

Maimonides Community

BH. Elul 27, 5778 / Sept 7, 2018

Community Newsletter of the Maimonides Hebrew Day School of the Capital District
404 Partridge Street Albany NY 12208 (518) 453-9363/3434 www.maimonidesschool.org
produced by Rabbi Mendel Rubin & students in the TNT (Torah 'n Technology) Program

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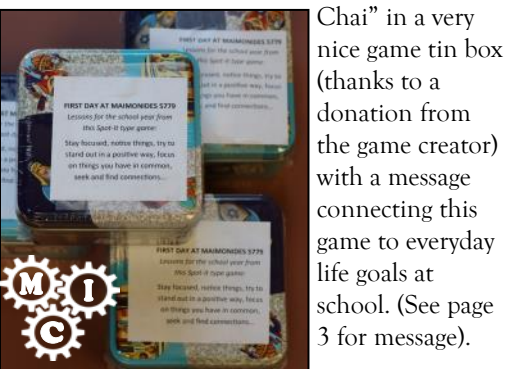
Candle-Lighting:
7:01
Shabbos Ends:
8:00

נצבים

FIRST DAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Why was Morah Rochel holding a big round ball for the first day assembly at school? That's because school began this year on Chaf-Hey (25th of) Elul, 1st day of Creation (according to a Talmud opinion) the day the world (think round

globe) came into being. Each student also got a Jewish "Spot-It!" type card game called "Reveal



Chai" in a very nice game tin box (thanks to a donation from the game creator) with a message connecting this game to everyday life goals at school. (See page 3 for message).



MAIMONIDES
404 Partridge Street
Albany NY 12208



MAZAL TOV SHLOMO

Today: Friday, Elul 27, Shlomo-Jeremy turns Bar-Mitzvah. The official party will be after the holidays but celebration began at Minyan last

night as the 27th began, and this morning... when he was joined by classmates and friends as he led the davening and enjoyed a Kiddush together afterwards at Shomray Torah.

*This MC Newsletter is
dedicated in honor of
Shlomo DouBear's
Bar-Mitzvah
Elul 27, 5778*



ISRAELI ENGINEER AND RABBI: MOIS NAVON SPEAKS ON MAIMONIDES' FIRST DAY

Mois Navon was one of the founding engineers at Israel's MobilEye (a company bought out by Intel for \$15B!) where he worked on computer chips specifically designed for driving-assist and self-driving cars. Mois stopped by Maimonides (on the very first day of school) on his way to a talk at UAlbany and talked with the students about his passion for both technology and for Torah, even while working on advanced computer chips he always made regular set times to study Torah after hours and during lunch breaks. He earned his rabbinical degree from the Israeli rabbinate while he worked at MobilEye. He talked to the students about a "pivot" a big shift or change that modern (technology) companies often have to make in response to changing market conditions and new developing technologies (and sometimes people need to do that, too—think of Teshuvah). He shared a story of a talk he had with Chinese technology investors and how important it is that the Jewish people fulfill their mission to be an "Ohr LaGoyim" a shining light (& personal examples) unto the nations.



SNOWBALL FIGHT IN SEPT?

Mrs. Ramsay had each student write down two random facts about themselves or about their summer. She then told them to crumple them up into a "snowballs" and gave them one minute to throw them around the classroom. At the end of that each student had to read aloud the facts on the snowballs that landed near them, and they had to work to try to guess which student wrote those facts...

MONTH-BY-MONTH-ME

It can be quite interesting to monitor and measure progress and change from month to month. Mrs. Maher had her students fill out "all about me" worksheets with handwriting samples, favorite lists and other reviewable measures. True they just started the new year but to see and measure change and improvement you have to create a baseline.



IVRI ANOCHI'S 10M VIEWS

Benny Friedman's hit song "Ivri Anochi" about Jewish pride hit 10 million views online this week. But our 6th graders had no idea where the Hebrew words come from until Morah Rochel showed them that it comes from the Book of Jonah read on Yom Kippur. This was a declaration said by Jonah to the other passengers on that ship in the stormy sea. They are learning Jonah for Navi class until after the holidays.

GOING BACK TO THE AKEIDAH

No, not a time machine but Morah Rochel's Chumash class is going back a few Parshas to Vayera to relearn the story of the Akeida in time for its reading on Rosh Hashanah.

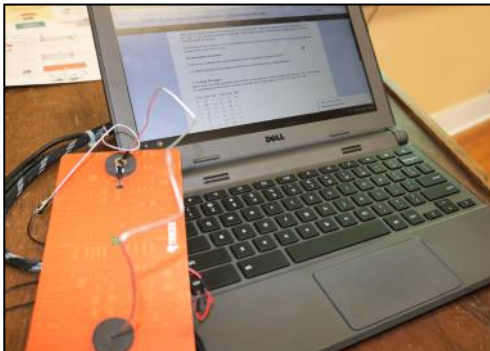
ROSH HASHANAH IN YAHADUS

5th grade Yahadus skipped to the Rosh Hashanah section of their Yahadus book to learn about the current holiday, but will go back to learn the book in order later. They learned the laws of Shofar, its sounds and shape and significance, and various reasons, and what types of cracks and holes and other things can invalidate a Shofar. In another class they learned about the 3 sets of pesukim for Malchiyot, Zichronot & Shofrot.



CRISS-CROSS APPLESAUCE AT NURSERY CIRCLE-TIME

On the first day of school Nursery students are getting used to their seating positions for their daily circle-time ritual.



SHOFAR AS MORSE CODE



Rambam and R' Saadia Gaon both write that Shofar isn't only a sound but that it has a message for us. Rabbi Yossi in STEAM class used this opportunity to teach students about Morse Code, how sequences of sounds of varying length can indeed convey a message. Kids took turns trying it out the kit.

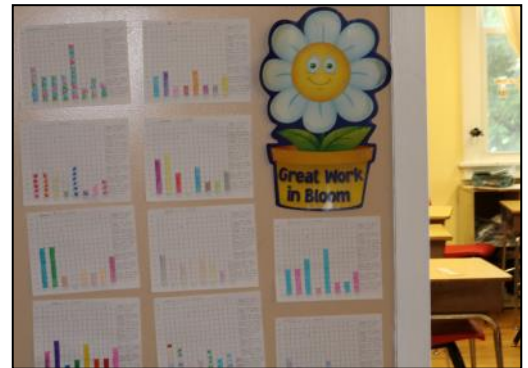


SOUNDING IT OUT

As Kindergarteners begin their journey of learning to read with Mrs. Hoffman, they are sounding out and writing the letters.

STARTING EARTH SCIENCE

This time not in High School but in elementary! Mrs. Maher gave them an intro to this branch of science that covers many areas of everyday life from hurricanes to drinking water, types of soil & rocks, natural resources to environmental changes and conservation.



GRAPH TO GET TO KNOW YOU

How many letters are in your first name? How many syllables in your last name? How many siblings do you have? How many vowels in both your names? They charted all this out in color.



HEBREW VERSION

Another "get to know you" on first day of school, this one with Morah Rivi. Each flower tells (in Hebrew) of another classmates favorite colors and hobbies, favorite foods and birthday.



UPCYCLED NAPKIN HOLDERS

Nursery used old CD's, colored kernels (many seeds) and more to create pretty napkin holders for their YomTov table. Look for more projects coming home this holiday.



ANNE FRANK QUOTE IN SCHOOL LUNCHROOM

So, what are we waiting for!?



NEW WORDS

A wonderful tradition every year in Morah Devorah's class. The walls start off blank but as the year progresses the walls slowly start to fill up with the long rectangular strips of paper with sets of Hebrew words (masculine/feminine) written, colored and illustrated by students. Eventually there will be words posted up everywhere! And look at the words this boy is working on: *Toke'ah* & *Toka'at*—Hebrew words for blowing Shofar!

Toka'at—Hebrew words for blowing Shofar!

BYOB—IN ENGLISH CLASS

At the start of the year, Mrs. M. asked students to each Bring Your Own Book, for individual reading time along with ELA exercises.

FRINDLE IN FOURTH

4th graders began reading "Frindle" with Mrs. Maher, usually one or two chapters a day. They are enjoying the mischievous book.



HEBREW HONEYCOMBS

Like a honeycomb, Rosh Hashanah has so many aspects to it! Several grades made these with Morah Rivi.

COMMITMENT W/O PAYMENT

Bar-Mitzvah Boys Talmud class with Rabbi Mendel is learning this Bava Metziah 34a legal discussion whether a commitment without payment (yet!) can be considered (for some issues) as a form of ownership. This has a timely inferred message for Rosh Hashanah, as it is a time when we often make spiritual commitments that we will only "pay out" over the course of the year ahead.

LANGSTON HUGHES: DREAMS

HS Girls read & discussed "Harlem" by Langston Hughes with Mrs. M. It is a short poem about deferred dreams but heavy with...



STILL AN EMPTY WHITEBOARD

Mrs. Ramsay is just beginning to discuss the Renaissance period with the HS Girls, and the whiteboard is just beginning to fill up.



THE GAME'S MESSAGES

What were the messages atop the "Reveal Chai" spot-it-type game that each student got on the first day of school? (1)

- Stay focused (2) Try to notice things
- (3) stand out in a positive way (4) focus on things you have in common,
- (5) seek and find connections!



ELI G'S BAR-MITZVAH MAASER

Thanks to Eli G. for donating Maaser (10%) from his Bar-Mitzvah gifts to Maimonides!!!

KAVANAUGH @ROSHHASHANA

For non-political high-holiday thoughts on this judicial hearing just before Rosh Hashanah search online: shabboshouse.org Kavanaugh



WE ARE OTHER!

Please consider a legacy gift to Maimonides to help ensure our school into the future. While we are not listed on the communal "Letter of Intent", Maimonides can certainly be included under "Other"! For further questions please be in touch with Rabbi Rubin 518-423-4103.

RAFFLE-AUCTION EFFORTS...

It's not too early to think about the Chanukah raffle-auction as we have line up the prize packages in time. Those who'd like to help by soliciting or donating prize packages should please contact Raizy Rubin 518-772-7299. Chanukah is earlier in December, that means the auction needs to be ready earlier, too!

TYPES OF ANIMAL HORNS

Rabbi Shmuly's class learned about the difference between antlers and horns, and why cow horns are not Kosher as Shofars. They looked up all types of images online as well as the science behind the different types.



CANDY APPLES

Morah Dini's students made yummy candy-apples for a sweet new year. And it was Henny's birthday so they got to celebrate with a party! too! May we have always reasons to celebrate!

UPCOMING EVENTS

at Maimonides and in the Community

9/8: FOUR PARSHIYOT, FOUR STUDENTS

Rabbi Rubin will speak this Shabbos at Shomray Torah on the 4 Parshiyot handwritten inside the Tefillin. This is the current topic in Daf Yomi Menachot (in memory of local Daf Yomi enthusiast Salo Steper) and in honor of the 4 Maimonides students who all became Bar-Mitzvah within this month!

9/8: HAPPY BIRTHDAY SIMMY KIDDUSH

Kiddush at Shomray Torah this Shabbos is in honor of Simmy Rubin's 25th of Elul birthday (and the birthday of the world!)

9/8: LAST WOMENS AFTERNOON SHABBOS SHIUR

This week is the last one of the 5778 summer season! Given by Dini Gordon at her home 29 Glenwood Street (just behind Maimonides) at 4:45pm.

9/9: BNOS ISRAEL EREV R.H. MIKVAH TIMES/INFO

\$10 charge for Mikvah. \$2 charge for towels. Erev Rosh Hashanah 3:30-5pm for men. Erev Yom-Kippur 12:45-2pm and again 3-4:30pm.

9/9-11: ROSH HASHANAH 5779!

Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday night through Tues evening. Check your synagogue or Chabad for listing and times of prayer services and in some cases communal holiday meals, too.

9/10: COMMUNAL TASHLICH AT BUCKINGHAM

An annual tradition at Buckingham Pond for many synagogues & individuals to gather for Rosh Hashanah afternoon Tashlich at 5pm. PJ Library has a kids-friendly program at 4:15pm, same place, prior to the communal event.

9/12: FAST OF GEDALIA—AND LATE START WED

9:30am school start after Rosh Hashanah. Children should come to school ready for study, already after davening. **KINDERGARTEN PARENTS:** Ms. Michelene Sohnen, speech pathologist from Albany City School District, will conduct Kindergarten speech screenings. **EARLY GRADES:** PJ Library returns to school for the first time on Wednesday for Nursery thru grade 1.

9/15-16: MENDEL'S SCHENECTADY BAR-MITZVAH

Mendel R. will read Torah at Union Chabad on Shabbos, with a 1pm celebration Sunday in Schenectady.

Hadas Koresh and Eli O'Brien
are engaged to be married

Please join us in celebrating

10:00 am - Noon

September 16, 2018

At the Jewish Federation of NENY
the Golub Center

184 Washington Avenue Ext.
Albany, NY 12203-5306

9/16: HADAS AND ELI ENGAGEMENT CELEBRATION

We are delighted to announce the engagement of MHDS alumnus Eli O'Brien and Hadas Koresh, and invite the community to their celebration on Sunday the 16th, 10am-Noon at the Federation.

9/18-19: YOM KIPPUR

No School on both Erev Yom Kippur (Tues) and Yom Kippur (Wed).

9/23-10/2: SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH HOLIDAY

Sukkot begins Sunday night, Simchat Torah ends the following Tuesday night. No school throughout. Chol HaMoed (weekday days of the holiday) are Wed thru Fri & again on Sunday. Any ideas of outings/activities those days?

3 Labor Day
4 Staff Meeting
5 First day of classes
6 First day of HS classes
10-11 Rosh Hashana
12 Gedaliah Fast 9:30 Start
18 Erev Yom Kippur
19 Yom Kippur
20 9:30 Start
24-30 Sukkot

9 days

SEPTEMBER '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

9/29: MUSICAL SUKKOT CELEBRATION ON SAT NIGHT IN MEMORY OF ESTY (RUBIN) COHEN

Simchat Beit HaShoeva details still ahead, but looking at a Sat Night in the Sukkah musical night in memory of Esty as her yartzeit falls just after Sukkot.

12/9: A JOINT COMMUNAL CHANUKAH EVENT...

Stay tuned for something special planned for the last evening (& second Sunday) of Chanukah. Still in the works, more details soon.

12/10: ANNUAL MAIMONIDES RAFFLE-AUCTION

It's not too early to start thinking about prize packages to solicit or donate for this school fundraiser. The event and drawings will be Monday, the 8th and last day of Chanukah.

Stay tuned for more Tishrei updates and Sukkot events as we get closer in upcoming MC newsletters, and of course, lots of reporting from our students at school about their learning, experiences and connections... May it be a Shana Tova!!!



WISHING ALL OUR READERS...

To our students, teachers, parents, alumni, community friends and supporters, we wish all of you from far and near:

כתיבה וחתימה טובה, שנה טובה ומתוקה!

A very happy, healthy, and sweet New Year!



MAIMONIDES SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

(Nursery / Elementary / High School) 404 Partridge Street Albany NY 12208
(518) 453-9363/3434 maimonidesschool@gmail.com

Founded in 1980, Maimonides is chartered by the NYS Board of Regents and is a JF-NENY Beneficiary "A Beautiful Blend: Torah & Worldly Experience!"

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