

ASHREINews



Menahel's Message:

Family First

My grandfather, Rabbi Ephraim Shimoff z"l, a distinguished Rav for four decades, was a capable and sought-after orator. He almost never refused a request to speak - with one notable exception. There was a time when "Friday night lecture series" were in vogue, and local communal rabbis often spoke on a rotating basis. My grandfather generally demurred: "Friday nights are family time." In his view, spending quality time with one's family was more important both to him and his audience than any topic that would be potentially addressed.

Commentators point to various aspects of Korban Pesach, the first individual *mitzvah* commanded at the time of the Exodus, as paradigms for all subsequent *mitzvot*. Most notably, this first *mitzvah* focused on the home: "*seh l'veit avot, seh la'bayit.*" The Pascal lamb was to ideally be eaten in a *chaburah* comprised of immediate family members, and only if the family was too small would others be invited. All were required to remain inside the house for the entire night - "*lo teitzu ish mi'petach beito ad boker.*" And the *korban's* blood was to be placed on the front doorway's *mashkof* and *mezuzot* - lintel and doorposts, all symbolizing the primacy of the home and family unit in serving Hashem.

When, at one point, Pharaoh agreed to allow the Jewish men a furlough to worship their God: "*Ichu na ha'gevarim, ki otah atem m'vakshim,*" Moshe Rabbeinu answered with a statement that serves as the foundation of Jewish life for posterity: "*b'na'areinu u'vizkaneinu nelech, b'vaneinu u'vivnoteinu...ki chag Hashem lanu.*" Pharaoh's offer was unacceptable, for Jews, young and old, will only serve and celebrate together with sons and daughters. Family first, and family always!

Shabbat Shalom!
Rabbi Ari Jacobson

Tech at ASHAR

by Mrs. Donna Schaer,

General Studies Principal

It is amazing how, within the past few months, the use of technology has grown and been incorporated into the daily learning of ASHAR's students! The computer lab is almost always occupied by classes learning to code, working on projects, typing, practicing vocabulary, or enhancing their math and reading comprehension skills. The Chromebooks are in extremely high demand and, with only 20 available, our needs frequently exceed the current supply.

As more and more teachers and students learn to use Google classroom, along with Google Docs, students are able to collaborate on projects, and their written work is accessible from both school and home. Teachers are viewing and helping students revise and fine-tune their ideas via Google Docs, giving almost immediate feedback to students as they work.

Our How-to Fair essays were produced on Chromebooks through Google Docs; a number of students accessed their school assignments through Google over our mid-winter break; and such upcoming work as our 5th grade state projects, our 8th grade Names Not Numbers work, our yearbook production, and other ventures are all being completed with the aid of our technology.

We look forward to someday having more filled Chromebook carts rolling from class to class!



Students who read additional books for

"Battle of the Books"





Class 6G cooking for Project Ochel. Thanks to chaperones Mrs. Debby Jacobson and Mrs. Rikki Carter.

Save the Date, Mother-Daughter Brunch, Mon., Feb. 27th, 9:30 am; Classes 4-8G. Sponsorship Opportunities available. Contact Mrs. Jacobson, DJacobson@ashar.org

Afterschool Programs:

We are very excited to be offering an after-school science **enrichment program for our eighth graders.** Veteran science teacher, Mrs. Terry Mostowitz-Roth will be coming in on Mondays, to enhance our students' chemistry knowledge. The program will run six weeks from 4:30-5:30. The cost of the program is \$80. Please respond to this email if your child is interested in joining the class. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Debby Jacobson, djacobson@ashar.org

Karate classes, \$100 for 8 sessions, beginning Tues./Wed., 2/14 and 2/15.

Tuesdays, Girls, Grades K-4, 3:35-4:20; Grades 5-8, 4:30-5:15

Wednesdays, Boys, Grades K-4, 3:35-4:20; Grades 5-8, 4:30-5:15

KARATE Sign-up Sheet

Student Name _____ Class _____

Parent Signature _____

Please send in check for \$100 payable to ASHAR in envelope marked "Karate"

Attention HIROC and ASHAR Alumni and Parents of Alumni: Please visit www.ashar.org/alumni to update your and your graduates' contact information. We look forward to doing a better job staying in touch!

The Great Wrap Game!

Join The Fun!
Feb 4! 7:30!



Monsey ChillZone Boys Program:
Saturday Nights 7:30 PM

@
Young Israel of Monsey and Wesley Hills
58 Parker Blvd • Monsey NY 10952

For more info contact:
Rabbi Don Braunfeld 845-304-1704 • Aaron Polter 732-267-1458

Find all information about
your ChillZone location at:
www.chillzone.org

Contact Us:
chillzone@thezone.org
1.866.THEZONE



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Mazal tov to:

Rabbi & Mrs. Ari & Debby Jacobson on the engagement of their daughter, Chevi to Menachem Shmalo.

Mrs. Tamar Weber on the birth of a baby girl!

Rabbi Leible Chaitovsky on the birth of a granddaughter.

Wednesday Women's Shiur with Rebbetzin Esther Baila Schwartz 1:15-2:15 in the library. To sponsor a shiur for \$80 please contact Gila at 845 362-7799.



Dear Families,

Welcome to the Six Flags® Read to Succeed Six Hour Reading Club!

Your child's school is participating in an exciting program that encourages students in grades K through 6 to read for fun. *Read to Succeed* is a free program sponsored by Six Flags Theme Parks. Every student who completes six hours of recreational reading before the school's deadline listed on the bottom of this page is eligible for a free admission ticket, valid at the participating Six Flags Theme Park that the school has selected.

Students will develop a greater appreciation for books when they see that you think reading is important too. You are sure to have fun as you investigate the world of reading together!

Here's what you need to know:

- Only students in grades K through 6 are eligible to participate.
- Review the attached reading log. Your child should use this sheet to record what and how long he/she reads.
- Your child must complete 6 hours, or 360 minutes, of recreational reading.
- Please initial each entry and then sign the reading log to verify that the 6 hours of reading has been completed.
- Your child can read books, magazines, newspapers, or comic books (digital or hard copy). Reading for homework or a class assignment does NOT count.
- Students can read silently, aloud, or with an adult—you can read to your child, or your child can read to you.
- Remind your child to return the reading log to his/her teacher by the deadline. Your child's school will submit your child's information and hours read.
- Late entries will NOT be accepted.

About the Tickets

- Tickets will be awarded to students by their teacher/school coordinator.
- The ticket is valid for admission to **ONE** Six Flags theme park on **SELECT DATES ONLY** during the 2017 season. Park name and valid dates will be printed on the tickets. Please understand that the school can only select one Six Flags Theme Park. The ticket will only be valid for the park that is listed on the ticket. The valid dates will not be announced prior to the ticket award date in early May.
- Tickets are valid for students in grades K-6 only and are not valid for anyone over the age of 13. No exceptions.
- Each ticket is valid for one free student admission only.
- A Season Pass upgrade offer will be available during the ticket valid dates. The upgrade offer information will be printed on the ticket.
- Tickets are **NOT** for resale and are **nontransferable**.
- They **cannot** be replaced if lost, stolen or damaged.

We hope that you and your child enjoy this free program and spend time reading together. If you have any questions about the program or have ticket questions, you will need to contact your child's teacher or school before the school year is over.

Happy Reading!

The Six Flags® Read to Succeed Team

School Deadline, please return the reading log to the teacher by:

February 28, 2017

