

# THE Hillel Herald

A publication of  
Katz Hillel Day School  
of Boca Raton  
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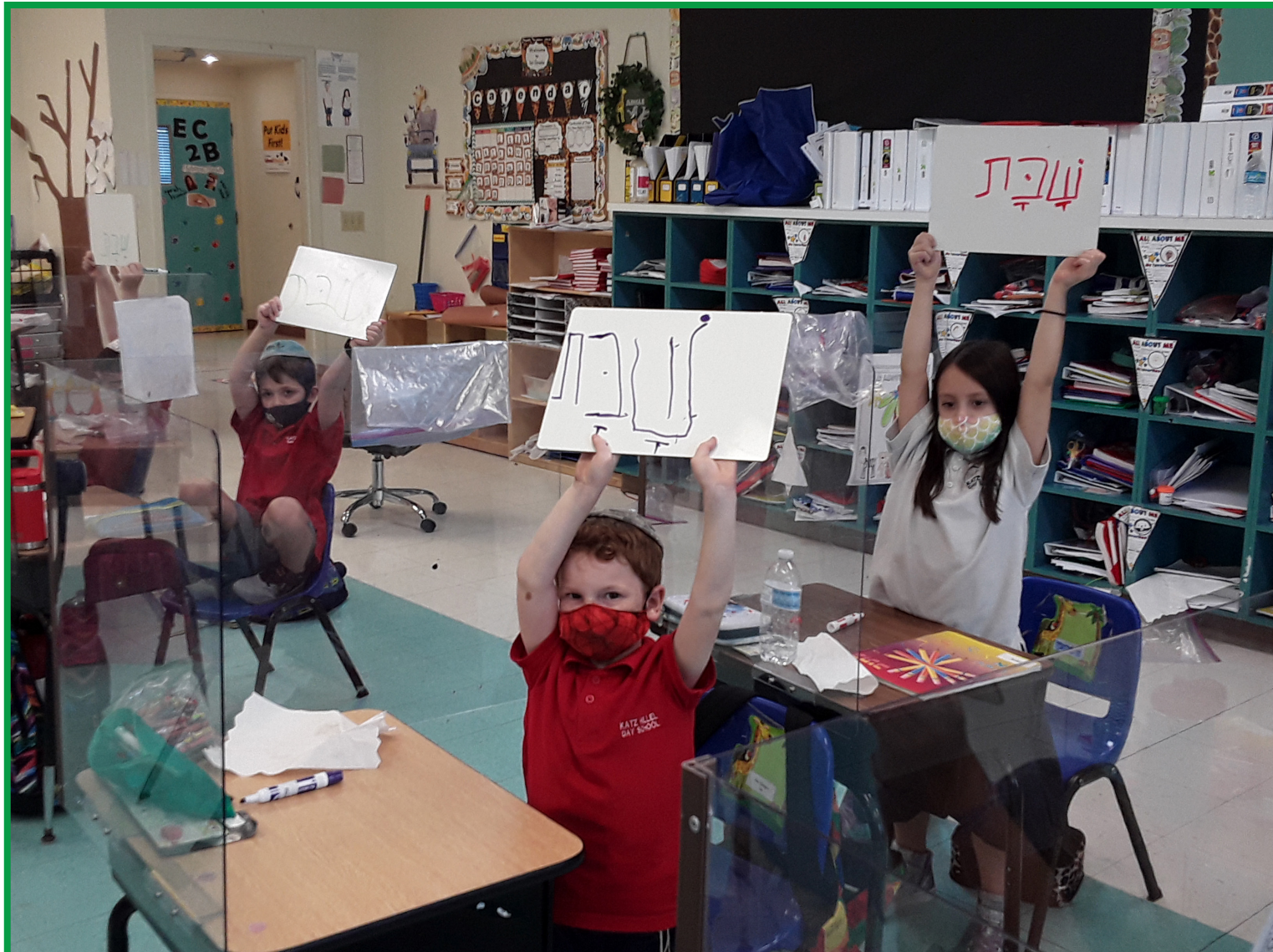


2020 Palm Beach County  
Green School of Quality



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## 2 Leadership Messages



**Rabbi Yehudah Potok, M.S. Ed.,  
Head of School**

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks once wrote, "What the secular West now worships is not the universal but the individual: the 'self,' the 'me,' the 'I'... binding society together for the sake of the common good – has been dissolved into the right of each individual." Yet as Jews we value the communal. We understand Hashem's mandate to us to be focused beyond ourselves to the needs of the kehillah.

This past year has been challenging in so many ways. But one of the most important pieces that has come out of it has been the responsibility toward others. In a global pandemic, I can't simply think about my own needs. My actions directly affect others around me. How I behave, whether it is wearing a mask or making sure that I am responsible when hanging out with friends, has been instrumental in keeping our community healthy and safe.

The sacrifices families have had to make, celebrating smachot in very different ways than they ever imagined or not seeing parents/grandparents who live in another state, have been really hard but we understand that we do this because we are obligated to think beyond our own personal needs and desires.

I want to thank our teachers and staff who have invested so much of themselves in thinking beyond themselves to be on campus to take care of educating our students. I want to thank our families for being responsible in their actions thereby enabling our doors to stay open. And, I want to thank Hashem for having taught us this ever-important message of being responsible for one another, a message we continue to instill in our KHDS students on a daily basis.

## Early Childhood Classroom Dedicated in memory of Dana Petrover, A"H



Thanks to the generosity of the **Petrover family**, and other generous donors, Early Childhood Classroom #1211, the classroom where **Dana Petrover, A"H**, taught, was dedicated in her memory on Sunday, December 20th. **Dana**, KHDS parent of **David** (Class of '06),

**Zachary** (Class of '06), **Kayla** (Class of '11) and **Rachel** ('11), and beloved wife of **Dr. Michael Petrover**, was a former faculty member, and most recently a substitute teacher at KHDS. Her passion was teaching the youngest of our students in the Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center.

Over 110 participants joined in via Zoom for the dedication program. Speaking at the dedication were **Rabbi Yehudah Potok** (Head of School), **Chayim Dimont** (Principal, Early Childhood - Grade 3), **Leon Brum** (father of Dana Petrover), **Dr. Michael Petrover** (husband of Dana Petrover) and **Kayla Petrover** (daughter of Dana Petrover).

Special thanks to **Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger** for technical assistance.

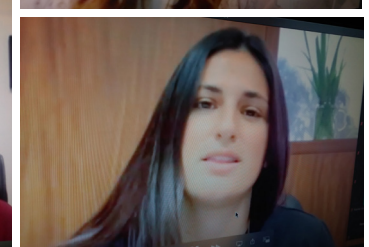
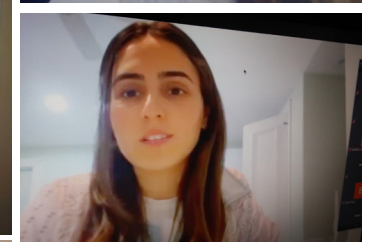
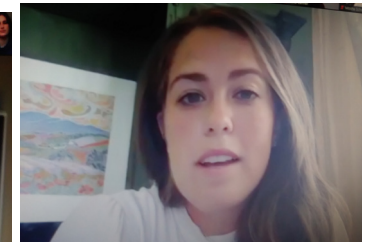
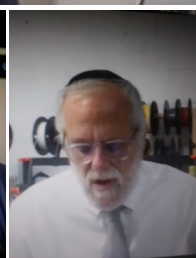
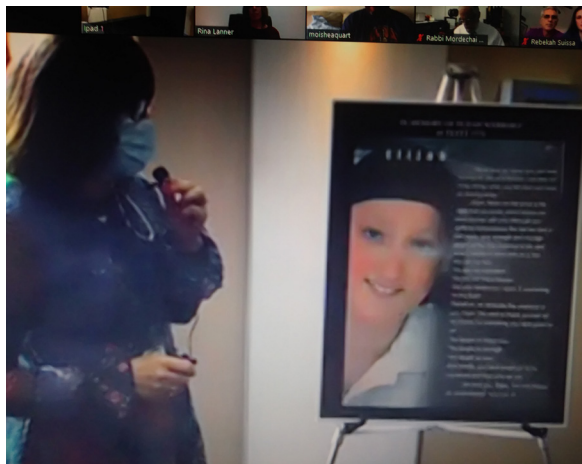


## Elijah Webberly, Remembered

This year marked the 10th anniversary since KHDS lost our dear friend and beloved student, **Elijah Webberly, z"l**, to cancer. In his memory, a commemorative program, via Zoom, was held on December 31~16 Tevet 5781.

Over 130 participants joined the Zoom to remember Elijah. Thank you to **Hannah Katz**, **Rebekah Suissa** and **Raquel Zimmerman** (Class of '11) for once again helping to coordinate this memorial and bringing together those who were part of Elijah's journey, to remember and honor his legacy. Thank you to **Coach Moishe** for sharing a special poem. As a chesed project, Middle School students wrote get well cards and letters for Chai Lifeline, an organization close to Elijah's heart. In addition, a toy drive was also coordinated.

Something that will never be forgotten was Elijah's ability to bring individuals and communities, specifically the KHDS family, closer together.







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

So much has been written about Covid and how schools have adjusted their teaching and learning, I thought it would be nice to write about something slightly different. Over the past year, our community has had to physically isolate from one another, however, I believe that we have grown stronger in our ability to “come together.” It would seem

that in the time that we are now living, when we would have every reason to split apart, grow distant, and retreat selfishly to attend to our own needs, instead, for the most part, parents and teachers—sometimes unknowingly—have banded together to support each other.

Parents have worked incredibly hard to find ways to assist the school in its current mission to promote continued in-person learning by making sure they follow policies and procedures, and take precautionary measures that have often meant curtailing socialization or major travel plans, and keeping children home when in doubt despite the difficulties that arise because of it. Teachers as well have forgone traveling and meeting up with friends outside of work in order to ensure that they are not potentially exposed to Covid. This joint effort of personal sacrifice has created a community of mutual respect and understanding culminating in a true feeling of being “in this together.” Don’t get me wrong—this has not been simple or easy; there have been frustrating episodes along the way. But I believe we are stronger for it. Our school community has had tremendous success thus far in keeping our school open to in-person learning, simply because we, both parents and teachers, have stepped up our game of what we want our school community to look and feel like by giving up personal comfort for the greater good. We have shown our vulnerability in order to serve our children in the best manner possible. Nobody signed up for this type of learning and I think we can all agree it pales in comparison to what we know is best practice. Teachers have had to reinvent themselves as to the way they teach and parents have had to invest more time and effort into ensuring learning success. Both parents and teachers have had to push harder than before, simply to accomplish success for the school community as a whole. Each has taken on these challenges with mutual understanding and respect. G-d willing when this is all over, and life returns to “normal,” may we continue our efforts and advance to another level of shared support and adoration.



EC welcomed a special guest at their Oneg—Avraham Avinu!



**Hadassah Smolarcik, M.S. Ed.**  
**Principal, Grades 4-5 and Judaic Studies Grades 1-8**

When I began my career, it was a commonplace ideology that frustration is good for children because when they grow up, the world will be full of frustrations. That is similar to saying that the world is a cold place—get used to sleeping without blankets!!! I have learned that what we really want is to raise children who have the resilience, confidence and support to find or make the blankets.

I recently read an article about Walter E. Williams, a famous African American economist, commentator and academic who passed away this year. He was raised in Philadelphia by a mother who chose to take a job as a domestic servant rather than exist on welfare. As soon as Walter was old enough, he took on whatever jobs he could find in order to help with the bills. On weekends, his mother would take him to visit museums and libraries as she was set on bringing culture and knowledge into their poverty-stricken lives. She wanted her son to achieve excellence in life, to navigate the inevitable trials and tribulations and do his best to maximize his potential.

Walter was blessed with an excellent mind and was able to get through his schooling with little effort. One day, his teacher returned an essay and in front of the entire class, ripped the paper and said, “You can do better than that.” Walter went on to recollect that this was the best teacher he ever had. The teacher did not want this bright student to go through life just scraping by, but insisted that he do more and demanded excellence. Walter later on achieved amazing success and served as a role model to countless people through his teaching and mentoring.

I was reflecting that today we live in an age where excellence through hard work is not valued enough. Diligence in figuring out a difficult Gemara or commentary, solving a difficult math problem or writing a theme paper is no longer what is valued as outstanding but rather we make the mistake of putting energy into standing out. Somewhere along modern history, we are losing the appreciation and recognition of genuine achievement and replacing it with superficial recognition. We are quick to accept an undeserved “A” for something that may be substandard, because it will make us feel good.

It is time for us to teach our children and to model for them that life is not about standing out, but rather about being outstanding.



Remembering Rachel Imeinu on her yahrzeit, 11 Cheshvan, grades 1-5 participate in a virtual assembly with **Morah Hadassah**.

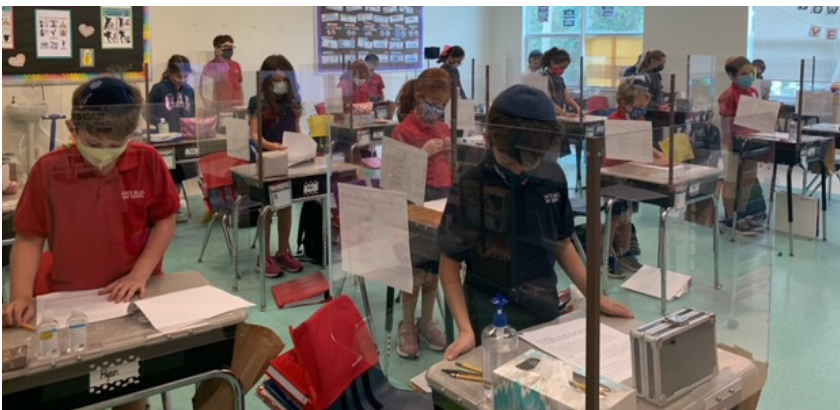
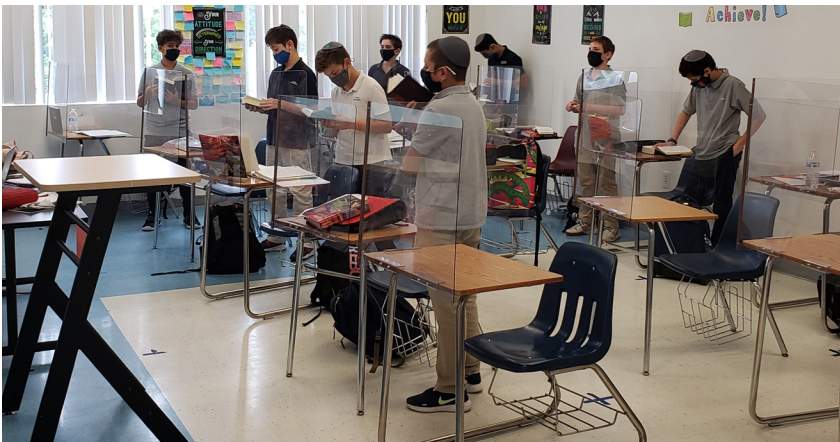


## 4 Community, Chesed & Caring

Kol Hakavod to **Jacob Katz** (4th grade), who heard about the national coin shortage and decided to trade in all his coins. The bank cashier even told him she had just run out of coins! Jacob had \$22 in coins and will be donating half of it to Tomchei Shabbos as an additional mitzvah!

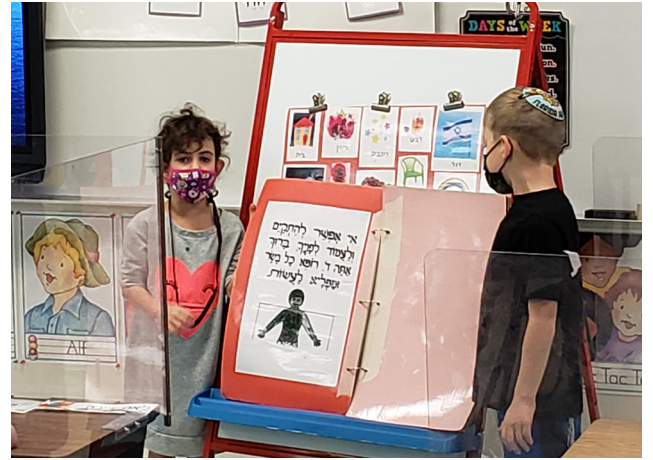


KHDS joined in a National Yom Tefillah on November 2nd, uniting across communities to request rachamei shamayim.

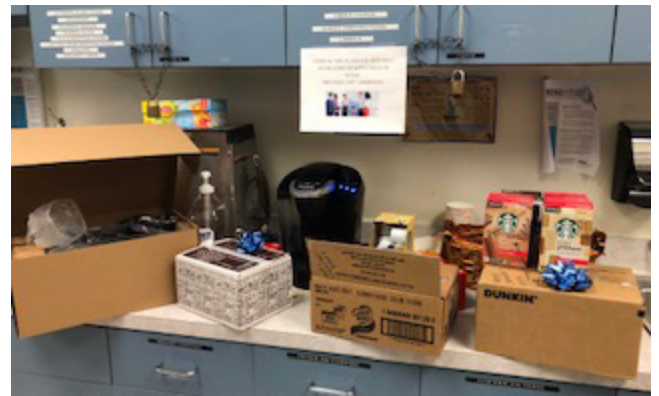


As part of JDAIM (Jewish Disabilities, Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month), **Sasha Star** addressed KHDS parents, students and faculty about her personal experience in overcoming various challenges despite her disability in hopes to empower students to surpass expectations and achieve their goals. Thank you to **Dr. Jordana Carmel** and **Dr. Penina Dorfman** for coordinating this event. JDAIM is a unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide to raise awareness and foster acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health conditions and champion the rights of all Jews to be accepted and included in all aspects of Jewish life. Established in 2009 by the Jewish Special Education International Consortium, JDAIM is observed each February.

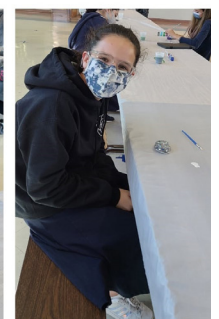
Early Childhood students recite Asher Yatzar during tefilah.



KHDS faculty and staff thank **Marie Birchansky**, one of our wonderful therapists, for providing K-cups, creamers, and hot cups (with lids) for Chanukah! We are so appreciative of your thoughtfulness and generosity!



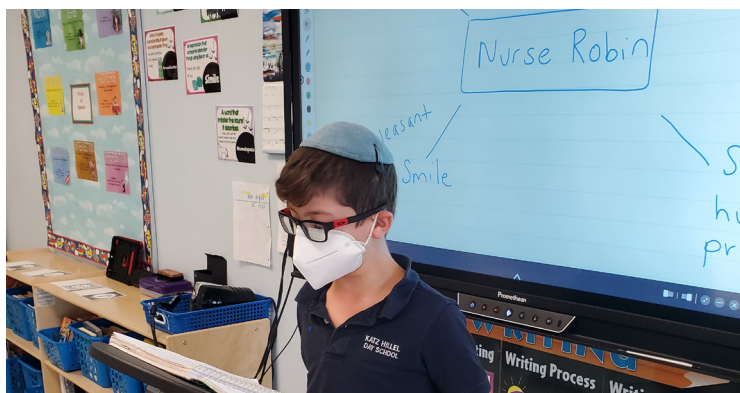
Rock on! Middle school students had fun painting kindness rocks (as part of the Middah of the Month) that will be placed in the JARC garden.







4th graders made cards for our wonderful, patient school nurse, **Robin Noble** in honor of her birthday! Students brainstormed and then shared their sentiments with the class, many expressing how she always takes care of them with a kind smile. Now more than ever we appreciate all that you do to keep us safe and healthy, Nurse Robin - thank you!!



Thanks to the **Askotzky family**, 4th grade has a new addition. Two adorable hamsters are now learning a lot of interesting new things at KHDS and the students are enjoying sharing the responsibility of taking care of them each weekend.



Thank you to the following families for sponsoring coffee and pastries for the entire faculty and staff this past December!  
**Anna & Kevin Jacobs • Jaime & Dovid Feld**  
**Jennifer & Eric Berkowitz • Danna & Joey Averbook**



5th graders participated in a chesed project to make inspirational bracelets for our superhero doctors and nurses. Thank you to our frontline workers!

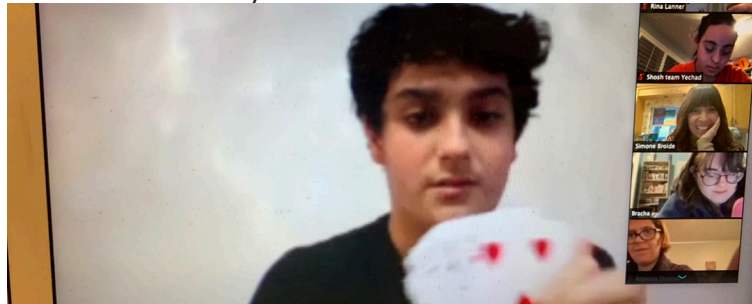


KHDS parents, **Dr. Steven Schultz** and **Mrs. Judith Moskowitz-Schultz**, distributed the bracelets to the hospital ICU.



Hi Mrs Deichman,  
 My husband brought the bracelets to work for the nurses in the ICU and they absolutely loved them!!! They send you and the kids a huge thank you for building up their spirits!!!

**Gilad Shimonovitz**, 8th grade, shared his magical talent with Yachad, by joining their Zoom get-together and doing magic tricks! Fun was had by all!



3rd grader, **Shlomo Wexler**, baked cookies for those in need as part of a Chesed project.





## 6

Faculty and staff were thanked with special treats including gelato from administration and coffee from the PTA.



Thank you to the **Potok/Loewenstein** family for sponsoring a sushi lunch for the faculty and staff during Chanukah!



3rd grade is so grateful to our superhero, **Nurse Robin**, for her efforts to keep us safe and learning in person! We appreciate all the care and concern she shows for us!



## JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES: COMMUNITY SUPPORT



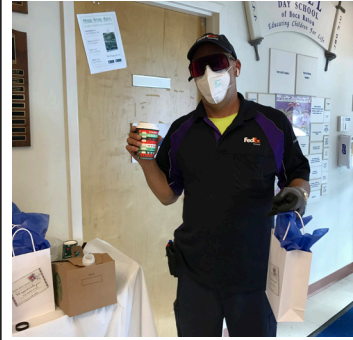
need of assistance, please reach out to the Community Outreach Coordinator, **Elissa Love**, at 561-852-3298. For additional information on the services JFS provides please visit [www.ralesjfs.org](http://www.ralesjfs.org).

**JFS** has worked closely with KHDS to bring a wide array of support services to its students/families. If you or someone you know is in

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vides please visit [www](http://www).

KHDS gives thanks to our couriers, mail carrier and security guard.



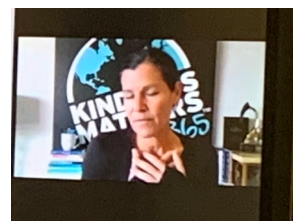
As part of the Kindness "Middah of the Month," Middle School students made cream cheese sandwiches for "The Sandwich Project," a chesed project to benefit those who are in need of food.



During the kindness "Middah of the Month," the Middle School ran three simultaneous drives for three worthy causes: The TLC Little Pantry (collection of non-perishable food items), Chai Lifeline & JAFCO (Chanukah toy drive) and SOS Children's Villages (non-perishable snacks). Thank you to everyone who donated!



In line with our kindness "Middah of the Month," Middle School students had guest speakers via Zoom. They heard inspirational messages about kindness, compassion and gratitude from **Laura Reiss**, founder of Kindness Matters 365, and **Summer Faerman**, who created TLC Little Pantries and the Sandwich Project.







## Rabbi Kassorla Awarded Inaugural Abraham Lincoln Teacher's Fellowship

We are thrilled to announce that **Rabbi Yosef Kassorla** has been awarded one of Tikvah's inaugural Abraham Lincoln Teacher's Fellowships. Rabbi Kassorla was one of a very few educators selected from nearly 200 applications, all from exceptional schools around the nation. Mazal Tov to Rabbi Kassorla on joining this exceptional group of leading educators.

The Abraham Lincoln Teacher's Fellowship is an initiative of the Tikvah Fund, an educational organization that provides high-level learning opportunities for students, parents, and teaching professionals in subjects like Western history and literature, American democracy and culture, Zionism and modern Israel, and more. If you'd like to learn more about potential learning opportunities for your own son or daughter, visit <https://tikvahfund.org/academy> to see their latest menu of evening and Sunday courses online.

## Welcome to Our Newest Faculty Members



Welcome to **Mrs. Rebecca Kinzbrunner**, the newest addition to our KHDS faculty. Mrs. Kinzbrunner is our new Judaics Assistant for 1C.

Rebecca, and her husband **Seth**, have three children—all KHDS students: **Shmuel** (2nd grade), **Eliana** (Kindergarten), and **Kayla** (EC2).

Rebecca was born in Hollywood, Florida, and she is a professionally trained artist who has worked on everything from hand drawn ketubahs to corporate logos. She also currently serves as the Youth Director at BRS West. In her "spare" time she enjoys baking for her family and others. Welcome aboard, Mrs. Kinzbrunner!



Welcome to **Liora Ben-Harari**, our new Middle School Judaics teacher who is specializing in teaching 7th grade Chumash (as well as helping out as a floater).

Liora was born in Shiraz, Iran, and she has five children ranging in age from 24 to 37, and two grandsons.

"I am passionate about teaching Judaics and I love to learn Jewish philosophy and attend a weekly Kabbalah class," she said. Liora also loves reading, traveling, socializing and eating desserts. "I just moved from New York to this beautiful community and am looking forward to many wonderful years together," she added.

Outdoor learning on a beautiful day!



Some of our favorite healthy family members joined carpool for morning temperature screenings!

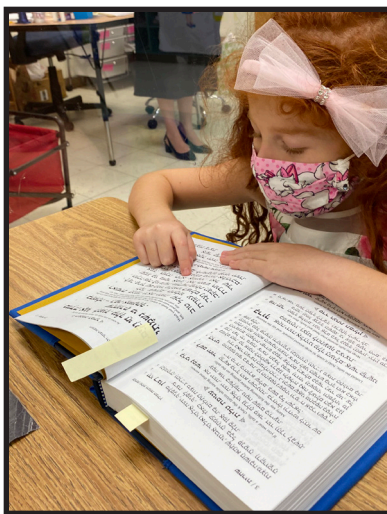


## ROAR FOR SPIRIT DAY

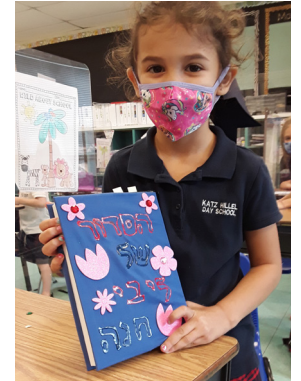




Thank you to **Shari Haik** for sponsoring the treats, **Rachel Greenbaum** for the balloon arrangements and **Ilana Landau** for designing the logos.

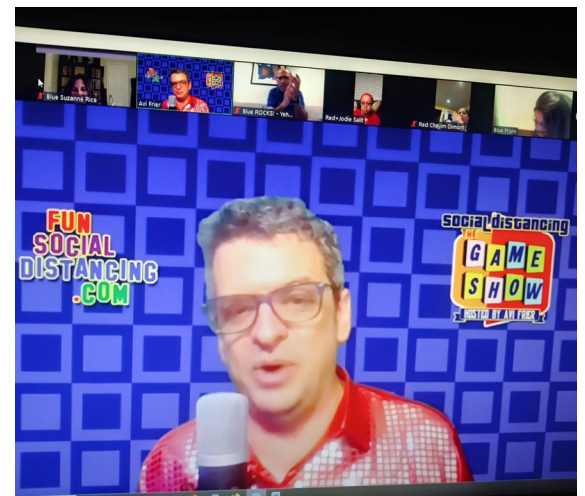


Special thanks to **Morah Shira Sharp** and **Morah Hana Marin** for coordinating this program.



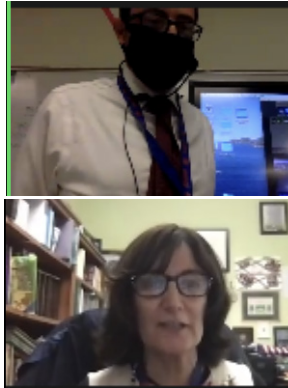
We also thank **Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger** for technical assistance and **Jill Kaminetzky** for photography for both of these events.

Thank you **Rabbi Potok** and **Shira Loewenstein**, for hosting virtual game night for our faculty and staff in honor of Chanukah. And thanks to **Avi Frier** for being the MC! It was red against blue as co-workers battled against one another as well as a race against the clock. Fun was had by all and in the end the winner was.....  
**THE RED TEAM!**





Thank you to **Rabbi Drang**, for coordinating the Hallel Tziburi for elementary school students in honor of Rosh Chodesh Kislev. In addition, the Chodesh Tov banner was displayed under the direction of **Mrs. Pinkis**.



Students collected and identified igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks in the Learning Garden.



5th graders work on coding.



Happy 2021! 1st graders made calendars as Chanukah presents for their families!



Middle School students created sidewalk art as a form of self-expression.



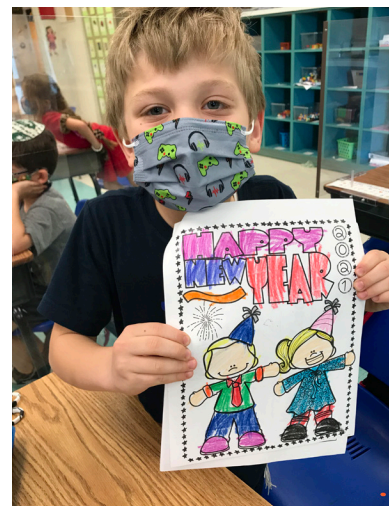


## 10 HilleLites

Students who davened every day over Sukkot and winter breaks received sweet treats as part of the Tefillah Incentive Program.



Goodbye 2020 and hello 2021. 1st graders make their New Year's resolutions and Kindergarten students get ready for 2021.



Parents and grandparents were invited to virtually experience the November 20th Onegs for their early childhood and elementary school children and grandchildren. The Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center Oneg featured fun with **Mr. Dimont**, special guest **Yaakov**, and singing with **Rabbi Potok** (and his guitar!). The Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School Oneg included **Morah Hadassah's** famous storytelling, the weekly EMET badge winners, and **Rabbi Potok** singing (with his guitar)!

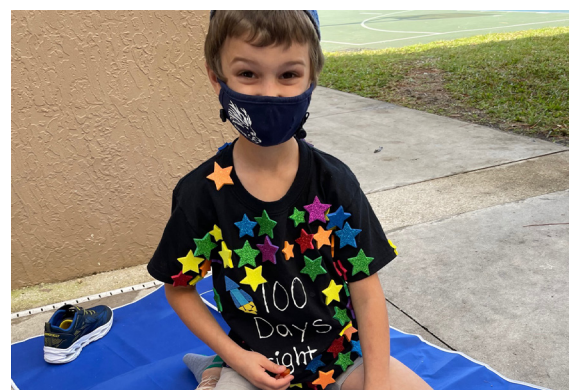
EC teachers participated in a CPR refresher class.



Winter Session Sports Clinics for Middle School have begun! Below, **Coach Moishe** teaches boys soccer.



February 9th marked the 100th day of school!





Students in grades 1-4 joined **Rav James**, the Shaliach of Bnei Akiva of South Florida, to learn about Tzionut each week.



The EMET Program continues!

Mazel Tov to all of our EMET Club participants and our EMET Club badge winners!

**Excellent Middot Every Time**



The Sunday Morning Learning (SML) program offers another high-level, Torah learning opportunity for our students.



Mazel tov to 1st grader, **Yemimah Zisquit**, for completing her studies of the 39 Melachot during her time inside due to Tropical Storm Eta this past November. She happily celebrated the moment at home with her family with a festive Siyum, but shared what she learned with the class when she returned to school.



Mishna Masters! Students in **Rabbi Drang's** 5th grade class who recited all of Perek Alef of Masechet Brachot, Bial Peh, by heart celebrated with a special lunch from King David Caterers, sponsored by the **Oppenheimer family**, for their incredible accomplishment: **Noa Carmel, Benji Landau, Shayna Moskowitz, Talia Oppenheimer, Kayla Schochet and Adi Shemesh.**

Way to go - #MBP!



## Mazel Tov, Brachot Bee Winners!

1st Grade Winner: **Charlie David**  
Runners-up: **Gavriella Elkoby** and **Yehonatan Benbenisty**

2nd Grade Winner: **Jordana Benchimol**  
Runners-up: **Naftali Landau, Liat Aharon** and **Adele Mendelson**

3rd Grade Winner: **Edden Potok**  
Runners-up: **David Averbook, Chaim Kassorla, Shlomo Wexler, Yosef Muschel** and **Ittai Yatzkan**

4th Grade Winner: **Ava Bienenfeld**  
Runners-up: **Ahuva Broide, Avraham Fields** and **Aiden Lerman**

5th Grade Winner: **Adi Shemesh**  
Runner-up: **Benji Landau**



## 12 Spotlight by Grade



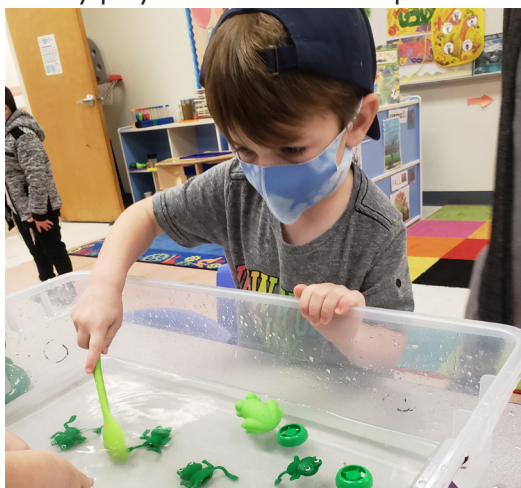
In connection with the parsha, EC-4 had fun in this "well" activity, measuring and charting volume of different size containers.



EC2 went on a bear hunt. Only teddy bears are allowed in this neck of the woods!



EC-4 had fun bringing the first two makkot to life! Lilipad math, color sorting frogs, sensory play and edible "blood" jello!



In science with **Mrs. Batsheva Klein**, EC4 learned about gravity. The yeladim spun cups of water and the force kept the water from spilling out!



Brrrr....Florida snow? EC4-C learned about how each snowflake is unique and then created their own snowflake designs. They also built snowmen from clay and used phonics!



Vroom...In connection with Parshat Lech Lecha, students in the Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center learned all about various modes of transportation. They created beautiful works of art with cars and trucks and experimented with ramps to test for vehicle speed and distance.



EC-4 students exercised their right to cast a vote for their favorite pet. The nominees were a cat, dog, monkey or rabbit.



In honor of Parshat Chayei Sarah, EC students participated in a challah bake with yummy toppings.





PE with EC! EC-2 had a blast playing "popcorn" with their parachutes, EC-3 had fun throwing their new beach balls and practicing basketball skills and EC-4 enjoyed jumping over their "river" noodles.



**Early Childhood**

Sudents learned how to have fun with hula hoops and practiced their balancing skills during PE class.



Mini-athletes! EC-3 students enjoyed free play time in PE with with mini pool noodles, mini soccer goals and mini basketball hoops!



EC-2 students continued to work on their ball skills and EC-3 students practiced hand-eye coordination with bounce and catch drills.



EC-2 enjoys playtime Aunt Jessie's Playground





## 14 Spotlight by Grade

Kindergarten students practiced soccer skills during PE class.



**Kindergarten**

In science, students learned about volcanoes and lava and compared them to things that are liquid when hot, and solid when cold—like oil and gravy. Then they made lava lamps!

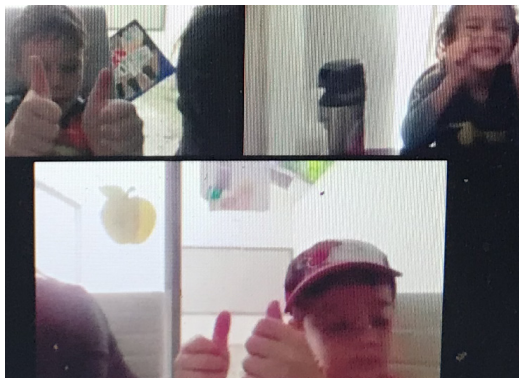


Students learned about the water cycle in science class.

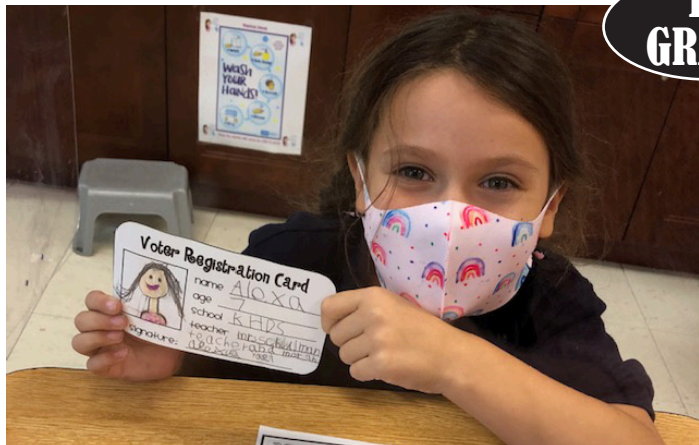


Fun on Aunt Jessie's Playground.

Students participated in remote learning for part of January.



1st graders learned about the election process.

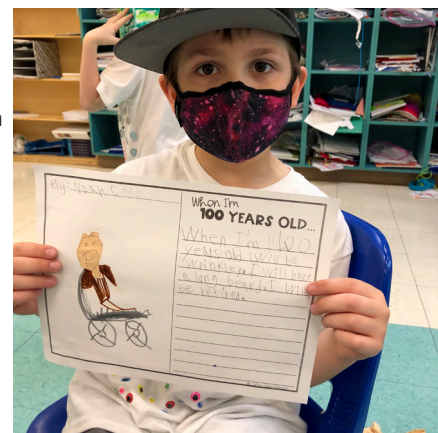


### 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE

Students celebrate the 100th day of school by writing about how they picture themselves when they are 100 years old.

*"When I'm 100 years old I will be wrinkly. I will have a long beard. I will be retired."*

*"When I'm 100 years old I will read newspapers. I will hold a cane. I will walk slow."*



Kitah Alef enjoyed building Avraham's tent, but they enjoyed eating it more!

After reading the *Superkids* story about Oswald's pet rock, students made their own pet rocks and then wrote about them!



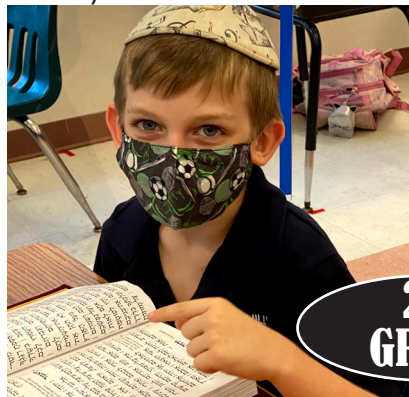
Kitah Alef gets excited about the special mitzvah of Hadlakot Neyrot they learned from Sarah Emaynu, by making a special Neyrot project for Shabbat.



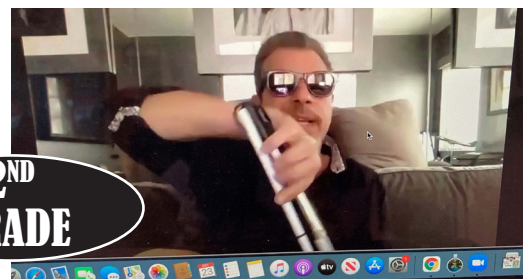
2nd graders made 3D habitats in science.



Our kavana in Tefillah starts by pointing and reading each word correctly !



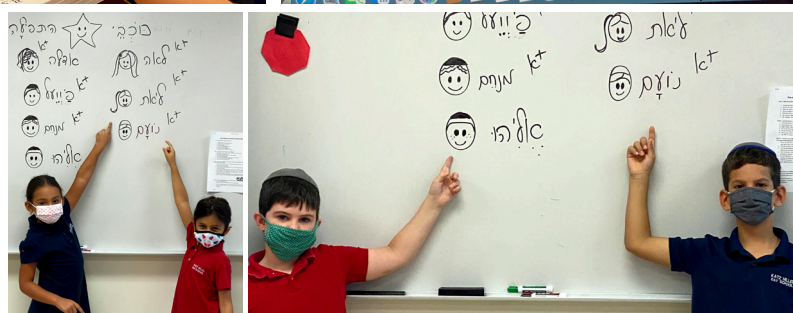
**David New** made his annual visit (this time virtually) to 2nd grade as he showed the students different gadgets he uses for overcoming the challenges of being blind. This also related to the book, *Helen Keller Crusader for the Blind and Deaf*, that the students read.



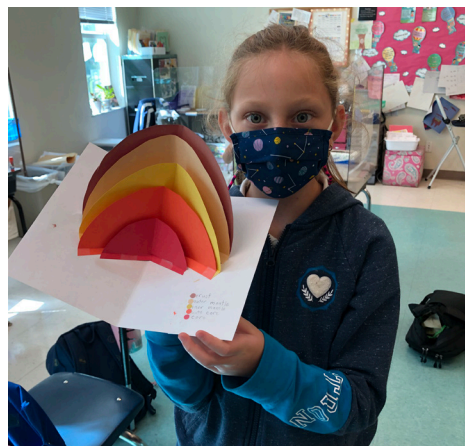
Painting a wooden chanukiah during Tzionut, one of the gifts we received from **Rav James** (our Tzionut Rabbi) of Bnei Akiva.



Tefillah superstars are posted on the wall of honor.



In science class, 3rd graders learned about the layers of the earth and then made 3D books representing each layer.



3rd grade took advantage of the spectacular December weather to hold classes outside! They had so much fun using chalk for spelling and cursive practice as well as reading their novel study in the sunshine.

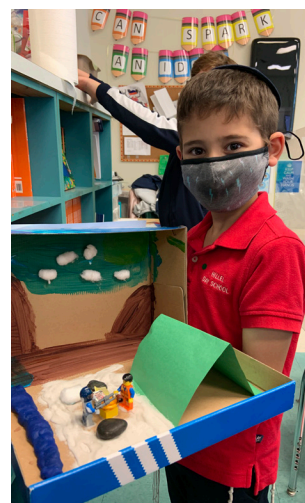
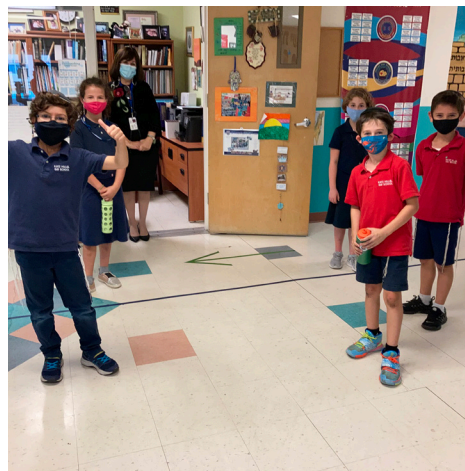


3rd graders are geared up for the Brachot Bee! They learned the Brachot of the first 30 foods! We are so proud of their efforts.

3rd graders continued to learn about the earth's water cycle and its ability to naturally filter water. They experimented with layering soil, sand, and rocks to create their own natural filtration systems!

3rd graders created displays from the week's Parsha.

Kitah Gimmel celebrated Rosh Chodesh Kislev after a Hallel Tziburi and made edible dreidels - yum!



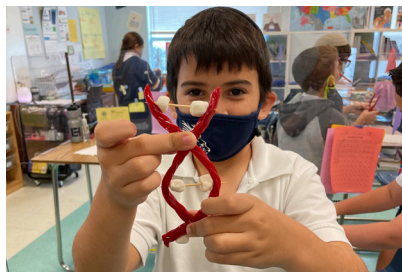


## 16 Spotlight by Grade

Popcorn or pretzels? 4th grade students voted for their favorite snack. Each student wrote a paragraph explaining why the snack of their choice was the best. Popcorn won and students enjoyed snacking while watching a movie from one of their summer reading books, *Charlotte's Web*.



In science class, students learned about genetics, chromosomes and the double helix DNA strand. Then they created model (and edible) DNA strands!



Students explored books written and illustrated by **Patricia Polacco**, who writes about her life and those who have impacted it. We loved studying and reading books written by this talented and inspiring writer.



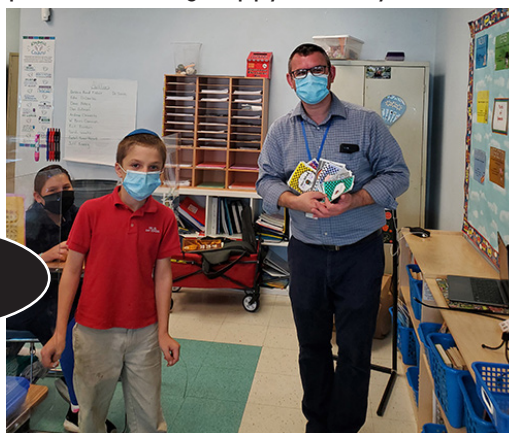
Presenting book reports to classmates.



4th grade learned about joints and then made hands out of hinge joints.



4th grade celebrated **Rabbi Eisenberger's** birthday in November! They made him colorful cards, wrote special messages and poems and sang happy birthday.



5th grade Rebbe, **Rabbi Yaakov Drang**, invited CEO of LaBabka, aka **Mrs. Chavie Drang**, to join his class via Zoom and lead a live demonstration of how to braid challah in honor of Parshat Chayei Sara. Students were able to braid their own dough and take home the challah to bake for Shabbat.

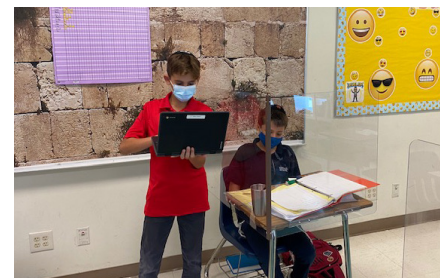
Students gave their Thirteen Colonies presentations in **Mrs. Deichman's** class.



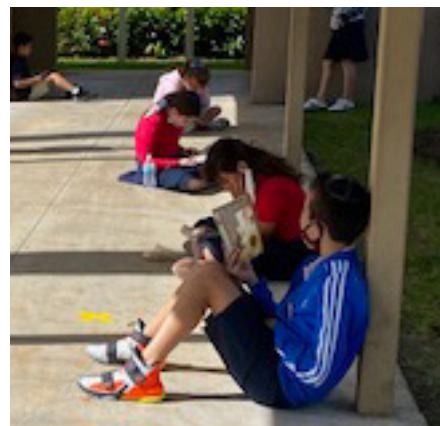
It's all about the electoral votes: 5th graders used popcorn and pretzels to learn about the electoral college and tallying votes. Thank you to **Mrs. Dawn Fisch** for this creative idea.



After researching a person who has been affected in some way by climate change, 5th graders learned about their experiences.



5th graders enjoyed the gorgeous weather as they read *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*.







**Rina Lanner, M.S. Ed.,  
Middle School Coordinator**

A roller coaster. That is the perfect word to describe this year. Full of ups and downs, unexpected twists and turns, unknowns around every corner, and... a lot of fun!!

Our robust academic program continues to provide our Middle School students with an exemplary education. The scientific element and cell projects adorning our hallways, the narrative and persuasive writing essays produced in English class, and the sounds of Hebrew sichot (conversations) buzzing in the hallways are but a few examples of the hands-on learning experiences of our Middle School.

Our "Middah of the Month" initiative has been an effective way of integrating our spiritual and emotional growth into the fabric of our KHDS culture. The middot we have focused on so far include gratitude, kindness, courage, and happiness. Through meaningful conversations, videos and engaging activities, our students have instilled these incredibly important character traits into their hearts and Neshamot.

Our students have been involved in multiple Chesed projects so far this year. Students had the opportunity to paint Kindness Rocks to enhance the JARC garden, make sandwiches for The Sandwich Project and collect food for the TLC Pantries, feeding those less fortunate.

Student council has provided fun experiences for our students including dressdown days, hot cocoa for our few mornings that dipped into the 50s (brrrrr!), and a Happiness Fair to celebrate Rosh Chodesh Adar.

Our first ever on campus Melave Malka series was a smashing success! Each grade participated in exciting games of laser tag and ended the evening with refreshing ice cream for all.

Many of our students have been involved in other wonderful outside of the classroom opportunities as well. We have several 7th grade students involved in the *From March to Miriam* program where our students are paired with Holocaust survivors and create long lasting relationships with them. We are also honored to have several students participate in The Tikvah Fund's inaugural *Truman Scholar Program* this year. Our students have the opportunity to engage in high-level online seminars with master teachers, in which they will explore the foundational ideas of American civilization and modern Zionism, and the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

I continue to be inspired by our students (and teachers!) who make the KHDS Middle School a fun and exciting place to learn despite the challenges thrown their way.

Our monthly digital newsletter for Middle School families, *Middle School Musings*, showcases all of the wonderful educational and inspirational opportunities our 6th-8th graders are experiencing.

8th graders participated in a socially distant chavruta in Chumash class.



## Middle School

6th grade scientists at work.



8th grade works on a project in Makerspace class.



## Dreidel Math

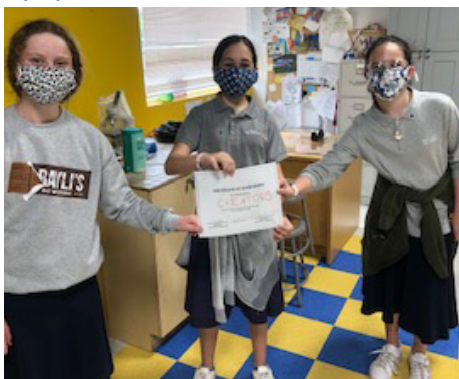


## 18 Spotlight by Grade

Learning how to calculate weight using the beam balance scale.



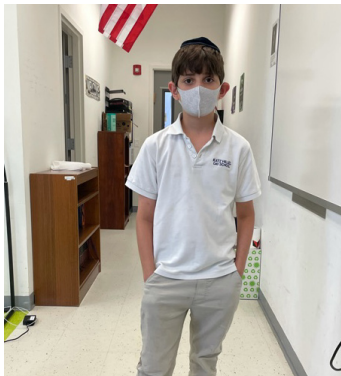
The 7th grade girls, under the guidance of **Mrs. Feder** and **Rabbi Schwartz**, are taking Rosh Chodesh up a notch. Each month, a committee of girls prepares an activity for their classmates. During the month of Kislev, **Izzie Gately**, **Emunah Plotsker** and **Miri Wolk** prepared a Chanukah-themed scavenger hunt for 7G. All of the girls had a great time with this special activity. They ended with the presentation of certificates for the winning team and Hershey's Kisses for all.



On the evening of November 21st, 8th graders participated in the first-ever Laser Tag Melave Malka on the Haar Fields. Following, in December, 6th and 7th graders had their turns.



6th grader, **Jon Mitchell**, took on a repeated reading strategy to increase his fluency by memorizing the *Preamble to the Constitution of the United States!*



On a cold February morning Student Council members gave out hot chocolate to Middle School students.



Reflections on the coordinate plane! 7th graders participated in a hands-on activity to model how a point is reflected across the x- and/or y- axis. Students used puff paint to mark their coordinates and then reflected over the x or y axis and were able to see how the new points were mirror images of their original coordinate.



Middle School Student Council holds a planning meeting with **Mr. Doss**.



7th graders won a "dress down day" (unicorn style) for having the most students from the Middle School participate in the PTA's Book Fair.



6th graders tested out homemade filters in science during their studies on water.

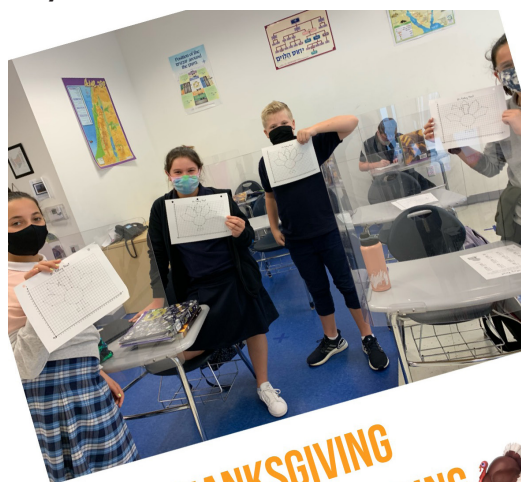




Kindergarten students learned to count by 10s using feathers on their turkeys!

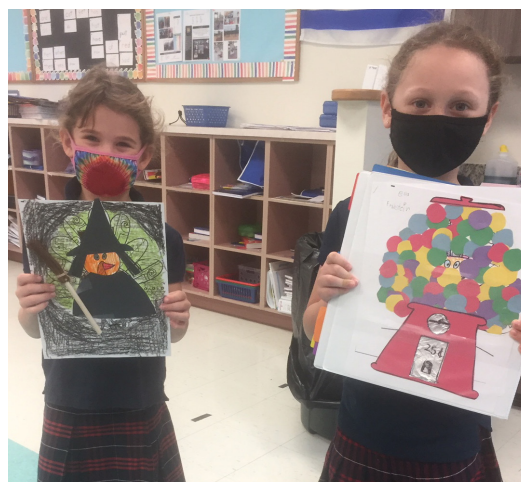


Thanksgiving coordinate graphing in Ms. Meyers' math class.



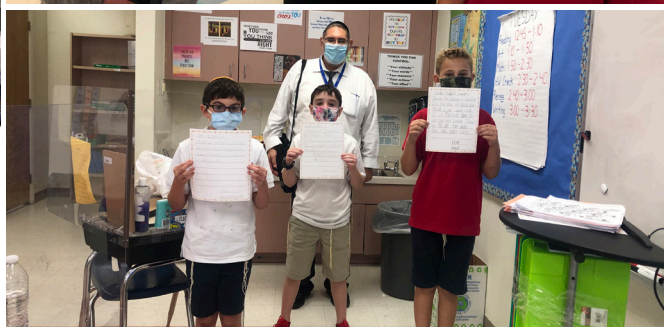
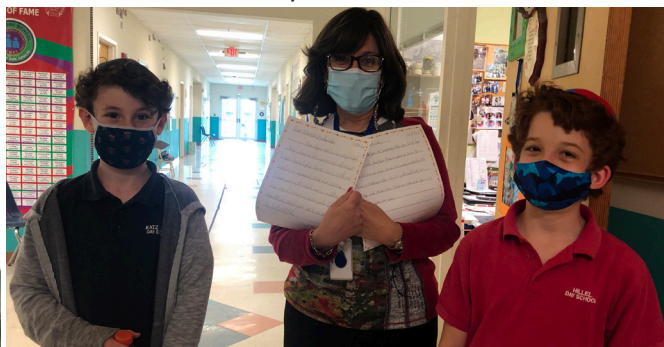
**THANKSGIVING  
COORDINATE GRAPHING**

After hearing the story *Turkey Trouble* by Wendi J. Silvano, 1st graders disguised their turkeys and then wrote letters describing why the disguises might work so the turkeys don't become Thanksgiving dinner!



**Thanksgiving**

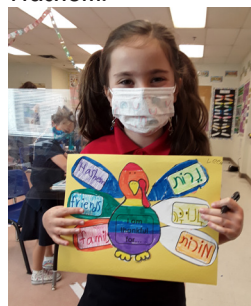
In celebration of Thanksgiving, 4th graders wrote letters of appreciation to their teachers and then got to see their excitement when they personally delivered them! The 4th grade gives thanks to the entire KHDS faculty and staff for all that they do!



Ahoy mate! 3rd graders were challenged to build ships, like the Mayflower, with just a few materials and then see if they would float as part of the STEM Thanksgiving project.



Kitah Alef gets ready for Thanksgiving and gives thanks to Hashem.



**CORN MAZE FUN!**



Kindergarten students make sweet and sticky treats for the holiday.



**EC-2 is talkin' turkey!**





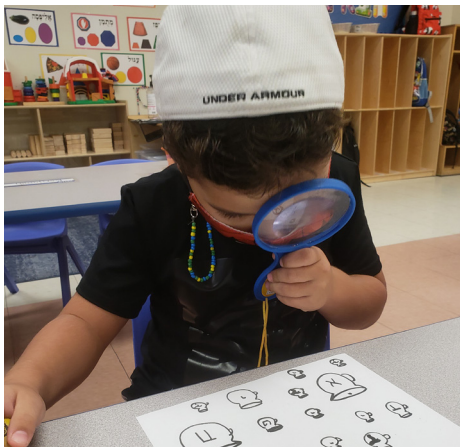
## 20 Holiday Happenings

Thank you to **Morah Levana Amanou** for coordinating the 2nd grade Chanukiot display and kudos to all of our Chanukiah designers.



**Chanukah**

EC students made their own Chanukiot, matched color branches and explored mixing oil and water.



This year's Chanukah performances were "on fire!"



3rd grade gets ready for Chanukah!



8th graders experimented with chemicals to produce different colored flames during science class in honor of Chanukah.



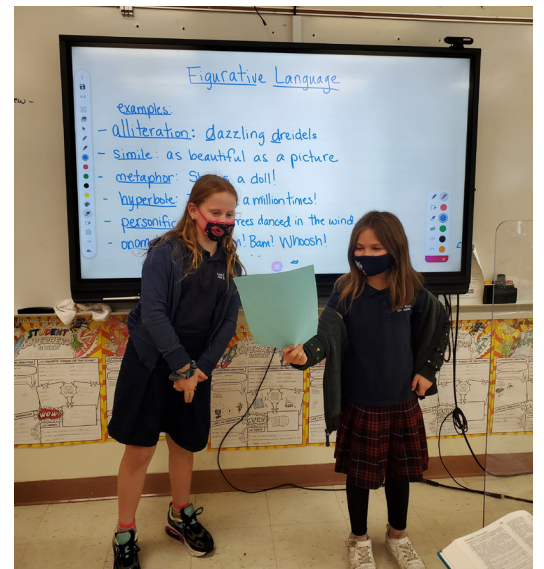
Kitah Alef gets ready for Chanukah by making a special project while learning the word neirot.



1st graders, in the classroom and at home, made Chanukiot with Bnei Akiva Shaliach **Rav James Williams!**



4th graders wrote poems and personal narratives about Chanukah as they shared experiences and creative thoughts about this miraculous time of year.







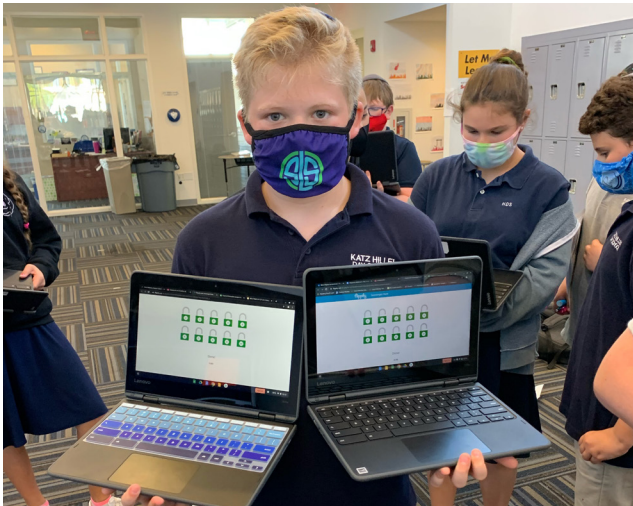
Middle School students participated in Chanukah-related learning.

**Morah Shira Sharp's** class made their own Sevivonim and played a fun probability game. Then they enjoyed a giant gelt treat.



Kindergarten Chanukah dance party!

3rd grade edible menorahs!



4th graders showed off their Chanukah shirts.



Scrumptious Sufganiyot!



EC2 loves latkes!



EC-4 learned about fire safety, in connection with Chanukah and the mitzvah of lighting Chanukiyot. Then they went on a scavenger hunt to search for fire safety objects!



A huge thank you to **Mrs. Ohayon** who put together an incredible Chanukah-themed Escape Room activity for our Middle School students. Students competed against the clock to escape by completing a series of eight tasks and each completed task earned the team a candle. The first team to fill their menorah with all eight candles won! Everyone had fun participating in this creative and engaging activity!



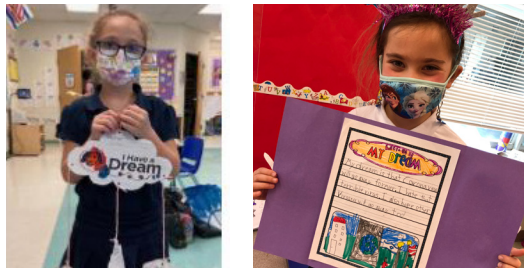


## 22 Holiday Happenings

### MLK Jr. Day

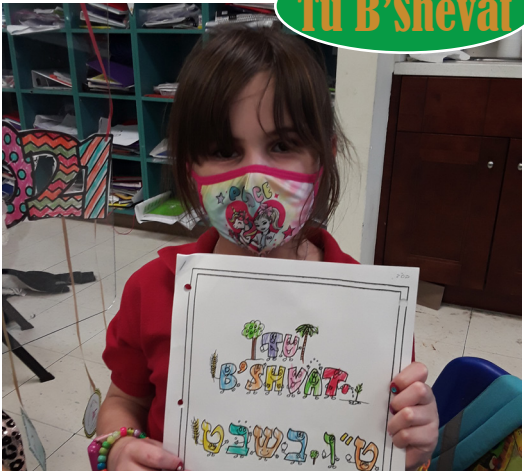
4th graders watched the famous "I Have a Dream" speech in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 18th.

1st graders created dream-mobiles and also expressed their own dreams.

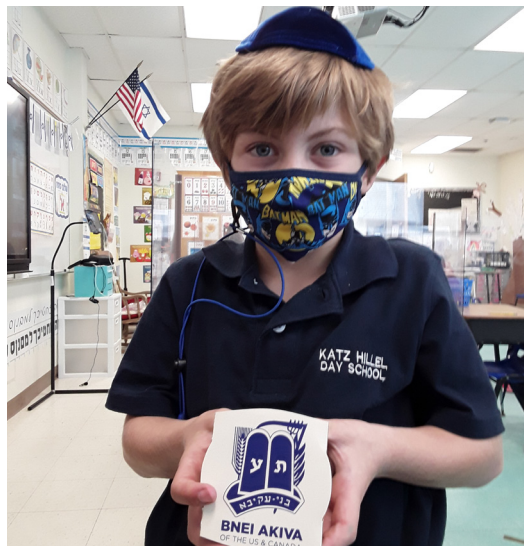


In honor of Tu B'Shevat the children in Kitah Alef learned about the stages of tree growth in Hebrew along with the names of the Shivat Haminim.

### Tu B'Shevat



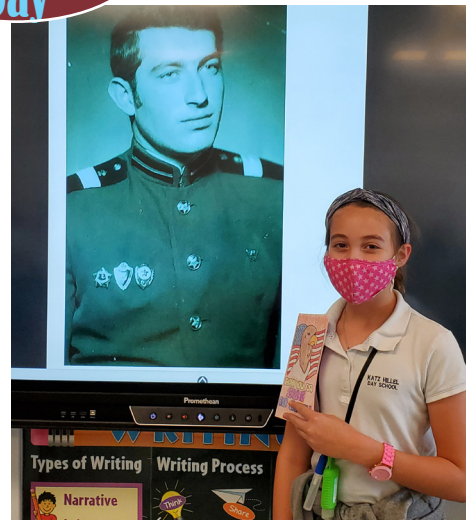
Thank you to **Rav James**, our Bnei Akiva leader, for providing students with an activity to bring home and participate in during Tu B'Shevat.



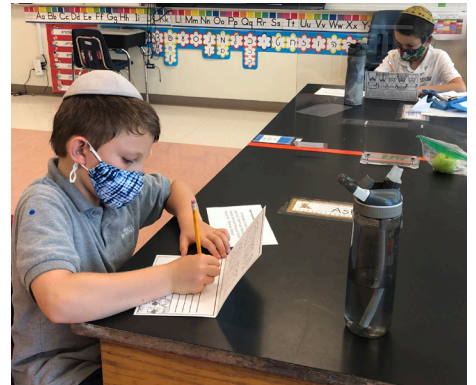
4th graders spent the week learning about the importance of Veterans' Day. Students read an article, watched a BrainPOP video, and discussed the sacrifices that those who have served, or are serving, in the Armed Forces make to help keep our country safe. Our caring students wrote thoughtful letters to Veterans in which they shared their appreciation.

### Veterans' Day

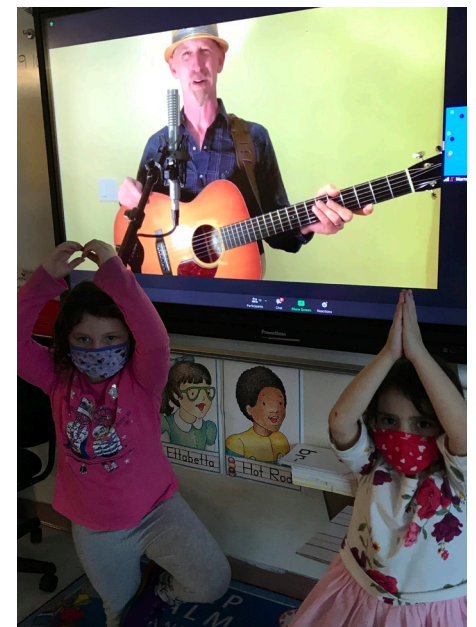
**Abigail Matias** speaks to the class about her Veteran grandfather.



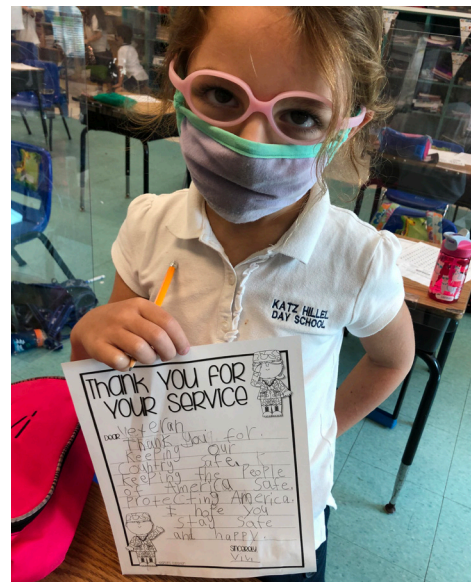
After learning about Veterans' Day, discussing the importance of it and watching some videos, 2nd graders expressed their thanks by writing letters to Veterans.



Kindergarten Zoomed with the PJ Library during the Tu B'Shevat concert! They enjoyed singing songs and learning about the chag.



1st graders wrote letters to our hero Veterans thanking them for their service.



EC-4 learned all about trees in connection with the Tu B'Shevat holiday.



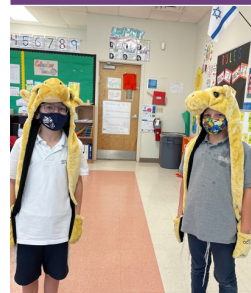
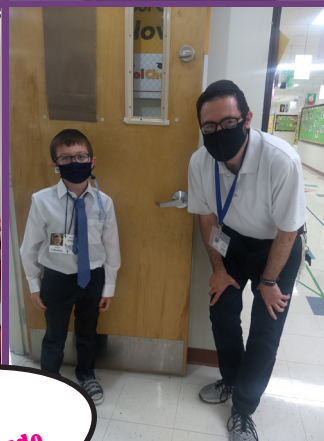
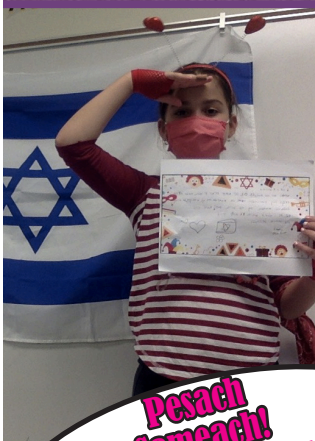
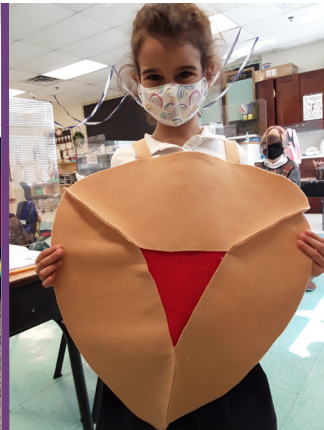
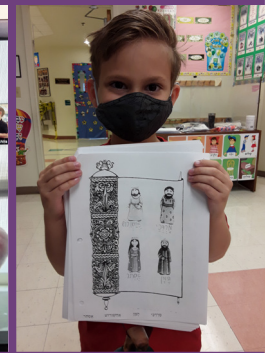
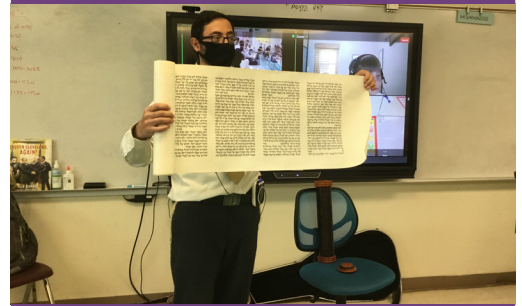
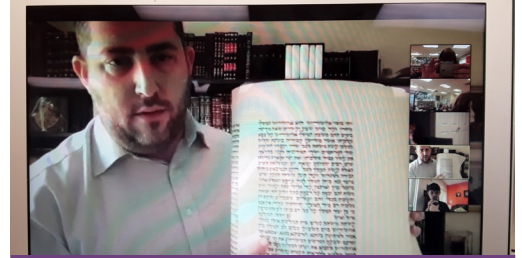




KHDS celebrated Rosh Chodesh Adar with a Hallel Tzibburi on February 12. Students came dressed in creative costumes and participated in a parade. Themed days were also part of the month of Adar and Purim fun as students and faculty dressed up for color day, Topsy Turvy Tuesday with crazy hats and socks, and dress like a teacher/student day.

Hamentashen were plentiful and there were many projects including preparing Mishloach Manot, making groggers and learning about the Megillah. Students also collected tzedakah for Od Yosef Chai to help provide meals for families in need and the annual Purim IDF Lone Soldier letter writing campaign continued again this year thanks to **Mrs. Shirley Mayer**.

The Jambali African Acrobats performed a spectacular surprise acrobatic show and the children of the Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center enjoyed Purim Puppet Theater presented by **Rabbi Shmuly G** and the Chabad Youth Network. Other holiday happenings included a magic show for 1st-5th grade students and a silent DJ party, hosted by **Avi Frier**, for 6th-8th grade students. On Purim Day, the **Potok/Loewenstein family** continued the annual tradition of hosting the Icee truck outside their home.



**Pesach Sameach!**  
Our next issue will include Pesach photos!

View all of the Adar and Purim photos in our photo gallery at <https://hdsboca.smugmug.com/2020-2021/Adar-5781>





### Rachel Harow, M.S.W., PTA President

For months, the phrase #TogetherApart has been trending throughout social media to promote a sense of community throughout the pandemic. The KHDS PTA strives to embrace and embody that sentiment. Covid-19 has certainly changed the ways we have been able to function this year, but it has not broken our spirit. Though most of our activity remains off campus, and our ability to gather volunteers is limited, the PTA continues to work toward enriching the educational experience of our children and providing encouragement for our hard-working staff. Through the difficulty of operating remotely, we remain dedicated to maintaining connections among the KHDS community, and we are working tirelessly to organize safe ways for all to participate. KHDS families deserve recognition for their flexibility and resilience. We could not be more impressed by their strength! Support of our programs and sponsors has been invaluable in helping us to carry on. KHDS families are the best! We realize that being apart has brought a sense of distance and isolation, which has been hard to accept. Know that we understand how tough it has been but are committed to being present and working through this. We greatly anticipate the day when #TogetherApart becomes a distant memory. In the meantime, keep sending us your creative ideas and suggestions, and we will plan and provide as much as circumstances allow, in anticipation of our ability to join together again.

### COVID-Friendly Chanukah Celebration

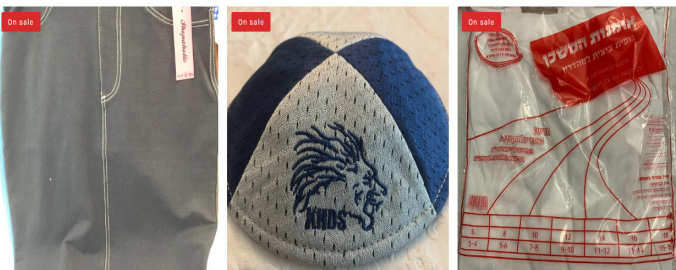
Chanukah during Coronavirus was definitely different, but the KHDS PTA got creative as always to help students celebrate the holiday in a fun, safe, and socially distanced way. On the Sunday of Chanukah, the KHDS family participated in several virtual activities, including a scavenger hunt, bingo, and art project, followed by a festive drive-by party at school with music, donuts, and latkes! Students also brought Chanukah gifts to donate to Yachad, Chai Lifeline, and JAFCO.

Thank you to all our parent volunteers for their hard work coordinating this event: **Liora Adler, Simone Broide, Deena Frist, Shari Haik, Yael Hirth, Naomi Katz, Ilana Landau, Rina Lanner, Shira Menczer, Chava Weisstuch, and Andrea Zucker.** Special thanks to our student volunteers: **Gabi Aghion, Golan Aghion, Pnina Chaikin, Daniella Frist, Naomi Haik, Aliyah Harow, Emma Harow, Akiva Lanner, Moshe Moskowitz, Ilan Sommers, Abby Weisstuch, Liana Weisstuch, Elisha Weisstuch, Miri Wolk, Daniel Yudewitz, Gavriella Yudewitz, and Noah Zucker.** Congratulations to the **Epstein family** for winning the scavenger hunt, and a Carvel gift card! We also thank **Richard and Julie Ehrlich** for donating the Chanukah candles that were distributed to all KHDS families.



### Online Uniform Shoppe

Although we can't be in person at school, the KHDS PTA Online Uniform Shoppe is open for business online! Thank you to **Marisa Weg-Chametsky** for her tireless efforts in setting up our online store. Go to <https://www.khdsptashoppe.com/> and shop away! Our stock will be continually updated, so be sure to check back if you don't find what you need, and be on the lookout for new products. To place your order, provide your contact information, and we will be in touch with instructions on how to receive your goods.



### ONGOING PROGRAMS

You can continue to support KHDS easily from the comfort of your home!



**AMAZON SMILE:** Add 'KHDS' as your "charity choice" and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the PTA. Log on through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).



**BOX TOPS®:** Scan your receipts and the school will make .10 cents for each Box Tops item that you buy. Log on through [boxtops4education.com](https://boxtops4education.com) or download the app.



**GOOD & WELFARE CARDS:** Save time and postage by having send a card(s) for you with your message! **Contact Dvora Scher at [dvora@dwpalaw.com](mailto:dvora@dwpalaw.com)**



**MABEL'S LABELS:** PTA earns 20% back on orders when you choose our school on the "Support a Fundraiser" page. **Contact Sara Greene at [sagreene74@gmail.com](mailto:sagreene74@gmail.com)/310-614-1836.**



## Barnes & Noble Book Fair



Our first-ever Barnes & Noble Book Fair in December was a great success! Students and parents came out to our local bookstore on Glades Road to hear teachers read their favorite stories, while finishing off their Chanukah shopping and supporting the PTA. Kol Hakavod to event chairs **Cara Harris** and **Shari Bloom** for organizing every detail! We also could not have done it without the help of our amazing volunteers: **Jacki Abed, Emely Aghion, Ivana Aronovski, Suzie Basoff, Simone Broide, Goldie Chaikin, Yael Cik, Esther Cohen, Raizy David, Sorah David, Tamar Feld, Karen Feldman, Cara Freedman, Lisa Freedman, Jill Kaminetzky, Arielle Kieffer, Liz Pilkington** and **Chava Weisstuch**.

Students also had fun creating an original design for our bookmark art contest. Congratulations to the winners: **Maya Averbook** (Kindergarten), **Johanna Harris** (2nd grade), **David Averbook** (3rd grade), **Abby and Liana Weisstuch** (1st & 4th grade), and **Sarra Stein** (6th grade).



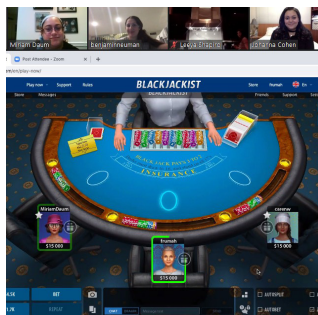
## TABs: TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFASTS

COVID hasn't stopped us from hosting our monthly Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts (with pre-packaged foods) to honor our incredible teachers and administrators for their commitment to our students and our school. We are so grateful to all of our annual and monthly sponsors! Special thanks to **Cara Freedman** for organizing the breakfasts and **Simone Jacobs** working so hard to digitize our forms. We also thank volunteers **Ben Beim, Eitan Kaminetzky, Jacob Freedman, and Rebecca Freedman** for setting up the breakfasts.



## Moms' Night Out

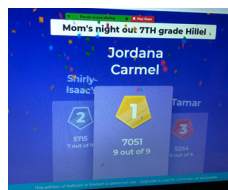
Our 6th Annual Moms' Night Out program is in full swing, and virtual get-togethers have never been so much fun! KHDS moms with children of all ages are having a blast getting to know each other through a variety of interactive and entertaining events.



An exciting "Virtual Casino Moms' Night Out" was held for all EC-4 moms. The night was full of laughs and quotable quotes like "I'm living my true life," and "I am eating my money." Big winners of the night were **Johanna Cohen** (Target gift card) and **Shira Menczer** (Grove gift card). Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring the wonderful treats!

The 1st grade moms met on Zoom for a great Kahoot game of "2 Truths and a Lie." They learned fun facts about each other, including childhood talents, unusual allergies, and interesting places they've lived in or visited. Thank you to **Dr. Penina Dorfman** and **Nechamah Zangre** for hosting!

Moms of 2nd and 4th graders got together for a virtual comedy event! The evening started out with separate Meet and Greets for each grade. Then all the women joined together on Zoom for a night of entertainment provided by funny lady **Talia Reese** and NY comedy club regular **Eli Lebowicz**. The comics took turns making the moms laugh and keeping their spirits high. During the show, everyone also enjoyed a bag of chocolate treats and popcorn! Thank you to **Cara Harris** and **Eve Sperling** for planning this fun and entertaining event.



The 7th grade moms got together for a Zoom event that included meeting one another in separate break-out rooms, learning about each other, and playing a fast-paced Kahoot game with fun questions about our school. Congrats to **Dr. Jordana Carmel** who won first place and earned an Amazon gift card. Special thanks to **Racheli Lasry** for organizing the event.

Moms of 8th graders attended an amazing virtual painting party, organized by **Yael Cik**. The event featured the incredible artist **Nina Brenner** of Paint Party Events, all the way from Israel! Moms had a great time socializing and painting together.



Kudos to **Suri Spolter** for coordinating the Moms Night Out program for this year!





**Danny Aghion, M.D., FRD Co-Chair**  
**Orlie Cohen, Ph.D., FRD Co-Chair**  
**Suzanne Rice, Director of Development**



We hope that 2021 is off to a great start for you! Our Development Office continues its important work to raise scholarship funds as well as help to offset the deficit left in last year's campaign due to the pandemic.

Our first-ever (and hopefully last-ever) **Virtual Journal Event** took place on January 8 (see the next page for the recap). We also held the **Annual Mega Raffle**, which brought in \$23,554 for our campaign. Congratulations to grand prize winner **Dovid Katz** (sold by Yeshiva Ohr Naftoli). Special thanks to our Middle School Mega Raffle Challenge participants and top sellers!

Students with the most tickets sold (per grade):

6th Grade: **Emma Harow** - 7 tickets  
 7th Grade: **Ettie Sharp** - 10 tickets  
 8th Grade: **Ezra Dimont** - 2 tickets

Honorable mention:

Kudos to **Dovid Pomerantz**, who received donations from 12 different donors! Even if they didn't all participate by purchasing a ticket, they still made a donation to KHDS!

The students with the most contacts uploaded:

**Dovid Pomerantz** (10 contacts)  
**Sarra Stein** (6 contacts)

We have gotten the green light from our Medical Task Force to move ahead with the **6th Annual Parent-Child Golf Outing**, which is scheduled for Sunday, April 18. Last year, we were unfortunately unable to hold this amazing event. We hope that everyone will sign up - you don't have to be a golfer - just enjoy the bonding time and a change of scenery!

As a reminder - our **Every Parent Campaign** continues through the end of the school year. We ask that all families make a gift of tzedakah - in ANY AMOUNT - and we will be listing all participating families' names equally in our *Annual Report*. Any donation to the campaign qualifies - whether it be for the Journal Event, Mega Raffle, general donations, Day of Learning, Golf Outing, designated gifts, and of course our generous Major Gifts supporters!

We look forward to a successful conclusion of the 2020-2021 Annual Campaign with your help! Wishing you a Chag Sameach!

**6TH ANNUAL PARENT-CHILD GOLF OUTING**

**APRIL 18, 2021 ~6 IYAR 5781**  
**BOCA LAGO COUNTRY CLUB**

**DOV HOCHNER,**  
**EVENT CHAIR**

**KHDS gratefully recognizes the generosity of our Major Gifts Society members.**

(blue names are active members for 20-21 year)

\* **Society Renewals**

**HILLEL SOCIETY**  
**Over \$1 million in cumulative lifetime giving**

Anita Katz  
 Daniel & Caroline Katz  
 Teddy & Linda Struhl

**MENACHEM BEGIN SOCIETY**  
**\$100,000**

Cheryl Kari Golden Memorial Fund  
 Anita Katz  
 Daniel & Caroline Katz  
 Gloria Kaylie  
 Alex & Yochi Mitchell

**LAMED VAV SOCIETY**  
**\$36,000**

Sal & Leslie Abady  
 Daniel & Liora Adler\*\*\*  
 The Alliance for Education  
 Anonymous  
 Al & Evelyn Begas  
 The Bensmihen Family  
 Steven Berkeley & Rebecca Stern  
 Michael & Mirta Brown\*\*  
 Eli & Orlie Cohen\*\*\*  
 Dani & Gilah Danino\*\*  
 Michael & Sheryl Dennis  
 Brian & Sharon Ferber  
 Ben & Cara Freedman\*\*  
 Joseph & Galit Freedman  
 Roger & Lisa Gladstone  
 Glen & Rosa Golish\*\*  
 Hillel & Esther Gomolin  
 Avi & Laura Greenbaum

Stanley & Ana Haar  
 Jeffrey & Jodi Harris\*\*\*\*  
 Bernie & Melanie Kaminetsky  
 Daniel & Caroline Katz\*\*\*\*\*  
 David & Sharona Kay\*  
 David & Marissa Levenson  
 Rabbi Alejandro, z"l, & Sandra Lilienthal  
 Harold & Donna Richter  
 Michael & Jill Rose  
 Michael & Amy Schiffman\*\*  
 Reid & Naomi Shapiro  
 Paul & Caryn Sherman  
 Teddy & Linda Struhl\*\*\*\*\*  
 Warren & Robin Struhl\*\*  
 Ben & Donna Tripp  
 Michael & Risa Zimmerman

**CHAI SOCIETY**  
**\$18,000**

Avraham & Elana Belizon  
 Lisa Kaufman Bensmihen  
 William & Batzi Berman  
 Mark & Helen, z"l, Cohan  
 Eli & Laurie Epstein  
 Ben & Cara Freedman  
 Glen & Rosa Golish  
 Avi & Laura Greenbaum  
 Stanley & Ana Haar\*\*\*  
 Bernie & Melanie Kaminetsky  
 Philip & Jennifer Landau

Rabbi Alejandro, z"l, & Sandra Lilienthal  
 David Markowitz & Sara Levine  
 Jack & Marilyn Pechter  
 Michael & Jill Rose  
 Stuart & Hindy Rubin\*  
 Michael & Amy Schiffman\*  
 Teddy & Phyllis Struhl  
 Warren & Robin Struhl  
 Hedy & Dori Zaghi  
 Michael & Risa Zimmerman

**MAIMONIDES SOCIETY**  
**\$15,000**

Danny & Emely Aghion  
 Steven Berkeley & Rebecca Stern  
 Mark & Helen, z"l, Cohan  
 Hillel & Chayi Cohen  
 Meyer & Laura Cohen  
 Ben & Cara Freedman  
 Chanoah & Rachel Harow\*  
 David & Sharona Kay  
 Evan & Ilana Landau  
 Philip & Jennifer Landau

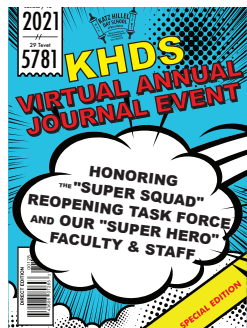
Rabbi Yehudah Potok & Shira Loewenstein  
 Elan & Juliana Rosenblatt  
 Jason & Eva Saka  
 Paul & Caryn Sherman  
 Adam & Shaani, z"l, Splaver  
 Josh & Stephanie Stern\*  
 Teddy & Phyllis Struhl\*  
 Ashi & Chava Weissstuch  
 Jonathan & Suri Winograd  
 Rabbi Akiva & Rachel Wolk



Please think about joining our Atid Legacy Society and help us build a foundation for the longevity of our school through planned giving. You can participate easily by including KHDS as a beneficiary in your will, retirement plan or IRA. We are offering **FREE** confidential consultations and services, which include a last will and testament, codicil and/or trust amendment and other useful guidance about planning your legacy, thanks to the donation of pro bono services by **Dvora Weinreb (Scher)**, Esq., KHDS parent. Please contact the Development Office if you would like to set up a time to speak with Dvora.

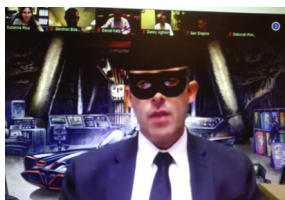


## Virtual Journal Event In Review

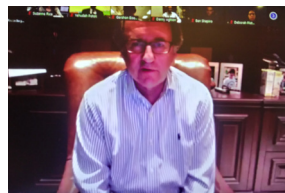


It's a bird, it's a plane – wait...it's the 2021 Virtual Journal Event! Katz Hillel Day School's epic Virtual Journal Event took place on Wednesday evening, January 13th, as the KHDS community came together to honor the **Super Squad Reopening Task Force** and the **Super Hero Faculty and Staff**, all of whom made it possible for our children to return to school safely since the beginning of the school year.

Planning the school's first virtual fundraising event wasn't easy, but thanks to the efforts of Financial Resource Development Co-Chairs, **Danny Aghion** and **Orlie Cohen**, together with **Suzanne Rice**, Director of Development, and the leadership of **Rabbi Yehudah Potok**, Head of School, and **Daniel J. Katz**, Board President – the superhero comic-themed event raised close to \$60,000 in donations for the scholarship fund.



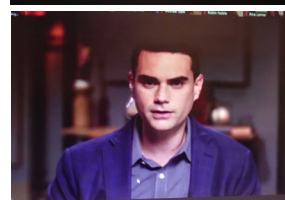
The Zoom evening began with a welcome from **Rabbi Yehudah Potok**, followed by remarks from **Daniel J. Katz**, who virtually “presented” shield awards to the Reopening Task Force and gratefully acknowledged the faculty and staff. Task Force award recipients received their personally delivered award and swag bag prior to the event and faculty and staff received gift cards for going above and beyond.



The feature video presentation, produced by **Shlomi Boxer**, told the comic-style story of the rise and fall of the Covillain and how KHDS has dealt with the pandemic and reopening of school. The video featured the Dynamic Duo of “Adler & Robin”—**Dr. Liora Adler**, Medical Task Force Chair and **Nurse Robin**, school nurse and Task Force member-- as well as the Reopening Task Force, faculty, staff and students.



Following the video, **Danny Aghion** introduced **Ben Shapiro**, the event's featured speaker, who spoke about encouraging our youth to become civically involved and voicing their opinions. Ben's talk was age appropriate for middle school students and beyond as many joined in to watch.



As **Rabbi Potok** wrapped up the evening – there was still more to come for those generous donors who were members of the Tribute Committee donating \$3,000+, as they logged on to the “Backstage with Ben” VIP after-show. **Danny Aghion** moderated the Q&A session as **Ben Shapiro** graciously offered this extended time to share with the intimate group. We also thank him for generously donating his new book, *How to Destroy America in Three Easy Steps* to the Tribute Committee members. Tribute Committee members also received hand-delivered thank you gifts including a comic themed bag, wine dressed in a cape, and unbreakable comic-themed wine cups.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the event, placed an ad in the Journal, or both! We also extend thanks to **Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger** (KHDS faculty and Director of Technology Innovation) for technical assistance, **Elise Cohen** (former KHDS parent) for graphic design assistance and **Successories** and **Ted Struhl** (former KHDS parent and Board member) for discounting the Task Force shield awards. And finally a super shout out to **Ben Shapiro** for making time in his busy schedule for our event x2!



## 2020-2021 TRIBUTE COMMITTEE

**Daniel & Liora Adler**  
**Daniel & Emely Aghion**  
**Anonymous**  
**William & Batzi Berman**  
**BLS Wealth Management, LLC/**  
**Howard Bienenfeld, Carol Lasek & Mitchell Starr**  
**Gil & Shari Bloom**  
**Harry & Shelly Bloom**  
**Boca Raton Synagogue**  
**Eli & Orlie Cohen**  
**Ben & Cara Freedman**  
**Bruce Gendelman Insurance Services**  
**Cheryl Kari Golden Memorial Fund**  
**Chanoch & Rachel Harow**  
**Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County**  
**Daniel & Caroline Katz**  
**Jean Katz**  
**Gloria Kaylie**  
**KHDS PTA**  
**Evan & Ilana Landau**  
**Phil & Jen Landau**  
**Robert & Linda Levy**  
**Alexander & Yocheved Mitchell**  
**Rabbi Yehudah Potok & Shira Loewenstein**  
**Michael & Jill Rose**  
**Elan & Juliana Rosenblat**  
**Jason & Eva Saka**  
**Todd & Michelle Slesinger**  
**Rabbi Mordechai & Hadassah Smolarcik**  
**Gil & Lysee Stein**  
**Josh & Stephanie Stern**  
**Teddy & Linda Struhl**  
**Teddy & Phyllis Struhl**  
**Ashi & Chava Weissstuch**  
**Marcel & Nadia Wikler**  
**Rabbi Akiva & Rachel Wolk**

### REOPENING TASK FORCE

Led by the Dynamic Duo of “Adler & Robin”

#### Board & Lay Members

**Dr. Liora Adler**, Medical Advisory Chair, Board member & KHDS Parent  
**Dr. Harry Bloom**, Board member & Grandparent  
**Dr. Ben Freedman**, Board member & Parent  
**Dr. Evan Landau**, Board member & Parent  
**Phil Landau, Esq.**, Board member & Parent  
**Rabbi Samuel J. Levine**, Former Head of School  
**Dr. Todd Slesinger**, Board member & Parent

#### Administrative & Staff Members

**Rabbi Yehudah Potok**, Head of School  
**Chayim Dimont**, Principal, Early Childhood-Grade 3  
**Hadassah Smolarcik**, Principal, Grades 4 & 5/  
**Judaic Studies 1-8**  
**Rina Lanner**, Middle School Coordinator  
**Suzanne Rice**, Director of Development  
**Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger**, Director of Technology Innovation  
**Jill Kaminetzky**, Assistant to the Head of School  
**Risa Kahane**, Assistant to the Principals, Admissions Coordinator  
**Jannine Richards Murphy**, Assistant to the Executive Director  
**Robin Noble, LPN**, School Nurse  
**Karin Wongsam**, Bookkeeper/Purchasing  
**Veeta Abramchik**, Former staff member  
**Kim Sivick**, Former staff member



## Leadership Messages



**Joe Sharp, Executive Director**

These past 12 months have challenged us all, and some of us have certainly faced more adversity than others. Nevertheless, KHDS has been able, with your partnership, to be open for in-person programming on our campus since last June. Furthermore, we've been able to weather numerous operational and financial setbacks and emerge stronger than ever, maintaining a position of strength that will carry KHDS for many years to come.

Baruch Hashem, we just opened student registration for the 2021/22 school year without raising tuition fees. In fact, KHDS tuition is still lower than it was a decade ago. That accomplishment on its own, however, would have been meaningless if we hadn't also been able to continuously expand opportunities for our students and teachers and make numerous campus improvements all along the way. Through countless processes and disciplines, we've also been able to take things a step further and lay the necessary groundwork for long-term stability.

Of course, these monumental feats wouldn't be possible without the dedication of many partners. First and foremost, the success of KHDS is driven by our talented teachers, who are wholly devoted to the success of their students. We're also deeply grateful to the KHDS parents, who entrust us with their children, and faithfully support our efforts to light the spark within each and every one of them.

We're so grateful to have the ongoing support of our many stakeholders like you, and are blessed with a dedicated group of individuals representing them. Our Board of Trustees offer a diverse collection of backgrounds and expertise, the combination of which are critical to our ability to successfully navigate the unexpected challenges that we are continuously met with.

There have also been many vital relationships forged with individuals and organizations outside of our school community. With apologies to those that are not mentioned here, I'd still like to highlight two special partnerships. While the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County has supported our mission financially and otherwise since our inception, they've especially stepped up their efforts this year. Their feedback was invaluable during our reopening planning last summer, and they've recently awarded us a grant to help defray the costs of our Covid-related expenses.

Our advocates at Teach Florida have continuously raised the bar on what they endeavor to accomplish on behalf of our school and your children, and found even more opportunities to do so over the past year. Along with driving another groundbreaking education agenda currently being legislated in Tallahassee, they've arranged for millions of kosher meals to be distributed to our families since last summer, and have helped us manage the myriad State and Federal Covid-relief programs.

With support from partners like them, and you, KHDS will have the tools and confidence to continue striving for all-around excellence, and see success, with Hashem's help, so that we will be here for generations of children to come.



## VISIT US ONLINE!

Visit our website for the most up to date calendar of events. The publications page features a library of previous *Hillel Heralds* and *Annual Reports*, supply lists, forms and much more!

Katz 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.

To submit information for a future *Hillel Herald*, please email Suzanne Rice at [suzanner@hilleldayschool.org](mailto:suzanner@hilleldayschool.org).