



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

First Grade, General Studies - Ms. Erika Ramsey

Announcements

Please feel free to reach me by email at eramsey@chayamushka.org

Reminders

- Please take out any completed work from their blue folder, and send the empty folder back with your child on Monday
- Students get their homework for the week on Monday; they need to return their completed homework by the following Monday, at the latest, but can turn it in earlier if they finish early.
- Don't forget to send your child to school with a water bottle and a mask
- If your child needs a spoon or fork for lunch, please make sure you include it.
- Please label all outerwear

Last month, our class has been working very hard to master high frequency sight words. Students have also been working to improve reading fluency. Several of our friends have begun reading chapter books independently. After reading, comprehension questions are assigned and students give a summary orally or in written form.

In writing, we have just finished our unit on narrative writing. Next, we will begin a unit on opinion writings. Students have also been writing creative and imaginative stories in their daily writing journal.

Reading & Writing



For Math, our class has been progressively moving from addition to subtraction. Specifically we have been practicing dynamic addition and subtraction. A few of our friends have also begun learning and memorizing multiplication facts.

In Social Studies, we will be starting a unit on President's Day. Students will be learning about the history of this day and why it is commemorated.

Math, Science & Social Studies



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

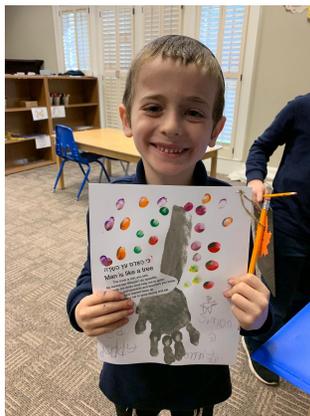
First Grade, Judaic Studies - Morah Mushkie, Morah Kaila and Morah Becky

Parsha

We love Parsha circle during the week. We learn about the weekly parsha in little bits every day. We then colour in pictures of what we learned. Ask us what is happening in all the parsha pictures in our parsha packet - we love to share our knowledge!

Our spectacular first graders don't stop learning! We've continued going through more Nekudos as a class. We learned all about the Shva that's pronounced in the beginning of a word. We also learned that if it's in the middle of the word, the Shva is blended with the letter before it. While we are working on Kriah rules as a class, each student also has time every day to practice Kriyah independently with Morah at their own pace. We are slowly refining all of our script Alef Beis handwriting. We sometimes even write mini sentences on our worksheets! As we keep practicing, not only will our letters get more neat, we will also become faster writers!

Kriah / Kesiva




CMCH Presents
1st Grade Siddur Presentation
 Tuesday, February 9, 2021
 27 Shevat
 Celebration at 9:30am
 CONGREGATION BETH TEFILLAH
 5065 High Point Road
 Parents & Grandparents are invited to join in person.
 All other Family & friends can join via ZOOM
 ZOOM # 672 482 4343
 Password: Pn9MH6

We've been working tremendously hard on our Siddur party. Every Kitah Alef friend spent so much time learning all the songs and the talking parts they have. When it comes to explaining the different brachos to our parents, each group of friends shared their own thoughts about what each Bracha means to them. We are going to share all these special things with our dear parents and grandparents (and those on zoom ;)) very soon! Mazal tov Mazal tov

Siddur Party



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Second & Third Grade, General Studies - Ms. Lombardi & Ms. Mckenzie

Class News

Birthdays this month:

Jonathan Matatov
Dovid Pinson
Yarden Livnat
Chana Wolf
Goldie Silverman

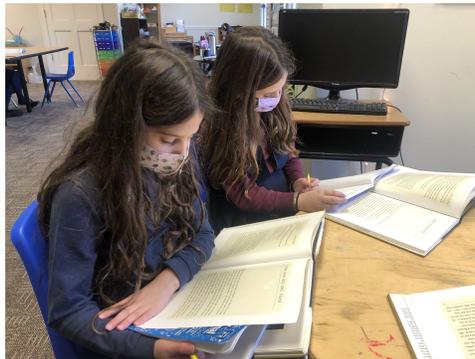
Reminders

- Please make sure your child does 45 minutes of iready every week in both ELA and Math.
- Please make sure to have your child bring a mask and water bottle to school everyday.
- Please try to have your child study at home for their spelling tests that are given at the end of the week.(Thursday or Friday depending on the week.)



This month, we have been learning about our 5 great explorers and the regions and rivers of Georgia. Students have been studying maps and learning all about those who explored our world long ago. We have been continuing to practice spelling and reading comprehension. Second graders are starting the book “Ballpark Mysteries: The Fenway Foul-Up.” Third graders are starting Ronald Dahl’s book “The BFG.” We are continuing to practice IReady at school and for homework. We add in grammar practice, sentence correction and writing into our reading work. We have Writing City lessons every week that teach how to structure 2 paragraph and 5 paragraph essays. We are staying busy!

ELA & Social Studies



For the month of January we have been exploring concepts of multiplication and division. Third grade students have been mastering the multiplication table and using it to help them with division. In second grade we have been learning how to subtract two digit numbers. Students have also learned how to count money and read a analog clock. In science we have learned all about magnets and magnetism as well as the life cycle of plants. Second graders have been taking care of their radish plants and watching them grow!

Math & Science



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Second & Third Grade Girls, Judaic Studies - Morah Freida and Morah Adelman

Class News

Happy birthday Yarden Livnat !

In honor of 22 shevat, the day Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka passed away, we heard beautiful stories about her sensitivity towards other, enjoyed the choir of middle school, decorated a frame with a picture of her !



We learned the first nine brachos of the morning brachos- Birchos Hashachar.

We've come to realize that they are so many things that we take for granted , that are actually Hashem's daily miracles and we have so much to thank Him for! Ask your daughter which bracha spoke the most to her and why?

Biurei Tefila



No more snacks for recess!
What??? That's impossible!
Just Kidding!

This was the way we realized how special Avraham Avinu's reaction was when he found out that there was a hunger in Eretz Cannan and he had to move to Mitzraim.

We are learning Chumash every day, we typically learn one posuk a day. We eagerly look into the posuk and find all the words that we know, and try to figure out what the posuk means. The posuk learned at school is always sent in homework folder to review at home.

Chumash - 2nd Grade



THE **CMCH** ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
 Second & Third Grade Girls , Judaic Studies - Morah Freida & Morah Shterny

January - Shvat

Reminders

Remember to check homework folders daily.

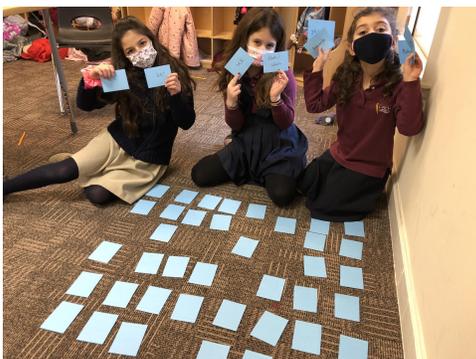
Remember to send water bottles, enough healthy snacks and masks daily.

Please label all your childrens sweaters/jackets.

We finished our unit on kibbud av vaem- the Mitzva of honoring our parents. The booklet was sent home in the homework folder, please take a few minutes to go over with your child to see all we studied. Each group of students made skits about a different Halacha that we learned.

For Tu b'shvat, we learned about the birthday of the trees, and the shivas Haminim- the 7 species of Eretz Yisroel. We learnt a catchy song that helps remember all of them.! We also discussed the similarities between a tree and a human being- כי האדם עץ בשדה the root being the parents and the fruits being their children Each one of us prepared their own family tree on the bulletin board.

Yahadus



Hagar and Yishmael were wandering in the desert with no water left, they davened to Hashem and a Malach came to help them and show them a well. Next Hashem told Avraham to bring Yitzchak up to him as a korbon. After 3 days of travelling, finding the mountain, tying the ropes and preparing... what happened next? The girls were so thrilled by the story, they were gripping their seats eager to hear more. Finally we finished our first parsha of the year and made grand siyum. We also learned the suffix final Chaf and totalled 56 vocab words. The girls loving using quizlet live, our own matching game and kinetic sand to practice our Chumash words. We can't wait to start Parshas Chayei Sarah and learn the suffix final mem.

Chumash - 3rd Grade



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Second & Third Grade Boys, Judaic Studies - Rabbi Freeman & Rabbi Adelman

Class News

Do you know what it means to move quickly to do mitzvos? Well these boys definitely do! Middah we are now learning is Zrizus.

SECOND GRADE:

The boys have been progressing through their Kriah Neimah with flying colors. We learn two pages a day, read them twice in school, and then again at home. In Ksiva, many boys have been zooming through the script notebook. Yaakov and Jonathan finished theirs this month!

Kriah & Ksiva

Rabbi Freeman-3rd

We have learned: Bereishis Perek 21
Grade 3 boys have been learning all about the story of Yishmael growing up and getting sent away, together with learning wordlist 16, the Taf and yud prefix, and much more!

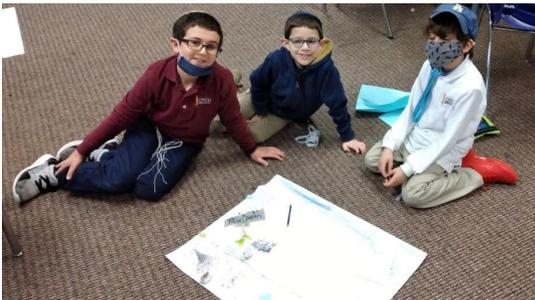
Rabbi Adelman- 2nd

We have covered all 50 words from our wordlist. We do review games and Kahoots. Soon, we will have a test on all fifty and a siyum when we pass.
We are up to passuk ches of Perek Yud Beis. The boys are steadily improving in their ability to identify prefixes, recognize common words, and point out the Shoshon.

Chumash

Tefillah

We added Tisbarech Lanetzach this month. The boys really enjoy singing it. We also began our Shemoneh Esrei program. Each day, we read four of the brachos out loud. That way, we will cover all of them a few times.





THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Fourth & Fifth Grade, General Studies - Ms. Ragland & Ms. Kihlstadius

January - Shvat

Class News

Our newsletter is a great place to see what the students have been learning and get a peek into the classroom. Feel free to reach out to us any time with questions.

Mrs. Ragland

mragland@chayamushka.org

Mrs. Kihlstadius

jkihlstadius@chayamushka.org

In 4th grade, we have finished *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin and have started working on book report projects. The project choices include 3 options:

- Create a book jacket with descriptions of the characters and important quotes from the story.
- Create a diorama of a scene from the novel and write a summary.
- Create puppets and a puppet show to act out a scene with a summary and script.

Students will need to bring materials from home to be creative with their projects but will work on the projects at school.

In 5th grade we are finishing our unit on "Survival." We began reading excerpts from *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. When we finish with the unit, students will work on a book project that relates to the theme.

Literature Studies & Reading

Reminders

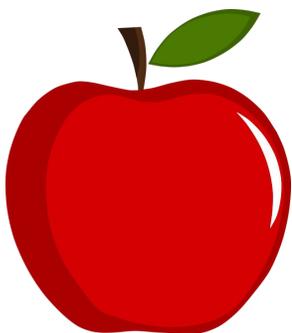
Send a water bottle, healthy snack, and a book for silent reading with your child every day.

Please label your child's sweaters and jackets.



We are beginning a new vocabulary program called, "Vocabulary from Classical Roots." This program encourages students to look at words as members of families. Just as members of our own families have things in common, so do members of word families. The students will learn about "roots" of words, words that descended from Latin and Greek roots, and begin to increase vocabulary based on knowing these root meanings.

Writing / Language





THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Fourth & Fifth Grade, General Studies - Mrs. Ragland & Mrs. Kihlstadius

Class News

Our newsletter is a great place to see what the students have been learning and get a peek into the classroom. Feel free to reach out to us any time with questions.

Mrs. Ragland

mragsland@chayamushka.org

Mrs. Kihlstadius

jkihlstadius@chayamushka.org

Fourth grade students have begun our unit on multi-digit operations with their study of multiplication of multi-digits by one and two digits. They are using what they know about place value to multiply. The students are using area models to represent multiplication and partial products. They have also been learning to use estimation to determine if their answer is reasonable.

Fifth grade students have begun using what they know about equivalent fractions to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators. They are rewriting mixed numbers as improper fractions to complete the problems. As we've been doing throughout this year, we are connecting fractions to real-world situations, such as baking and measuring.

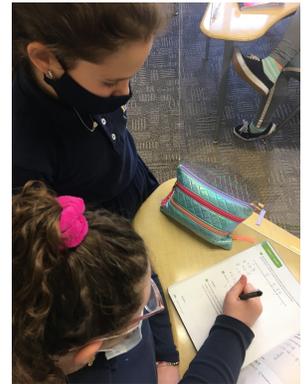
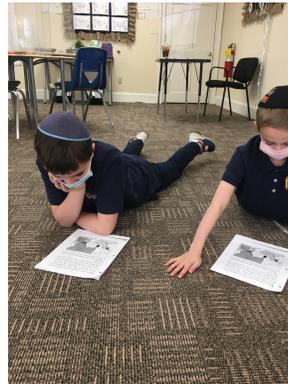
Math

Reminders

*Send a water bottle, healthy snack, and a book for silent reading with your child every day.

*Take a look at your child's homework binder everyday.

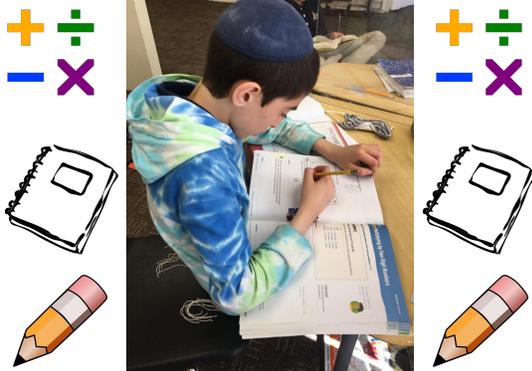
*Emails are sent at the end of each week with details about our classes.



What Makes an Influential Leader? This is the question students reflected on and answered after learning about leaders during the Migrant Farmworkers' Movement and the civil rights movement leader, Martin Luther King Jr. Some of their answers included: positive words, peaceful protests, and being able to remain calm in a difficult situation.

Where and how do Volcanoes occur? Students have begun exploring the answer to this question and more. They are learning about the role of tectonic plates in the process, the differences in Hawaiian volcanoes, and have learned about the devastating eruption of Mt. Saint Helens in March of 1980.

Science/Social Studies





THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Fourth & Fifth Grade Girls, Judaic Studies - Mrs. Adelman & Mrs. Freeman

Class News

Tu Bishvat was a tasty one! We sampled the shiva minim and made fruit kabobs! Then we made stunning tambourines for Parshas Beshalach that we can't wait to use when Moshiach comes!

We just commemorated Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka's yarzeit by hearing several stories about her, listening to the beautiful Middle School girls choir, and making our own fragrant smelling salts.

Yosef sends gifts with his brothers to his father, along with wagons to bring him down to Mitzrayim. We counted all of the seventy people who went down to Mitzrayim and welcomed his family there. Yosef feeds them for the rest of the famine. Ask your daughter what bracha Yaakov gave Pharaoh. We are so proud that we finished our second Parsha this year. We celebrated with a siyum this week. We can't wait to tackle the final parsha of Sefer Bereishis, Parshas Vayechi. We are up to 96 vocab words. Our most recent achievement is translating the Pesukim and decoding the words on our own, needing less and less help from Mrs. Adelman. We also learned quite a few Rashis on our own.

Chumash - 5th



Navi

Yehoshua conquered a lot of the land, but Hashem told him his life is almost over and he still needs to divide it. We tried to divide a pile of candy equally among ourselves just like Yehoshua divided Eretz Yisrael between all the Shevatim. We learnt the three miracles that happened to show that Hashem was deciding who gets what.

We've been living with Yaacov's ingenuity, wisdom and... anxiety! As he prepares to meet his feared brother Eisav. The girls enjoyed presenting lively skits describing Yaacov davening, preparing for war and sending gifts to Eisav. Then, the girls gave me a most gratifying surprise, when I came to class and found them all reviewing the psukim together and out loud. They had spent their free time (recess) reviewing! Some well deserved treats await us on Monday, when we learn the last posuk of a long perek!

Chumash - 4th



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Fourth & Fifth Grade Boys, Judaic Studies - R. Freeman and R. Adelman

January - Shvat

Yahadus

We have learned: Mitzvois 4-7
How can we trust a prophet that he is really sent from Hashem? When are we meant to give up our lives for Hashem and his Mitzvois? All this is answered in Yahadus with Grade 4-5 boys.



Tefillah

We have learned: Berochois 13-16 of Shemoneh Esreh

We have learned: Perek 29 and 30 Bereshit
Skills: Rashi reading. Strong focus on Kriyah rules

How to deal with a swindler? How will Yaakov get paid from Lavan? We are learning about the various types of sheep and how Yaakov makes deals with his dishonest uncle, together with focusing more on reading and grammar skills.

Strengthening Kriah Skills:

A strong skyscraper only pierces the sky because of its strong foundation down below. Grade 4-5 Boys have stepped up to strengthen thier Kriyah (Hebrew reading) skills, together with reviewing and learning the kriyah rules.

Chumash - 4th

In Chumash, we just finished Chapter 43. Yosef is about to have the final showdown to see if the brothers repented. The boys read the pesukim on their own with some assistance. We then do the Rashis together.

In Mishnayos, we are in the second Chapter of Taanis, covering public fast days for rain. We made a project depicting a fast in the streets.

Chumash / Mishnayos - 5th



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Middle School Boys General Studies - Ms. Branham,
Mr. Wes & Ms. Holbrook



The 6th grade boys have learned all about the water cycle and starting building an their own anemometers. We will be using their creation to measure the wind.

The 7th/8th grade spent some looking at the structures we have been talking about with microscopes. One of the projects some of the boys are working on is building their own animal cell.

We are moving on to learn some chemistry. Each student will have a chance to design their own element.

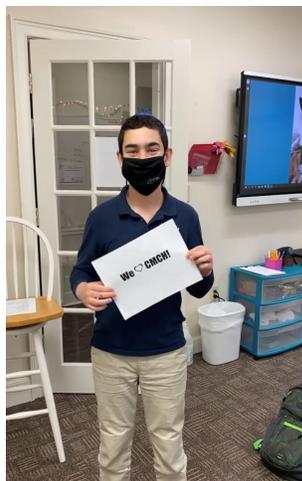
Science

ELA

This month the boys have been honing their research skills in writing descriptive essays about historical civilizations. They have been researching in text and online sources, writing notes, outlining and planning, and writing academic style essays about those civilizations. Next, they are going to apply what they have learned about history to write historical fiction narratives using a three-act narrative structure. I am excited to see the creative and knowledgeable work that they produce!

Civics

We have finished discussing some of the foundational events of the United States and the creation of American democracy. Next we are going to practice creating our own parliamentary democracy using Robert's Rules of Order to write, debate, and pass motions and resolutions.



Math

The boys have wrapped up Unit 3. The 6th graders have been working with ratios and ratio concepts, while the 7th graders have been working with positive and negative numbers, as well as terminating and repeating decimals. The 8th graders have wrapped up learning about systems of equations. The boys also began planning their Math Board Game Project. Stay tuned for photos of these amazing projects!

Social Studies

The 6th grade boys have started working on their North America Project! Check in with your child to make sure they're making progress.



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Middle School Girls General Studies - Ms. Branham, Mr. Wes & Ms. Holbrook

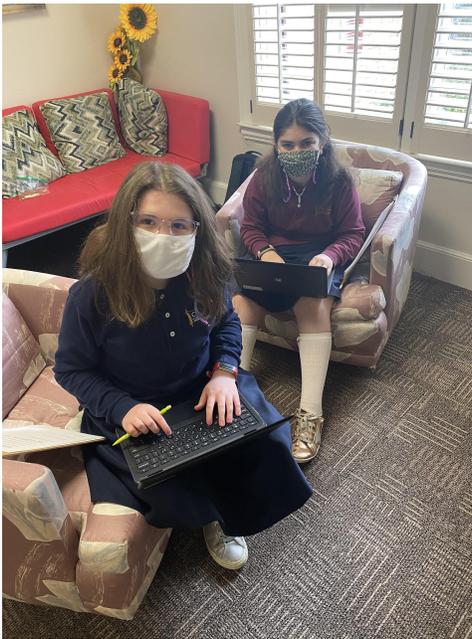
Science

We have been learning about the important components of weather and moving on to Natural Disasters.

The girls are working on building their own anemometers. We will be using their creation to measure the wind.

Social Studies

The girls have started working on their North America Project! Check in with your child to make sure they're making progress.



ELA

Middle School Girls: The girls have been pouring their hearts into our theatre unit, doing the script-writing, story-boarding, and acting out of sample plays. This has only been a practice run, however, and they are greatly looking forward to our combined curriculum unit between ELA and Judaics where we will create a film representing the lives of two famous historical Jewish women: Chana and Devorah. The girls are making use of all of their linguistic, artistic, and organizational skills and talents to make a CMCH film for the ages!

Math

The girls have wrapped up Unit 3. The 6th graders have been working with ratios and ratio concepts, while the 7th grade girls have been working with positive and negative numbers, as well as terminating and repeating decimals. The girls also began planning their Math Board Game Project. Stay tuned for photos of these amazing projects!



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Middle School Boys Judaic Studies - Rabbi Adelman & Rabbi Jacobson

January - Shvat

Acting things out, challenging ourselves to figure things out on our own, and seeing how much we know. These steps are all part of our Gemara learning, we used acting as a way to engage the boys in a detailed breisa we learned, that had multiple cases and very nuanced differences. Each team of 2 boys got a scenario as it is written in the Gemara and worked as a team (using resources like Quizlet) to figure out the case. Then they planned together how they would present their case to the class. The boys seemed to really enjoy this lesson, in the words of Hod Heart, "WOW that was a really fun way to learn".

We are now learning the Sugiya on Daf 34b into 35a where we are exploring the rule of Rav Huna that a watchman who is paying needs to swear that it is not in his property.

Some of the students had the privilege and the opportunity to learn their first Machlokes between Rashi and Tosfos regarding a statement in Gemara that we make the lender swear so he should not be able to disprove the borrower. It was really special to see the students face light up as they figured it out.

Stay tuned for the all new and improved Gemara curriculum booklets created by Rabbi Jacobson that your children will bring home next week. They will help you understand what we are learning in school, and what your child is achieving.

Gemorah 6-7th

In Chumash we are learning Bamidber perek 11. Moshe Rabeinu, after all the challenges he's faced with, was ready to and asked Hashem to take the leadership away from him.

The boys have been working with strong focus and deep concentration. They work to translate the words and understand the posuk on their own, we have been placing a strong emphasis on Rashi skills, specifically on the skill of what style question he is asking.

Chumash

Halacha

For halcha we did a review on the Laws of tefillin and Shema. Students will continue to study these laws independently, each student on their own level, some students using fully translated sheets and some only getting the hebrew.

We have finished more than three daf of Gemara so far, and we are increasing the pace. The boys do translation sheets, read it on their own, and discuss the subject material. We are now involved in the topic permitted use of public property. What is considered littering? What is not?

Our repertoire of key words is now over 75 and increasing by the day.

Over the next month, we will study the next daf, digging into accidents and liability.

Gemorah 7-8th



THE CMCH ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January - Shvat

Middle School Girls Judaic Studies - Ms. Mentz & Mrs. Freeman

BH the ice-skating trip was a wonderful highlight for the middle school girls. And I was thrilled to see so much camaraderie and Ahavas Ysroel!

We recently covered 3 new topics in Parshas Behaaloscha.

We learned how Aharon lights the menorah, who made it and how it was made. We learned how this section is connected to the previous Parsha and how Rashi learns that Hashem showed Moshe a Menora of fire. Then we learned about the special rituals for the inauguration of the Leviym and why they replaced the first borns.

For the topic of Pesach and Pesach Sheini, the girls showed their impressive creativity, presenting videos, slides, news reports, interviews and illustrations, all of them full of information on how Pesach Shenit came to be. Some of the graphics are on display in our classroom.

Chumash

In Novie the middle school girls have begun their women in Tanach project. This is a joint project with the ELA teacher Mr. WES, where they will write and produce a screenplay about a woman from Tanach. The girls are very excited about this. They have completed the research stage and now writing the scripts.

Novie

Middle school girls enjoyed putting on a choir for the girls in the lower grades in honor of 22 Shevat. They sang 2 beautiful songs, and worked together beautifully to prepare for the performances.

Special Programming