



# ASHREINews



## Menahel's Message Ashreinu!



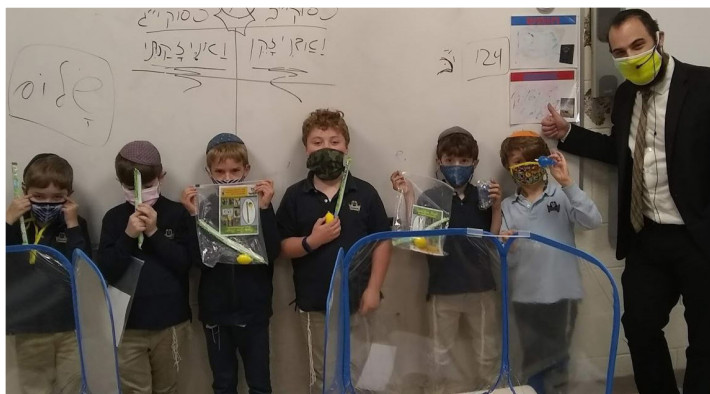
In describing Avraham Aveinu's positive reaction to Hashem's promise of offspring, the Torah reports that "וַיִּשְׂחַק אַבְרָהָם" (Gen. 21:9). While the intent of first half of the *pasuk* is straightforward- Avraham believed and trusted Hashem- the second half is somewhat less so, and subject to a fair degree of debate among the classical commentators. Some explain that Hashem considered Avraham's trust in G-d's promise of offspring to be a *zechus* and act of righteousness, while others explain that Avraham

considered Hashem's promise to be an act of *tzedaka*. The holy Rebbe of Kotzk, however, offers a third explanation: "וַיִּשְׂחַק אַבְרָהָם" - Avraham trusted Hashem, "וַיִּשְׂחַק אַבְרָהָם" and he, Avraham, considered his very ability to believe to be the ultimate *tzedaka*, the greatest gift.

In a similar vein, the Or HaChaim HaKadosh suggests that the altar erected by Avraham- "וַיִּבֶן אֶת מִזְבֵּחוֹ" (Gen. 12:8) was not primarily a reaction to assurances of offspring and the land of Israel, but rather simply an expression of gratitude for the ability to experience G-d's revelation- "וַיִּבֶן אֶת מִזְבֵּחוֹ" (Gen. 12:8).

Every Jewish *neshama*, as a *chelek eloka mi'ma'al*, incorporates Divinity, and is thus 'hardwired' for deep-rooted *emunah*, not dissimilar to that first experienced by our patriarch Avraham. And while the challenges and complexities of hectic daily routines sometimes appear to sap the *ruchniyus* and spirituality of even the best of us, knowing that we are wired to ultimately connect to the Ribbono shel Olam is indeed reassuring.

**Shabbat Shalom!**  
-Rabbi Ari Jacobson  
Menahel/Dean



Mazel Tov 3B for participating in our Sukkot challenge

\*\*\*Parent Teacher Conferences have been rescheduled to Sunday, Dec. 6 via Zoom;  
details and ParentLocker registration will be shared closer to that date. There will be a full day of school on Nov. 11\*\*\*

## Important Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1  
**Daylight Savings Ends**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3  
**Picture Day, All Grades**

MOTZEI SHABBOS, NOVEMBER 7  
**Names, Not Numbers**  
Premieres on YouTube 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11  
**No Bus Transportation**  
Veterans Day

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23  
**8th Grade JSAT Exam** During School Hours

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6  
**Parent Teacher Conferences**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11  
**12PM Early Dismissal** Chanukah

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14  
**No Sessions** Chanukah

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23  
**No Bus Transportation**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1  
**1B/1G Siddur Play**





**Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen**  
Principal of Early Childhood and First Grade



WE ARE SHINING STARS OF HASHEM!

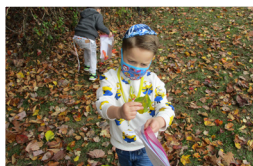


We had a busy and exciting week. All of our specialties began. We enjoyed Chalav U'Dvash (Hebrew immersion) with Morah Nofar and learned several colors in Hebrew. We also enjoyed Music and Movement with Morah Malky! We had so much fun playing games with Morah Nofar and exercising our bodies with Morah Malky! We also were very busy this week learning all about Parsha and the many extensions that came from it. It is in this week's Parsha that Hashem promises Avraham that a nation of many will come from him, as many as the stars in the sky, and that this nation will inherit the land of Eretz Canaan. The children learned that we are each one of the stars (descendants) from Hashem's promise to Avraham and that Eretz Canaan is Eretz Yisrael! This was so exciting! We acted out the entire Parsha and brought to life all the lessons, from Avram realizing that Hashem is the One and only G-d, to his following Hashem blindly (Lech Lecha), his tremendous acts of Chesed (muzzling his cattle and settling in a different area than Lavan), and finally Hashem's promise. Of course, we continued learning all of our subject areas as well. Enjoy the pictures from our week!

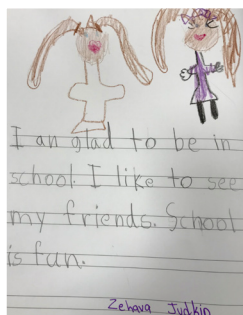
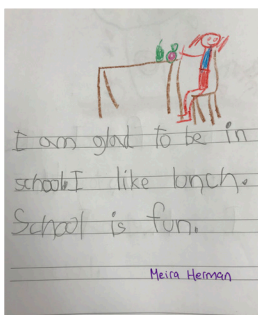


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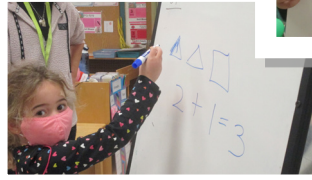
## Fall Hunt



*We are glad to be back in school!*



## Art



## Chalav U'dvash



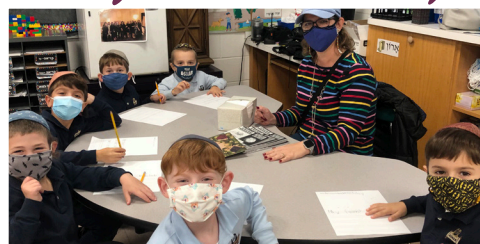
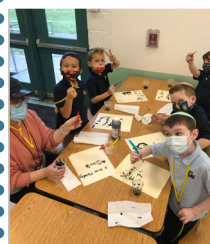
## Music and Movement



## Outdoor Play Rain or Shine!



## First Grade Guided Reading





## Mrs. Debby Jacobson

Principal of Girls Division



This past Thursday, we celebrated the yahrtzeit of Rachel Immeinu. After close to 3,600 years,



we are still celebrating this very special woman. What makes her so unique? Simply put, yet proud; unassuming, yet confident.

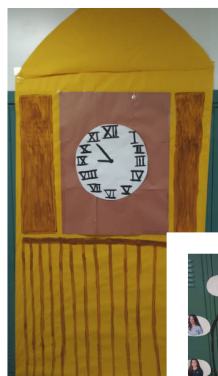
Why Rachel?

Rachel is the quintessential Jewish woman: modest,

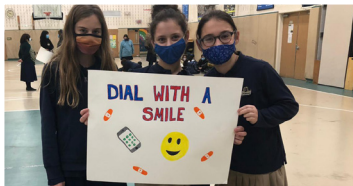
Our middle school girls saluted this selfless woman and discussed how to put the needs of others before their own. They understood that as her daughters, we must follow in Rachel's footsteps.

Our girls brainstormed random acts of kindness that can be done daily in the school building. Each class

came up with a chesed campaign to implement. The results were truly amazing and the lessons learned extremely valuable. It is no wonder that Chazal teach us that the merit of Jewish women will bring the ultimate geula. May it be speedily in our days. *Have a wonderful Shabbos!*



Girls Division is going places! They visited the Big Ben in England. 8G visits the London Eye. 4G takes a double decker bus tour of London.



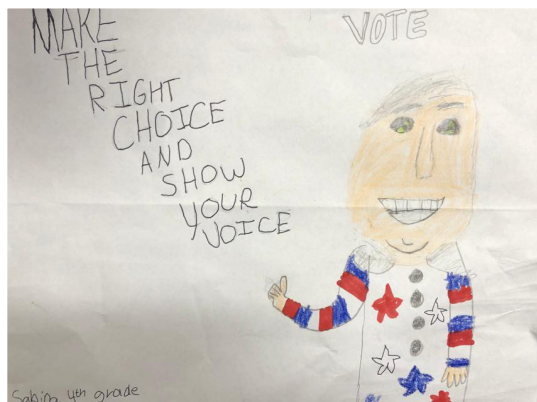
4G learned about elections in social studies and created posters encouraging others to vote!



7G used the scientific method in their most recent lab.



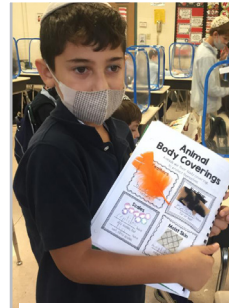
Artwork by: Tamar Morell



2G learns nouns and verbs and creates collages with them.

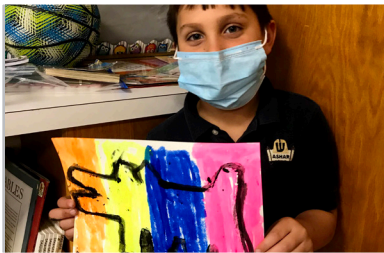




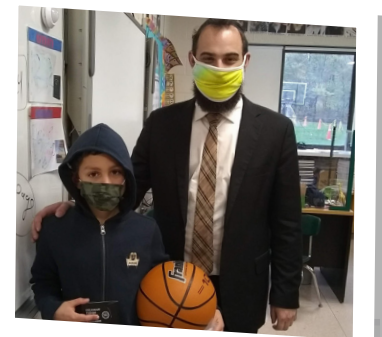


3B animal coverings in science

The 7th grade learned how to develop a hypothesis with an independent and dependent variable. They tested their hypothesis by following a set procedure. Now they will collect and analyze the data and finally write a lab report.



2B and 3B created their own Keith Harding style line art of dancing figures, dogs and hearts.

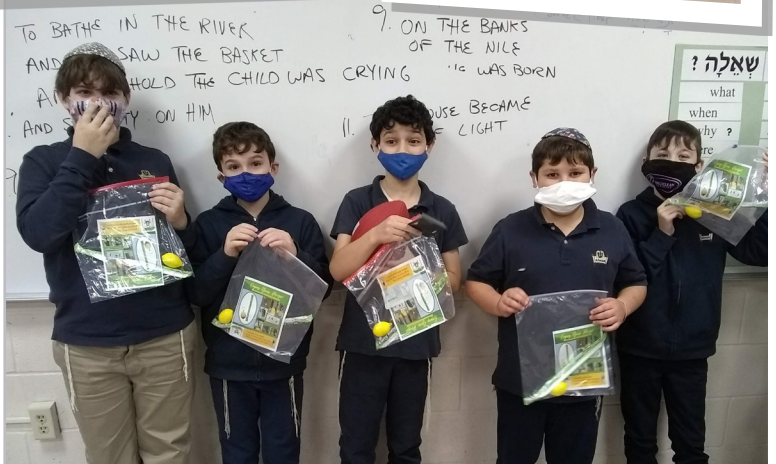


We are back in school and we finally get to celebrate our Sukkot Challenge Winners!

Cocoa Club



Early Morning Cocoa Club: Boys who attend the Shiur before davening are treated to a cup of cocoa at breakfast.





## Mrs. Jennah Schuh

Assistant Principal



## Mrs. Mindy Reifer

Director of Curriculum



One of the highlights of entering the teaching profession are the opportunities to continue learning. Educators, by nature, revel in acquiring new skills, discovering new methodologies and exploring new ways to reach their students. Last spring, ASHAR's classes became virtual, as did most of the world. While virtual school certainly had its challenges, the new skills teachers gained allowed for even greater creativity in the classroom, both virtually and live.

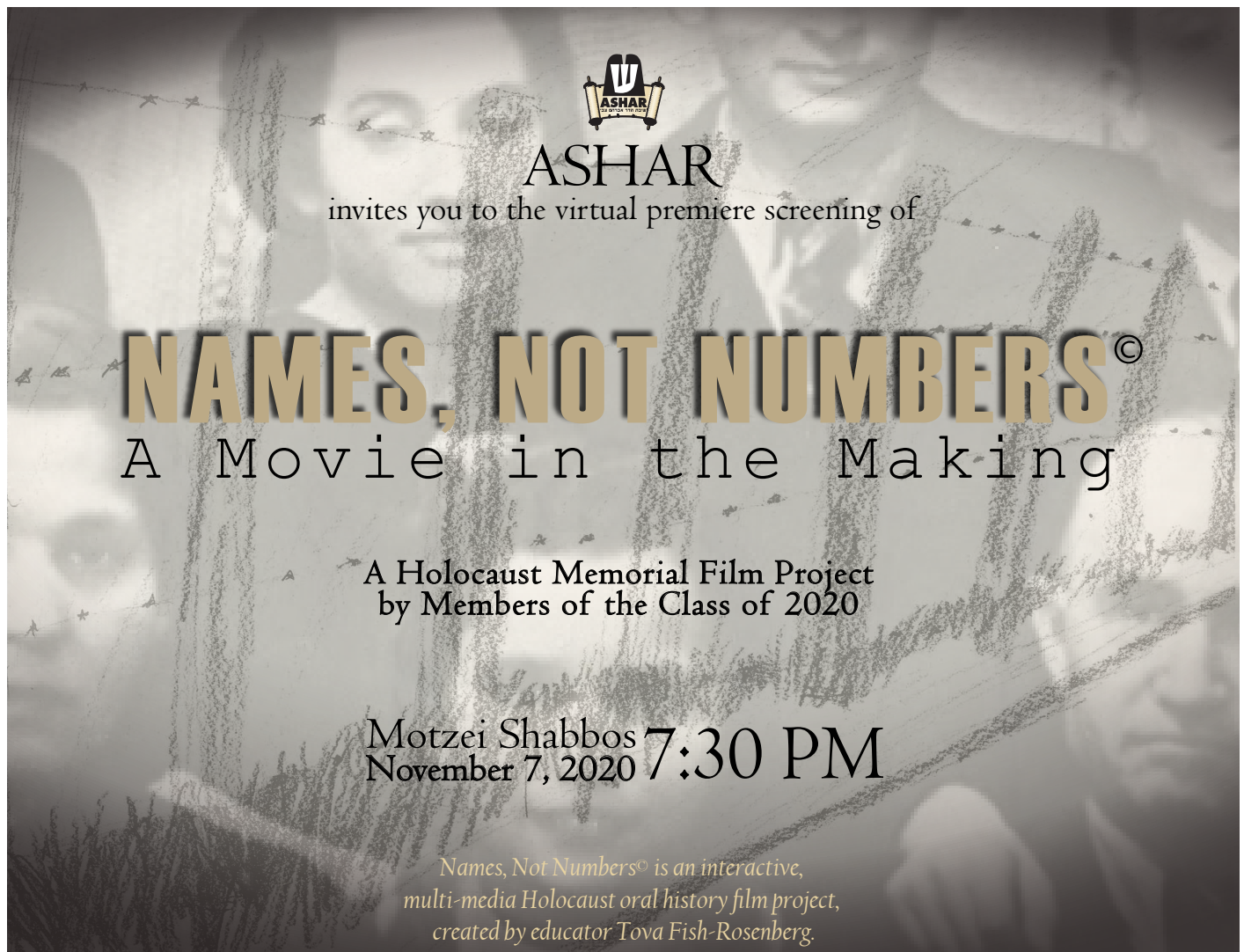
The short visit to virtual school this month, prompted us as educators to hone our Zoom instruction, maximize the Google Classroom tools, and discover new programs.


In fact, over the past two weeks, the ASHAR staff voluntarily joined after-hours workshops in using the Google Suite with exciting extensions like JamBoard and PearDeck, games like Kahoot, and Quizlet. The current aim is to create activities that will allow

students at home to participate in the classroom experience.

Since students learn in different ways, we realized that for many students, aspects of the virtual experience allowed them to be successful by interacting with the material in new ways. Now, we are working on integrating what was successful about online instruction with in-person learning. Teachers are now focused on using the school ChromeBooks to enhance and support taught skills, while recognizing the importance of prioritizing screen time. Teachers are using these resources to optimize the learning experience, allowing students to build independence, and work at their own pace.

With many worrying that the face of education has changed, we say, "Yes, we are on the brink of an educational revolution and it is extremely exciting!"



  
**ASHAR**  
invites you to the virtual premiere screening of

**NAMES, NOT NUMBERS®**  
A Movie in the Making

A Holocaust Memorial Film Project  
by Members of the Class of 2020

Motzei Shabbos **7:30 PM**  
November 7, 2020

*Names, Not Numbers® is an interactive,  
multi-media Holocaust oral history film project,  
created by educator Tova Fish-Rosenberg.*





October 27 ♦ ט' מרחשון

Tuesday's learning is sponsored by the Hugh & Jennie Jacobson Family,

*l'illuy nishmas, in memory of*

**Aryeh Yoel ben Chaim Gavriel z"l**

Grandfather of Yonatan Jacobson (6B), Layla Jacobson (Class of '20)

and Moshe Jacobson (Class of 2017)

*May our children's learning serve as an aliya for his neshama.*



### COVID-19

- ASHAR's health procedures and guidelines are in place. Please make sure to fill in the daily health screening through ParentLocker.
- If you have traveled to any quarantine states, please be sure to stay home for 14 days following your return home. Quarantined states: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>
- If your child has tested positive for COVID, please be sure to keep your child home for 10 days following the positive test.
- If your child is not well, please keep your child home. This includes low grade fever, stomach issues, bad cold, cough, lethargy, etc.
- As per the Rockland County Department of Health's new order, all children over the age of 2 must wear facial coverings while indoors.



# Mazel Tov!

**Nechama Schuster**  
on her engagement

**Rena Gati**  
on her engagement

**Mrs. Malky Lehmann**  
on her new grandson

**Mrs. Naomi Beller**  
on the engagement of her son Sruli

**Nina Goldberg (NA)**  
on her new baby sister

**Mrs. Ora Koenig**  
on the engagement of her son Avi