

THURSDAY NOTES



October 15, 2009

27 Tishri 5770

Beresheet

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 6:22 p.m.



Simchat Torah

What a delight it was on Monday morning to celebrate Simchat Torah at our school. We began by doing our normal Shacharit service, and then our 4th and 5th Grade students ably read from the ending verses of the Torah, Deuteronomy, and also the beginning verses from Beresheet. What was most touching to me, however, was when we had all 150 of our Elementary and Early Childhood students seated on the floor of the multi-purpose room and we unrolled the entire Torah scroll around the children. What a sight it was while the teachers and parents stood in a circle around the students and held the Torah while we all sang festive Simchat Torah songs. We talked about the fact that our Torah has been handed down from one generation to the next for over 3,200 years, and that the Torah contains our history as a Jewish people. We also shared some of the stories and values that the Torah teaches us.

Here are some of the Torah trivia that we learned that morning and during the Simchat Torah week:

- There are 304,805 letters in the Torah.
- There are 245 columns in the Torah.
- There are 42 lines per page.
- The Torah is made up of 62 klafs (pages).
- It takes a sopher (scribe) about a year to write a new Torah.
- A Torah is usually written on the skin of a cow, but it can also be written on goat skin, sheep skin or deer skin.
- A sopher usually uses a turkey quill to write a Torah.
- Our school has 2 sifrei Torah.
- The letter used most often in the Torah is a 'Yud'.
- There are 54 parshiot (chapters) to the Torah, and 5 Books.

The Torah is sometimes called: the Bible, a Chumash, a Tanach, the 5 Books of Moses, the Old Testament, or the Holy Scriptures.

Our sages teach us, "Turn the Torah over and over, for it contains everything. Keep your eyes riveted to it. Spend yourself in its study. Never budge from it, for there is not better way of life than that."

In our continuing effort to be 'Green' this will be the final paper copy of Thursday Notes/Quick-Notes and Classroom Newsletters that you will be receiving in your child's backpack each week. Please be sure to check the Parent Portal each week for all future newsletters.



SAVE THE DATE

**The Lerner School's 11th Annual Auction is coming !
Saturday, February 13th
7:00 o'clock p.m.**

JCC Groundbreaking

Sunday October 18th, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
on the Lerner School field – site of the future JCC.



Be a part of living history and join our Jewish community in a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new JCC. Music, refreshments, scrapbooking, and a special talk by David Price, North Carolina Congressman for our district will all be part of this special day. To show our school's support, please plan to wear a white t-shirt, or your Lerner School t-shirt.

For more information, contact the Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation at 286-5517.

PAC Corner:

- Many thanks to Pam Cohen for ensuring that missed picture day ran smoothly!
- Also a huge thank you again to Jodi and Mik Beetham for taking care of the sukkah assembly and disassembly. They were instrumental in recruiting everyone to help set it up.

Calendar

Sunday, October 18th

Newcomers' Brunch, JCC Groundbreaking

Tuesday, October 20th

Parent-Teacher Conferences– No School– EC and ED

Saturday, November 7th

Havdallah Sleepover– 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, November 11th

Teacher Workday– No School

Mon. – Fri., November 16th-20th

Book Fair Week

Do you have a Green Thumb? Do you want to get involved in all the “dirt” at Lerner?

Join the Garden Committee! The beautification of our courtyard and flowerbeds are topics to be discussed.

Contact Elizabeth,
Elizabeth@lernerschool.org,
if you are interested.



Question of the Week Kindergarten– 5th Grade

Question: Adam was the first person in the world– How old did he live to be?

Answer: 130 years old