



Shana Tova 5772!

IN THIS ISSUE

Hillel Happenings.....2-3

Upper School News.....4

Lower School News.....5

PTA.....6-7

New Faculty & Staff.....8

Judaic Studies.....9

Fall Sports.....10

Campaign Matters.....11

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

**Back
to
School
Issue**



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



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



Dear Parents,

My wife and I have chosen our glorious national parks as our vacation destination these past several years. To see Hashem's handiwork in its pristine state is awe-inspiring as one contemplates the magnificence of His creations. This July, Breindel and I spent nine days in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, home to the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. My words cannot adequately describe the splendor of the Tetons nor can they begin to impart the grandeur of the landscapes, flora and fauna of Yellowstone. Making the vistas even more splendid was the fact that this past winter's snows were more than three times the yearly average. As a result, the lower elevations of the Tetons were covered with snow as were many places on the forest floor of Yellowstone. For Florida residents this was an added treat: playing in the snow in eighty-degree weather was delightful.

Some of the parks we visited in the past provided a challenge in terms of finding kosher food. On those occasions we had to subsist on crackers and canned tuna. Not so in Jackson Hole. This tiny western town, nestled in the shadow of the Tetons, is home to a Chabad House. Not only were we able to purchase hot meals for Shabbat, but we also had a minyan and Torah reading. A diverse group of fellow travelers spent a unique Shabbat together because of the mesirat nefesh (self-sacrifice) of Rabbi Zalman Mendelsohn, the Chabad shaliach, in this distant and remote corner of the United States.

At Kiddush lunch after tefila, the rabbi's three-year-old daughter, Chayale, told her father that she wanted to speak to the twenty guests gathered around the table. With poise beyond her years, she told us about her month-long visit to Crown Heights. "I saw a boy wearing a yarmulke and tzitzit just like my Tati," she said, with eyes opened wide in wonder. "And," she continued, "I had a Morah named Devorah Leah." This little girl is home schooled, has only her younger sister to play with and interacts with children infrequently because there are no other children her age in her community. To her, a place where Torah observance is the norm, where Jewish schools and camps abound and where kosher food is readily accessible, seem exotic.

Upon our return home, I reflected upon what this little girl had to say. I thought, what would life be like without the local institutions that so richly contribute to our lives as observant Jews? Can you imagine what Shabbat afternoon would be like without anyone with whom to interact? What if we were solely responsible for the Torah education of our children? What would life be like without the social contacts, the neighbors and friends that enrich our lives? Unfortunately, we sometimes take these things for granted.

As we begin a new year, I feel refreshed and renewed by my summertime experience. The three weeks I spent away from campus accomplished what was intended. I have also returned with a greater appreciation for G-d's beautiful handiwork. But just as importantly, thanks to Chayale, I also have a far greater appreciation for my community, for our communal institutions, and for the people who populate them. Without them life would just not be the same.

Shana Tova.

The Hillel Day School Emergency Hotline number is 1-855-544-5535. Please keep this number handy so that you can access school opening or closing information in the event of any emergency, weather or otherwise.

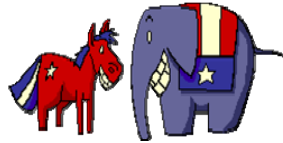
HDS Happenings

New Middle School Building Opens Its Doors

Rave reviews were the order of the day as Middle School students and parents entered our new Middle School building on the first day of school. Gone was the Annex that for the past decade housed our Middle School, replaced by our state-of-the-art, magnificent, new, 26,000 square-foot building. The new facility houses a Beit Midrash that enhances the tefilah experience of our students. With a seating capacity of 210, the Beit Midrash has a quiet sanctity that helps inspire the tefilah of our students for both shacharit and mincha services. The Beit Midrash is also home to BRS West which meets there for tefilah on Shabbat and Yom Tov.



Students participated in a community service fair where organizations including The Friendship Circle, Yachad, Mitzvah Clowning, and Chai Lifeline, came to present and inform the students about their missions.



Student Council Elections

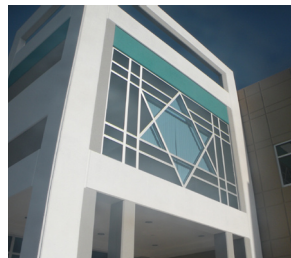


Enriching academics in Science and Computers are two new cutting edge labs. Each classroom is equipped with a SmartBoard allowing the faculty to employ technology in planning and presenting lessons to students. Having the latest technology on hand allows teachers in all

disciplines to be more creative in their teaching, and is yet another step in the school's reimagining its curriculum in order to afford our students the 21st century skills they will need. A spacious atrium houses our well-appointed student lounge that gives Hillel Middle Schoolers an area in which to relax or study in between classes and during recess and lunch. The building also provides office space, a conference room, tutoring rooms and a kitchen/work area for our faculty.



We thank G-d for His bountiful blessings in helping our community create one of the finest school campuses in North America.



President
Simcha Stadlan

Vice-President
Shara Saketkhov



Secretary
Shira Levitt



Treasurer
Elie Zaghi

6th Grade Representatives
Max Abramovitz and Gabi Englander

7th Grade Representatives
Izy Muller and Jonah Rose

8th Grade Representatives
Leor Levenson and Noam Tansman



Congratulations to all of our EMET Logo Design contestants and to the contest winner, Lizzy Adler.

HDS EMET CLUB WINNERS

E	xcellent	Jolie Aloof	Hadara Goldstein	Meira Pickholtz
		Moshe Amar	Lily Greenfield	Neshama Pickholtz
		Gabriel Beim	Aaron Gross	Mayrav Sakethou
		Rena Bensmihen	Lily Herman	Michal Skoczylas
M	idot	Maya Ben-Zikry	Chani Kaminetsky	Aiden Smolensky
		Alec Beylus	Reece Kaner	Akiva Stadlan
		Orly Bierly	Storm Katzman	Gabriel Stern
		Mali Blanka	Zev Kay	Sam Stern
E	very	Yisrael Braverman	Talya Kodsi	Ethan Wirtschafter
		Leila Brown	Raphael Krawatsky	Russell Wolff
		Sarah Cohen	Eli Lome	Joshua Young
		Tamir Cohen	David Lugassy	Tehila Zaghi
T	ime	Tamar Cohn	Shirelle Lunski	Yaheli Zehavi
		Orly Dimont	Mordechai Marcus	
		Meital Fixler	Yehuda Marcus	
		Harry Freedman	Eva Markowitz	
		Hannah Garby	Sivan Mussaffi	



Mazal Tov to all of the winners!

(as of 10/6/11)

Art Department Announces Holiday Card Contest Winners

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

This year's winners are:

- Moriya Berman** - Rosh Hashanah (pictured on cover); Chanukah
- Gabi Englander** - Chanukah
- Rebecca Rosen** - Chanukah
- Yael Sacher** - Chanukah
- Lauren Schechter** - Chanukah
- Aleksandra Shapiro** - Passover



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

The AVI CHAI Foundation Sponsors Rabbi Adam Englander for Harvard's Principals' Seminar

Rabbi Adam Englander, Upper School Principal, has just returned from Improving Schools: The Art of Leadership, a seminar at the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Principals' Center.

The AVI CHAI Foundation, a New York-based private foundation dedicated to promoting Jewish commitment, sponsored Rabbi Englander and eleven other day school principals from around the country to attend the seminar to help address the professional development needs of rapidly growing Jewish day schools.

Rabbi Englander attended lectures and discussion groups led by Harvard faculty, educational consultants and school practitioners. The program focuses on the challenges facing new school leaders and supports participants as they develop skills for leadership. Rigorous study is combined with writing, reflection and peer interaction, allowing participants to identify priorities and share ideas and solutions.

"It was a wonderful experience for me," said Rabbi Englander. "At Harvard, I attended lively, thought provoking sessions exploring the components of what makes a good school. We learned how to enhance the quality of the school experience for everyone – students, teachers and administrators alike. The AVI CHAI dinners for principals of Jewish day schools allowed us the chance to discuss those issues close to our heart – creating the most effective atmosphere for the education of our children. I am bringing these new skills back to Hillel."

Lauren Merkin, a member of AVI CHAI's Board of Trustees, says, "Strong instructional leadership is critical to achieving AVI CHAI's goal of enhancing the Jewish education provided by day schools. Through these institutes we aim to provide Jewish day school leaders with an intensive opportunity to reflection school leadership with leading academics and with practitioners from across North America."

(Rabbi E.)





The excitement, energy and enthusiasm that has permeated the air during the first few weeks of this new school year is like nothing I have ever felt before on the HDS campus. The Middle

Schoolers were privileged to settle into their magnificent new home with a beautiful Beit Midrash, state-of-the-art science lab, Apple Mac lab (thank you, PTA!), spacious student lounge, and much more. Our superstar teachers from the past are back and some great new teaching talent has joined our family. The Upper School was thrilled to welcome twenty-two new students. I have no doubt that this year will be our greatest year yet!

The hallmark of the HDS experience is a continuous striving towards excellence. With that comes enhancement and innovation in our student programming. We are very proud that we have officially kicked off the Middle School Elective Program. This new, cutting edge program affords students the opportunity to explore areas of interest and exposes them to a wide variety of educational experiences. Students were given a choice amongst ten options which meet every other week. The program operates in a half-year cycle so that each student can experience several different electives over the course of their Middle School years. The electives currently being offered are: **HDS CSI Lab** (a fascinating forensics course), **Website Design**, **Digital Photography**, **Chess**, **Israel Ambassadors**, **Scrapbooking**, **Three Dimensional Art**, **Cooking**, **Jewelry Making**, and **Pre-Pre-Med** (presentations from local doctors).

Best of all, our students have been so excited about this program and have been loving every minute! We are looking forward to offering an even greater variety of electives in the future. Please let us know if you have an idea for an elective offering that would enhance our program.



Scrapbooking



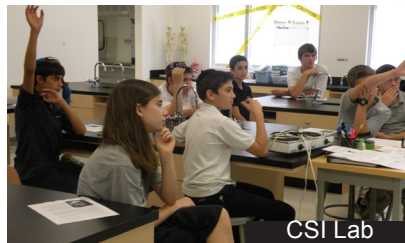
Website Design



Photography



3-D Art



CSI Lab



Jewelry Making



Pre-Pre-Med



Cooking



Israel Ambassadors



Chess

KAR²E Kolumn

By: Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcik,
 KAR²E Coordinator

Dear Middle School Parents,

The Middle School's KAR²E program is designed to insure that students graduate from Hillel with not only the best in Torah and secular education but that they also lead their lives based on the principles of "Kindness Always, Respect and Responsibility Everywhere." Towards this end, the Middle School students and their teachers participate in bi-weekly discussion groups known as KAR²E Circles. This year we are attempting to inculcate our students with the tools necessary for displaying pro-social caring behaviors.

Research has shown that the skills needed in order to help others include:

- Recognizing a situation where someone needs help
- Building a repertoire of helpful solutions
- Strong personal motivation to help (empathy, sympathy, etc.)
- Prioritizing helping others over our own needs
- Self-efficacy and assertiveness

Based on this research, the KAR²E Circle discussions will center around helping our students strengthen these skill sets. As an example, during the first week of school, the students were shown a series of facial expressions and body postures and were challenged to identify the emotions and non-verbal messages being exhibited. This exercise will hopefully increase the student's awareness of when others may need help.

While we are attempting to assist the students' growth in these areas, it is of great importance that these skills also be practiced at home. I encourage all parents to get involved in this process so that our children grow to their potential as scholars and as human beings.



Dear Parents,

As you know, each and every year we dedicate ourselves to giving the children the best education possible. This year is no exception. As a way to continue to educate our children with life skills they can carry outside the classroom, we have spent a great deal of time with the KidSafe organization, and have further developed this program for grades EC4-Middle School. The professionals from KidSafe will be running an eight-week course for students in EC4-K, teaching them about the traditional safety features in their environment of which all children in those age groups should be aware. Weekly discussions will include topics on how to stay safe from strangers, how to best answer the phone, whether or not it's a good idea to answer the door, how to protect yourself from Internet predators, and much more. This information can help children to safely navigate their world both physically and digitally. In addition, the same instructors have been meeting with children in Grades 1-3, who have already graduated the program, for a four-week refresher course, which will help them maintain these very important lifelong skills.

While teaching our children about personal safety is vital, we are also dedicating the entire year to helping children stamp out peer bullying. Although bullying is not pervasive in our school, thank G-d, there are children who do communicate or act in ways that may make others feel left out, ashamed or isolated. Again, in working with the team from KidSafe, our teachers have begun an intensive training, which will create a task force that will hopefully ultimately eradicate these issues. The curriculum will help students stick up for kids who are made to feel bad or alienated, and stand up for those who may feel disconnected from the classroom community. They will help make everyone feel included, comfortable, and confident. In addition, KidSafe will be checking in throughout the year to see how the children are doing with these issues.

In addition, we have significantly enhanced our Lower School Science Department with the addition of Batsheva Klein as Lower School science teacher. Mrs. Klein has already begun to teach them about the science of our environment. There is an enhanced science lab with a variety of animals such as tortoises, fish, hermit crabs and hamsters. The children love learning how to take care of these animals, and we hope to continue this enthusiasm as the months progress!

HILLEL DAY SCHOOL
 INVITES YOU TO
ART THROUGH THE AGES:
 A GALLERY EXHIBIT OF FINE ART
 BY THE HILLEL EARLY CHILDHOOD
 STUDENTS

Enjoy an Evening of Art Education
 Featuring a Wine and Cheese Reception

Children's Framed Artwork Will be on
 Display and for Sale

Saturday Night, November 12th
8pm - 10pm
HDS Middle School Building,
2nd Floor

RSVP to Hillel Day School at
 561.470.5000
 or
artthroughtheages@hilleldayschool.org



1st graders plant seeds to measure the difference in growth between their plants and seeds that were planted on the Space Shuttle.



EC2 prepares for Shabbat.



EC2 future Picassos.



Thank you to **Dvora Scher** for her hard work and initiative with writing grants for Hillel Day School. Thanks to her efforts, Hillel was awarded a \$2,000 grant from Target for Story Theater With Miss Rita.

In addition, the PTA recently received \$862.73 from Target as a reward from those who have a Target credit card and have activated Hillel as their school partner. Shoppers still receive 5% off all purchases AND Hillel also receives a percentage.

P.T.A.



PTA Annual Tennis Tournament

The PTA's Third Annual Tennis Tournament 'served' up hours of fun. Held at The Country Club at Boca Raton on May 25, the event welcomed female players of all skill levels to round robin-style games under the guidance of Tennis Director **Art Snow**. The PTA thanks **Leslie Abady, Loren**

Stein and Robin Struhl for coordinating the Tournament and is grateful to all the participants and spectators. Congratulations to this year's champions, **Sarah Blumenthal and Rebecca Stern**.



Student volunteers sell HDS school spirit items. All proceeds benefit the Hillel PTA.

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 21, 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, and **Rachel and Uri Yudewitz** for donating the water.



The PTA applauds **Shari Levontin and Lysee Stein** for whipping up this exciting event, and thanks all of our volunteers: **Max Abramovitz, Sara Haar, Tani Kay, Ty Kay, Ariella Mammon, Avi Muller, Izy Muller, Dovi Teitelbaum, and Jonah Tripp**.



Pre-Holiday Shopping Spree

On the evening of September 14, the Boca Raton Synagogue bustled with excitement as hundreds of shoppers took a break from their busy schedules to attend the HDS PTA's Pre-Holiday Shopping Spree. The semi-annual event, which the PTA hosted in conjunction with **Torah**

Academy of Boca Raton (TABR), the Boca Raton Synagogue Sisterhood, and the Boca Raton Mikvah, raised funds for HDS, while bringing business to our community vendors and providing one-stop shopping for our patrons. Over 30 vendors participated, selling clothing, hats, jewelry, Judaica, vitamins, toys, children's accessories, baked goods and so much more, often at discounted 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: **Maya Borzak, Sharon Fein, Chani Katz, Orah Moshe, Lea Saida, Deborah Young, and Andrea Zucker**. We also express our gratitude to **Linda Gordon, Matthew Hocherman and his staff** for their help setting up the event.

Right On Target

Congratulations to all HDS families who participate in Target's Take Charge of Education® Program. Thanks to your commitment, HDS is among the top ten fund recipients. If you have a Target® Visa® Card, Target® Credit CardSM, Target® Check CardSM and/or Target® Business CardSM, please call 800-316-6142, log onto Target.com/tcoe, or visit your local Target® store to designate Hillel Day School as your school of choice for the Take Charge of Education® program. You receive 5% back on purchases and HDS receives 1% of purchases made at any Target® store with any of these cards and a ½% back for purchases made elsewhere using the Target® Visa® Card.

SUPPORT LOCAL SCHOOLS JUST BY USING YOUR REDCARD

Take Charge of Education has donated over \$275 million to K-12 schools since 1997. Look who's benefiting in your community!

Spanish River Comm High Sch	\$29,932
Boca Raton Comm High School	\$20,036
St Ambrose School	\$19,720
St Jean Of Arc Catholic School	\$17,356
Zion Lutheran Christian School	\$16,936
St Paul Lutheran School	\$15,936
Quiet Waters Elem School	\$13,875
Verde Elementary School	\$11,489
St Jude School	\$9,144
Hillel Day Sch Of Boca Raton	\$3,014

Start benefiting your school today. Simply use a RedCard and designate an eligible K-12 school as Target's school of choice. *Restrictions apply.

5% OFF

With Praise, Thanks & Admiration...

Congratulations to **Lilian Aharon**, the PTA Volunteer of the Month for August.

On behalf of all our new HDS families, the PTA thanks **Anne Deakter** for leading the Welcome Committee and thanks members **Rachel Greenbaum**, **Keri Greenfield**, and **Rachel Harow**, for calling and warmly welcoming new HDS families.

The PTA expresses its gratitude to **Liora Adler** and **Lisa Houben** for organizing the Annual PTA New Mother's Brunch at the Adler home in August. Attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast, mingling with old and new friends, and learning more about the role of the PTA and exciting volunteer opportunities.

The PTA applauds **Dvora Scher** for all her hard work coordinating the Annual School Supply Sale. Thank you to the volunteers who helped assemble and distribute over 360 school supply kits: **Max Abramovitz**, **Roy Ben-Zikry**, **Joshua Fein**, **Daniel Feldan**, **Adina Hoffman**, **Shimon Hoffman**, **Justin Lurie**, **Shara Saketkhou**, **Ben Schandelson**, **Akiva Scher**, **Sarit Scher**, **Yosef Scher** and **Elyse Tripp**.

Thank you to **Sharon Fein** and **Sara Rosenthal** for coordinating Picture Day with LifeTouch® in September and to volunteers **Naomi Abramovitz**, **Devorah Marcus**, **Alana Shepetofsky** and **Andrea Zucker**.

Thank you to the many volunteers who picked up challot for Early Childhood Shabbat parties. We express our gratitude to **Amazing Savings** for selling the challot to us at the incredible price of just .99 cents each. If you are available to pick up challot on Thursdays, please contact Cara Beim at CaraBeim@hotmail.com.

Thank you to **Keri and Lily Greenfield** for volunteering to sell merchandise at the KTP performance in June.

The PTA thanks the **Bernstein** family for coordinating the distribution and collection of HDS Tzedakah boxes. To obtain a tzedakah box, please contact Andrea Bernstein at 561-212-3072.

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** and **Galit Freedman** for the hours they spend making copies for our teachers.

Thank you to **Alana Shepatofsky** for leading the Carpool Brigade and to the many volunteers at carpool time.

Kudos to **Naomi Abramovitz** for assembling the 2011 online PTA Summer Packet.

Thank you to **Schokolad Chocolate Factory** for donating a percentage of Pre-Rosh Hashanah purchases to the PTA and to **Andrea Bernstein** for coordinating this effort.

Zumba

Women enjoy Zumba at HDS during weekly classes led by instructor Hanna Cohen and organized by Dvora Eisen. Join in on the fun Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30pm in the Cafetorium. Price is \$9 per individual session or a ten-pack for \$75.



Introducing PTA Troopers

Looking for an easy way to get involved with the HDS PTA but not quite sure which job is right for you? Are you available to assist with last-minute PTA needs? Consider enlisting with our dedicated volunteer group—the PTA Troopers. PTA Troopers help out when the PTA needs someone to go to a store for supplies, to set up a Teacher Appreciation breakfast, to run a PTA booth at a boutique, host a special event, and much more. E-mail sharonakay@mac.com to join!

Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts

Sponsoring a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast is a great way to recognize our HDS teachers and staff. For information on upcoming sponsorship opportunities, or to help with shopping or setting up the breakfasts, please contact Cara Freedman at 561-750-3132 or carafreedman@yahoo.com.

Continuing Adult Education Classes

Infuse your morning with the spirit of learning at adult education classes, taught by Rabbi Smolarcik and Rabbi Moskowitz. Sessions are Mondays and Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m. in the new conference room on the second level of the Middle School building.

TELL THE WORLD HOW YOU FEEL

with a Gilad Shalit Car Magnet



Each Car Magnet is \$5

All donations will be sent to:

THE KEREN MAOR FOUNDATION — VE'SHAVU BANIM LE'GVULAM
"and thy sons shall return to their borders"

Donations will be made to KEREN MAOR at the request of Gilad Shalit's father

Hillel Day School of Boca Raton 28011 93th Ave, South Boca Raton, FL 33428 Tel: (561) 420-5000 Fax: (561) 420-5005

HDS is pleased to partner with the Boca Raton Synagogue and Torah Academy of Boca Raton in raising funds to help free Gilad Shalit. Doing your part is simple—with the purchase of a magnet that spreads the word.

Meet Our New Faculty & Staff



Ziyona Cheftzi joins us as the EC4B assistant teacher. Her role is to love, care for and teach each child while speaking in Hebrew. This way the words they learn are associated with actions and objects that are used every day. Ziyona was born in Israel and she loves art, cooking and playing with her cat, Baby. She is married to Elazar and is an Alumna of HDS - Class of 2002. Ziyona

is the first HDS graduate to assume a teaching position at Hillel.



Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger joins us as a 4th grade Judaic Studies teacher (aka 4th Grade Rebbe). His goal is to teach, as well as learn, from the students. This year he will be focusing on Chumash, Navi, Dinim and Ivrit. Born in New York, Rabbi Eisenberger and his wife, Shoshana, have four children, Bat-Tzion (8), Yehuda (6), Yigal (4), and Matanel (1), three of whom attend Hillel Day School. Rabbi

Eisenberger grew up both in the U.S. and Israel and has spent close to 10 years in Israel. He also enjoys playing and following sports.



Dannie Grajower will be teaching Middle School Judaic Studies and will be teaching a combination of Navi and Chumash to the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. She will also be a mechanechet for a few periods each week. Dannie was born in New York and she and her husband Josh have one child, Dovid (1). She owned a candy business in New York.



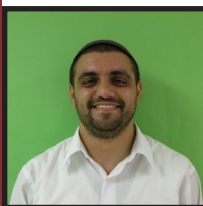
Nechama Lichtenstein joins us in the ETGAR program. Her role is to teach Hebrew and Judaic Studies in a supportive and fun environment. Morah Nechama will use different methods to involve the children and keep them interested and focused on their learning so that they can reach their goals and succeed in everything that they do. Nechama was born in Brooklyn, NY. She

and her husband Joseph have four children: Mendy (24), who is serving in the Israeli Army, Ari (18), Sara (14) and Rivka (11), who attends Hillel Day School. Her parents made Aliya in 1970, and Nechama grew up and completed her education there. She has been involved in teaching and education for the past 25 years.



Danielle Mizrahi joins us as the new Middle School Social Studies teacher. She sees her role as a Middle School instructor to inform students of American heritage, American government, geography, and Jewish heritage pertaining to the Holocaust. Danielle strives to make the learning experience informative, meaningful and fun. Her hope is that her students will find this knowledge of

great value and utilize it as they progress through life. She is excited to be a part of the Hillel family and looks forward to working with the incredible staff, faculty, students and parents.



Rabbi Moshe Nadav joins us as a 4th grade Judaic Studies teacher, focusing on Judaics and Hebrew. Born in Israel, he and his wife Gali, also a teacher at HDS, have four children: Ruth (8), Sapir (6), Adi (4) and Tamar (6 mos.). The three eldest attend Hillel Day School. Rabbi Moshe studied for 10 years in Hesder Yeshiva in Karnei Shomron. He also served in the IDF in the Golan Brigade. Rabbi Moshe

loves to read and play sports, he's the Chazan of the Sephardic Minyan at BRS, and is happy and proud to part of the Hillel family.



Aliza Pilichowski joins us as the 7th grade girls' Toshba teacher. Her role is to help facilitate education, inspiration, connection and passion for Torah and Judaism. Aliza was born in San Diego, CA, and has lived in 5 states and 6 different U.S. cities. She and her husband, Rabbi Uri, have 6 children: Avigayil (12), Temimah (10), Gila (8), Naomi (7), Tova (4) and Moshe (2), the four youngest of which attend HDS.



Chana Sosin joins us as the 1st grade Judaic and secular studies assistant teacher. She will be working with Morah Elisheva and Ms. Gene on many subjects including reading, math, writing, Ivrit and much more. Born in Brooklyn, NY, Chana was raised in a Sephardic community. She has four children: Basya (15), Mendel (12), Joseph (5), and Jacob (3), who attends HDS. She has lived in Israel, California, Detroit, Philadelphia, New York and Montreal, and has

been in Florida for 12 years. Chana is excited to be part of the Hillel family and can't wait to share many beautiful moments with the children.

Meet the B'not Sherut

Welcome Ayala Nir and Ronee Rotterman, our new B'not Sherut! The girls will be teaching the children of HDS the culture and history of Israel so that they have a better appreciation of our homeland.



Ayala Nir was born in Israel and is the eldest of two brothers and two sisters. Last year she worked as a Sherut Leumi in Ofakim, a city in the south of Israel. She loves to dance and go hiking in her free time.



Ronee Rotterman was born in New York and has two brothers: Saul (20) and Gilad (16). Last year she worked as a Sherut Leumi in the Bet Elazraki Children's Home in Netanya. She loves arts and crafts and is very close to her family.

If anyone would like to host the B'not Sherut for shabbat, chagim or any other time, please contact Elisheva Levitt at 561-393-7607 or elisheval@hilleldayschool.org as she is coordinating meals.



Call the Business Office at
561-470-5000
ext. 216 for more information or reservations.

Hillel Day School of Boca Raton SCHOOL BUS

Available for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, birthday parties and other events.



Fully insured and licensed.



How wonderful it is to be back in school and feeling the positive energy that permeates the entire Hillel campus. Baruch Hashem, we have been blessed to add to our already beautiful campus. Our new Middle School building houses a magnificent Beit Midrash, state-of-the-art computer and science labs, gorgeous classrooms and working areas for the students to collaborate together and socialize during breaks. Walking through all the buildings, one is inspired and excited to hear the enthusiasm and eagerness of our students to learn and to succeed.

We have added new faces to our faculty. As assistants in our classrooms we welcome to Early Childhood, Morah Ziyona Cheftzi, who is assisting Morah Cindy Halbstein in the ECE4 classroom. Morah Ziyona is an alumna of Hillel, and it is wonderful to have a former student come back to work with us. Morah Chana Sosin is assisting in the 1st grade along with Morah Elisheva Levitt and Morah Hana Marin, and Morah Gabrielle Meyerowitz, is assisting in the 2nd grade with Morah Bracha Doch.

We are proud to add several new teachers to our Upper School faculty. In the 4th grade, Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger comes to us from Monsey, NY, where he taught at Ashar as well as at the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy in Livingston, NJ. Rabbi Eisenberger is a parent to three children in Hillel and we welcome his family to our community. Also, in the 4th grade, we are excited to have Rabbi Moshe Nadav, who brings with him a warm and exciting love of Torah. Rabbi and Morah Gali have their three daughters in Hillel. In the Middle School, we added Mrs. Danielle Grajower, who hails from New York. she has taught at Hillel Torah in Skokie, IL, and the SAR Academy in Riverdale, NY. Morah Danielle teaches Chumash and Navi in the Middle School. Also, in Limudei Kodesh Middle School, we welcome Morah Aliza Pilichowski, who comes from Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy in California and is now teaching Toshba to the 7th grade girls. The Pilichowski's have three children in Hillel and we welcome them to the community. Ms. Danielle Mizrahi is a new teacher, who brings so much positive energy to her

Middle School classes as she teaches social studies to 6th, 7th and 8th grades.

In the ETGAR department, it was bittersweet to say goodbye to our good friend Mrs. Judy Ziton. Mrs. Ziton made Aliyah and finding a replacement for her was a huge task. Mrs. Nechama Lichtenstein answered the call and she brings many years of teaching experience from various schools, the last being in Rochester, NY. Mrs. Lichtenstein has a special love for teaching special education and her classroom is warm and inviting. Mrs. Lichtenstein has a daughter, Rivkah, in the 7th grade.

This year, we are adding a new feature to our Limudei Kodesh program in 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades. Using an inclusion model for Chumash instruction, Morah Tova Gil and Morah Batsheva Klein assist in the classrooms and help the children during the Chumash lessons. This is working very well and we are excited to see great results in the classes of Chumash. Morah Batsheva Klein wears two hats this year, one as the inclusion teacher for Chumash, and the other as the science teacher for EC4 through 4th grade.

Hailing all the way from Israel, we welcome our new B'not Sheirut, Ronee Rotterman and Ayala Nir. They bring excitement and warmth

Friday Oneg Shabbat with Chaim Parchi



to our program and they are happy to be here as they have been graciously welcomed by the Boca community.

A new program parents are availing themselves of is our Judaics Homework Hotline for 1st through 5th grades. Parents volunteered to be on call to assist other parents who may have difficulties in helping with the Hebrew assignments. The program is working well and we appreciate the efforts of everyone participating.

The Oneg Shabbat that we implemented last year in Early Childhood and 1st through 5th grades is continuing again this year. Each Friday, Mr. Chaim Parchi comes to Hillel for two programs. At 10:30am, he sings with the Early Childhood and Kindergarten classes. At 11:00am, 1st through 5th grades join him in singing songs for Shabbat and Chagim. This is a beautiful program and parents are welcome to stop by.

We wish everyone a "Ktiva V'Chatima Tova." May Hashem grant us success, peace and good health.



Each morning in the days before Rosh Hashanah Morah Hadassah tells HDS students a story and Rabbi Drang blows the Shofar.

SPORTS - Hillel Lions Roar into a New Season



Maia Shaffer, Athletic Director

The school year is in full swing and the sports program is no exception. We have kicked off the season with Boys Flag Football and Girls Volleyball.

As of this writing, we are hoping that the Boys Flag Football team will participate in this year's playoffs and we are extremely excited about our chances. We have had great participation in our first season of Hillel's Sports Clinics. The number of participants has doubled in some sports and tripled in others. They have also prepared the athletes for the upcoming late fall season with Boys Soccer and Girls Basketball.

I look forward to seeing all of the young talent participating in our second session clinics which begin on October 24.

Go, Lions!

Girls Volleyball



By: Coach Tammy Mathis



It has been a great honor to have been the Head Coach of the girls volleyball team 2011-2012. I have been impressed with their dedication and accomplishments this season. It is nice to have been in the company of young ladies with such good character and values on and off the court. Go Lions!!!!

Boys Flag Football



By: Coach Brennen Grubbs and Maia Shaffer

This year's outstanding effort from the Boys Flag Football team has demonstrated what hard work and dedication from our students can make possible. They not only had a great season, but



also surpassed expectations by qualifying for the playoffs and winning the last two regular season games against St. Marks and Sagemont School. There were some extraordinary moments which included **Sammy Baum**, **Tani Kay** and **Elie Zaghi** each having interceptions which contributed greatly to the St. Marks victory. The touchdowns, which sealed the deal for the game against St. Marks, were made by **Jacob Katz** and **Sammy Baum**. Some winning plays against Sagemont school included touchdowns made by **Jacob Katz**, **Sammy Baum**, **Tani Kay**, and **Ari Cohen**.

Thank you to all our athletes who come to practices ready to train hard as well as those athletes who are able to go the extra mile by attending our clinics. The athletes' determination and drive to improve has gotten them to the playoffs. In fact the coach of St. Marks School remarked to Coach Grubbs that he was truly impressed with how much our boys have improved over the past two years. Our athletes have learned that practice and hard work make a tremendous difference.

Congratulations to the Boys Flag Football team, who advances to the playoffs. Final standings not available at press time.



New Sports Hotline: 561-372-7970



Help Us Reach 100 Degrees

Next time you are in the lobby of the main school building, check out the Every Parent Campaign Thermometer. Help us raise the temperature, ultimately to reach our goal of 100 degrees with 100% participation by our parent body. Your contribution to the Annual Campaign, no matter the amount, will help us raise the temperature and your family name will be displayed reflecting your support of Hillel Day School.

You can participate in this campaign with a contribution to the Hillel Annual Fund any time during the year in any of the following ways: donating to the Annual Campaign with a general donation or tribute donation; participating in the Annual Journal Event by placing an ad in the journal, joining the Tribute Committee, or attending the event, participating in the Annual Golf Tournament by purchasing a sponsorship, playing in the Tournament or purchasing a raffle ticket, or donating back your VPK funding.

Last year we reached 67 degrees (67%) and we know that it is a little chilly for South Florida. We hope to see all of your names decorating our main lobby and watch as the mercury rises this year! Donation forms and envelopes are available at the front desk for your convenience.

Thanking you in advance,
Gila Stern, EPC Chair
Suzanne Rice, Director of Development

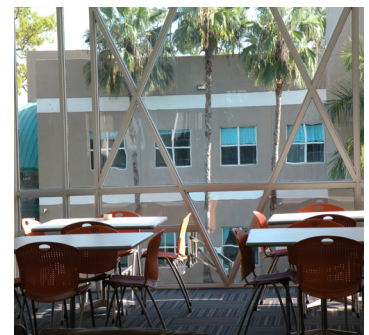


CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Thank you to our Capital Campaign supporters who have made their pledge to support the new Middle School building and Gymnasium.

- Anonymous** - Stained Glass Window (Beit Midrash)
- Mark & Helen Cohan** - Stained Glass Window (Beit Midrash)
- Stanley & Ana Haar** - Faculty Lounge (Middle School)
- Hillel PTA** - Apple/Mac Computer Lab (Middle School)
- David & Joyce Muller** - Stained Glass Window (Beit Midrash)
- Jackie & Rachel Tripp** - Aron (Beit Midrash)
- Michael & Risa Zimmerman** - Ner Tamid (Beit Midrash)

For more information on available naming opportunities, contact the Development Office at 561-470-5000.



SAVE THE DATE

HILLEL DAY SCHOOL OF BOCA RATON

Annual Journal Event

December 15, 2011 - 19 Kislev 5772



**Defenders of Israel Award
Congressman Ted & Jill Deutch**

**Tomchei Torah Award
Dr. Mark & Helen Cohan**

**Oht Hameseroot Faculty Dedication Award
Chayim Dimont & Cindy Halbstein**



Co-Chairs: Sal & Leslie Abady ~ Dr. Ben & Cara Freedman ~ Dr. Larry & Debra Halperin

Call 561.470.5000 for ad journal information and dinner reservations.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT ON MARJORIE TINIO

It's not very common for an educator to receive "Teacher of the Month" recognition during his/her first year of teaching in a school, but that was the honor recently awarded to Marjorie Tinio, a science teacher at Hillel Day School. Marjorie had joined the school faculty after teaching for several years in public schools, and was assigned a mentor, Rabbi Gur Berman, to help her navigate her first year at Hillel.

"It was invaluable to have a veteran teacher guiding me in the new school," Marjorie says. "On one level, it was so helpful to have someone explain school routines, policies, and even how to prepare comments for report cards. Mentoring also improved my classroom management. But it had a huge impact on my teaching because I was able to talk to my mentor at length about critical thinking and how I can enhance my teaching with particular classroom strategies. I could see and feel the difference in how the class engages with the subject matter."

In addition to being a new teacher, Marjorie faced several additional challenges. As a non-Jew, she found it extremely helpful when her mentor shared information with her regarding Jewish holidays and practices. In addition, her classroom was located in an adjacent building, and was physically isolated from most of the school. "The majority of the faculty was working in a different building, and I had little contact with them during the day," Marjorie says. "Gur was also teaching in my building, and he made a real effort to make sure I got to know the other teachers, even though I had little daily contact with them. This was part of a larger project that involved the faculty at the school – the creation of peer relationships among teachers. I hadn't seen that at the other schools I taught in, and I thought that was so important. I found myself going to other teachers for advice and guidance, and was so impressed to see much more veteran teachers doing the same."

Marjorie believes the experience of working with Gur has made her a better teacher and provided her with important insights about teaching as well as about being a supportive colleague. "By making me a better teacher, the mentoring process has ultimately benefited the kids in my class," Marjorie notes. "They were an important part of the process, because they saw Gur when he came to sit in the class and observe my work. I talked to them about why mentoring is important and what Gur's role was. So they were aware – and supportive. That helped me understand that we would all benefit from this program."

Save These Dates:
Early Childhood Art Event - November 12, 2011
An Evening of Music ~ November 17, 2011
Chanukah Fair/Open House ~ December 4, 2011
Annual Journal Event - December 15, 2011



If you have information to include in a future *Hillel Herald*, please e-mail suzanner@hilleldayschool.org.
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2011-12 Calendar At-A-Glance

November

- 2 ▫ All Grades Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
- 3 ▫ All Grades Parent/Teacher Conferences (day)
- 12 ▫ Early Childhood Art Event
- 17 ▫ An Evening of Music
- 23 ▫ End of First Trimester (noon dismissal)
- 24 ▫ Thanksgiving Break (school closed through Nov. 25)

December

- 2-3 ▫ 7th & 8th Grade Shabbaton
- 4 ▫ Chanukah Fair/Open House
- 15 ▫ Annual Journal Event
- 20 ▫ Chanukah Begins (first candle)
- 26 ▫ Winter Break begins (school closed through Dec. 30)/ HDS Vacation Camp Dec. 26-30 (registration required)

January

- 2 ▫ Classes Resume
- 5 ▫ Fast of 10th of Tevet (2:15 dismissal for grades 6-8)
- 16 ▫ Midterms for 7th & 8th grades through Jan. 20
- 23 ▫ Mid-Year Break begins (school closed through Jan. 27)/ HDS Vacation Camp Jan. 23-27 (registration required)
- 30 ▫ Classes Resume

February

- 8 ▫ Tu B'Shevat
- 20 ▫ Presidents Day (school closed)
- 21 ▫ Chesed Day
- 29 ▫ Parent/Teacher Conferences Grades 1-8 (evening)

March

- 1 ▫ Grades 1-8 Parent/Teacher Conference (day)
- 7 ▫ Fast of Esther (2:15pm dismissal for grades 6-8)
- 8 ▫ Purim
- 9 ▫ End of Second Trimester
- 11 ▫ Federation Super Sunday



Mrs. Sari Vine speaks at a moving ceremony in memory of the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Teacher of the Month



Morah Elisheva Levitt
September 2011

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.



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of South Palm Beach County

To Life.



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Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

TORAH UMESORAH
National Association of Hebrew Day Schools



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