

**Our Week in Review**  
**November 3rd, 2011**

# The Jewish Academy of Wake County

*nurturing individual excellence*

## Morah Erin's K-1

Dear Parents,

Happy November! Did you know that we celebrated our 45th day of school on Wednesday? We talked about how the school year is 180 days long. If we divided it into 2 parts (halves), it would be 90 days plus 90 days. If we divided it into 4 parts (fourths), it would be 45 + 45+ 45+ 45 days. We are  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way through the year. Can you believe it? Where is the time going?

Over the course of the holidays and months of October, we have begun focusing on quite a bit of individualized curriculum (i.e. letter of the week, spelling word lists, journal writing, reading assignments). We will continue with this system throughout the duration of the school year.

We have been discussing animals in Science. We learned that there are categories of animals such as; mammals, fish, birds, insects, reptiles and amphibians. Today, each child randomly selected one of these groups of animals. I told them I would like them to select one animal that would fit into the group they selected. Example: snakes, lizards, turtles, dinosaurs would all be reptiles. When we go to the library tomorrow, I will be asking the

children to find a book about their animal and/or animal group. Over the next few weeks, I would like the children to learn a little about their animal. I would like them to know their animal's habitat, how their animal uses water, what their animal eats and any other interesting fact about their animal. I would like the students to present their animal to the rest of the class when they have completed all of their research. I will be emailing and/or sending home further details in your child's homework folder over the next week- two weeks.

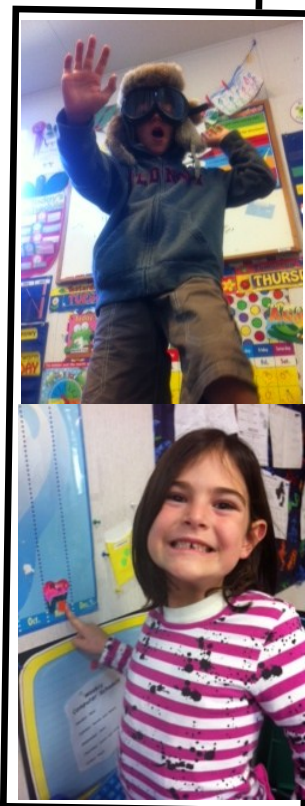
We have also begun thinking about Thanksgiving. We had a discussion about things people and families need. We are all very lucky in our classroom to have homes, running water, food and other "wants". There are many people out there that are not as lucky. Over the next few weeks, we will be working on a "Things I am Thankful for" book project. We will include pages such as: This is my home. My address is....., My family likes to \_\_\_\_\_ together, Please assist your child if he/she does not know their address and/or answers to these questions. I hope to share our books at our Thanksgiving

lunch on Tuesday, November 22.

Please note: We will be traveling to the Beth Meyer Library on Tuesday, November 8. If your child has any books at home from this library, please send them in on this day. Our next trip will not be until December 13.

Thank you to all of the parents who worked hard on the Yankee Candle Fundraiser. I am currently working on acquiring more information from the Funding Factory. This company recycles empty printer cartridges, cell phones, small electronics, etc. I will be sending out a form letter and additional information about this FREE fundraiser in the very near future in your child's homework folder. I am also working alongside, Betsy Lincoln (a community member) in partnering with a local used bookstore in order to coordinate a book and media drive fundraiser in the next several weeks. My goal is to raise enough money to be able to design and purchase school shirts for the children and staff.

Morah Erin



A very happy belated birthday goes out to Daniel Springer.

A very happy upcoming birthday goes out to Abie McNally.

Also, A mazel tov to Kristen Hardy for joining Emory Marks on the lost tooth chart this week!

## Morah Jodi's PE and Healthful Living Class

In addition to all our fall holidays and breaks from school, much has happened in both PE and Healthful Living. In PE we are continuing our travels around the world. Prior to playing each game, the children love looking on our inflatable globe to locate each country from which the games originated to find where they are in relationship to the United States, North Carolina, & Raleigh. Over these past weeks we have crossed much of the globe, traveling to Mexico, Colombia, Italy, Canada, Chile, Greece, Pakistan, & Ghana. We have learned how the native children love to play games quite

similar to ours. Some of our favorites included: Agalmata (Statues) from Greece & Oonch Neech (Up Down) from Pakistan. In

made believe we were one big family and practiced car safety. Each student made his/her own Travel Brochure. We talked about fire

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Healthful Living, to conclude the Mental & Emotional Health unit we practiced relaxation after talking about good & bad stress. We became actors as we performed Good Sports Charades. We identified what makes up good sportsmanship, thought of people who demonstrate those qualities, then made and provided them with a Good Sport Award. We

safety this week. I encouraged the students to go home and make sure their family has a fire escape plan. If they didn't please ask them about it. We discussed a few fire safety rules including the importance of crawling to protect ourselves from smoke, and Stop Drop & Roll. We even practiced doing both.  
Morah Jodi

## Morah Shirley's Ivrit Class

Now that the high holidays are behind us, we are going back to reading, reading and more reading:)

We have started with the vowels "kamatz and patach" (- . +) And we are doing very well!

In addition, we are working on vocabulary through games and cards.

Starting Monday, the kids will get Hebrew homework, mostly practicing the writing of the letters. Since we are doing a lot of reading at school, I don't want them to neglect their writing.

They will have homework no more than twice a week, on days that they do not get homework from Judaic.

I will make sure the kids know exactly what to do, and will be able to do it on their own. The homework will be given in the same folders they get from Morah Dassy.

Morah Shirley

## Morah Dassy's Judaics Class

The past few weeks have been busy ones here in the Judaic class of JAWC. We have been focusing on the weekly parsha, which teaches many biblical stories, important characters in Jewish history, and mitzvot. We learned the story of Noah-Noach and the flood, and we created our own classroom Ark. The class divided into groups and each group worked on a different part of the ark. The end result was beautiful

and in addition to reinforcing the lesson, we learned how powerful team work can be. We were all curious about how big the ark actually was. We took a helium balloon and string outside, and let it out to about the height of a 3 story building, approximately the height of the ark. We also used a big box that Noah brought in the act our the story, complete with rainbow at the end! This week we focused on the biblical character

of Abraham, father of all Jews. We heard how G-d promised him that his descendants will be as many as the stars and sand. We then did a craft on that, and as always it is so delightful to see how our children process the lesson, and how each one relates to it as an individual.

Have a wonderful weekend,  
Morah Dassy

## Technology and Character Development Specials

**Morah Cathy** taught the children an interesting lesson on creating something from nothing, The children read two similar stories, "Joseph Had a Little Overcoat", and "Something from Nothing" and they compared and contrasted the differences in the books. The theme that they both have in common is that Joseph was able to reuse and recycle his overcoat. They then took recyclables material such as paper towel rolls and created beautiful crafts from "nothing."

**Mr. Scott and Mrs. Cristina Arkin** have been giving our students a real understanding of technology. Most recently the children learned about the Binary code and then beaded gorgeous bracelets out of zeros and ones!

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers who give of their time and energy to help broaden our children's experiences and learning!



Dear JAWC Parents,

In honor of Thanksgiving, we are launching a **ten day mitzvah project., starting this Monday, November 7th.**

Our students will be looking to do extra chores around the house to earn change. On November 17th, we will count and add up all that we have collected, and as a class we will go to the local Kroger to buy food, which will be donated to the Jewish Family Services to give to a family in need.

You are welcome to send in canned good as well ( please make sure it has a kosher symbol) Please encourage your child to participate, this is a beautiful and hands on way for our children to learn about giving to those less fortunate than us!

In addition, the Jewish Academy would like to extend our thanks to our parents, staff, and volunteers, and so **we invite you all to join our Thanksgiving lunch on November 22nd, in school, at 12:00 PM.**

Please RSVP by calling the school office as we will be purchasing the items for our lunch during our trip to Kroger!



*This is a letter from a former student of Morah Erin who has autism. Morah Erin taught him 11 years ago when he was just 5 years old!*

Dear Friends:

Our son, Joseph, is a proud member of The Beta Club at his school, Southern Wake Academy. The Beta Club sponsors community service projects and every holiday season they have a blanket/coat drive.

This year, The Beta Club will be hosting the 3rd annual Blanket Drive, starting Monday Oct. 31 and will end on Dec. 16. Joseph is hoping to get help from our friends this year and is asking you if you have

any new or gently used items you can donate. We can pick them up from you or you can drop them at our house. We are asking for donations of the items from the following

Adult-size jackets and coats

Socks

Blankets

Gloves and mittens

Hats

Scarves

These items will be distributed to homeless and needy families in Raleigh before Christmas. In a world that seems so abundant, you would

be surprised to learn how great the need is. I hope you'll consider helping the Triangle community by cleaning out your closets or making a run to Target or Wal-Mart, and sacrifice a little so someone else can have a lot.

Please email me back or call if you have any items to share with us.

No donation is too small or too great. Many thanks for help.

Blessings,

Susannah Hough

(919)870-6172 home