## V'ahavta...



"Stellar Education for Every Jewish Child"

Sept. 30, 2016 27 Elul, 5776

Students Hear Itzhak Perlman

August High Holiday Appeal

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Parsha



Dates to Remember

7:32 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3 & Tuesday, Oct. 4

Rosh Hashanah - No Classes

Thursday, Oct. 6

Soccer 3:40 - 4:55 p.m.

Board Meeting Executive: 7:00 p.m. Full Board: 7:30 p.m.

### How often does one get to see the literal **Best in the World**

in action?

Mr. Itzhak Perlman - the world's premier violinist performed at the Richmond Symphony this past Sunday.

Our middle school students were privileged to attend his by invitation only pre-concert rehearsal!!

Together with several of the older Shaarei Torah students, our students experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, a musical memory to be cherished.

Our thanks to the Weinstein JCC (with special kudos to Mrs. Orly Lewis!) and the Richmond symphony for making this amazing opportunity possible!



Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year!!!



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#### 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 Wednesday, September 28, 2016.

#### **Board Members**

Mr. Mark Press Mrs. Rebecca Kalman-Winston

#### **Parents**

Rabbi & Mrs. Yosef Bart Mr. & Mrs. Jack Cohen Mr. & Mrs. Timur Korshin Rabbi & Mrs. Yossel Kranz Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Poliakoff Mr. Scott Sheldon & Ms. Yael Levin

#### Friends/Alumni

Mr. Bruce Ackman & Ms. Rachel Sattler Mrs. Elaine Ackman Miss Jennifer Adams Miss Rebekah Adams Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Adolf Miss Shoshana Bart

#### Friends/Alumni (cont'd.)

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Binshtok Mrs. Francine Blum Mr. & Mrs. Rick Cohen Rabbi Edward Davis Ms. Marsha Feldstein Mr. Russell Finer Mr. & Mrs. Ben Freedlander Mr. & Mrs. David Hecht Ms. Gaby Heller Mr. & Mrs. William Hill Mrs. Helen Horwitz Mr. & Mrs. Jay Ipson Mr. Ronny Ipson Mrs. Willa Kalman Dr. Michael Kiken Mr. Robert Lichtenstein Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Lehman Mr. & Mrs. Joel Lewis Ms. Wendy Lusk Mr. Abby Moore Mr. Richard Murad

#### Friends/Alumni (cont'd.)

Mr. & Mrs. Richard November Dr. & Mrs. Ken Olshansky Mr. & Mrs. Adam Poznanski Mr. & Mrs. Mark Press Richmond Orthodontics Mrs. Davina Rife Rabbi & Mrs. Royi Shaffin Mr. & Mrs. Hershel Shanks 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. & Mrs. David Winston

#### Mazel tou...

to Erin & Benzion Shamberg on the birth of a son, and to the entire Shamberg & Lewis family.

#### Thank you...

to the Rozenblum family for donating paint to our art program.

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#### Kindergarten Tashlich

#### Tashlich Means Throwing Away

What a memorable trip our kindergartners had on Tuesday! It was our Tashlich trip to the lake at the University of Richmond, and we had a blast.

A good way to prepare for the New Year is by ridding ourselves of our past mistakes and behavior. Tashlich is a way to free ourselves from old habits. There is a custom on Rosh Hashana afternoon, or sometime before Yom Kippur to go to a body of water, preferably with fish, and concentrate on ridding ourselves of our past errors. Many throw pieces of bread into the water (*Tashlich* means to throw), to symbolize throwing away mistaken ideas or behavior, so that one can make better choices for the New Year.

Our class came equipped with bread to toss into the water. We all enjoyed throwing our bread from a bridge while enjoying the beautiful scenery. It was fun to sit in the gazebo and sing our Rosh Hashana songs and take in the beauty of the lake. We might have intended to feed fish, but there were many happy geese and ducks whom also benefitted from our Tashlich ceremony.

We all agreed that it was a fun and meaningful way to start the New Year. Thanks so much to our drivers and chaperones: Dr. Sarah Ciment, Mrs. Dina Gunzburg, Mrs. Meggie Hirsch, Mrs. Ines Rozenblum, Mr. Henry Salomonsky, Mrs. Tovi Weinberger, and Mrs. Hallie Weinstein.

And of course, no event is truly an event unless there are photos from Mrs. Adrienne Winkelmann of Photo Ops! Adrienne was kind enough to meet us at the University of Richmond and cheerfully record our memories. We are sure to treasure our pictures that will remind us of our wonderful time!



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#### Kindergarten Tashlich

#### (. . .continued from page 3)





































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#### MiDor L'dor Program

The fourth graders had a wonderful time with the seniors at the JCC on Tuesday. The program began with the students and the seniors eating their lunch together, talking with one another and getting to know each other. After lunch, the fourth graders sang five Rosh Hashanah songs for the seniors. They then enjoyed coloring their Rosh Hashanah stain

glass picture, and finished by eating foods that are customary to eat on Rosh Hashanah, such as apples and honey, dates and carrots.

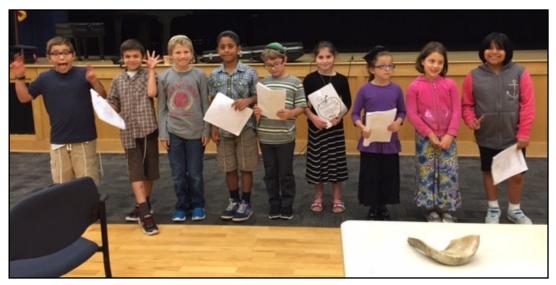
The students are looking forward to meeting again in November.

A big thank you to Mrs. Sheldon and Mrs. Weinberger for driving and assisting with the program.











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# SUKKOT DINNER

October 19 at 5:30pm

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

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#### **Student Council News**

Congratulations to the following winners of this year's Student Council Election:

#### Officers:

President: William Minor

Vice president: Shachar Cahana

Secretary: Aharon Bart Treasurer: Chaviva David

Editors: Naava Plotnick and Yael Kranz

#### Class Representatives:

8th grade: Tzvi Plotnick
7th grade: Noam Cahana
6th grade: Izabella Bender
5th grade: Alex Rubenstein
4th grade: Amalya Weinberger
3rd grade: Doni Plotnick

Serving for 2nd grade: Chaviva David Serving for 1st grade: Pete Chumbris Serving for kindergarten: Chana Reinke



We are looking forward to another amazing year at RTA!!!

Please stay tuned for information about this year's school fundraiser!



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#### **Parsha Points**

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

#### **Nitzavim**

(Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20)

#### Asking Forgiveness

Numerous sources discuss the importance of asking forgiveness from others before Yom Kippur. Jewish tradition points out that it does little good to ask forgiveness from G-d when one has **harmed one's fellow man.** Because it is not G-d Who must extend forgiveness; rather, forgiveness must come from the individual who has been wronged.

According to many commentaries, the Biblical source for the mitzvah of Teshuva is found in this week's Torah portion, Nitzavim. The Torah instructs someone who has transgressed to "return to the L-rd your G-d." This understanding of Teshuva as a process of "return" is embedded in the word itself which (though commonly mistranslated as "repentance") actually means "return." Teshuva is the process by which we reestablish our connection to the Almighty and return to the basic goodness that is human nature.

Judaism, being a religion of action, says it is not enough to "mentally" regret one's misdeeds. On this week's verse that "very close is this (matter of Teshuva) to your mouth," Nachmanides takes this passage literally; he understands that Teshuva requires **verbal articulation** of our misdeeds.

In instances where someone else was wronged, an apology must be made directly to that person. In instances where we transgressed the Almighty's will, we must privately, with no one listening, confess to our Creator.

If the Rosh Hashana holiday is to accomplish true change - and not just another series of broken new year's resolutions - we must make **proper preparations**. Thus, there arose a custom during Elul (the month before Rosh Hashana) for individuals to undertake to **correct one key aspect** of their behavior. The action should be something that, with a bit of serious effort, could realistically be accomplished.

By making a permanent change (even a minor one) in one's behavior, a momentum is created for the New Year. Combined with the power of our sincere prayers, the recitation of the "Vidui" (the verbal confession before G-d), and the giving of Tzedakah (since the Jewish fiscal year ends the day before Rosh Hashana), one can go into the holidays with a sense of elevation and connectedness.

#### May it be a good, sweet year for all!

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

#### A Sharon Jaffa Women's Community Center Event

# Reclaiming Intimacy in your Marriage



A Jewish & Secular Perspective on Mikvah and Marriage



Gail Moskowitz Adjunct Professor of Social Work at VCU & Clinical Social and

Rochel Goldbaum

International Speaker & Educator in Female Jewish Law

Date: Sunday, November 20th Time: 10am - 12pm Location: Keneseth Beth Israel 6300 Patterson Ave

Please RSVP by November 13th with kbimikvahevent@gmail.com or 347-821-1590

> Light Refreshments will be served Suggested Donation \$10

Event open to Women only



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