

THURSDAY NOTES



September 17, 2009

28 Elul 5769

Rosh Hashanah

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 7:02 p.m.

BERESHEET...BEGINNING OF THE YEAR



It is usual at this time of the year for all of us to be thinking about beginnings...the beginning of the new Jewish year...the beginning of the Tar Heel's and Blue Devil's season...the beginning of the Torah cycle...and of course the beginning of the school year. The fall is always an exciting time of the year in our lives as Jews. Some of our most beloved holidays take place in the fall: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

The beginning of the year is a time for each of us to take measure of ourselves and to refocus our energies on the things that are most important in our lives. For some of us this may be our families, or our friends, or our commitment to being good Jews. Our students ask us, "What does it mean to be a good Jew?" One answer, simply, is to help others and become partners with God in making the world a better place by doing Tikun Olam – by repairing the world. It is a time when we can be a role model to our children by renewing our commitment to volunteer activities in the community; to do things that will help others, not because we expect something in return, but because our tradition teaches us the value of doing '*Gemilut Chasadim*' – *Acts of Kindness*. In Hebrew we use the term '*doogmah eesheet*,' to talk about being a role model for others. As parents, and as teachers, this is the best way that we can teach our children - by modeling for them what it means to be a good person and a good Jew.

It is a time of the year when we take measure of ourselves and look at the times that we may have 'missed the mark.' We can teach our children that nobody is perfect, and that it is always the right thing to admit mistakes and say that we are sorry. We can model what it means to be humble, and to look at ourselves and to try and do better. It is the time of the year when we get to start over – to have a 'do over' – and begin anew.

Let us hope that each of us will take measure of who we are, what we stand for, and make this Jewish New Year one in which we can be proud of our actions and teach our children the right path to follow through our own actions.

I wish all of you a Shanah Tovah - May it be a year filled with joy, happiness, and success!

B'Shalom,

Bini

"Seeing the World Through Jewish Eyes: Jewish Parenting in the 21st Century"

Join us for the first session of our parenting workshop:

"Change your Life in 10 Days: Making the Teachings of the High Holidays Relevant" Led by Rabbi Zalman Bluming. Share coffee and lively discussion in the Parent Lounge. **Tuesday, Sept. 22nd 8:15 am– 9:00 am.**

Question of the Week

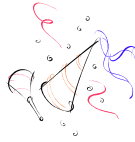
K-1st Grade Question: What is the special shape of the challah that we eat on Rosh Hashanah?

Answer: On Rosh Hashanah most Jews eat a round challah, signifying the 'circle of life'.

2-5 Grade Question: What kind of special cake do many Jews traditionally eat on Rosh Hashanah?

Answer: Many Jews traditionally eat Honey Cake on Rosh Hashanah in order to wish everyone a sweet New Year.

Come Join The PARTY!!!



The planning is underway for this year's Auction Gala Event!!
Please come and help make it the best party ever!
Join us for really good coffee, bagels & fruit in the Lerner Parent Lounge.

**Thursday, Sept 24
8:15 a.m.
after drop-off**

It's a great way to meet new friends and get involved!
Any questions?

Contact Tal Lewin Wittle - tal@wittle.net
or Caitlin Pitt 294-6370 - caitlinpitt1@gmail.com

Mommy, Daddy & Me



Our first Mommy, Daddy & Me Shabbat! For children ages 2-4 and their caregivers. Friday, Sept. 25th at 10:00 am in the Parent Lounge. Come welcome Shabbat with songs, games and movement led by our talented and loving staff. Do you have a friend who might be interested in our school, or who is looking for something to do with their young child on a Friday morning? Join us and bring a friend. RSVP to the school required for this event.



Fly on the Wall

Welcome families! It is wonderful having the students moving about the building again. For those of you who are new to Lerner, *Fly on the Wall* is the place where I give you a glimpse into things happening around our school.

If you had been walking around our school the last few weeks you might have seen...

- 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students making shofars together in the multipurpose room
- EC children making round challahs
- 1st grade students making community puzzles as they learned about each other
- Kindergarten children cooperating as they tried to solve problems with their hands and then trying to decide which tools would help get the job done faster.
- 2nd grade students working on rhythm patterns in music with Laurie
- 3rd grade students playing baseball math
- 4th and 5th grade students making mandalas
- Kindergarten students working with line, shapes and patterns with Laura in art
- EC children throwing bread crumbs in the river for tashlich
- Kindergarten children making honey cake
- 1st grade students learning about the five books of the Torah
- The whole school singing Happy Birthday to the World!

-Mary

CALENDAR

Friday, September 18th

Erev Rosh Hashanah– School Closed

Monday, September 28th

Yom Kippur– School Closed

Wednesday, September 30th

Picture Day

Friday, October 2nd

ED-Noon Dismissal-Erev Sukkot

Friday, October 2nd

EC– NAEYC Teacher Conference– No School (EC Only)

A Big Thank You ...

To Gus, Sasha, & Eli Fraser; Michele & Itai Rivkin Fish; Sean, Gabby & Jerrod Meltzer; Caryn, Greg & Quihu Louie; Micheal & Patty James; Stephanie, Dan & Julie Wechsler; Julie, Hadas & Lilach Hacoheh; Shashi Rao; David Morris; Dan Kaplan; Jeremy Browner; Elizabeth & Fred Takla and Marc Joseph **for making the Lerner School Fall Clean-Up a fabulous success!**

