


September 16th 2011

**The Jewish Academy of Wake County**
nurturing individual excellence

Morah Erin's K-1 Class

Dear Parents,

You can tell that it is almost Rosh Hashannah! The children and I have been as busy as worker bees the last two weeks.

Kindergarten has concentrated on the letters B,b and V,v. We have learned how to correctly form the capital and lower case letters, the sounds that each letter makes and what colors and animals begin with both letters. In the next two weeks, we will discover the letters G,g and D,d.

First Graders have begun receiving individualized Spelling Word Lists. The children are using their words to create sentences, make flash cards, fill in crossword puzzles and other activities. We had our first "real" Spelling

Test last Friday. 4 out of the 6 students scored a 100%!

First Graders have been introduced to their curative names this week. They know what they look like and have practiced both tracing and writing it independently.

The Jewish Academy had a surprise visit this Tuesday morning. It was lovely to see former student, Rachel

Secan and her mother, Debbie. Rachel stayed for recess and a bit of creative writing time. As a teacher, I have to admit that there is nothing more fulfilling than having your old students visit and bring you hugs!

We experienced our first Author Share in the Chair Day last Friday. The children each shared one page from their journal with the rest of the class. Each child did an amazing job sharing.

The First Grade readers will begin a weekly "Reading Buddies" assignment very soon. Students will be broken into a Tuesday and a Thursday group. Each group will go to Miss Cheryl's class after lunch on their assigned day and read with/to one or two of the 4 year old stu-

dents. I will be asking children to chose a book from our classroom library the day before "Reading Buddies". Children will be asked to practice their book the night before reading buddies. We began this program at the end of last school year and both groups of children benefited from and loved the experience.

The children and I did some planting in Science this

week. We used a butterfly garden and an odd plant kit. I am hoping that our seeds will sprout and in a few weeks we can place our plants in the greenhouse on campus.

We will be having a "Garden Day" on Wednesday, October 12. Garden Day will be a day for outdoor planting and beautifying our outdoor classroom. If you may be able to lend a hand, supplies and/or make a donation toward this special day, please let myself or Noah's mom, Sharon, know.

A special THANK YOU goes out to Miss Iris, our Tuesday morning volunteer. Miss Iris has been working on teaching the children how to sew. By the end of the morning this Tuesday, each child had sewn their

first initial in a fabric square! I think we may be on our way to a classroom quilt!

Special Mazel Tov goes to Emory Marks for loosing her very first tooth! YEAH Emory! And a Happy 6th Birthday goes to Jenna McGhee. Jenna's birthday is this Saturday, but we enjoyed celebrating her Hebrew Birthday with her on Monday.

Morah Erin

• **Other Special Days to remember:**

- Monday Sept 19- Rosh Hashannah Project with 3 year old Hillel Preschool Class
- Friday Sept 23- Art with Miss Carol
- Monday Sept 26- Rosh Hashannah Project with 4 year old TBO Preschool Classes
- Tuesday Sept 27- Rosh Hashannah Project with 4 year old Hillel Preschool Class
- Wednesday Sept 28- 12:00 Dismissal for Rosh Hashannah
- Thursday Sept 29 and Friday Sept 30- School CLOSED for Rosh Hashannah
- Friday October 7- Field Trip to the Wake County Public Library AND 12:00 Dismissal for Yom Kippur
- Tuesday October 11- Field Trip to the Beth Meyer Library
- Wednesday October 12- Garden Day
- Thursday October 13 and Friday October 14- School CLOSED for Sukkot
- Tuesday October 18- Tentative Date for Field Trip to JCC

Morah Jodi's PE and Healthful Living

PE and Healthful Living continue to be eventful and special. In *PE* we completed our unit on "Awareness of Self & Others around Me". Our final activity involved moving through an obstacle course while blindfolded and being led by a partner. The students were able to experience personal success and positive interaction while recognizing safety and trust, by following rules with cooperation and teamwork. We have since begun taking part in "Games from Around the World". This unit will continue through November. As an important component of it, we first look on our inflatable globe at the United States and more specifically North Carolina and Raleigh. We then locate the country from which the game originated and look at its distance relationship from our home. The students then

hear a quote from a resident of that country and why he/she liked that game as a child. So far we have traveled to Taiwan to play "Catch the Chicks," to Germany to play "Sardines," and to England to play "Kings, Queens, & Jacks". The children cannot choose which game they've liked more!

We will continue covering "Mental & Emotional Health" in *Healthful Living* through the

compliments about their classmates, read them aloud (being sure to say "thank you" when personally complimented) and we created a "Chain of Compliments" that is hanging on our bulletin board. In the next lesson we talked about what a conflict is and how they often occur in everyday events. We recognized that how we react to a conflict can make the problem better or worse. I read Dr. Seuss' The Sneetches and we discussed what happened in the

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end of September. We learned about Self-Esteem and that giving a compliment will help someone to feel valued. The children knew that it would be nice to give a friend a compliment if he/she is feeling sad. They each wrote out

story and what is meant by "conflict resolution". The students then used crayons and each created their own middle and ending to a different story about a child who wants to use the swings, but they are

Miss Jmeka's Drama Class

Straight from Drama Land:

We have gotten off to a great start with only a few bumps in the road.

Through our Drama games, our superstars are learning

how to work well together and to respect each others' environment. We focus a lot on our listening and not just with our ears, we're using our eyes too. It's an important skill to have not only

in Drama but in life.

Come check us out on Mondays from 1:40-2:25pm; we would love to have you.

Jmeka

Morah Dassy's Judaic Class

We have had a week full of learning here at the Judaics class at JAWC. We have been studying the different customs of the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashana. We discussed the concept of doing teshuvah, feeling sorry for the things we have done that were not correct and learning from our mistakes. We spoke about the shofar,

learned where it comes from, how it is made, what types of sounds we blow, why we blow it, and what it is supposed to remind us of. We learned about the different foods that some have a custom of eating on Rosh Hashana, such as apples dipped in honey, round challahs, the head of a fish, a pomegranate etc.

We are looking forward to our upcoming trip to the bee farm, where we will discover how bees live their lives and how they make honey!

We are all making great progress in our Aleph Champ program, and soon we will earn our first medals!

Morah Dassy

Morah Shirley's Ivrit Class

We have just started getting ready for Rosh Hashana in Hebrew class as we are preparing to share the sweet taste of the holiday with the pre-schools around us. We practiced our writing while we made beautiful new year cards as a holiday project we are doing with Morah Dassy. We are continuing to work on our letters, our vocabulary and our reading.

Everyone is doing great, and I am happy to see the kids' level of confidence growing each day.

Shabbat Shalom:)

Mr. Scott's Technology Class



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rate our school, and write a
positive review!

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Join Us for a Gardening Day Wednesday, Oct. 12th from 9:15–10:15

Garden day is a really fun time for everyone to get together and help spruce up and beautify the area that our children spend their day. It's also a great opportunity to teach them about planting and taking care of their surroundings. It's fun to take your child with you to a nursery to help you select what you plan on planting. Mums and pansies do great this time of year. Cabbage plants also do well and are nice decoration. We would love to have as many people as possible participate. However, if you can't make it, try to send something in. If you are able to make it, remember that you might get a little dirty :) Look forward to seeing everyone then!

Things we will need:

- Small shovels for small hands
- Bigger shovels
- Mums
- Pansies--they do well fall and winter so should stay year round here
- Gloves
- Watering Cans
- Rakes -- if there is any area that needs to be cleaned up
- Broom for clean up on sidewalk/walkway
- Refreshments that have a kosher symbol (such as o-u or o-k)
- Coffee will be provided!

Visitor badge system:

We are implementing a new system for visitors on campus. Visitors will be asked to stop by the front office to sign in and receive a visitor badge. This is for the safety and security of everyone on campus. It is also very important that each time a student is picked up early that he/she is signed out on the sign out sheet, also located in the office.

Thank you for understanding and for helping keep our campus safe!