

THURSDAY NOTES



May 7, 2009

13 Iyar 5769

Emor

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 7:50 p.m.



Our Community's Vision Is Coming True

Several years ago our school entered into a partnership with the Jewish Federation to form the Partnership for a Jewish Center (PJC). Its vision was to raise enough money to build a new Early Childhood Pavilion for the Lerner School and a Jewish Community Center right next to it, where the entire Jewish community could gather for fitness and JFS and Federation programming.

I am very happy to announce that on Tuesday evening, the Lerner Board voted unanimously to give final approval for construction of the JCC. This vote mirrored that of the Federation's board last week. The construction is slated to begin in the late summer or early fall and should be completed in less than a year. Our students will have use of the new state-of-the-art gymnasium, art room, music room, activity room, and outdoor pool complex. Each day our students will be using the new JCC which will be just steps away from our school. Further, by having these new spaces available to us it will also free up more space for additional classes in our current school building as our school continues to grow.

The PJC has raised over \$7.15 million dollars towards its goal of \$7.5 million. It's not too late to become part of this wonderful dream and make a donation to the PJC or join one of the many committees. This 35,000 square foot facility will be a wonderful addition to our Jewish community, and will greatly benefit our school.

Despite the challenging economy which we are facing around us, **I am also happy to announce that our registration for next year in the Elementary School has already surpassed the number of Elementary students enrolled this year. Also, the registration for the 2009-2010 school year in our EC division is ahead of registration at this time last year.** We are so very excited to see that, although many other private schools in our area as well as most Jewish day school in the country are anticipating a decline in their enrollment for next year, The Lerner School continues to grow.

The Lerner Board's approval of the JCC this week is an historic moment for both our community at-large and for our school. I will keep you informed as the construction begins in a few months. Thank you to all of our parents who have been part of the PJC and made this all possible for our students. Mazel Tov to all of us!!

Tikkun Olam / Poetry Evening: *Repairing the World Verse By Verse*

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Over the past few weeks I have been writing to you about the wonderful Tikkun Olam and poetry projects that have been going on in our elementary classrooms. On May 13 at 7:00 pm you will have an opportunity to see the fruits of many of these wonderful activities at our Tikkun Olam/Poetry Evening. Students' work on *Nutrition and Food Scarcity*, the benefits of *Reducing, Reusing, Recycling and Renewing* our resources and material goods, *Illiteracy* and its local and global effects, and *Water Shortages* will be presented and on display. You'll also have a chance to learn about the class projects that the students voted on as a group to make an impact in our local and global communities.

During this time the students have also been studying poetry. They have written many poems, including poems about the Tikkun Olam issues they have been studying. During the second part of the evening of May 13th you will visit your child's classroom to listen to poetry recitations by the students.

The evening schedule is as follows:

7:00 pm prompt: Multipurpose Room. Students will perform a special song selected especially for this evening.

7:15-7:35: Families will have an opportunity to view slide presentations throughout the school.

7:35: Families will meet in their child's classroom to listen to Poetry Recitations followed by refreshments.

Please have your child to school promptly at 6:50 pm as they will meet their teacher in their classroom as you take a seat in the Multi-purpose room.

Mary

The Lerner School 3rd Annual 5K Race & Walk

Congratulations to all who came out in support of the 3rd Annual Lerner 5K Race and Walk this past Sunday. We had record attendance and more new faces in the crowd! Congrats to the following winners (times are listed as minutes.seconds):

Overall Male- Michael Payne (Cecilia's son) 16.38

2nd Place Male- George Linney 17.36

Overall Female- Kim Certain (2nd year in a row) 20.51

2nd Place Female- Sonya Fisher 25.27

6 and under

girl- Mia Rose 34.48

boy- Dov Bearman 37.56

7-8

girl- Gracie Morris 25.26 (who was really second place female)

boy- Ben Goldberg 41.50

9-10

girl- Madison Springer 35.5

boy- Eli Rose 28.38

11-12

girl- Caroline Wechsler 32.43

boy- Michael Joseph 28.38 (Michael is really 10 but given great showing and no one at 11-12 boys we let him be 11 for the race)



Thanks to our 5K volunteers: Mandy Summerson, Jill Rose, Hinda Lind, Ivy Wingate, Carly Shubitz, Alexandra Schneider, Mira and Micah Pickus, Trudi Abel, Charlie Payne, Rob Schneider, Matt Diamond, and Amy and Lilly Vitt (from Balanced PT)

A BIG thank you to our 5K sponsors! Bull City Running Co for Mizuno running shoes for the winners, Empower Personal Training for massages for the 2nd place winners, and UPS Store on Erwin Rd and Maury Klein for donating all of the printing! The following companies also supported our t-shirts: Balanced Physical Therapy, Quiznos (Airport Rd and Franklin St), FurnitureLab, Smith Anderson Law Firm, and Carolina Cosmetics. Please support them and thank them when you can! They helped make this event possible!

Parshat Hashavuah: Emor

Prepared by: Rachel Adler



אֵמֹר

The name of the *parashah*, *Emor*, means “Say,” and is about God’s “sayings” to Moses that establish an Israelite universe of meaning: regulations about fitness for the priesthood, fitness for sacrifice, sacred times of Sabbath and festivals, and regulations about the sacred place, the *Mishkan*.

At the end of the *parashah*, a disturbing incident is related. In the heat of a fight, a man curses God. This is called blasphemy (Leviticus 24:10–23). Blasphemy is the abuse of language, the building blocks with which God created the universe. He is brought to Moses and kept under guard while Moses consults God about what to do.

From Reform Voices for Torah

www.urj.org

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

May

13th- Elementary Division Tikkun Olam / Poetry Evening:

Repairing the World Verse by Verse 7:00 p.m.

15th- Lerner School Field Day– Elementary Division

17th- The Lerner School Spring Clean-Up 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

17th- Annual Meeting for all parents 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

June

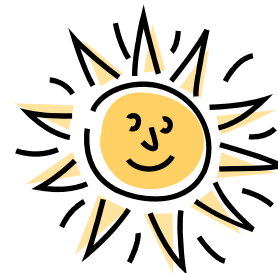
9th- Graduation 7:00 p.m.

10th- Last day of School

10th- End-of-Year Programs– Early Childhood 8:30 a.m. / Elementary Division 1:30 p.m.

15th- First Day of Early Childhood Summer Camp

CALENDAR



THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

The second and third grade students thank all of you who donated books this past week. Together, we collected over **600** books! These books will be given to *Read Seed*, a Durham organization that has partnered with North Carolina Housing Authority Managers to provide books to low-income families. *Read Seed* delivers the books directly to each family, helping “insure that each child starts life with the benefit of book ownership.” Visit <http://readseed.org> to find more information about *Read Seed* and how you can further promote literacy both near and far.

Summer Camp in The Early Childhood Pavilion!!

Don't forget to reserve your child's place in the Early Childhood Program!

We have an exciting new program and brand-new playground!

Carolyn will be happy to answer any questions. Registration forms are available at school.



PAC Corner

Tikkun Olam/Poetry Night will be on Wednesday, May 13th. If you would like to help with setting up or cleaning up the refreshments that night, please contact Miriam Cohen Franzen at mamele@gmail.com.

Lag B'omer will be coming up soon. To celebrate, Lerner will host a Field Day on the morning of Friday, May 15th. If you would like to help with refreshments or coordinating the sporting events, please contact Miriam Cohen Franzen at mamele@gmail.com.

Tick Season

Spring is here and unfortunately with it comes tick season, but that does not keep our students from outdoor recess!

Therefore we recommend that you frequently check your child for ticks at home.

Thanks!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Kindergarten-5th Grade: List all of the Jewish holidays which are talked about in this week's Torah portion.

Answer: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Pesach and Shavuot.