills acquisition amongst them. She also will incorporate mindfulness tools in the classroom to increase focus, attention and self-esteem. Born in New York, Jackie and her husband have just moved from Philadelphia and their son Sammy is a new EC2 student. Jackie worked at 4 Jewish Day Schools (at the same time) in Philadelphia. Although she enjoyed being immersed in a different school culture every day, she now looks forward to having all of her belongings in one place.



**Lisa Pinkis** is our new Art teacher and looks forward to bringing out the talents of budding artists while introducing them to an array of materials and techniques. Lisa was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and she and her husband Eric have three children, Ariella (age 10), Aiden (age 8) and Asher (age 3), all HDS students. Lisa was raised in Marlboro, NJ and has an older brother and younger sister. She attended Rutgers University and Mason Gross School of Art where she earned a B.A. She enjoys playing Rummikub, reading, painting and going to the beach with her family.

*New faculty and staff continued on the next page.*



**Liat Rachel Rogge** is assisting Morah Cindy in EC4-B and Hebrew instruction. Liat was born in Elk Grove Village, IL and has 2 children, Refael Benjamin (age 9) and Yarden Levy (age 5). Although she was born in the United States, Liat grew up in Israel and served in the IDF. She returned to the U.S. to be near her family.



**Shany Rudnick** is teaching Hebrew to our Middle School students. Her goal is to advance their Hebrew language skills and prepare them for the Hebrew and Judaic studies courses in their future. Through Hebrew, they will also build a strong connection to the State of Israel and its' culture. Shany was born in Holon, Israel and served in the Israeli Air Force as a Combat Fitness Instructor and trained soldiers to be physically fit and prepared to protect Israel. Shany and her husband, Sean, have one child, Yoav (9-months).



**Karin Wongsam** is no stranger to HDS. Since November of 2013, Karin has been assisting Joe Sharp and the Business Office. In January 2014, she officially became a member of the HDS family in the capacity of Bookkeeper. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Karin is an avid reader, loves the beach, collects cookbooks from around the world, and loves trying out exotic dishes. She has two children, Ashley (age 16) and Mark-Andrew (age 14).

## Welcome Our New B'Not Sherut



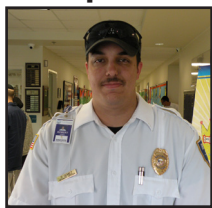
**Yifat Elimelech** and **Mor Panigel** join us this year as our new B'not Sherut. The girls will be teaching students about Israel and Zionism as well as bringing out the spirit of the holidays. Yifat and Mor have known each other since age 10 and grew up together. They thank HDS for the warm reception.

**Yifat Elimelech** (pictured left) was born in Givat Shmuel, Israel. She enjoys baking and being with her family. Yifat has 2 sisters and 1 brother.

**Mor Panigel** (pictured right) was also born in Givat Shmuel, Israel. She enjoys music (used to play the organ), traveling, and spending time with friends and family. Mor is one of 6 siblings (4 brothers and 1 sister) and she has 3 nieces.

*If you would like to host the B'not Sherut for Shabbat, chagim or any other time please contact Rachel Harow at [rachelharow@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelharow@yahoo.com).*

## Campus Security



**Robert Gomez, Jr.** is our new security guard and works to safeguard the school, staff, and children, while promoting safety. Robert worked as the Camp Ruach security guard this past summer, as well as at the Federation guard house and is extremely familiar with the campus. Robert was born in Miami and has two children, Lilyian Faith (age 4) and Robert Gomez III (age 2), and a son due this month. He served for 8 years as a U.S. Marine and worked as an aviation electrician and a topographic analyst. He completed two deployments to Japan. He is currently finishing his degree in Criminal Justice and has been in security for 5 years. He enjoys riding his motorcycle and racing.

## Smolarcik Wins Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence

**Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Smolarcik** was one of 25 regional awardees of this year's Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. The award recognizes talented educators who utilize 21st century skills in their classrooms and programs that help shape the future of Jewish education.

Smolarcik, a faculty member of Hillel Day School for 11 years, is the school's Talmud & Technology Chair and a Middle School Judaics teacher. He has been involved in Jewish education for over 30 years and has a doctorate in Clinical Psychology. **Marilyn Nachman**, Director of School Educational Services for the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach's Department of Jewish Education, presented the prestigious award at the Opening Meeting of Hillel faculty and staff on August 19, 2015.

"The Grinspoon Award recognizes and honors innovative, highly skilled Jewish educators," said Nachman, whose Department coordinates the annual award selection process. "Educator quality is one of the most important influences on student achievement. Rabbi Smolarcik's commitment to his students, to his work and to the community are exemplary of the type of Jewish educators we value so highly in our community."

Rabbi Smolarcik's name is now proudly displayed on the Grinspoon Award at the Federation. He was presented with a check for \$1000 from the day school community of South Palm Beach County, as well as an additional \$500 check from the Grinspoon Foundation.



**Rabbi Adam Englander** noted that "Rabbi Dr. Smolarcik's commitment to Jewish education and the achievements and innovative teaching methods he has developed, including a Toshba program which received a \$50,000 grant for Hillel, are secondary to the long-lasting impact he makes on the lives of his students."

Rabbi Dr. Smolarcik is one of three Hillel Day School faculty members, including **Lea Friedman** and **Rina Lanner**, who have received this award since its' inception. Mazal tov to these educators who go above and beyond their roles in the classroom.

## Faculty Member Donates New Middle School iPads

We are excited to announce the purchase of new iPads for our Middle School students to use, sponsored in part by **S. Jonathan and Sari Vine** (Middle School Math Teacher and Dept. Chair). Designated gifts such as these are crucial as they offset the school's expenses. We thank the Vines for their meaningful gift.



## CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

### November

18 Picture Retake Day  
20 Middle School Friday Night Dinner at BRS  
25 Noon dismissal/ Trimester 1 ends  
26-27 Thanksgiving Break (no school)

### December

6 First night of Chanukah  
7-14 Chanukah  
8 Chanukah Program for EC2-K Parents  
11 No School/Professional Development Day  
13 Open House & Chanukah Fair  
22 Fast Day Asara B-Tevet (2:15pm dismissal for Middle School)  
31 New Year's Eve (no school)

### January

1 New Year's Day (no school)  
10 Annual Journal Dinner Honoring Daniel & Caroline Katz  
13 Federation Chesed Day  
21-29 Winter Break (no school)

### February

1 Classes Resume  
15 Presidents' Day (no school)  
23 Grades 1-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)  
24 Grades 1-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (day); Grades 1-5 regular school day; Grades 6-8 no school  
26-27 7th-8th Grade Shabbaton

### March

4 Trimester 2 ends  
23 Fast Day Ta'anit Esther (2:15pm dismissal for Middle School)  
24 Purim (no school)

### April

21-29 Pesach Break  
22 Erev Pesach

### May

3-13 8th Grade Israel Trip  
3-5 7th Grade Washington, DC Trip  
4-6 6th Grade Sea Camp  
5 Yom Hashoah  
11 Yom Hazikaron  
12 Yom Ha'atzmaut  
15 Annual Parent-Child Golf Outing  
17-20 SATs for Grades 1-8 (tentative)  
26 Lag B'Omer/Mesibat Chumash  
30 Memorial Day (no school)

### June

2 KTP Performance  
5 Yom Yerushalayim  
6 Kindergarten Graduation  
8 8th Grade Graduation  
9 Last Day of School  
11 Erev Shavuot  
12-13 Shavuot  
20 Camp Ruach begins

## HDS HAPPENINGS

Mazal Tov to **Malka Leizgold**, winner of the annual Rosh Hashanah Holiday Card design contest. Her winning artwork is featured on the cover and was professionally printed and mailed out this Rosh Hashanah.



The Samaritans 365 Club welcomed a representative from the Friendship Circle who educated the club about their organization, which runs programs for children with special needs. Students participated in a sensitivity training which showed some of the challenges that their members deal with every day. The Samaritans 365 Club is an innovative program that exposes our children to different organizations and teaches them about various ways in which to contribute to the world around them.



HDS faculty sport their new Lion's fleece jackets, compliments of the Hillel PTA. Faculty had a choice of the fleece or a Lion's polo shirt this year. **Thank you, PTA.**

EC2 through 1st grade students came together for a special Oneg Shabbat. **Morah Cheryl** played the guitar while songs were sung and



**Mr. Dimont** blew the Shofar. Tehillim was sung for the refuah shlema of those not well.







**2015-2016 Campaign Kick-Off**

Dear Parents,  
Grandparents, Faculty,  
Staff and Community  
Members,

**MAJOR GIFTS**  
~Lamed Vav Society~  
~Chai Society~  
~Maimonides Society~

**PHASE II**  
Capital Campaign  
**CC**

We are excited to announce the kick-off of the official 2015-2016 Campaign season! We hope that each of you will help us meet our goal. Our "Every Parent Campaign" strives for 100% participation, no matter the amount of your donation.

There are so many ways to give and we are happy to discuss with you options of what would make for a meaningful gift of Tzedakah for you. We look forward to a successful year ahead!

- Orly & Suzanne



**The Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program**

The Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program is endowed in memory of Menashe Koppel Cohn, A'H, by his parents, Naomi & Todd Cohn, and his siblings, Eli Meir, Leora and Tamar.

**LEGACY GIVING TO SECURE THE FUTURE**

Hillel Day School of Boca Raton has been accepted into the "Life & Legacy" program, sponsored by the Jacobson Jewish Community Foundation of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, to help promote planned giving, endowments and other after-lifetime giving opportunities. Through training, support and monetary incentives, HDS, along with 10 other local Jewish organizations, will be motivated to secure legacy gifts, steward donors and integrate legacy giving into the philanthropic culture of the Jewish community.

HDS will receive consulting services from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, and will be eligible to receive at least \$15,000 in unrestricted incentive grants over the next two years if 18 letters of intent are secured between now and March 30, 2016. Additionally, another 18 letters of intent must be secured between April 1, 2016 and March 30, 2017. But more importantly, making your Legacy commitment now will ensure the future of Hillel Day School of Boca Raton so it can continue to provide a stellar Jewish education to our future; our children.

Your planned Legacy gift will:

- help us to continue to provide best practices in education, programming, technology, and facility so that we will always offer the very best and be attractive to new students.
- help stabilize and ultimately lower tuition costs so that more families can choose HDS for their children.
- ensure that no child, regardless of their family's financial situation, is denied this impactful Jewish education.

Leaving a legacy is simple. Some options include:

- Bequest in a Will • Gift of Life Insurance • Gift of IRA or Pension Funds • Gift of Cash or Assets • Lifetime Income Vehicle

Becoming our partner in ensuring the Jewish future, will not only make a huge difference in the lives of so many, it is the most powerful statement you can make to your family and your community about what you truly value.

**Start your Jewish legacy today!**

**Make this year count for years to come...** Please consider a planned gift or endowment through the Life & Legacy program to ensure the future of Hillel Day School of Boca Raton and Jewish education.

Contact Suzanne Rice, Director of Development, or visit our website for more information.

[www.hilleldayschool.org/LifeLegacy.php](http://www.hilleldayschool.org/LifeLegacy.php)  
suzanner@hilleldayschool.org  
561.470.5000 ext. 225

**LIFE & LEGACY**  
Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS

CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY

[www.hilleldayschool.org](http://www.hilleldayschool.org)  
561.470.5000

- ANNUAL CAMPAIGN**  
Major Gifts Societies  
Annual Journal Dinner  
Mega Raffle  
Annual Parent-Child Golf Outing  
Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program  
General & Tribute Donations
- DESIGNATED GIFTS**  
How would you like to see your donation spent?
- CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**  
Many naming opportunities are available!
- LIFE & LEGACY CAMPAIGN**  
Create a Jewish legacy for the future by making a planned gift to our Life & Legacy Campaign.

**The Mega Raffle is coming...  
Chance to win \$100,000!  
Details coming soon...**

**Every Parent Campaign**

100% Participation is our goal!

A donation of any amount ensures your participation!

## ANNUAL NEW MOMS' GATHERING



Over 40 women gathered at the home of **Daniel and Liora Adler** on August 30 for delicious desserts, mingling with old and new friends, and learning more about the role of the PTA and exciting volunteer opportunities. Liora once again

flawlessly planned and presented an array of delicious foods and creative beverages. Thank you to **Lizzy, Rebecca, and Abigail Adler**, and **Liora and Ariella Mayer** for their help setting up this wonderful event.

## SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP AND SUPPORT HDS PRE-HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE



On the evening of September 3, Boca Raton Synagogue bustled with excitement as shoppers took a break from their busy schedules to attend the PTA's Pre-Rosh Hashanah holiday boutique. The semi-annual event raised funds for HDS while bringing business to our community vendors

and providing one-stop shopping for our patrons. From clothing to hats, housewares, jewelry, Judaica, paper goods, toys, children's accessories and more, the event offered something for everyone—often at discounted prices. The PTA commends **Orlie Cohen** and **Rachel Harow** for their outstanding work in coordinating and organizing the boutique, and thanks all of our parent volunteers. We also express our gratitude to **Matthew Hocherman, Linda Gordon** and the **BRS staff** for their help setting up the event.

## NEW HDS ITEMS



Hats off to **Chayim Dimont** for designing and ordering our new HDS hats, which parents, teachers and students alike enjoy wearing!

Thank you to **Jen Kroll** for creating and implementing the idea for our newly introduced HDS lunch bags.

## UNIFORM SHOPPE



Thank you to **Dvorah Eisen** for running the HDS Uniform Shoppe and organizing the back-to-school sale, during which shoppers enjoyed an extra 10% off. Because the PTA is responsible for storing, managing inventory, and ordering and selling uniform shirts and skirts, school spirit shirts, and more, we are also able to provide students with

wholesale prices on a regular basis. The Uniform Shoppe is also pleased to offer kippot and tzizit at great prices.

## 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 23, parents and students attended the Annual PTA Ice Cream Social, excited to reunite with friends, meet teachers and staff and, most importantly, welcome new families to HDS. The PTA thanks **Chuck** from our neighborhood **Carvel** store on Glades Road for generously donating the ice cream and toppings. We applaud **Kimberly Frohlich** and **Ilena Rackman** for whipping up this exciting event, and thank all of our parent and student volunteers: **Hymie, Judah and Max Frohlich, Paige and Rhyan Rackman, Akiva, Dvora, Herschel, Sarit, and Yosef Scher, and Joe and Sruli Sharp.**



## NEW SCHOOL CALENDAR



The PTA thanks the many parent volunteers who worked countless hours during the summer to help make our brand new HDS calendar possible – Your outstanding efforts raised \$15,000 for HDS. **Dr. Jordana Carmel** oversaw

the entire project with determination and exceptional organizational skill. **Lillian Aharon** was instrumental in creating the calendar's layout and feel, and we are grateful for her expertise. **Deena Lurie** lent her creative artistic talent to create a cover design. **Miriam Raul** used her remarkable computer expertise to make all the technical aspects of the calendar possible. **Keri Greenfield**, often together with her husband **Steven** and family, visited dozens of shops to solicit ads – obtaining the majority of featured ads. The PTA thanks the many parents who also solicited ads: **Orlie Cohen, Dvorah Eisen, Lisa Friedman, Deena Frist, Rachel Greenbaum, Naomi Gross, Rachel Khaimov, Dvora Scher** and **Deborah Young**. Thanks also to **Jordana Carmel, Susan Herr** and **Penina Schoenfeld** for their help distributing the calendars.

**Chanukah Fair & Open House  
Sunday, December 13**

# With Praise, Thanks & Admiration



❖ Thank you to **Naomi Katz** for coordinating the *Perfect Presents* program and to **Deena Lurie** for designing the new *Perfect Presents* birthday certificates. If you have a child in Early Childhood through fifth grade, for a one-time fee, your child can receive this birthday gift – a donation of tzedakah by classmates in his/her honor – and you no longer need to shop for presents! For more information, please contact [nweisel@gmail.com](mailto:nweisel@gmail.com).



❖ Congratulations to August's PTA Volunteer of the Month, **Jordana Carmel**. Jordana worked to solicit new Guardian of Learning members in the spring and spent countless hours over the summer working on the new beautiful Hillel calendar.

❖ Thank you to **Liara Adler** who purchased and labeled teacher school supplies for our HDS staff to use throughout the year.

❖ Thank you to **Cara Freedman** and her children **Sydney, Jacob** and **Rebecca** as well as to **Lea Saida** for organizing and setting up all the Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts.

❖ Thank you to **Lea Saida** for keeping a watch on the tzedakah boxes we have placed in local establishments.

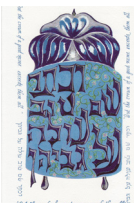
❖ The PTA expresses its gratitude to **Pita Pan Bakery** for its generous weekly donation of delicious fresh challot for our Early Childhood Shabbat program, in loving memory of **Rachel Vidal**. We also thank all of the volunteers who pick up challot weekly.

## SWAP SHOP

Please remember that in addition to selling new uniforms year-round at the Uniform Shoppe, the PTA Swap Shop offers gently worn uniforms. Kindly consider donating uniform tops and bottoms and Spirit shirts that your child has outgrown. If your child is in need of uniforms or Spirit shirts, you are invited to check out what is available and take it at no charge, or make a small donation to PTA. Please see **Susan Herr** or **Nurse Robin** for further information.

## B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Do you find it hard to select the perfect Bar or Bat Mitzvah gifts? The B'nai/B'not Mitzvah Fund enables parents to provide Bar/Bat Mitzvah presents that benefit tzedakah and HDS. That means you save time on shopping and support a valuable cause. A variety of gifts are available to choose from, and you designate any of several charities as the recipient of your donation. Thank you to **Lori Landes**, **Rachel Rudensky**, and **Suri Winograd** for organizing the gifts.



## GOOD & WELFARE CARDS

The PTA offers beautiful Good & Welfare cards to honor lifecycle events. The suggested donation per card is \$10 or three for \$25. The PTA saves you time and postage by sending the card(s) for you with your message! For more information, please contact **Dvora Scher** at [dvora@dwpalaw.com](mailto:dvora@dwpalaw.com).



## RECYCLING PROGRAM

Please remember to drop off your used printer and ink toner cartridges, cell phones, laptops, digital cameras and other small electronics at the front desk. HDS is proud to be among the many schools participating in the Dade Recycling program. Thank you to **Andrea Zucker** for leading this initiative, and to the many families and businesses who are already contributing to this important effort.



## AMAZON AFFILIATES

The PTA has joined Amazon Affiliates, a simple way to support HDS every time you shop at Amazon. **All you need to do is visit <http://www.hillelpta.org/amazon.html>**

**to place your Amazon order, and the school will receive 6% back on your purchases.** You'll find the exact same prices, product selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon's standard website – with the added bonus of knowing you are supporting our school. Thank you to all of the HDS families who have helped us raise over \$2,213. We express our gratitude to **Miriam Raul** and **Andrea Zucker** for coordinating this program.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFASTS

Sponsoring a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast is a great way to recognize our HDS teachers and staff. For information on sponsorship opportunities or to volunteer to help with the breakfasts, please contact **Cara Freedman** at 561-750-3132 or [carafreedman@yahoo.com](mailto:carafreedman@yahoo.com).



Faculty and staff enjoy the first Teacher Appreciation Breakfast of the year, sponsored in honor of EC-4, 2nd grade and 3rd Grade teachers.



Thanks to a free, downloadable application for smartphones and tablets, HDS families are turning their grocery receipts into donations to our school. When you download Shoparoo, it does not matter what or how much you buy – every grocery receipt allows you to earn points for HDS just by snapping a picture of it. We applaud all of the families who have helped HDS earn a \$334 donation from Shoparoo.

If you're looking for an easy way to get involved with HDS, consider enlisting in the PTA Troopers—and find the volunteer opportunities that are just right for you! Please email [sharonakay@mac.com](mailto:sharonakay@mac.com) to join and learn more.

## BUSINESS OFFICE UPDATE Joe Sharp, Executive Director



We have tremendous gratitude to Hashem as we begin the new school year with another year of record enrollment. To accommodate a 17% increase in enrollment over the past 3 school years, we have made some necessary upgrades and modifications to our facilities over the summer, and will continue to do so as the year goes on.

Our latest security upgrade is an access control system for a portion of our campus, which was funded by our Department of Homeland Security grant. Also new for this school year, is a facilities maintenance and event scheduling program, which has already brought a higher level of efficiency, organization, and accountability to our daily operations. Our annual raffle to benefit our scholarship fund will be rolling out and we are working on some incredible prizes including a \$100,000 grand prize, and look forward to your generous participation.

Although the year has just begun, we are hard at work now in preparation of the 2016/17 registration and admissions season. We are also grateful for the work done by *Step Up for Students* on behalf of our community, and wish to remind you that applications are now being accepted for a limited time for all qualified renewal families.

We feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work on behalf of you and your children, once again, and pray, G-D willing, that we may continue to do so for many more years to come!

## Meet the 2015-2016 Student Council

**Aaron Katz & Tehila Zaghi - President, Vice President**  
**Neshama Pickholtz & Tans Rosen - Treasurer**  
**Eliana Broide & Zvi Landes - Secretary**

8th Grade Representatives: **Sivan Mussaffi & Akiva Rosenthal**  
7th Grade Representatives: **Zachary Cohen & Ella Dreyfuss**  
6th Grade Representatives: **Jacob Freedman & Shayla Saïda**



If you have information to include in a future *Hillel Herald*, please email [srice@hilleldayschool.org](mailto:srice@hilleldayschool.org).

Editor: Suzanne M. Rice 561-470-5000 x225

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.

**CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY!** Please remember to speak with us about including Hillel Day School of Boca Raton in your planned giving. Legacy gifts such as wills and bequests, or including the school in your estate plan, life insurance policy or retirement account, are vital to the future generation of Hillel Day School students.



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## Orientation Welcomes Over 40 New Families to HDS

A record-breaking number of families new to HDS attended the New Parent Orientation the evening of August 18. The program gave them a chance to ask questions in an open forum and interact with the administration.

Families also mingled with other HDS newbies and received a welcome goody bag. Thank you to the PTA for providing a portion of the goodies.



## SAVE THE DATE

# 1.10.16

### ANNUAL JOURNAL DINNER

Honoring

## Daniel & Caroline Katz



Join the Tribute Committee today!

Go to <https://hilleldayschool.wufoo.com/forms/z17u/akx0u8lba3/>