



THURSDAY NOTES

December 4, 2008

7 Kislev 5769

Vayetze

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 4:43 p.m.



NEW CLASSROOMS

It seems lately that each week we are able to celebrate something new in our school building. This week the Kindergarten students will be moving into their new classroom space. They are moving from their current rooms into the classrooms at the end of the hallway, which were used by the Early Childhood students at the beginning of the year.

The classrooms have been cleaned, the floors have been waxed and the walls have been painted. There are plenty of windows and natural light and the rooms have been newly decorated by our Kindergarten team. This new space will allow the Kindergarten children to have: their own bathrooms (in the classroom); a separate room for their cubbies; their own kitchen where they will be able to do cooking projects; as well as a separate Kindergarten playground space outside.

We are very excited about this new, larger space for our Kindergarten, and the students are also looking forward to this move. In the last few days they have visited the new classrooms and here are some of their thoughts and comments:

- The new rooms are very cool.
- I like the new playhouse on our playground.
- Now we will have our own bathrooms.
- We will have lots of fun in our new rooms.
- We can plant our own Kindergarten garden in our playground.
- Thumbs up!
- Now we'll have room to play soccer outside.
- I like the new cubbies we get.
- Now we can bake cookies to eat every day. (wishful thinking)

A special thank you to our four Kindergarten teachers, Cecilia, Hinda, Sally and Smadar, as well as Ivy, Mary and Dave for getting the rooms ready so quickly.

In the next few weeks we will also be moving our 2nd and 3rd Grade classes. They will move into the rooms previously used by the Kindergarten students. This will allow these two classes to be next to each other and will facilitate greater opportunities for the students to socialize together and do some joint programming.

Up next will be moving the Library out of the Open Space and into the area which it occupied two years ago. All of these changes are very exciting and continue to improve upon Lerner's physical space. We greatly appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we move forward with the growth and physical improvements in the school.



Calling all Volunteers!

The upcoming Book Fair still needs volunteers to fill shifts, especially during Book Fair hours that coincide with school events this Sunday and next Sunday, **12/7** and **12/14**. If you think you can help, please contact Jennifer Hoffman at bflogirl@nc.rr.com or stop into a quick Book Fair volunteer meeting this Friday (tomorrow!) at 8 am in the multi-purpose room.

Calendar

December

- 7 The Lerner School Open House
- 8-12 Book Fair Week
- 18 Chanukah Program & Pavilion Dedication (Early Childhood & Elementary 6pm)
- 22-31 Winter Break- School Closed

January

- 1-2 Winter Break-School Closed
- 5 School Resumes

Financial Assistance Notice

If you would like to apply for financial assistance for the 2009-10 school year, please contact Elizabeth Sewell in the Business Office at 919-286-5517 or email elizabeth@lernerschool.org. Elizabeth can give you the financial assistance application to prepare your online filing. In order to not miss any deadlines, contact Elizabeth as soon as possible to go over the application process. Your current year tax information (2008) is needed early for the financial assistance application.

PAC CORNER



We are looking for three volunteers on **Thursday, December 18th** for two hours in the afternoon. Come and make *Sufganiot*, Israeli Donuts, for the Chanukah celebration that evening. It's easy and it's fun, no experience necessary.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact **Jodi Beetham** at Jsbeetham@bellsouth.net or **Miriam Cohen Franzen** at mamele@gmail.com.

Chanukah Celebration



On **Thursday, December 18th** the Lerner School will be celebrating Chanukah. The festivities will begin at **6:00 pm** in the parent lounge of the EC Pavilion with a short dedication ceremony of our new addition. Following this ceremony we invite all EC & ED families to participate in Chanukah activities and a sing-a-long. The schedule will be as follows:

6:00 Dedication

6:30 1st Activity

7:00 Sing- a- Long in Multipurpose Room

7:30 2nd Activity

On Friday, **December 5th** you will be receiving a letter which lists all the activities that will be offered. Each family will note their 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choice of activities. Each family will be notified prior to the 18th of the two activities in which they will be participating. All of the activities are family activities: an adult must accompany all children during the program. Please send back your choices by **Wednesday, December 10th**.

Buy from amazon. com & Earn Money for the Lerner School!

Under our Amazon Associates program, the Lerner School will earn money each time you visit our webpage, click on the Amazon Associates link at the bottom, and make a purchase on amazon. com. Amazon.com offers millions of products to choose from, including books, music, DVDs, toys, electronics, kitchen items, apparel, jewelry, and more. The more purchases made by following our link, the higher our percentage of payment will be, up to 8% of your purchase.

It's never too early to think about gifts for Chanukah, not to mention, birthdays and those special gifts that say "I love you". For more information about the Amazon associates program, contact Ivy at develop@lernerschool.org.

Don't forget to donate to the Annual Fund by December 19!

Thank you to the 31% of Lerner School families who have already made a pledge to the 2008-2009 Annual Fund!

If you haven't pledged yet, please mail or drop off your donation envelope by December 19 and you'll be entered in the drawing to win a night on the town, complete with babysitting.

Life can be stressful. What better way to relieve that feeling than enjoying a night out?

Remember, **there are only 2 ½ weeks left** to take advantage of this opportunity.

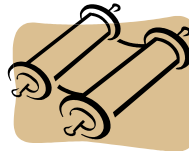
Questions? Call Ivy at 286-5517 or email to develop@lernerschool.org



Parshat Hashavah: Vayetze

"And He Went Out"

Prepared by David H. Aaron



ויצא

At the core of this week's *parashah* is the creation of a people, Israel, as a confederacy of tribes. The twelve sons of Jacob make up the leaders of each tribe:

Reuben, Simon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, all born to Leah

Dan, Naphtali, born to Rachel's surrogate, Bilhah

Gad, Asher, born to Leah's surrogate, Zilpah

Joseph, Benjamin born to Rachel

Each week we will choose our d'var (explanation) from one of the following websites:

Torah Hayim (Reform)

www.urj.org

Divrei Torah (Reconstructionist)

www.jrf.org

Torah Sparks (Conservative)

www.uscj.org

Orthodox Union (Orthodox)

www.ou.org

From the Union of Reform Judaism

www.urj.org

Question of the Week

Kindergarten-1st Grade: What did Jacob use as a pillow while he traveled in the desert?

Answer: A rock.

2nd-5th Grade: Name all of the children of Jacob, in their correct birth order!

Answer: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Dinah, Joseph, Benjamin.