

THURSDAY NOTES



May 21, 2009

27 Iyar 5769

Bamidbar

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 8:02 p.m.



Looking Forward

For those who were not able to join us at the Annual Meeting last Sunday, May 17th, I want to share with you some of our plans for the coming year. As we look forward to next year, there are several areas where we will be focusing our energies and resources:

- 1. New Technology:** We will add SMART Boards and new computers into our classrooms, and will also add additional laptops for the older students to use. Our wireless network will be extended throughout the building.
 - 2. Enhanced Judaic Integration:** We will further enhance our Judaic and General studies integration throughout the curriculum. Specifically, we will be updating our Judaic curriculum, adding new Family Programs into the grade levels, and adding a new student-written Siddur into our T'fillah curriculum.
 - 3. New Hands-on Learning Opportunities:** We will be strengthening our hands-on, authentic learning experiences for our students through greater use of field trips, and in particular, we will take greater advantage of the many Triangle-wide resources we have in the areas of science and technology.
 - 4. Differentiated Learning:** Serving children with a wide range of learning styles and abilities has always been an essential part of our curriculum. This coming year we will further challenge our high-achieving and gifted students in the math curriculum by creating more opportunities for high-level math groupings in several of the grades.
 - 5. Kindergarten Readiness:** We will be further enhancing the pre-Kindergarten readiness skills of our four and five year old Early Childhood students, through the increased use of focused center time in the older EC classes.
 - 6. JCC Construction:** The construction of the JCC should begin in the late summer or early fall. Lerner has several representatives on the JCC Building Committee to insure that the school's needs will be met in the new building. We will have use of the gymnasium, art room, music room, outdoor pool complex, activity rooms, and of course the new fields and playgrounds.
 - 7. Transportation from Raleigh:** As we further increase the number of families who come to Lerner from the greater Raleigh area, we will be having a transportation option from that geographical area for our families.
- Shmooz and Learning:** We will be offering monthly parenting 'Shmooz and Learning' sessions in our Parent Lounge pertaining to such topics as: The Challenges of Raising Jewish Children Today, Making Jewish Memories for Our Children, The Chanukah-Christmas Dilemma, How To Make the Holidays and Shabbat Meaningful For the Family, and other topics.

As you can see we have many new and exciting programs and additions to our curriculum in both the General Studies and Judaic studies areas planned for next year. We look forward to your input and involvement in all that The Lerner School offers your children and family.

CALENDAR

June

9th- Graduation 7:00 p.m.

10th- Last day of School

10th- End-of-Year Programs- EC 8:30 a.m. / ED 1:30 p.m.

15th- First Day of Early Childhood Summer Camp

Shavuot Celebration

The Lerner Shavuot Celebration will be on Thursday May 28th at 8:30 a.m. The students will bring fruit and vegetables and reenact the ritual as it was when the Holy Temple existed. The Early Childhood students will sing a special song and the 5th Graders will read the Ten Commandments. The produce will then be donated to a local shelter. Thank you for your continuous support.





- **Thanks to the small but determined group of parents and students who braved rain showers last Sunday to help beautify the front of the school and the friendship garden. In addition to braving the elements, they battled encroaching weeds and shoveled and spread almost four cubic yards of mulch. Their hard work will have an immediate positive impact on students, parents and visitors on their way into our school. We look forward to building on their efforts and further enhance the area in the future.**

Rob, Anne Marie, Julianne and Alexandra Schneider

Benson Hoffman

Patty Wild

Julie Mell and daughters Hadas and Lilach

Lynne and Rebecca Hurwitz-Koweek

Julie and Sarah Anders

- **PAC would like to give a big thank you to the following folks that helped with Lag B'omer/Field Day:**

Julie Anders

Edie Kahn

Rachel Bearman

Lindsey Volin

Kevin Kahn

Richard Goldberg

Lee Wittle

Field Day was a great success and the students had a lot of fun thanks to all your help!

Head Of School for a Day

At this year's auction one of our 1st Graders, Molly Chmura, won the prize of Head of School for a Day. Molly will take her new position on Wednesday, June 3rd. As part of her "duties" Miss Molly has instituted two new polices for her day: Extended recess for all classes and a free popsicle for everyone at lunch time. Also on this day, Miss Mollie would like to hold a crazy hat contest for Tzedakah. Everyone who wishes to wear a crazy hat must pay 50 cents. The person with the craziest hat, chosen by Miss Mollie, will decide how the monies collected will be allocated.



Parshat Hashavuah: Bamidbar

Prepared by: Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein



במדבר

In this parshat, Moses asks for and records the name of each person. He organizes the census by tribe, and each tribe is organized by family groups and assigned its own flag with a special identifying symbol. Through the process of counting the people, Moses is building an organizational structure and creating a design and purpose to Israelite society, even as it wanders in the Sinai desert.

From: *The Place of Understanding*, Bloch Publishing Company, 1959.

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