

V'ahavta...



"Stellar Education for Every Jewish Child"

Oct. 7, 2016 5 Tishrei, 5777

- Career Program 1
- RH Scavenger Hunt 1
- August High Holiday Appeal Donors 2
- Sukkot Dinner Info 5
- Parsha 6



Candle Lighting

Friday, Oct. 7
6:25 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 8
Shabbat ends
7:27 p.m.



Tuesday, Oct. 11
6:19 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12
Yom Kippur ends
7:21 p.m.



Monday, Oct. 10
ULR Program
3:40 - 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 11
Erev Yom Kippur - 1/2 Day
Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12
Yom Kippur - No Classes

Thursday, Oct. 13
Soccer
3:40 - 4:55 p.m.

Middle School Career Program

RTA proudly inaugurates an exciting new program for our middle school students. The CED (career education and development) program will bring professionals from a wide variety of fields to present their chosen careers, giving our students a taste of everything ranging from medicine, law & business to non-profit and Jewish communal work.



Our first presenter was a special guest visiting from Jerusalem: Rabbi Adam Lessin spoke last week to our 5th-8th graders about his career as a Sofer (Jewish scribe). Rabbi Lessin explained his profession in detail, from how the parchment is processed to the mixture of ingredients that goes into the ink that is used.

(continued on page 4. .)

Rosh Hashana Scavenger Hunt

The New Year Hunt!

When Rabbi Baruch Sherman was preparing a school-wide program for Rosh Hashana, he decided to try a brand new idea for the New Year - a scavenger hunt! He compiled a list of 12 objects for the children to search for throughout the classrooms.



(continued on page 3. .)

RTA Needs YOU!

To help assemble the school Sukkah...

If you are available to help with this important mitzvah this Sunday, October 9th beginning at 10:00 am, please contact Rabbi Bart at (804) 901-1012 or rabbibart@rudlin.com to be part of Sander Altman's amazing team!

Best Wishes for a G'mar Chatima Tova!!

Rudlin Torah Academy August High Holiday Appeal

Thank you for giving to the 2016 Rudlin Torah Academy High Holiday Appeal.
Listing is for donations received through Thursday, October 6, 2016.

Board Members

Mrs. Ellen Renee Adams
 Rabbi Michael Aronowitz
 Mrs. Heather Dinkin
 Mr. Avi Gunzburg
 Mrs. Meggie Hirsch
 Rabbi Elliot Plotnick
 Mr. Mark Press
 Dr. Robert Weisberger
 Dr. Karen Wharton
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Friends/Alumni

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 Mrs. Elaine Ackman
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 Miss Rebekah Adams
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 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Press
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 Mrs. Davina Rife
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 Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Shor
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sisisky
 Mr. Boris Solomonov &
 Ms. Alina Egudkina
 Ms. Olga Solomonova
 Dr. Neil Sonenklar & Ms. Anne Woods
 Dr. & Mrs. Elliott Spanier
 Mr. & Mrs. Russ Stein
 Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey Watson
 Mr. Todd Weinberg & Ms. Kate Moore
 Mr. Tony & Dr. Karen Wharton
 Ms. Adrienne Winkelmann
 Mr. Benjamin Winkelmann
 Mr. & Mrs. David Winston

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Mendy & Chana Weiss on the birth of a daughter!

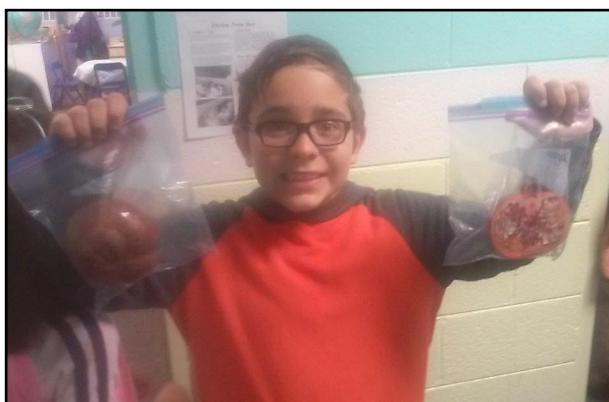
Thank you to the Klein family for donating furniture and computers!

Thank you to the Mrs. Edith Glock family for donating office supplies!

Rosh Hashana Program

(. . .continued from page 1)

Not settling for pictures, Rabbi Sherman gathered shofars, apples, honey jars, round rolls, pomegranates, and other items for six groups. The 8th graders were appointed as captains, each was equipped with a list, and the hunt began. All the students were enthusiastic as they searched each room for the required items. All agreed that it was an amazing experience and a great start for the New Year.



Middle School Career Program - Rabbi Lessin the Sofer

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Rabbi Lessin highlighted his unique specialty of writing and checking Tefillin (phylacteries) and how the print must be much smaller than Torah writing so as to fit into the boxes. Among many other topics that were covered, a large part of the conversation centered around the precision and concentration that is needed to meticulously execute each step of the writing and checking process.

The students then participated in a Q and A, asking their own prepared questions about this fascinating career. The program capped off with a demonstration by Rabbi Lessin that began with making a quill and then writing letters on parchment as the students gathered around and observed.

We thank Rabbi Lessin for his captivating presentation and look forward to many more speakers to share different aspects of their careers.

Our next speaker is already on the schedule – optometrist (and inventor!) Dr. Allen Cohen.





SUKKOT DINNER

October 19 at 5:30 pm

RTA PVA invites the whole
community to its
Annual Sukkah Dinner
in the RTA Sukkah

Please join us for music and great food!

Charge

\$5 children

\$8 adults

\$30 family max

Parsha Points

Each week we feature an article on the weekly Torah portion.

Vayelech (Deuteronomy 31) *Shabbat Shuvah*

Judaism has always understood that a people's future is only as great as the values it manages to inculcate into its youth. In line with this, the Torah does not directly command individuals to *study* Torah. Rather it commands us "**to teach Torah to our children.**" An amazing Midrash says that when the Messiah comes, everyone will go out to meet him - with the exception of school children who will stay in class to study Torah!

This issue of education plays a role in this week's Torah portion, Vayelech. A central topic discussed in the Parsha is the *Hakhol* (literally "gathering") observance. Once every seven years during the era of the Holy Temple, every Jewish man, woman, and child is commanded to go up to Jerusalem. There, the king reads sections of Deuteronomy focusing on the covenant between God and the Jewish nation. The purpose of this, explains the Torah, is for the people to hear "so they will learn and shall fear the Lord your God."

Interestingly, the next verse specifically singles out babies, stating: "And the children who do not know - they shall hear and shall learn to fear the Lord your God." What possible benefit can there be to schlep along "children who do not know"? It is not simply because their parents have no alternative means of childcare! Rather, the Torah makes it clear that the children's presence at the *Hakhol* ceremony will cause them "to learn to fear the Lord Your God."

The Sfas Emes, a Chassidic master of the last century, gives several reasons for this command. First, he suggests that conscious cognition is not the only way that human beings learn things. Even though an infant may not consciously understand what is being said at the *Hakhol* ceremony, his soul can still be very much affected.

Furthermore, the Sfas Emes notes, when the child grows up he will have a greater appreciation of the importance of Torah study, knowing that his parents carried him for miles and miles just so he could hear the king read from the Torah! Experience bears this out: Many of the greatest Torah scholars came from poor homes, where the parents sacrificed basic of necessities in order that their children should receive the best Torah education.

A great lesson – not only at this special time of year in which we are preparing for the awesome day of Yom Kippur – but all year-round: In the final analysis, it is not the ‘things’ that we give to our children, but the sacrifices that we make for them - particularly in the area of education - that really count.

Adapted with permission from the award winning website, www.aish.com.