



ASHREINews



Menahel's Message Thanks for the Small Things



In a well-known comment towards the end of Parashas Bo, the Ramban explains that the purpose of a *nes nigleh*- an overt, "big" miracle- is to remind us of the ever-present hand of Hashem in every facet of existence. While the Ten Plagues and the splitting of Yam Suf may have been spectacular, in truth these "big" miracles were no greater than the sun rising in the East and setting in the West, or any other phenomenon ordinarily associated with nature. Each is the product of Divine Providence and the constant handiwork of the *Manhig Olam*. Overt miracles only serve as an occasional wake up call to seek out *yad Hashem* more generally.

Perhaps the most famous question relating to Chanukah- and among the best known questions associated with any Jewish Holiday- is that of the Beis Yosef, who ponders why Chanukah was established for eight days if in fact there was enough oil found to last for the first day. Only the last seven were a miracle; the first day's kindling was completely natural and not extraordinary in any way. In light of the above, the answer is

very simple. Yes, only the last seven days were a supernatural *nes*; nonetheless, eight days were established to remind us that the first day was not fundamentally different in any way. Just as the *nes* was clearly produced by G-d, so too the "natural" tendency of oil to burn for even the expected duration.

The greatest *beracha* a human being can experience is the blessing of children. We always celebrate milestones and take note of "major" events in our children's lives. Chanukah teaches us to pause long enough to appreciate even the more mundane aspects of child rearing. Savor the "small" miracles of the daily grind, aptly referred to by Chazal as *tza'ar gidul banim*, and thank Hashem for His constant gifts, *nisecha she'bechol yom imanu*.

Shabbat Shalom and a lechtige Chanukah!
-Rakhi Ari Jacobson Menahel/Dean

Important Upcoming Events

MOTZEI SHABBOS, DECEMBER 17
Pre-Chanukah Concert 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
Father-Son Learning Erev Chanukah Extravaganza 8:30-11:00 AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20
Nursery Mommy & Me Program
9:30 AM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21
Kindergarten Chanukah Play 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
Erev Shabbos Chanukah
Carpool Dismissal:
N-1 11:00 AM (in the back)
2-8- 12:00 Noon (in the front)

SUNDAY-MONDAY, DEC. 25-26
No Sessions Chanukah Recess

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
First Grade Siddur Play 9:30 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
PTA Ice Skating Event 6:30 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 2
ECP Grandparents Day 9:30 AM

Monday, December 12th Torah learning
was sponsored by
Mrs. Sharon Freundlich Algarin

Thursday, December 15th Torah learning
was sponsored by
Mrs. Shaindel Harrow

To sponsor a day visit www.ashar.org/parnas



Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

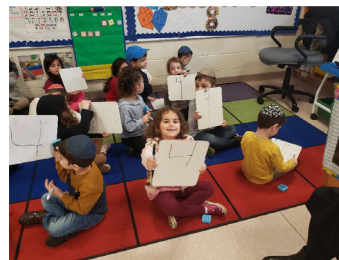
Principal of Early Childhood and First Grade

Chanukah is finally here and the children in ASHAR's Gan Esther Early Childhood Program are so excited. We are truly Chanukah experts knowing everything from the story, to the Mitzvot of the Chag and all of the *minhagim*! We can't wait to light our very own child made Chanukiot this Sunday night.

Chag Sameach!

Last week, the new Universal PreK Coordinator, **Mrs. Jennifer Coggio**, visited our classrooms and left so impressed with what she saw. Here is what she had to say:

"Thank you for welcoming me into your program. Both classroom environments were welcoming, and child centered. Centers were clearly defined, and classrooms were print rich with words/pictures and labels on everything. Each students' portfolios were clear and very detailed. All bulletin boards inside and outside the classrooms contained student work, and pictures of students. It was clear the classroom teachers plan and work closely together. The students in both classrooms were actively engaged in free choice center time when I arrived. It was clear that a center transition system was in place and being utilized by the children with fidelity. The teachers and assistants were able to facilitate and guide the play, while also conducting "small group" lessons. The "Writing Center" contained various writing tools and was print rich with words and pictures in. It was clear though bulletin board work that the students engage in many writing activities. Watching the students use their QR codes to log on the "Waterford" technology shows that your teachers have integrated it in a meaningful way. Integrating technology provides students with the opportunity to develop skills that are essential for lifelong learners, such as critical thinking, and problem solving. It will also support the development of fine motor skills through the use of the mouse."



Important Chanukah Notice:

During the Yom Tov of Chanukah, please take the following precautions:

- Cover all surfaces on which the menorah rests with silver foil or inflammable trays.
- Keep all candles, matches and flammable liquids out of reach of young children.
- Do not leave lit menorahs unattended.
- Closely supervise young children when they are lighting candles, and any celebrations or games should take place far from the lit menorahs.

-Ensure that smoke detectors are installed throughout the house, and check that fresh batteries are inserted.

ASHAR GIRLS

DIVISION

Mrs. Debby Jacobson

Principal, Girls Division



There have been many discussions as to why we celebrate the first night of Chanukah. If the oil was supposed to last for one night, there was nothing extraordinary about it.

The Jewish people suffered miserably under the rule of the Greeks. There was no reason to believe that they would survive. However, the Jews held strong to their *emunah*; they had the faith that they would survive. We

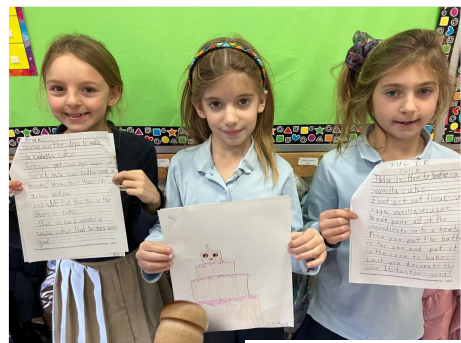
celebrate the first night of Chanukah as recognition of our faith. Even in the darkest of times, the flame of the Jewish people will never be extinguished.

Throughout history there have been many times when Jews could have given up in despair, and yet they refused to accept defeat. They gathered what remained and rebuilt. From slavery in Egypt to Nazi Germany, Judaism has remained a *ner tamid*, the everlasting light of the world that no power on earth can ever extinguish.

Looking forward to celebrating!



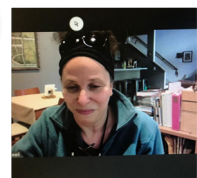
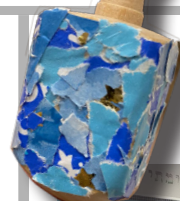
Getting ready for Chanukah!



2G sequence writing



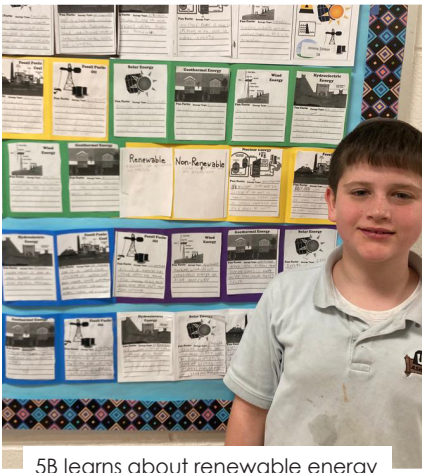
As part of their social emotional learning curriculum the sixth grade girls learn the meaning of perseverance by writing "no excuses" with out using their hands.



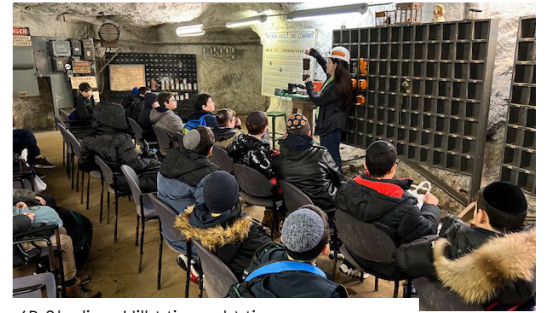
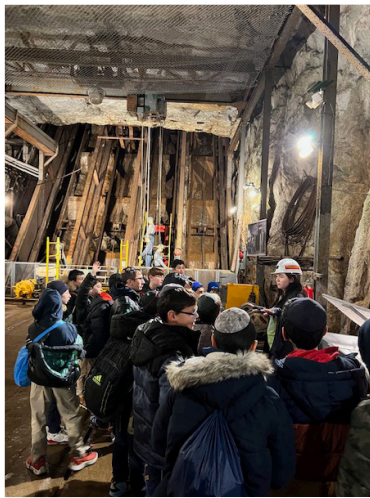
7G zooming with Daniela Weil, author of the Diary of Asser Levy



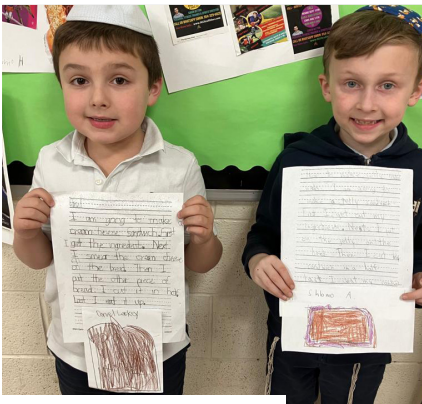
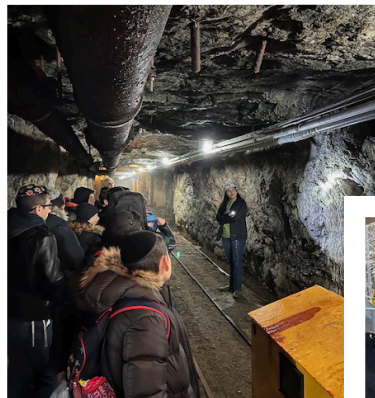
2G learns math with money



5B learns about renewable energy



6B Sterling Hill Mineral Mine



2B learned sequence writing



7B zooming with Daniela Weil, author of the Diary of Asser Levy



4B math games



Matnas Shabbos Week #5 Winners!



Sammy Schwartz (2B)
Story Raffle Winner!



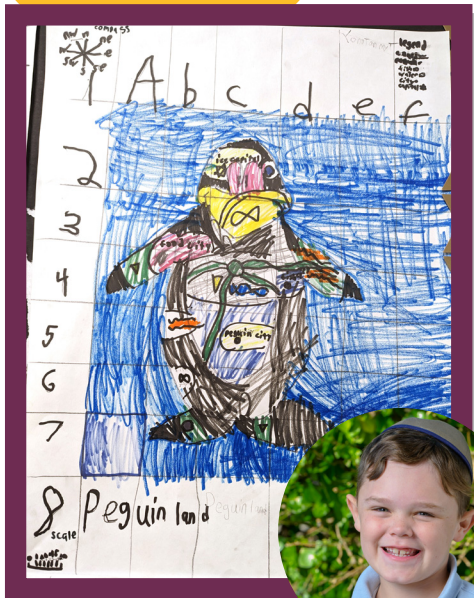
2B grammar project



Where in the World?

4B created their own maps and keys of fictional places

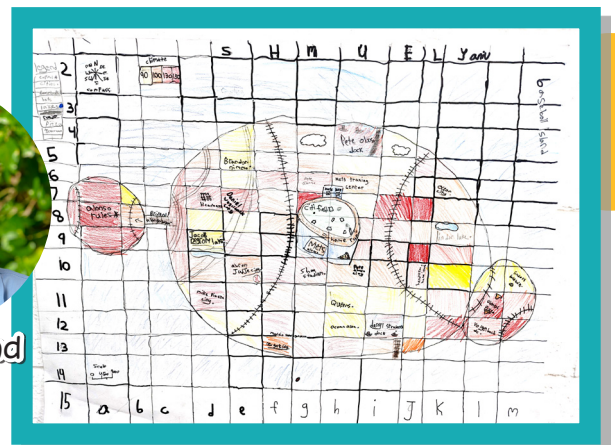
**FOURTH
GRADE
SOCIAL STUDIES**
With
MRS. KORN



Penguin Land
By: Yonatan Mytelka



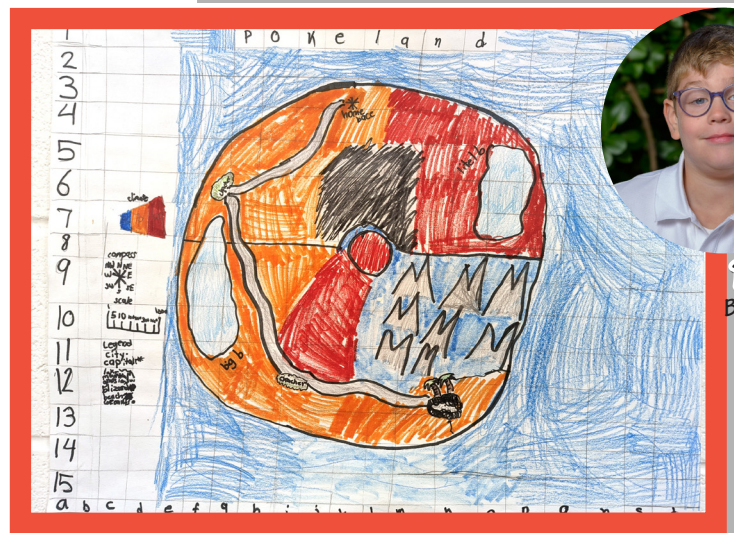
Roblox Paradise
By: Eliyahu El-Assir



Baseball Island
By: Shmuel Yaniv



Pizza Island
By: Uriel Hamerman



Pokeland
By: Nash Follman

Hands-On Chesed as ASHAR Students and Community Work to Benefit Kupath Ezra

by M.C. Millman from *The Rockland Daily*

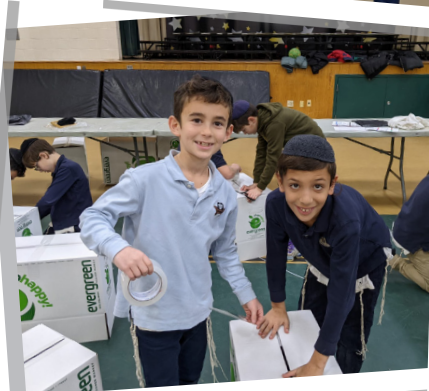
In another of the many and varied facets of Chesed month at ASHAR, students, parents, and community members worked side by side to sort clothing for Kupath Ezra.

The Rockland organization was established in 1959 by Rabbi Herschel Mashinsky z'l and Mr. Sam Nussbaum z'l. Kupath Ezra has provided assistance and support to the tune of over \$40,000,000 since its inception to those in need throughout Rockland.

Clothing donations were sorted to be sold at Kupath Ezra's Nearly New secondhand stores, where the yearlong proceeds go to help those in need throughout Rockland County. A steady stream of people from the entire community arrived throughout the day to assist in this worthy chesed activity which took place at ASHAR on New Hempstead Road.

Consumer Lighting and Zisman Brothers helped with the transport of the goods. Boxes used for packing the sorted clothing were donated by Evergreen.

"This project was another way we are teaching our students to give of their time to help others," Mrs. Debby Jacobson, ASHAR principal, shares with Rockland Daily. "Chesed Month is just the start to launch what we hope will turn into a lifetime of doing chesed."



Torah Bowl Update

ASHAR Scores Big at Moriah!

Our two teams traveled to Moriah to compete in the second round of Torah Bowl. They covered the three parshiot of Vayera, Chayei Sara, and Toldot with every RASHI. The girls team won 3 out of 4 games, losing only to YNJ in the first game, but came back to win the rematch in the final game. The boys team also won 3 out of 4 games, losing only to the Moriah team, although coming back to defeat them in the final game. We wish our teams continued hatzlacha! Thank you to Rabbi Chaitovsky and Mrs. Ora Koenig for leading our teams.



Dinner

2023



Guests of Honor
Yossi & Dini Cohn



Grandparents DAY

We cordially invite you to attend our Grandparents Day event where we look forward to creating beautiful Sefer Bereishit projects with you, watching a video of your grandchildren and spending this special time together!



**MONDAY,
JANUARY 2ND
9:30AM**

ASHAR's Carter Athletic Center
360 New Hempstead Road
New City, NY 10956

RSVP: WWW.ASHAR.ORG/GRANDPARENTS

Chai Lifeline Haney Engel Toy Fund

**This Chanukah,
gift a
smile.**



**CHAILIFELINE
toy drive**

Brighten a sick child's life by donating a toy today.

Send toys to school with your child on the following days.

When: December 1st - December 25th



Adopt a family and make their Chanukah really special by fulfilling their wish list.

For our amazon wish list visit www.chailifeline.org/toys



Send a gift for a sick boy or girl, infants through teens, in any price range. (new toys only)



For a drop off location, information on adopt a family, to have your toys picked up or for any questions, Call Chai Lifeline at: 212.699.6656 or email TOYS@CHAILIFELINE.ORG.

THE ANNUAL ASHAR PTA

ICE SKATING EVENT

**\$5 per skater
Max \$20 per family
cash or credit**

Questions/
Sponsorship
Opportunities:
pta@ashar.org

**Motzei Shabbos
Dec 31, 2022
6:30pm-8:30pm**

**Sport-O-Rama
20 College Road
Monsey, NY 10952**

**Pizza & Drinks Available
at the event for purchase
While Supplies Last
Preorder Pizza now: ashar.org/ice**

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE SCHOOL DRESS CODE GUIDELINES



REGISTER NOW!
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Next Level SUNDAY GIRLS SPORT PROGRAMS

SIGN UP FOR WINTER
SESSIONS

BASKETBALL



GYMNASTICS



SOCCER



SMALL FOCUSED GROUPS
PASSIONATE PROFESSIONAL COACHES
SKILL DEVELOPMENT & TEAMWORK

SEPARATE BOYS & GIRLS
DIVISION: AGES 4-15

LOCATIONS: CHESTNUT RIDGE, NEW CITY & AIRMONT
- NEW LOCATION: BERGENFIELD, NJ -
SESSIONS: FALL - WINTER
SPRING - SUMMER

SIMON BITTON - PERSONAL FITNESS TRAINER & SPORTS DIRECTOR

CALL OR WHATSAPP SIMON: 954-329-6828

For More Info: www.NLHealthInc.com

WINTER
BEGINS JAN. 8TH
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
ENDS DEC. 18TH
BOOK NOW & SAVE \$



ASHAR PTA PRESENTS

Rio

KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

Nursery - 4th grade
(A parent must accompany their children)

COME IN YOUR PJ'S!
BRING A PILLOW & BLANKET!

Sat. Night Jan. 7, 2023
6:30 PM
FREE EVENT
SNACKS & DRINKS PROVIDED

FATHER-SON LEARNING

EREV CHANUKAH EXTRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY, 12/18/2022
8:30 - 11:00 AM

Fourth through eighth grade boys and fathers (or other male adult) are invited to join their sons' Rebbeim for Shacharis, followed by a special program.

THIS SUNDAY!



Register at ashar.org/fslearn

PTA Chanukah Gift



**DEADLINE:
THIS SUNDAY**

Please join us in showing Hakarat HaTov to our amazing faculty by participating in this project to provide gifts to our teachers and staff! We are collecting money for Chanukah for one low suggested donation per child:

N-4: \$18/child

5-8: \$25/child

**Fill out the form online at:
<http://www.ashar.org/staffgifts>**

**Any questions?
Email the PTA - pta@ashar.org**

**Mazel
Tov!**



Mikey Nachman (NA)
on the birth of a sister



**Upcoming
GAMES**

Girls Basketball
Sunday, 12/18/22
11:30 AM
Hillel@ASHAR

**Varsity 7th Boys
Basketball**
Sunday, 12/18/22
12:45 PM
Hillel@ASHAR

MOTZEI
SHABBOS
DEC 17
7:30PM

× ASHAR PRESENTS

STARRING

**THIS
MOTZEI
SHABBOS!**

ARYEH
KUNSTLER



AKIVA & BINYAMIN
ABRAMOWITZ
FROM THE VIRAL
TIKTOK HIT



PRE- CHANUKAH CONCERT

THE CARTER ATHLETIC CENTER @ ASHAR
360 NEW HEMPSTEAD ROAD, NEW CITY, NEW YORK

TICKETS START @ \$18
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

ASHAR.ORG/CONCERT