



ASHREINews



Menahel's Message Hashem Loves You!



Not coincidentally, the terrible curses of Parshas Bechukotai are followed by the laws of *arakhin*, the set of values assigned to each individual for the purpose of donations Hekdesh, the Beit Hamikdash. Hashem values every single human being, explains the Lubliner Rav, Rav Meir Schapiro zt"l, despite the challenges of a wretched situation. No matter how great the apparent curse, each person is precious to his or her Maker, a fact that may or may not provide a degree of consolation for the afflicted, but most definitely should shape our attitude towards others apparently less fortunate.

The great Rav Chaim of Volozhin, brilliant student of the Vilna Gaon and founder of the legendary Volozhin Yeshiva, invested substantial time and energy in the *chinuch* of his own children. His son Yitzchak, who became known as Rav Itzele of Volozhin and a *gadol* in his own right, records in his writings that though his father certainly emphasized the primacy of Torah study, he focused even more on the importance of *chesed* and reaching out to others. Man, Rav Chaim would consistently reiterate, is placed in this world not just for himself, but for others as well. At times, he went as far as to suggest that a Jew's creation is *primarily* for the sake of others!

Educating towards *chesed* is not an extra-curricular, or even co-curricular, endeavor, but rather the foundation of Torah *chinuch*, predicated upon the creation of each individual *b'tzelem Elokim*!

Shabbat Shalom!

- Rabbi Ari Jacobson Menahel/Dean



THANK YOU TO **ASHAR PTA** AND
the ASHAR Administration FOR ALL THE TREATS
AND FOR RECOGNIZING THE AMAZING TEACHERS DURING
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Important Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, MAY 14
Names, Not Numbers Premiere

TUESDAY, MAY 16
3G Trip to Bronx Zoo

FRIDAY, MAY 19
**8B/8G Trip to Jewish Home
Assisted Living**

FRIDAY, MAY 19
Yom Yerushalayim Regular Sessions

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, MAY 25-27
Shavuot No Sessions

SUNDAY-MONDAY, MAY 28-29
Memorial Day No Sessions

TUESDAY, MAY 30
7G Philadelphia Trip

TUESDAY-THURSDAY, MAY 30-JUNE 1
8G Washington Trip

SUNDAY, JUNE 4
Celebrate Israel Parade

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5-7
8B Washington Trip

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7
7B Philadelphia Trip



Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

Principal, Early Childhood and First Grade

This week was all about Lag Ba'omer! On Tuesday, the children came to school ready to celebrate. To begin, the children walked through the Ya'ar (forest) where they were greeted by "Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai." He welcomed them into his cave and told them he was so happy to see so many of his Talmidim coming to learn Torah with him. He told them all how he became a Talmid Chacham by learning Torah with his great Rabbi, Rabbi Akiva! Rabbi Shimon also spoke to us about this special day when his neshama went back up to Hashem in Shamayim. He told us it was such a special and holy day because he shared so many secrets of the Torah with his Talmidim. He told his Talmidim that from this day on, the day that he went back to Hashem should be a happy day and a day of celebration. Today, Jews make HUGE bonfires to remember this day and the light of the Torah that Rabbi Shimon brought into this world.

After learning Torah together in the cave and singing our Aleph Bet song, we left his cave and you would not believe what we found – the carob tree with carob growing from it and a stream of water on the ground. After eating some carob and drinking some water, we built a bonfire all together! We sang and danced, and enjoyed a wonderful picnic lunch. For dessert, we cooled off with ice cream cups and then roasted marshmallows in the bonfire. What an amazing day!

Thank you to the Morahs, children and parent volunteer who made this day so special. A very special thank you to Morah Nofar for capturing all our festivities on camera and producing this amazing video: <https://youtu.be/EnFX7n9luXg>

Have a wonderful Shabbos and happy Mother's Day!



ECP End-Of-Year Play Performance Dates:

Tuesday, June 20th: Kindergarten Graduation,

9:30am

Wednesday, June 21st: PreK Aleph Bet Siyum,

9:30am

Thursday, June 22nd: Nursery End of Year Presentation, 9:30am (Nursery children will be dismissed straight from the play.)

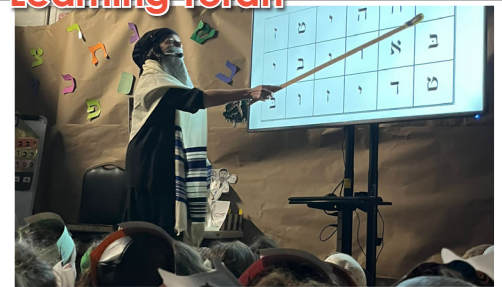
Building the Bonfire



Going to Rabbi Shimon's Cave



Learning Torah



Thank you for your responses to the Lag Baomer Recap Video:

"You do so much to bring the learning to life for the children- they all enjoyed it so much!"

--Chani Reich

"Thank you sooooo much for giving my grandkids a great time!"

--Chaya Hirsch

"Wow!! What an incredible achievement and experience you created for the ECP children and staff. And to have the day captured on video, allowing the rest of us to enjoy it, was so special!! (I watched the film twice!! Nofar has really outdone herself!!) 'Yish'ar Ko-checha' - you should be blessed with many more creative, talented, inspiring years to continue to spread your love of Torah, of Israel and HKBH."

--Lisa Weber

Bonfire



Dancing



Friendship Day



Lag Ba'Omer Crowns



Our Lag Ba'Omer Book



ASHAR GIRLS DIVISION

Mrs. Debby Jacobson

Principal, Girls Division



During the period between Pesach and Shavuot, we focus on Pirkei Avos and its beautiful lessons and middos. Our *morahs* love sharing and discussing these important concepts with our students. One of my most favorite lessons comes from the *mishnah* in Avos which states: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?"

Every person is unique. There will never be two people exactly alike. No one but me can achieve my purpose in life; no one but I can fulfill my particular role in *klal Yisrael*. An important lesson that we try to impart to the girls is to be yourself. Take all of your positive attributes and all your great qualities, and work on them until you become the best you can be.

I feel privileged to be a part of this process and I look forward to sharing much *nachas* with you!



After completing a Chumash unit on the mitzvah of hafrashat challah, the sixth grade girls bake challah!



2G went on an insect hunt



6th and 7th grade girls create Agam inspired artwork



**FIRE UP
YOUR LAG
BA'OMER
WITH
ASHAR**



4G celebrated Lag Ba'Omer with a bonfire craft.



Girls division celebrated Lag Ba'Omer with a picnic in the park. Then they headed over to Mrs. Jacobson's house where they had a bonfire!

LAG BA'OMER



2B - 4B celebrated Lag Ba'Omer with some exciting relay races



Indoor S'mores Making with 2B - 4B on Lag Ba'Omer



SECOND GRADE



Writing with

**Mrs. Karyn Kurtz &
Mrs. Cheryl Klein**

By: Sara Chana Strulowitz



There are many vthings I like about spring. In spring my dog plays on the lawn with me. Dads cook on the barbeque hot dogs and steak for dinner. Friends play with neighbors after school. Friends collect wishing flowers outside. Birds fly

around houses slowly. These are the reasons I like spring.

By: Zohara Mytelka



There are many things I like about spring. Butterflies fly in the pretty garden. Girls skip outside on a sunny day. Birds fly in the pretty sky. Girls take nice walks with their dog. Kids play on the swing on a pretty morning. These are the reasons I like spring.

By: Emmie Gros



There are many things I like about spring. Girls play outside in the yard on the trampoline at night. Dads plant trees in the gardens nicely with a shovel. They catch butterflies in the garden happily. Families bike quickly on the sidewalk. Birds chirp

loudly in the trees. These are the things that happen in spring.

By: Avigail Stern



There are many things I like about spring. Birds fly fast at noon. Girls play outside like lions. Flowers bloom quickly in the garden. Families plant a lot of pretty flowers in the garden. Kids play outside at the park after lunch. Boys catch

a lot of cool and pretty butterflies. These are the reasons I like spring.





invites you to the
premiere screening of

Not Names, Not Numbers

A Movie in the Making

A Holocaust Memorial Film Project
by Members of the Class of 2023
Sunday, May 14, 2023
7:00 PM



Sponsorship and dedication opportunities available at

www.ashar.org/nmn

Names, Not Numbers® is an interactive, multi-media Holocaust oral history film project, created by educator Tova Fish-Rosenberg.
Names, Not Numbers® is generously supported by a prominent national foundation. | www.namesnotnumbers.org |

Mazel Tov!

Malky Lehmann
on the birth of a grandson

Aiden (1B) and Sammy
(PKA) Zelman
on the birth of a sister

Goldie Amsel ('15)
on her engagement to
Yitzchak Granitsky

Have any good news to share?
email mgoldman@ashar.org



RENEWING THE HOPE

CELEBRATE
ISRAEL
PARADE

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023
11am - 4pm • 57th-74th St. on Fifth Ave.

Join us at the 58th annual CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE, the world's
largest gathering in celebration of Israel LIVE on FOX NY 19 and
CelebrateIsraelNY.org starting at Noon EDT. A project of JCRICKY.

