T illel H craid

A publication of Katz Hillel Day School of Boca Raton 2023-2024/5783-5784 Vol. XVII ~ Issue No. 1





561-470-5000 www.hilleldayschool.org

KHDS STANDS WITH ISRAEL



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330 E	
From the Administration	2-6
Campus Expansion	7
KHDS Stands with Israel	8-9
HilleLites	10-15
Community, Chesed & Caring	16-17
Spotlight by Grade	18-23
The Lions' Den	24
Holiday Happenings	25-27
Campaign Matter\$	28-29
PTA: Here to Help	30-31





Be a part of our crucial fundraiser to donate a new United Hatzalah ambulance for our brothers and sisters in Israel!

Scan the QR code or see page 16 for more information.



Rabbi Yaakov Sadigh Head of School

Purim has always held a special place in my heart. I believe it's because my father hails from Hamedan, the city where Esther and Mordechai are laid to rest. As a child, I have vivid memories of visiting their Kevarim on a few occasions. To this day, my dad still has relatives living there who continue to pray at

these sacred sites. I was taught that in times of adversity and sorrow, we should draw strength from the deep-rooted heritage and upbringing that have sustained our people for millennia. Consequently, in the wake of the tragic events of October 7 in Eretz Yisrael, I turned to the Book of Esther for guidance and solace.

When Haman conceived his malevolent scheme to annihilate the Jewish people, he sought to persuade King Achashverosh with a troubling argument: "There is a particular people, dispersed and scattered among the diverse provinces of your kingdom, whose customs and laws differ from those of any other nation. They do not adhere to the king's decrees, and it is not in Your Majesty's interest to tolerate their presence." (Esther 3:8) In response to this devastating revelation, Queen Esther urgently instructed Mordechai: "Go, assemble all the Jews who live in Shushan, and fast on my behalf; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maidens will observe the same fast." (Esther 4:16)

Throughout history, unity has remained our most potent weapon. An ancient medrash recounts a tale that crystallizes why Moshe was chosen to lead B'nei Yisrael out of Egypt. One day, while

Moshe tended to his father-in-law's flock, a lone sheep strayed from the herd. As Moshe reached the wayward sheep, he discerned its thirst and, filled with compassion, returned it to the safety of the herd. The question naturally arises: Why did Moshe not concern himself with leaving the rest of the flock unattended? Commentaries provide the answer that Moshe did not fret about the others because they had each other, while the one that strayed was alone.

The unfathomable events of October 7, 2023, obliterated the barriers and divisions among the Jewish people. It is deeply unfortunate that such a calamity was the catalyst for this unity. Nevertheless, Klal Yisrael has emerged as Am Echad, one united nation. At KHDS, we stood together, not only to bolster each other but, more significantly, to support our precious students through acts of great kindness. We fervently joined in prayer for the welfare of the State of Israel, the safe return of hostages, and the well-being of our IDF soldiers and sprung into action with a number of powerful initiatives that are listed in this newsletter. These are the days that make me proud to be the Head of School at Katz Hillel Day School and part of the remarkable Boca Raton Jewish community. I take great comfort in knowing that I am not alone. Let's continue to lean on each other for strength as we pray for peace and safety in our homeland and around the world and bring light into this very dark world today.



Lev Stark
Executive Director
The Golden State to The Sunshine State:
Tales of Another Coastal Convert!

I've recently traded the constant buzz of Los Angeles for the sultry sunsets of Boca. Initially, I thought transitioning from an LA mindset to a Boca one would be like trying to switch from call the taste but none of the kick. Oh how

coffee to decaf—all the taste but none of the kick. Oh, how wrong I was!

Picture this: just a few days ago, I was strolling around the picturesque streets of our Vista Verde neighborhood, my trusty dog by my side. As I soaked in the panoramic views of shimmering ponds and statuesque palm trees, I couldn't help but be sidetracked by the ... roadkill raptors? I mean, 'iguanas' (if we're being formal). To all the OG Floridians, those might just be your version of squirrels, but to a Californian? They're practically pterodactyls in disguise.

Moving here, I was slightly apprehensive. Sure, I had heard whispers of the greatness that is Boca and the treasure trove that is Katz Hillel Day School, but what I discovered far exceeded whispered tales. This isn't just any school. It's a beacon of educational brilliance, each corner illuminated by the sheer dedication of its staff. Every wall seems to whisper the commitment of educators and administrators who dive into the nitty-gritty of each child, assuring a positive educational experience steeped in love of Torah and Israel.

As a newbie to the neighborhood, I can say that this place exudes a warmth that rivals the temperature in August. It blends sophistication with a pinch of that charming, small-town feel that made me fall head over heels for it.

With winds of change sweeping through Katz Hillel Day School—construction trucks soon to signal the birth of a new building—I got to join the team just as we were charting unexplored territories. There's an undeniable energy in the air. It's the excitement of what's next, the promise of a bright future. And here I am, having jumped ship from the West Coast, ready to contribute my bit and ensure this transition is as seamless as possible.

So, as we stand at this thrilling juncture, here's raising a toast (preferably a chilled iced tea, because, let's be honest, it's always summer here) to new beginnings and the vibrant journey ahead. KHDS, you had me at "prehistoric dinosaurs." Let's build an amazing future together!



Hadassah Smolarcik
Judaic Studies Principal, Grades 1-8

This past summer, I picked up a good read entitled *Upstream*, authored by **Dan Heath**. In his book, Mr. Heath explores how to prevent problems before they happen as he introduces us to great thinkers and problem solvers who overcame obstacles and achieved

victories by switching to "upstream mindsets."

Mr. Heath introduces his book and the idea of upstream thinking with this parable. "You and your friend are having a picnic by the side of a river. Suddenly, you hear a shout from the direction of the water—a child is drowning. Without thinking, you both dive in, grab the child, and swim to shore. Before you can recover, you hear another child cry for help. You and your friend jump back into the river to rescue her as well. Then another struggling child drifts into sight....and another... The two of you can barely keep up. Suddenly, you see your friend wading out of the water, seeming to leave you alone. "Where are you going?" you demand. Your friend answers, "I am going upstream to tackle the guy who is throwing all these kids in the water!" Now you get the message: downstream is the reaction to problems once they occur, and upstream efforts aim to prevent those issues from happening in the first place. Most of us spend much of our time dealing with issues during and after they occur. We get stuck in a cycle of responsewe deal so much with reaction and not enough with prevention.

You must be wondering, where am I going with this? We have just begun another academic year at KHDS, and, B"H, we have witnessed tremendous growth in enrollment and in the upsurge of families choosing to live in Florida. As an educator, I have been blessed to be a part of the lives of our children, and I have witnessed many amazing successes and achievements. There were times, however, when I experienced heartfelt sadness seeing students experiencing challenges and struggles with their spirituality as they were growing and maturing. For some young adults, it manifests as a spiritual malaise, an attitude of indifference towards Mitzvah observance. What can we do to help our children succeed in their academic and spiritual growth—and I say "we" because we are all in this together? How can we be upstream planners so that our children grow and mature into Jews who observe Halacha and are committed to serving our people?

We are living in times where our children are being inundated with media and entertainment, which is contrary to our Halachic values and moral standards. We need to be living examples of academic achievement, but more importantly, of Torah and Mitzvot achievement. Treat Torah and Mitzvot with respect, and demonstrate to your children how to serve Hashem with joy and happiness. Take time to discuss Torah concepts and Mitzvot observance. Make Shabbat, Chagim, Tefillah, and Brachot meaningful and purposeful. Teach your children to be responsible, encourage them to have gratitude and appreciation, talk about feelings, and teach your children to care. Those who place these values and priorities first create a solid foundation for their children. A foundation that can weather any storm and remain strong for generations to come. This is upstream thinking!



KHDS welcomes our amazing B'not Sherut, **Emuna Binstock (right)** and **Moriya Ogen (left)**!

The girls are teaching lessons about Tziyonut to our Kindergarten through 5th grade students. They are also implementing programs to enhance the KHDS experience through a love of Israel, Torah, and mitzvot while bringing Israel's culture and vibe to KHDS on a daily basis.

Emuna was born at Hadassah Ein **Kerem Hospital** in Jersualem. She has three younger sisters, an older sister, and one little brother who is four years old. She and her family enjoy traveling in Israel, and Emuna loves the Eilat Mountains and Beit She'an area near the lakes and has hiked there quite a bit since she did National Service there last year. Her dream is to hike the Israel National Trail, which goes from the north to the south of Israel and takes several months to complete. She also enjoys playing the guitar in her free time.

Moriya was born at the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem and has always lived in Efrat. She has four siblings: one big sister, one big brother, and two little sisters. Moriya enjoys styling hair and has been a stylist for girls' events. She also loves to travel in Israel, especially in the Golan and Galilee regions, as well as the Kinneret.



If you would like to host the girls for Shabbat, Chagim, or any other time, please contact:

Chava Weisstuch at chava.weisstuch@gmail.com



Tefillah is such an important life skill in our lives.

Teaching children to be joyful and appreciate the opportunity to talk to Hashem is often challenging.

Rarely does one see a young child who has an inner joy, contentment, and love for Tefillah as our *Esther Tehilla*, *A''H*, demonstrated on a daily basis. To honor the memory of our beloved *Esti Moskowitz*, *A''H*, and to increase the love of Tefillah in our children, we continue the *ESTI*: Every Shabbat/Sunday Tefillah Initiative.

Students in grades 1-5 keep track of each Shabbat and Sunday that they davened and each month the students who filled out their cards are recognized and receive a Rosh Chodesh treat. Esti inspired all of us to do our best to come closer to Hashem in

all that we do.



Shireen Butman General Studies Principal, Grades 1-5

Over the past two years, we have embarked on a reflective and strategic plan to improve and enhance the lower school general studies curriculum and programming.

Our new ELA and math curriculum are now well in place. We are already seeing positive gains in our classrooms and in student achievement

from working with these programs, as they offer a unified scope and sequence for skill building. Our teachers continue to receive professional development and coaching to dig further into both curricula.

Our curriculum enhancement journey continues this year with the addition of math enrichment for 3rd and 4th graders. The goal is to provide more fast-paced, analytical, and challenging math content to align with and meet the needs of 5th graders in advanced math. Students in on-level math class also benefit from a smaller math class, thus allowing them to get more individualized support and delve deeper into math concepts. This year, we also added another reading specialist to the lower school. As our student body has grown, we have realized the need to be responsive and provide the extra reading support students require in the lower grades. Reading intervention at a young age is critical to building strong and passionate readers!

Additionally, this same growth also put a lot of pressure on 4th and 5th grade teachers, who were, up until now, solely responsible for supporting struggling learners in their classes. To ensure that we were being proactive and looking to bridge students' lagging skills, we felt that it was essential to include resource teachers to push-in into both grades. This additional support is already bearing fruit and providing students with reading, writing, and math support.

Lastly, we continue to work with CIJE (Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education) to enhance our elementary school STEM curriculum, both in the areas of science and technology. New to the lower school are Minecraft competition opportunities, a more robust coding program, and robotics exposure, all with the ultimate objective of developing key STEM skills and interests at a young age.

We believe that these initiatives will support and enhance learning at KHDS, as well as equip our students with the foundational skills they need to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

Parents are invaluable partners in this journey. We encourage you to engage with your children, ask them about what they are learning at school, and perhaps even participate in STEM activities at home. Together, we can create a vibrant learning environment that nurtures strong reading and comprehension skills, critical thinking, resilience, and innovation.



Creative minds got their gears turning in our Makerspace lab.



Unlocking the code to limitless innovation with Blockly!



Taking a break for a quick game of hoops!



Students learned the stages of the plant lifecycle in science.



Rina Lanner, M.S. Ed., General Studies Principal, Middle School

The Gemarah (Shabbat 156.) states: "It is the constellation of the hour that determines a person's nature... One who was born under the influence of Mars will be one who spills blood. Rav Ashi said: He will be either a blood letter, or a thief, or a slaughterer of animals, or a circumciser."

This Gemara seems to be highlighting the fact that children are born with unique and innate tendencies that shape their personalities and interests. To help each child reach his or her potential, those involved in their chinuch must recognize his or her proclivities and nourish them. As Rav Shlomo Wolbe so beautifully explains, there are two terms that must be used when understanding what true Chinuch is. Educating our children involves both זריעה (planting) and בנין (building). זריעה refers to these inborn traits that are like seeds waiting to be nurtured and cultivated to help children flourish. Every child has distinct characteristics and talents that make them special and singular in the world. Some children are more skilled in the classroom, others on the sports field, others in the Beit Midrash for davening, and others in the art room. Hashem blesses every child with the combination of kochot they need to leave their mark in the world. Recognizing these inborn tendencies is crucial when it comes to education.

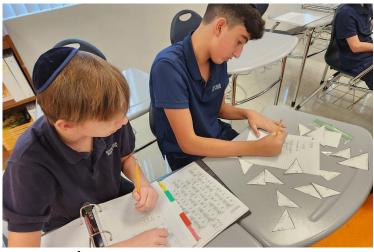
refers to the opportunities and experiences we provide for our children to help them uncover and utilize their strengths. The values we demonstrate and the morals we model help our children determine how to channel their natural inclinations. Those involved in the chinuch of children should nourish these innate traits by providing a stimulating environment in which they can build and develop.

It is truly a zechut for KHDS to partner with you, our dedicated parents, in the זריעה and בנין of our precious talmidim. Our students come into this world with a set of inborn tendencies waiting to be recognized and nurtured. Our devoted teachers provide an environment that allows these tendencies to flourish.

May all of our children's seeds be nurtured this year, and may we be zoche to see them grow into towering buildings!



On the first day of school, **Mrs. Einhorn's** life science class played a syllabus speed game called 'Getting to Know My Class.' Students had the opportunity to share a summer activity that could be related to science and then share something they learned in their science syllabus. They were so happy to be together as 7th graders and were also excited to share their summer adventures!



Mrs. Zangre's students jumped back into thinking like mathematicians by reviewing various math skills and concepts taught last year by playing a math tangram-style game. The classroom was filled with the sounds of learning as students shared their thoughts and processes with their partners.



In commemoration of 9/11, our middle school students watched a short video summarizing the events of that tragic day and then heard teachers share their experiences. Students respectfully listened to their memories so that they could carry on these memories as well.



During Middle School Advisory period, **Morah Lanner** spoke with the students about Rachamim as a continuation of the 'Middah of the Month.' She shared different ways the **IDF** models Rachamim internationally, not just at home.

Gwenn Baer Early Childhood Director, EC2-K

The foundation of a child's future is shaped during their early years. The **Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center** is designed to provide a well-rounded environment for our children's social and emotional growth and learning.

Every year, we take time at the end of the school year and over the summer to reflect on areas where we can enhance our program. Through hands-on experiences and exciting activities, with love and patience, we aim to open the minds of our youngest learners, ignite a love for learning and a quest for knowledge, and provide them with the skills they will need as they continue to grow.

This year, we added several academic components to our curriculum at all grade levels, particularly those related to language and reading, in both English and Hebrew. We had all of the kindergarten teachers trained in **Orton Gillingham** and will continue to provide different opportunities for professional development throughout the year.

A day in a KHDS Early Childhood (EC) classroom is a day booming with sensory play and science experiments. Students learn letters through tactile experiences, using clay and sand to learn each individual line and curve. They participate in an animated circle time, davening, singing, and learning about the parsha. They explore their classroom during free center time, where they are encouraged to discover, build meaning, and develop interpersonal skills through new encounters. Strong teacherchild relationships enable the children to feel safe and secure in their environment. Our teachers are dedicated to nurturing the emotional, physical, social, and intellectual development of all of our young learners.

In addition to individual classroom Shabbat celebrations, our weekly Shabbat Oneg brings the entire EC family together to sing, dance, and share Parsha knowledge as we build excitement for Shabbat.

Most recently, we brought Parshat Noach to life for our children with a week of festivities and age-appropriate activities. Classes baked rainbow challahs and did in-depth studies on primary and secondary colors. Elana Ostroff from PJ Library visited and read to the children and provided a fun animal-themed matching game. We had our very own mabul with waterplay, waterslides, and a foam machine. We finished the week with a petting zoo; we had an alpaca, a mini cow, baby chicks and bunnies, and even a baby kangaroo! These types of programs encapsulate what a KHDS EC education is all about. Our mission is to nurture our students, make learning interactive, and facilitate a love for learning and Judaism.







EC2 had a blast in **Coach Sam's** PE class with some hands-on fun as they played with soft foam balls and sensory rubber band balls.





It's not just for kids! EC teachers joined in the fun during PE class.





EC enjoyed meeting some furry friends from the **Cock-A-Doodle-Doo Petting Zoo** in honor of Parshat Noach. Thank you to **Mrs. Baer** for coordinating (and for also adding some special parsha-themed surprises)!





Students enjoyed 'Water Day' in honor of Parshat Noach, complete with waterslides and a foam machine.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CAMPUS EXPANSION

As of press time, **Butters Construction & Development** is expected to break ground very soon on the Milton B. Katz Campus for the construction of our new building, which will include additional classrooms for middle school and early childhood, offices, a 4D immersion room, and a beautiful new Beit Midrash. The building is Phase III of the school's Capital Campaign efforts, with a fundraising goal of \$6 million!

The new structure will connect the existing **Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School** and the **Middle School** buildings and will ensure that no child is turned away from a Jewish education while keeping low student-teacher ratios and the stellar education and KHDS experience that our school provides.

"This is the next vital step as we continue to strive for excellence and to be the best Jewish Day School in America," noted **Daniel Katz**, KHDS Board President. "Ensuring the Jewish education of our children is paramount to securing the future and continuity of the Jewish people for generations to come," he added.

There are a variety of exclusive naming opportunities available that offer a wonderful way to leave a lasting legacy while supporting Jewish education. Or scan the QR code to make an earmarked donation to our Capital Campaign—every dollar counts toward our goal!



\$2 Million ~ Classroom Building \$250,000 ~ Atrium \$75,000 ~ Classrooms (2 left!) \$50,000 ~ Offices

\$36,000 ~ Main Entrance Mezuzahs & Beit Midrash Entrance Mezuzah
\$25,000 ~ Classroom Mezuzahs & Outer Door Mezuzahs

Naming opportunities may be paid over 5 years.

We gratefully recognize the generosity of our Capital Campaign Phase III supporters for securing an exclusive location in our new building.

Daniel & Liora Adler
Anonymous
Anonymous
Sandy & Barbara Cohen
Phil & Jennifer Landau
Rosenthal Brothers Insurance
Teddy & Linda Struhl
Michael & Amy Tarlowe

RESERVE YOURS TODAY!!!

Contact the Development Office at 561-470-5000 ext. 225 for more information.







KHDS STANDS WITH ISRAEL

Katz Hillel Day School of Boca Raton extends its unwavering support of Israel during these unspeakable times. "Immediately following the horrific news, the school leadership and guidance team worked around the clock to ensure that both students and faculty had a safe space filled with love and support, as many have close friends and family members who have been directly impacted by recent tragedies," noted **Rabbi Yaakov Sadigh**, Head of School.

The administrative team offered their offices as spaces for privacy and quiet reflection for students and faculty, and the guidance team shared resources with families to guide them in effectively communicating with their children about the current situation. Age-appropriate initiatives and projects were also introduced to help students feel a sense of purpose and contribution during these challenging times. "We, thankfully, have an incredibly caring and dedicated staff who will ensure the well-being of our precious students," Rabbi Sadigh added.

During davening, middle school students added special prayers for the welfare of the State of Israel and the IDF soldiers. Classes participated in writing notes to members of the IDF; in social studies, teachers explained the history of Gaza and Hamas; in art, beautiful cards were designed with messages of Chizuk to send to the soldiers; and in electives, Israelthemed bracelets were made. Student Council collected money from students for Yashar L'Chayal, a charity for IDF soldiers, and the KHDS PTA collected items that were sent to the Israeli Consulate to be given to families that have been displaced and also assisted with collections for a toy drive on behalf of the South Florida Zionists. Other projects included an optional social action activity of letter writing to local representatives; the school collected the names of "KHDS family" relatives who are fighting in the IDF or in need of prayers for recovery; and the PTA coordinated the "Letters of Support" project for Israeli children. On October 11th, blue and white were worn to show solidarity.

In addition, efforts in security have been amplified to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and the entire school community. "We intensified our efforts in collaboration with both Federation Security and the Sheriff's Department," explained Lev Stark, Executive Director. Additionally, Teach Florida's advocacy and its strong partnership with both local and state law enforcement agencies have resulted in a promise from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to increase patrols at Jewish day schools. "We are profoundly grateful for their proactive stance and dedication to our community's security, as the safety of our children, staff, and the broader community will always be our utmost priority," Stark noted.

KHDS' hearts and prayers remain with our brothers and sisters in Eretz Yisrael.

KHDS STANDS WITH ISRAEL



Dvrei Chizuk and Tehillim after returning from Sukkot break. Am Yisrael Chai!



Middle school students recited tehillim during their lunch break.



Our B'not Sherut created a banner to spread kindness in honor of the soldiers fighting in Israel.



Rabbi Kassorla and **Mr. Gale** joined together to teach middle school students about the history of Gaza and Hamas.



Israel-themed bracelets were crafted during electives.





In this turbulent time, 6th grade girls in **Morah Ben-Harari's** Chumash class watched the video and danced to the beautiful song of "Anachno Lo Mefachnadim -- We are not afraid," for some Bitachon, Chizuk, and Emunah.



Thank you to the KHDS PTA, Danna Averbook, Jennifer Berkowitz, Rachel Fraiman, and Anna Jacobs for spearheading the "Light for Israel" bags that were sent home with our KHDS families and staff on October 13th.



KHDS PTA coordinated multiple collection areas for needed items that were sent to the **Israeli Consulate**.



Middle school students virtually joined together with other Yeshiva Day Schools throughout the country on October 13th to daven together and stand united for Israel.



Elementary school lvrit students proudly displayed their heartfelf letters to soldiers written in Hebrew.



5th graders sang Acheinu.



Students wrote thank you notes to Chayalim to show love and support.



KHDS students recited tehillim.



Rabbi Uri Pilichowski, an Israeli advocate from Mitzpe Yericho, shared words of inspiration and encouragement with middle school students.

Mazal tov to these winning student artists for their beautiful designs that are being featured this year!

Artwork was designed during the 2022-2023 school year under the direction of **Lisa Pinkis**, KHDS Art Department.

Rosh Hashanah Card:

Quilling, by Benny Glatt



ROARING WITH LION PRIDE!

Students, faculty, and staff celebrated the very first Spirit Day of the new school year on August 25th!



EMET Logo:

Rikki Gately, Tamar Lasry, and Michelle Levy



THE EMET PROGRAM BEGINS!

Each year, students in Kindergarten through 5th grade participate in the **EMET** program (**E**xcellent **M**iddot **E**very **T**ime). The essence of the program is to teach children about the behaviors we hope to cultivate and then "catch them in the act."

The four EMET categories are:

Kavad Habriyai - Respect for All

Derech Ereiz - Respect for Adults

Kavah Ellin - Torah and Mitzvah Time

Kabadai Ole - Accepting Responsibility

When a student receives five EMET notes in the same category, they redeem an EMET badge and are publicly recognized at the Shabbat Oneg that week. After receiving a badge in each of the four categories, students will earn the highest of honors — the Superbadge!!!

HilleLites 11

KHDS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

KHDS welcomes our new Board members for the 2023-2024 school year: Rabbi Rael Blumenthal, Jennifer Epstein, Naomi Katz, Daniel Krasna, Adir Levy, Dr. Eliezer Seidenfeld, Amy Tarlowe, and Dr. Michael Welner.

We also acknowledge our outgoing Board members for their years of service: **Dr. Danny Aghion, Rachel Harow, Dr. Elan Rosenblat** and **Dr. Todd Slesinger**.

Executive Committee

Daniel J. Katz, President Gil Stein, Treasurer Amy Tarlowe, Secretary Naomi Katz, PTA President Liora Adler, M.D. Orlie Cohen, Ph.D. Philip Landau, Esq. Joshua Stern, M.D. Teddy Struhl Trustees
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Mor Shapiro, M.D.

Ashi Weisstuch, M.D.

Michael Welner, M.D.

Honorary Trustees Rabbi Rael Blumenthal Rabbi Efrem Goldberg Rabbi Philip Moskowitz



NEW FAMILY ORIENTATION

KHDS is thrilled to welcome 46 new families to our school this year! A New Family Orientation was held for them on the evening of August 21st. The program provided valuable information as well as an opportunity to interact with administration and staff and ask questions in an open forum. Families also mingled with other KHDS newbies, received a welcome swag bag, and enjoyed refreshments.

We welcome all of our new families to the KHDS family and have introduced many of them in our "New Family Spotlight" feature in the Weekly Shavuon.











NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION



New faculty and staff were welcomed to the KHDS family on August 14th during an orientation. Our newest additions

met the administration, received a special welcome gift, and learned all of the basics to begin an amazing year at KHDS.



FACULTY & STAFF RETURN

On August 16th, over 130 faculty and staff convened for the 2023-24 Opening Meeting. Coffee and pastries, generously sponsored by KHDS PTA, started off the morning, along with the opportunity to pose at the selfie booth. Everyone received a welcome gift (shirts generously sponsored by KHDS; tote bags generously sponsored by KHDS PTA).

After welcoming remarks by the administration, Rabbi Sadigh (Head of School), Lev Stark (Executive Director), Morah Hadassah Smolarcik (Judaic Studies Principal, Grades 1-8), Shireen Butman (General Studies Principal, Grades 1-5), Rina Lanner (General Studies Principal, Middle School), and Gwenn Baer (Early Childhood Director), an inspirational presentation was shown. Teachers were introduced to the weekly 'jar of marbles' project that will continue throughout the school year. Make every marble count!

A fun ice-breaker of Panoply, inspired by *Dannie Grajower*, *Z"L*, was played in teams. Special thanks to Jill Kaminetzky for her hard work in coordinating the opening meeting, welcome gift bags (and countless other things!!), to *Rina Lanner* and *Nechamah Zangre* for coordinating the Panoply, and to *Simone Jacobs* and the KHDS maintenance team for their hard work with all the logistics and set-up.

Throughout the week, departmental meetings and trainings were held in anticipation of the first day of











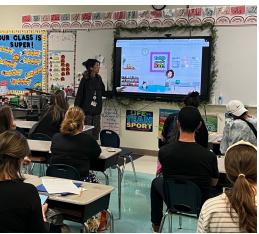


1st through 8th grade teachers participated in differentiated instruction training by Hidden Sparks, a nonprofit whose mission is to help educators and schools nurture the hidden spark within each student through professional development programs and coaching for Jewish day school educators.

MEET THE TEACHER

'Meet the Teacher' nights were held for each division during the first weeks of school as classrooms were filled with parents instead of students.





3rd graders showed off wish sheets their parents' received during 'Meet the Teacher Night,' as they had an opportunity to express what they wished for their child as they began the new school year and Jewish New Year.



HilleLites 1

DROP-IN DAY

Sunday, August 20th, was drop-in day for EC through 5th grade students as they were welcomed to the KHDS family for the new school year. Students met their teachers and organized supplies while **KHDS PTA** sponsored a DJ, bounce houses, a photo booth, bead-making, and other fun games. Ice cream was provided by our local **Carvel** on Glades Road, and lunch (as well as a sneak peek of the new lunch menu) was generously sponsored by **King David Catering**. See page 30 for the list of our amazing **KHDS PTA** volunteers who made this all possible.

View more photos on our website gallery at www.hilleldayschool.org.

















BACK TO SCHOOL!

Wednesday, August 23rd, was the official first day of school as students reunited with old friends and also made new ones. Special thanks to **Aiden Lerman** (7th grade) for donning the lion mascot costume and welcoming students as **Ari**!

















HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTARY PROGRAM COMMENCES

Once again, KHDS has been selected to participate in the Names, Not Numbers project, which transforms the traditional study of the Holocaust into an interactive program that involves survivors who lived through the history being tauaht.

The 8th grade students, under the direction of Rabbi Ari Mirzoeff, are engaging in serious, meaningful dialogue with the survivors and are forging relationships with them. In addition, during the program, the students will be learning interviewing techniques, documentary film tools, and editing skills culminating in the final documentary which will premiere later in the school year.

We shall never forget!

Names, Not Numbers is generously supported by a prominent national foundation.

Names, Not Numbers, INC: an interactive, multi-media Holocaust FILM DOCUMENTARY project created by educator, Tova Fish-Rosenberg.

www.namesnotnumbers.org





REFRESH OF SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM LAUNCHES

Partnering with our dedicated lunch vendor, KHDS meticulously reviewed and reimagined our menu, emphasizing nutrition and a delightful variety. Our joint mission was clear: to create child-friendly meals that dance across the taste buds with diverse flavors and nutritious foods. After hearing constructive feedback from parents and offering a tasting event during Drop-In Day, our commitment remains unshakeable: providing meals with an enhanced value that are nutritious, delicious, and tailored to our students' needs while being even friendlier on the pocket!

A Dairy Delight: Our lunch program's dairy meals are all Cholov Yisroel. We understand the significance this holds for many in our community and are proud to incorporate it into our offerings.

A Culinary Adventure Awaits: No more same-old, same-old! We spiced things up with an assortment of dishes, freshly prepared with quality ingredients. From daily soups that warm the soul to a fresh salad bar, and yes, a daily gluten-free option, we're sure there's something for everyone.

Health Meets Flavor: Because nutrition and taste aren't mutually exclusive, we've harmoniously blended the two, ensuring your child enjoys their meal and reaps its health benefits.

Thank you to those who participated in our parent lunch surveys. Your insights were invaluable in shaping a program that aligns with our students' needs and parental expectations as we ensure lunchtime remains a highlight of the day.



GET SOCIAL! KHDS LAUNCHES NEW INSTAGRAM PAGE & SHABBAT SHALOM SHORTS



Racking up over 100 followers on the first day of school, **@KHDSCHOOLEXPERIENCE** was launched on Instagram. Our new social media maven, Melissa (Appel) Litton has joined the communications team and is busy creating exciting digital content to share all of the amazing experiences our students have every day! She also is producing the new Friday favorite, Shabbat Shalom Shorts, short videos that wrap up the week. "I am thrilled to be able to capture the daily magic of KHDS through pictures and videos," Melissa noted.

@KHDSCHOOLEXPERIENCE Melissa was born in New York and she was recently married in August - Mazal Tov! She and her husband, Rabbi Jeremy Litton.

Judaic studies principal at Hebrew Academy of Miami, reside in Miami. Fun Fact - Melissa also ran a cookie cake business in NY (check them out on @bakedbymelpel) - sweet!!

Check out our new Instagram page to see what is going on at KHDS and join our growing list of followers!



OFFICERS

President: Abby Beim

Vice President: Talia Oppenheimer

Secretary: Yosef Dahan

Treasurer: Shana Weber

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

6th Grade Representatives: Eliana Fraiman & Eli Pardau

7th Grade Representatives: Gabi Ohayon & Emunah Rosen

8th Grade Representatives: Alexia Abitbol & Nate Stern

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOTES IN 23-24 STUDENT COUNCIL

The ballots are in! Mazal Tov to this year's **Middle School Student Council**! Thank you to Student Council Adivsor **Mr. Wyatt Doss** for coordinating the campaign and election and Kol Hakavod to everyone who worked hard and participated in running for office!



Not pictured: Yosef Dahan

ESTI MOSKOWITZ ONEG RETURNS



The first **Esti Moskowitz Oneg** of the school year took place on August 25th.



Elementary school students join together in ruach and song every Friday during the *Esti Moskowitz Oneg.*

KIDS' TIME PROGRAM, SPORTS & CLINICS

Session I of the **Kids' Time Program (KTP)** and Sports & Clinics kicked off on August 23rd under the direction of **Maia Shaffer** and **Julie Abrams.** KTP offerings included Homework Club,



aftercare, Zumba, Snapology-Kinderbots, ballet, gymnastics, chess and logic games, DIY crafts, KidzArt, creative writing, and drama. The sports division for EC3 through 3rd grade





offered Kidokinetics, girls basketball, boys basketball, girls soccer, boys soccer, and boys flag football, while the clinics division offered boys girls soccer, boys basketball, and girls basketball for 4th-5th grades and middle school.

16 Community, Chesed & Caring

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Governor DeSantis** for promptly dispatching **Florida Highway Patrol** vehicles and officers to safeguard our school beginning on the morning of October 13th. It is clear that the advocacy of **Teach FL** played a pivotal role in guiding this decision, and for that, we are especially thankful. Teach FL's unwavering dedication and influential voice have significantly contributed to the protection of our community. Together, the actions of both Governor DeSantis and Teach FL have deeply strengthened our sense of security, and we remain profoundly appreciative.









Kol Hakavod to **Orly Landau**, 2nd grade, who did the great mitzvah of Bikur Cholim during her vacation over Chol Hamoed. First, she went with her mom, **Ilana Landau**, to the store and bought lots of flowers; then, back at home, she made bunches of bouquets tied with ribbon. She then went to **Broward General Medical**

Center in Ft. Lauderdale — the hospital where her dad (and KHDS Board member), Dr. Evan Landau, works — and delivered bouquets of flowers to his patients in the Cancer Center who were undergoing radiation treatment. She wished them a refuah shlema (speedy recovery) and brought smiles to their faces. She even brought some of the patients to tears, as they were so touched by her kindness. Orly didn't feel nervous or scared going into the Cancer Center and was so happy to do this special mitzvah.







Since the events of October 7th, our community has come together to stand united in support of Israel. From a rally in prayer and solidarity coordinated by local schools and shuls that took place in West Boca on October 9th to an Israel Solidarity Gathering on October 10th coordinated by the **Jewish**

Federation of South Palm Beach County, along with the kick-off of the *Israel Emergency Campaign*. Following, on October 16, **Vaad Harabonim** of Boca Raton sponsored an unprecedented evening of tefillah and chizuk at **Boca Raton Synagogue** led by community Rabbonim.

Mental health resources continue to be provided by Rales JFS, the Consortium of Jewish Day Schools Mental Health Network, and OHEL Children's Home & Family Services.

KHDS PTA coordinated an effort of needed items to be sent to the Israeli Consulate and also assisted with collections for a toy drive on behalf of the South Florida Zionists. KHDS students spearheaded various fundraisers to support Israel organizations, including the KHDS 2nd grade collection for Standing Together, who procured Chumashim and tzitzit for our IDF soldiers to carry with them to the battlefields and on their operations to save our brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, grandparents, and children in captivity.



Daniel (KHDS President) and **Caroline Katz** spearheaded a campaign for **United Hatzalah** to raise \$180,000 for the donation of an ambulance with KHDS

proudly painted on it. "In the over 20 years that I have been involved with our beloved school, I have never asked our parent body to donate to any cause other than KHDS. I feel it is our mission and our responsibility to do whatever we can, at a time so perilous for our beloved homeland," explained Mr. Katz. "We would like everyone to join us in this wonderful opportunity to help our brothers and sisters in Israel, who are going through the most trying and difficult times since the founding of the State of Israel. Please give generously!" he added.

Help us reach our goal:

https://israelrescue.org/mymitzvah/katz-hillel-day-school-ambulance/

Kol Hakavod to **Natan Greenbaum**, 5th grade, who, with the help of his older brother, **Elan** (KHDS Class of '22), collected thousands of protein bars to be sent to the soldiers via **El Al**. May Hashem protect our soldiers and our homeland.





KHDS families, leadership, faculty and administration attended the Teach Florida Annual Legislative Breakfast on October 29th. Thanks to this advocacy group, this year they have helped secure more than \$100 million in funding for our community.



WE'VE PARTNERED WITH GENALEPH TO STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATIONAL PARENT- CHILD RELATIONSHIP.

BE THE ONE THEY TURN TO.



GE ALEPH



our community. In an effort to bolster and strengthen our common goal of empowering our children to carry on our Torah values to the next generation, we have partnered with the Orthodox Union and their groundbreaking, research-based, Torahinfused parenting initiative, GenAleph.

On September 20th, GenAleph launched in our community with a keynote address by Rabbi Yaakov Glasser, Managing Director of Community Engagement, OU.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES: COMMUNITY SUPPORT

JFS has worked closely with our school to bring a wide array of support services to its students/families. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please reach out to the Community Outreach Coordinator, Danielle Greenblatt, LCSW, at 561-852-3151. For additional information on the services JFS provides please visit www.ralesjfs.org.



Thank you to Casimir Maciulewicz, Pharmacist at the Publix Super Market at The Reserve at Boca Raton, and his amazing pharmacy techs, Matt Custer and Khaoula Faouzi, for coming to KHDS and administering flu shots for our staff. And thank you to **Nurse Robin** for coordinating.





Middle School Student Council hosted a dress-down day fundraiser with \$500 in proceeds going to support IDF soldiers and their families through the charity, Yashar L'Chayal. Student Council is also planning future fundraising events and raffles for those who contribute!



KHDS partnered with CCSA (Communities Confronting Substance Use & Addiction) to talk with middle school students about the dangers of using alcohol and substances and the risks they pose. It is an accepted fact in addiction science that prevention education and speaking with our children about these topics early and often can serve to strengthen protective factors against future drug misuse and other high-risk behaviors. The importance of protecting brain development, healthy ways to deal with stressors and peer pressure, refusal skills, and how to ask for help from a trusted adult were all part of this effort to keep our children safe and well and empower them to make healthy decisions.



EC3 students were all smiles in Morah Cara's classroom.



Early

In connection with Parshat Lech Lecha, EC4 had fun incorporating literacy into the exploration of land transportation in Morah Ivana's class.



Students cooled off in the SATA-PTA Pool during swim class.







Inspired by Parshat Noach, EC4 enjoyed experimenting with water and color by using pipettes to transfer colored water from cups to fill circles on their papers. This exercise strengthened fine motor muscles, while filling the circles with lots of little drops taught the children how to control those muscles. Students counted the drops as they filled the circles and loved creating new color combinations. Finally, they used paper towels to absorb the water, just like the water from the Mabul was slowly absorbed by the earth when the rain stopped. Students also learned about rain cycles and incorporated math, literacy, and exploration into their learning!



Students practiced writing letters in the sand.



After a parsha lesson on how Hashem created the world, EC2-B whipped up worldly (blue and green) cupcakes in honor of Parshat Bereshit.



Thank you to the PJ Libary for visiting our EC classes and reading about Parshat Noach!



Kindergarten students counted the letters in each word and marked their answers with dot markers.





Center stage! Students worked in their classroom "centers."



In music class, children enjoyed playing along to the beat.



Morah Jodie conducted a rainbow in a jar experiment about liquid density in conjunction with Parshat Noach.



Students learned the aleph bet with **Morah Tami.**

First grade rules!

Mrs. Schulman's

students learned
about class rules
and the class motto,
"Work hard, play
hard!" They also
made self-portraits
and will repeat
the project at the
end of the year to
see how much they
have grown!







Students were rewarded for their participation in the **E.S.T.I.** program. May they continue to love to daven!

The book
My Mouth
is a Volcano
launched a
discussion
about
strategies
students could
use when it's
hard for them
to hold their
thoughts in until
it is their turn.





In **Morah Rebecca's** class, students practiced spelling and reading new words during center-time! They also learned the bracha for seeing a rainbow in honor of Parshat Noach.

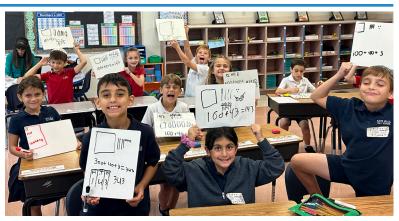


Rabbi Sadigh spoke to the 2nd grade class about the upcoming milestone of receiving their very first Chumash.





Students participated in morning prayer with **Morah Yona**.



Ms. Edelson's class explored different ways to show 3-digit numbers. By the end of their first math chapter, they came up with eight different ways to express numbers!



Students paired up and enjoyed reading together.

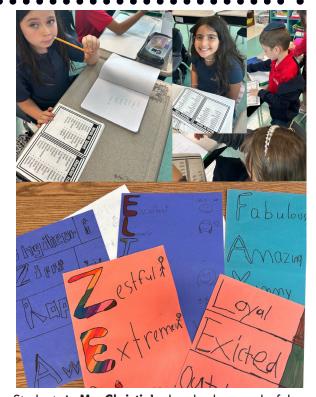


Students in Mrs. Schwarzer's class worked collaboratively in pairs to read and analyze nonfiction argumentative text about our country's national landmarks and monuments. Students analyzed the arguments made by the author and described how the author supported those claims with evidence from the text. They not only focused on honing their reading skills, but also learned a lot about our National Park Servicel





The Days of Creation! There is such joy in new beginnings especially when it comes to learning Torah. Students in **Morah Peninah's** class made mobiles in which they reflected the beauty of Hashem's creations.



Students in **Ms. Christie's** class had a wonderful time working on their acrostic poem projects. After exploring their student dictionaries, they researched different adjectives to build an acrostic poem using the letters of their name, described themselves using interesting vocabulary, and discovered new words as a class. The "T" in Third Grade stands for Terrific!



Students reviewed the days of the week in **Morah Shirley's** Hebrew class.



The class celebrated the lessons they learned in figurative language by wearing idiom-related costumes on 'Idiom Day!'



In Mrs. Morris' class, students presented their 'Me Museums.' For this project, they were asked to fill a paper bag with four items from home that represented themselves, helping their classmates learn more about them. Upon returning to class, the students wrote about each object and

why it was important to them. They also set up exhibits on their desks and toured the gallery, learning all about their classmates.



In Ivrit class, students learned about their family history and created beautiful family trees using the Hebrew words they learned!



Rabbi Drang's students had the awesome privilege of affixing mezuzot around campus!







Teamwork made the dream work as students were tasked with building a cup tower using only string and rubber bands.



Rabbi Chaim Goldberg's students studied Mishna and tasted the sweetness of Torah!

THANK YOU, ELUL SPEAKER SERIES FEATURED GUESTS!



Rabbi Efrem Goldberg, Marah D'Asra of **Boca Raton Synagogue**, kicked off the Elul Speaker Series by addressing middle school students about Chodesh Elul.



Rabbi Yaakov Gibber, Marah D'Asra of **Boca Jewish Center**, spoke about the privilege, pleasure, and gift of having a relationship with Hashem.



Link by link, middle school students weaved a chain of compassion as they came together to create a paper chain symbolizing the power of empathy and kindness. Each strip represented an act of compassion, reminding us that together, we can make a difference.

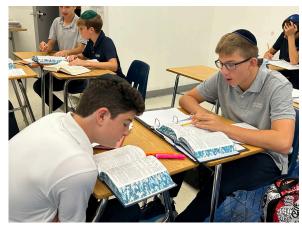


Rabbi Josh Broide, Boca Raton
Synagogue Outreach Rabbi, Director
of the Deborah & Larry D. Silver
Center for Jewish Engagement (CJE),
and KHDS parent, spoke about the
power, significance, and meaning
behind Selichot.



Rabbi Rael Blumenthal of **BRS West** addressed students about Chodesh Elul.





8th grade boys learned Chumash B'chavruta.

EXCELLENT ELECTIVES







The middle school elective program kicked off in early September. This program gives students the opportunity to learn, grow, explore, and develop different skills and ideas that they wouldn't necessarily be exposed to in the traditional classroom setting. Some of the offerings included: Ceramics, Jeopardy, Creative Crafting, Acrylic Painting, Fun With Frisbees, Mahjong, I Saw It On Pinterest, Scalpel Squad, Debate Dynamo, Chess, Nailed It!, Pilates, Fashion Design, and The History of The NFL. Thank you to many of our faculty, as well as parent volunteers, for their commitment to this program and for participating as teachers in the electives program, as well as to **Mrs. Nechamah Zangre** for coordinating.



Mr. Doss' 8th grade students took a deep dive into the tools used to learn about our nation's history in an activity where they identified different examples of primary and secondary sources.



Mrs. Einhorn's 7th grade life science classes learned how to use a microscope to observe the most amazing specimens! What does a bee's leg look like? Or, if we could see a piece of our intestines, what might we see? Students also learned how to make a wet mount slide and maneuver the objective lenses on the microscope to get various perspectives of each slide they created.



During a "Shvilei Nefesh Growing Into a Successful Student" wrap-up lesson, 6th grade students worked through five stations to review skills for organization, planning, note-taking, studying, and testtaking skills.



6th graders in **Morah Ben-Harari's** Chumash class worked in Chavrutah to master the beginning of Sefer Bamidbar.



In Mr. Doss' 7th grade class, students read authentic newspaper and magazine articles in order to identify different forms of government that were described in the reports. Students were able to connect their social studies vocabulary to various dictatorships, monarchies, democracies, and theocracies from across the world and throughout history.



During advisory, students worked on creating Taboo cards for the 'Middah of the Month' theme of Kindness.





Scrambling to protect our eggs-pertly designed contraptions!



Unleashing the power of science and witnessing the magic of dry ice, condensation, and chemical changes in action.



Maia Shaffer, Athletic Director Julie Abrams, After School Sports Coordinator

What an exciting start to the 2023-24 KHDS athletic season! The season would not be the same without the constant support and encouragement of our wonderful parents. Thank you!!!

The fall season kicked off with the girls' varsity volleyball team led by head **Coach Alan Krull**. The girls improved

their skills tremendously and built confidence with each and every practice. "Our girls proved to be tough competitors, keeping the score close in every game. We should all be proud of their competitive fire and progress," noted Krull. It truly was a fun and memorable season!

The boys' flag football team, led by **Coach Stan Baptiste** and **Coach Cameron Jackson**, had a fantastic season finishing with a record of 6-2! There was a great deal to be proud of with how these boys performed on the field and how they carried themselves off the field. Although the team fell short of the playoffs, it is clear that the boys gelled together during each practice and game. "There is no doubt in my mind that this team can compete with any team in the league and win," noted Coach Stan. "We hope and believe that the boys gained a lot from us during these past few months, but what they may not realize is how much we gained from them, remembering back to the days when we played on teams," added Coach Cameron. This group of young men inspires us to continue striving to be our best, both as coaches and individuals.

We are looking forward to our next season of play including girls varsity basketball and boys varsity soccer. Come out and cheer on your Katz Hillel Lions! Until next time, GO LIONS!





From the Physical Education Department

Coach Shaffer's Corner



The 3rd-5th grade girls worked on throwing and catching skills during the month of September and the beginning of October.

They also learned to play **Newcomb**, which is an excellent lead-up game for volleyball. The 6th-8th grade girls worked on their volleyball skills: setting and bumping, body positioning, footwork, and underhand and overhand serving, as well as basketball skills: dribbling, passing, and shooting. Middle school students learned the importance of drinking water and proper hydration before, during, and after exercise.



Coach Sam's Corner



In early childhood, the students learned about the importance of teamwork. We focused on activities that encouraged the children to work together as

a team or with a partner. We also worked on our ball skills. The children practiced passing the ball from hand to hand and ball control, using skills like rolling the ball around their bodies and bouncing and catching. We played with and learned how to use bean bags. We tried balancing the bean bag on different parts of our body—our head, elbows, and knees. The students have been performing many locomotor movements like skipping, hopping, and galloping. All of the children love playing with our new obstacle course activities!



Coach Kos' Corner



The 3rd–5th grade boys worked on coordination, agility, and change of direction using different types of exercises and

implementing them into flag football drills. This helped the boys in their flag football games. The 6th–8th grade boys focused mostly on developing their flag football skills. Since this was during the middle school flag football season, it was helpful for all our athletes. We also combined some days with basketball and soccer play. 1st and 2nd graders worked on foot coordination and hand-eye coordination, along with playing soccer and getting an introduction to football. All classes were reminded of the importance of hydration.



Holiday Happenings







During the month of Elul, on the days leading up to Rosh Hashanah, students in the **Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School** gathered as **Morah Hadassah** taught a lesson through her beautiful storytelling, followed by the sounding of the shofar by **Rabbi Drang**.



3rd graders in **Morah Rebecca** and **Morah Peninah's** classes worked together to create picture frames for Rosh Hashanah.



Rabbi G brought his famous Honey Bee Workshop to the Rosalind Henwood Early Childhood Learning Center.







EC4 learned the sounds of the shofar as they measured with connector cubes, balanced on them, and designed a page in their machzorim!



Morah Frumie showed EC4-B how to prepare for Aseret Yemei Teshuvah.







Sweet! Kitah Alef students created Rosh Hashanah-themed projects.



Holiday art designs were abuzz.

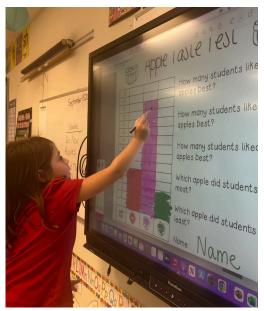
26 Holiday Happenings



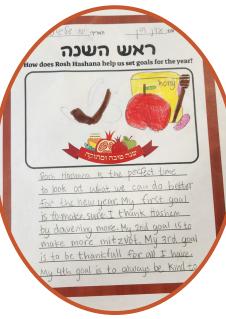
Tekiah - take a deep breath and blow the shofar!



Students gathered all the ingredients to bake sweet honey cakes!



1st graders participated in an apple taste test. They sampled Red Delicious, Pink Lady, and Granny Smith apples then built a class bar graph and analyzed the results!



3rd graders wrote about their goals for the coming New Year.



3th and 4th graders got together to create Rosh Hashanah cards in Hebrew.



AT THE

3rd graders created beautiful Simanim Cards and 5th graders created delicious Simanim boards!

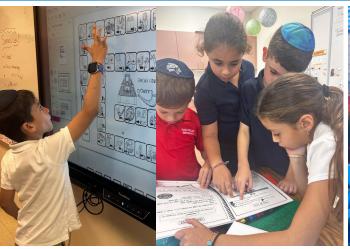


Morah Hadassah visited Kitah Alef to tell the story of Yonah.

Holiday Happenings



Middle school and EC students partnered up to trace, measure, and compare shoe sizes in connection with Yom Kippur slippers.



Students "leveled up" their Yom Kippur knowledge with an Kindergarten students interactive board game.

Kindergarten students learned about the



Kindergarten students learned about the tradition of chicken twirling (kapparot).





Hey, Siri: set a reminder to get a lulav and etrog!

Sukkot



5th graders created beautiful signs for their Sukkah.



3rd grade classes worked together on Sukkot projects.



2nd graders made decorations for the Sukkah.



EC4 students learned hammering skills to help them build sukkot.

28 Campaign Matter\$



Financial Resource Development



SCAN TO DONATE

Orlie Cohen, Ph.D., FRD Co-Chair Suzanne Rice, Director of Development

What was supposed to be a Shana Tova message to our KHDS family has turned somber as our hearts go out to those who have suffered during these trying times. We wish for peace and the safety of our brothers and sisters in Israel as the New Year begins.

We officially announce the beginning of our 2023-24 Campaign. Last school year, our Annual Campaign raised over \$645,000, and we are forever thankful to our generous supporters who contributed toward this achievement. This year, we are counting on you to help us go above and beyond! There are many opportunities to participate in the mitzvah of tzedakah throughout the school year:

- Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program sponsor a day of learning
- Tribute donations in honor, in memory or for a refuah shlema
- Designated gifts for programs and/or supplies that reduce our expense line
- Annual Mega Raffle chance to win \$100,000!
- Annual Journal Dinner March 18, 2024
- Annual Family Golf Outing June 2, 2024
- Major Gifts Societies join our most generous donors (payable over multiple years)
- Capital Campaign support our campus expansion (see page 7)
- Atid Legacy Society see the next page for more information

KHDS families are asked to make a donation of any amount before the end of the school year as part of our **Every Parent Campaign (EPC)**. The goal is 100% participation; we hope that we can count you in!



We hope that one or more of these giving opportunities will speak to your heart, and we are available to speak with you about how to make a meaningful gift.

In these unprecedented times, it is even more important than ever to support Jewish education and the future leaders of our People—our children! We greatly appreciate your support!

Save the Date March 18, 2024 8 Adar II, 5784

Annual Journal Dinner

Honorees: Gil & Lysee Stein

Faculty Dedication Award Recipients:
Morah Hadassah Smolarcik, 26 years
Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger, 13 years

more information to come...

DAY SCHOOL

בסייד

The Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program

DATE ~ HEBREW DATE

Today's Day of Learning is Sponsored by:

YOUR NAME HERE

YOUR MESSAGE HERE!

RESERVE A DAY OF LEARNING!



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

Campaign Matter\$

Announcing Atid Legacy Society Grant Incentive



We are excited to announce that our school is eligible to receive an incentive grant as we grow our **Atid Legacy Society** thanks to our participation in LIFE & LEGACY+ and our partnership with the **Jacobson Jewish Community Foundation** (JJCF) of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Help us reach our benchmark for the grant, and please consider a planned gift to help us build the foundation for the longevity of our school. You can participate easily by including KHDS as a beneficiary in your will, retirement plan, or IRA (*requires a minimum \$1,000 legacy gift via intent or formalization before February 29, 2024).

Thanks to the donation of pro bono services by **Dvora Weinreb** (**Scher**), **Esq**. KHDS parent, we are offering FREE confidential consultations and services, which include a last will and testament, a codicil, and/or trust amendment, and other useful guidance about planning your legacy.

It is never too early to start! We thank our current Atid Legacy Society members for recognizing the importance of this crucial campaign to ensure the future of Jewish education! Scan the QR code to download the intent and confirmation forms.





as of press time

KATZ HILLEL DAY SCHOOL OF BOCA RATON ATID LEGACY SOCIETY

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

Daniel & Liora Adler
Danny & Emely Aghion
Anonymous
Ari & Cara Beim
Rabbi Gur & Ira Berman
William & Batzion Berman
Marc & Sara Bienenfeld
Harry & Shelly Bloom
Rabbi Josh & Simone Broide
Rotem & Jordana Carmel
Mark & Helen, z''l, Cohan
Aaron & Sarah Cohen

Sal & Leslie Abady

Anna S. Cohen
Eli & Orlie Cohen
Eyal & Elise Cohen
Jerry & Jeanne Cohen
Meyer & Laura Cohen
Todd & Naomi Cohn
Rabbi Adam & Shira Englander
Benjamin & Cara Freedman

abbi Simcha, z"l, & Anna Freedman Rabbi Efrem & Yocheved Goldberg Glen & Rosa Golish Jeffrey & Naomi Gross Chanoch & Rachel Harow Matthew & Tova Hocherman Noam & Jill Kaminetzky Daniel & Caroline Katz David & Sharona Kay Sheva Rock Kipperman, z"l

Evan & Ilana Landau
Philip & Jennifer Landau
Philip & Jennifer Landau
Stephen J. & Elizabeth Landes
Rabbi Samuel J. & Breindel Levine
Robert & Linda Levy
Howard & Lisa Luber
Mark & Jessica Matiash
Zoltan & Jolana Matiash
Aryeh & Brandy Meiteles
Rabbi Yehudah Potok & Shira Loewenstein
Michael & Jill Rose
Herschel & Dvora Scher
Aron & Penina Schoenfeld
David & Rand Schwartzwald
Reid & Naomi Shapiro
Joe & Shira Sharp

Joseph & Selma Sitrick, z"I
Todd & Michelle Slesinger
Rabbi Mordechai & Hadassah Smolarcil
Gil & Lysee Stein
Ido & Gila Stern
Joshua & Stephanie Stern
Ted & Linda Struhl
Teddy & Phyllis Struhl
Hommy & Syd Tannenbaum
Neal & Bonnie Weinreb
Ashi & Chava Weisstuch
Jonathan & Suri Winograd
Uri & Rachel Yudewitz
Hedy & Dori Zaghi
Michael & Risa Zimmerman

Legacy Gift Confirmation Received Legacy Intent Received

Atid Legacy Society Spotlight



Mark and Jessica Matiash

Mark and Jessica Matiash began their KHDS journey in 2015 when they enrolled their daughter, Abigail, in EC4. Now, 8 years later, Abigail is in 7th grade, and siblings Maxwell (4th grade), and Leo (EC4) join her at KHDS.

Mark grew up in Brooklyn, and Jessica, a Florida native, grew up in Fort Lauderdale. After practicing law in New York for a number of years, in 2014, Jessica was able to finally convince Mark to move to Boca Raton, where they are enjoying life with their beautiful family. Mark now practices real estate law in Florida, while Jessica serves as a major gifts officer at the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County.

The Matiashes have entrusted KHDS with their children's education because of the excellent academics within an enriching Torah and Zionistic environment. They know that the teachers and administration care deeply for their childrens' best interests. "We are lucky to have found such an outstanding school and supportive Jewish community," notes Jessica.

The Matiashes have made legacy giving a priority for their future and the future of KHDS and Jewish education. They completed the formalization process by naming the school in their will. "It was very easy. Our excellent lawyer made the process very smooth and took care of all the details," explained Mark. They have also encouraged the support of Mark's parents, **Zoltan and Jolana Matiash**, who have also named KHDS in their will.

Supporting the campaign is equally important to the Matiashes. They have participated in the Burn the Mortgage Campaign and have also donated tzedakah to the Annual Campaign via the Mega Raffle, crowdfunding campaigns, Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program, and the Annual Journal Dinner.

Both Mark and Jessica are also involved in the school as volunteers and lay leaders. Jessica has volunteered her time as a member of the **KHDS Board of Trustees**. Giving of their time involves them even more in their children's education, and making a legacy plan will help to ensure the same for their grandchildren and future generations.

30 PTA: Here to Help



Message from the PTA President Naomi Katz

I am so excited that the new school year has begun! I have been a KHDS parent for 14 years, and as your new PTA president, it is my honor and pleasure to help make our school and campus the best they can be.

After the tremendous leadership over the past five years under Rachel Harow, the PTA has grown into a well-oiled machine. My job is made easier with the support of our amazing PTA Board members and our numerous parent volunteers. I am looking forward to all we can accomplish together. #KHDSFamily

As always, the PTA strives to ensure a positive and enjoyable school experience for our children, and it is so fun to reflect on what that has meant throughout the years.

As we foster connections among the KHDS community, fundraise, and enrich our school environment for all, we are so grateful for those who support our events and ongoing programs, as our success is due to the time and effort continually being contributed. Please join us!



Back to School Bash

PTA was thrilled to host its annual back to school ice cream social to welcome all our new and returning students and their families to KHDS, with cups of sweet ice cream and popcorn. New this year was the opportunity to taste a smorgasboard of delicious hot lunch food samples – from the butternut squash soup and roasted veggies to the French toast and penne alla vodka, every dish was devoured! Over at the gym, families enjoyed bounce houses, taking fun photos by our official KHDS backdrop, and picking up cool swag, including a First Day of School sign! Students also had the opportunity to meet their teachers, drop off school supplies, and buy spirit shirts.

Thank you to Rachel Fraiman, Anna Jacobs, and Na'ama Rosenberg and their team of volunteers, Danna Averbook, Jennifer Berkowitz, Debbie Bierman, Jamie Feld, Cara Harris, Leorah Marcus, Elana Rackman, Leah Ravaee, and Ayelet Trauring, for their efforts to make the day such a success. Thank you to Tamar Feld and Rachel and Lauren Feld for running the Swap Shop, and Abby Feferman, Deena Frist, and Chava Weisstuch for running the Uniform Shoppe. And a big thanks to all the Middle School volunteers (#MitzvahSquad) who carted school supplies, manned bounce houses, and helped with food distribution. Thank you to our local Carvel (on Glades Rd.) for donating all the ice cream and King David Catering for donating the hot lunch food samples.



With Praise, Thanks & Admiration

- KHDS faculty and staff received a delicious Shabbat treat of a mini babka from Shibolim Bakery in October. Thank you to Rachel Fraiman for sourcing the babka and Morah Racheli Lasry for picking them up from Hollywood and bringing them to school.
- ❖ Thanks to **Jamie Feld** and **Simone Jacobs** for coordinating our PTA coffee cart.
- ❖ Thank you to **Sabina Benyair** and **Tamar Feld** and their parent volunteers for coordinating Picture Day.
- * We are grateful to **Abby Feferman** for organizing the cute Rosh Hashanah treats and pomegranate seeds that were given out to students! And thanks to the wonderful team of volunteers: **Amy Galperin, Leora Gross, Sharona Grysman, Racheli Lasry, Erica Newman,** and **Juliana Rosenblat.**
- ❖ Thanks to Cara Harris, Leorah Marcus, and Na'ama Rosenberg for co-chairing our Class Moms program.
- Kudos to Rachel Fraiman and Na'ama Rosenberg for organizing our PTA Uniform Shoppe. It's not too late to order a new Hillel Lion sweatshirt or stock up on your spirit shirts!
- Thank you to Deena Frist and Margo Rosman for coordinating our monthly Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts.
- ❖ The Swap Shop has moved back to campus! Special thanks to our Swap Shop chair, **Tamar Feld**, for organizing the shop, where parents can look for gently used uniform polos and skirts.
- Thanks to Danna Averbook for being in charge of our Lost & Found, located on the west side of the cafetorium in the breezeway.

23-24 KHDS PTA Board

OFFICERS

Naomi Katz, President
Abby Feferman, Vice President
Chava Weisstuch, Secretary
Young Mi Sheken, Treasurer
Rachel Harow, Immediate Past President

BOARD MEMBERS

Danna Averbook
Sabina Benyair
Jamie Feld
Tamar Feld
Rachel Fraiman
Danielle Frija
Deena Frist
Deena Ganz
Cara Harris
Anna Jacobs
Simone Jacobs
Leorah Marcus
Na'ama Rosenberg
Margo Rosman
Holly Seidenfeld



To get involved in PTA, email us at khdspta@hilleldayschool.org.

Support During Difficult Times

PTA sent its supply of tztitzit to send to IDF soldiers and organized collections of many items desperately needed by those on the front lines as well as thousands of displaced families in Israel. Students filled up more than 20 boxes with deodorant, coffee, socks, phone chargers, towels, toys, and more, and the donations



were then sent to Israel via the Miami consulate. The boxes also included handwritten cards with uplifting messages to thank our soldiers. Thank you to KYHS students, Liam Garzon and Naomi Toronczyk, who brought the first group of boxes to Aventura, and to Nicole Feldman, Sigalit Nissanov, and Marisa Weg-Chametsky for delivering the second round of donations to Aventura. Special thanks to our students and parents who packed up the supplies: Talya Abudarham, Morah Frumie Cohen, Rosie Cohen, Miriam Cohen, Nicole Feldman, Maren Mayer, Tamar Mayer, Akiva Mayer, Young Mi Sheken, and Sigalit Nissanov.



Kol Hakavod to our middle school students for helping to load the truck with all of the donated toys bound for Israel. Thank you, also, to the KHDS PTA for coordinating this collection on behalf of the **South Florida Zionists**, which will benefit the children on the southern border in Israel.

Thank you to Danna Averbook, Anna Jacobs, Jennifer Berkowitz, and Rachel Fraiman for coordinating our "Light for Israel" initiative and distributing tea lights to every family so they could light an extra candle for Shabbat.







Recognizing that many teachers are struggling with their own personal connections to Israel and have family members living and fighting there, the PTA treated KHDS staff to coffee and pastries one morning. Thank you to Anna Jacobs for organizing and to the Averbook, Berkowitz, Feld, Fraiman, Goldstein, Jacobs, Ravaee, Rosenberg, Schlager, and Waintraub families for sponsoring, so we could thank our teachers for helping our children through this difficult time.

The PTA, together with a few 8th graders, also delivered **Krispy Kreme** and coffee to the police officers on campus, the KHDS security guards, and the guards at both **Federation** entrance gates. We are grateful for the security they provide us on a daily basis.





New Moms Brunch

New moms to KHDS had a great time meeting each other and members of the PTA at a New Mom's Brunch, while enjoying a breakfast charcuterie table. Thank you to **Chava Weisstuch** for hosting the event, to **Deena Frist** for her assistance, and to **Morah Hadassah Smolarcik** for sharing some inspiring words of Torah with all the lovely ladies who attended.



Rosh Hashanah Boutique

PTA hosted a Pre-Rosh Hashanah boutique before the holidays. Thank you to **Deena Frist** and **Leorah Marcus** for organizing the event, to **Jamie Feld** for creating a beautiful flyer, and to **Naomi Katz** for hosting. We had vendors selling everything from candy platters and kippahs to tableware, jewelry, and fresh flowers. Some women even got their ears pierced, and everyone enjoyed free samples of **Rita's Italian Ices!**





PTA Calendar



The new KHDS PTA 2023-2024 School Calendar was distributed to all families in September. Many thanks to Cara Harris and Meira Ohayon for their countless hours spent creating the beautiful calendar, and thank you to the members of the PTA Board who helped collect ads. Please support all our amazing advertisers who make so many of our events possible!

TABs

Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts are back. Monthly and annual sponsorships are available. Thank you to **Deena Frist** and **Margo Rosman** for co-chairing.



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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.

The Hillel Herald is designed and produced by: Suzanne Rice, Director of Development









