

Hebrew Day Institute

לכבוד שבת

L'chvod Shabbat



יד ביד
...where education,
tradition, and caring
go hand in hand.

June 16, 2006

Message from Head of School Madeline Rothbard

We made it – and what a grand finish to a great year. Graduation was wonderful as have been all the year end activities. I am thrilled to say we are ending the year on a high and we are very excited about it. There have been many good changes and transitions this year.

Teachers are being re-energized with professional development, new curriculum and new teaching techniques. They tell me they are working harder than ever and I say “great, you are being good role models.” This year we began to map the curriculum and develop a scope and sequence which is being placed on the website.

For next year, we are instituting the Tal Am Hebrew Immersion language program in grades 1 and 2. The program spirals and each year we will add another grade. We will also be using the Everyday Math program, a phenomenal exciting program, in all grades and teachers will be trained during pre-planning on using the program.

Over the summer we will look at all the curriculum, find the points of integration and begin spiraling it to achieve maximum learning for all students. We will take a hard look at our He-

brew, Judaic Studies and T’filah program and work to update and spiral it. This year we began to integrate Media and Technology into the curriculum. Next year we will work to make it an integral part of the curriculum. Students need to become savvy users of the technology available to them as they will need the skills to be successful in middle school, high school and college. We will also be looking into changing the report cards

Communication has been a major goal of mine this year. The new school website has been designed by an award winning website designer (my son) and continues to be populated with school news, pictures, curriculum and forms.

Next year, even more information will be available on the site – such as lunch menus, re-enrollment, etc. The website has become one of our prime communication tools to the community. Before a new parent steps foot in the building they know about our school from visiting our site. I urge you all to visit the site often. All the information you need is there for projects and school news. I will continue with my weekly

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Keep in Mind

**Kindergarten Moving
Up Ceremony
Tuesday, June 20
1:30 pm**

**Last Day of School
Wednesday, June 21
NOON Dismissal**

Summer Reading

The Summer Reading materials are now listed on the HDI website. From the home page just click on the link for Summer Reading. You will see an overview of the program. If you scroll to the bottom of the overview page you’ll find a link for each grade. Click on that link and you’ll see the required reading and project assignments for the grade your child will be in next fall. Every student has to read his or her grade’s required book; at least 1 book with Jewish content; and other books as listed. Assignments are due the first week of school in August.

*Message from Head of School
(Continued from page 1)*

emails and the L'chvod will continue. I also hope to begin informal grade level meetings with parents where we can talk and brainstorm ways to improve the educational program and school spirit.

Dina Korman has done an outstanding job with Admissions and we have many new families for next year. I'm sure we'll all make them feel welcome when we meet them in the fall.

We embarked on a strategic planning process which will become our blue print for work over the next 3 years. The areas include curriculum, fund-raising, facilities, communications, recruitment and retention, and governance. Many teachers and parents were involved in the process. The final document will be prepared over the summer and work will begin in the fall.

Decorum in the school is good. Children are respectful and have learned how to take care of their home.

In addition to the wonderful 6th grade trip that occurred in early June, this year the 5th grade went on the TEVA program – an amazing environmental Judaism adventure – all the students came back excited about making



Hebrew and Judaic Studies

The kindergarten children have grown so beautifully. We have completed our א-ז letters with the letter Zayin, and the Zebra puppet, as well as all the vowels. We have been singing and dancing, getting ready for our end of the year program. For Yom Ha'av (Father's Day) we learned a poem and created a card and a present.

This was a wonderful kindergarten experience for all of us. It was a pleasure to watch the children blossom,

learn and form beautiful friendships.

I am sending home some fun review material for the children to enjoy over the summer.

See you at the "End of the Year Presentation". That day is also the last day for the Kindergartners. Have a great summer.

General Studies

The kindergartners have finished the Kk, Qq, Xx, Yy and Zz sounds in phonics. They have met their

changes at home and school to take care of our environment. Many informal education opportunities were held this year where students were able to take field trips to actually see and experience what they have been learning in class.

Best of all are the faculty and students and the neshamah that is present in our school. During the play, *Wonderland*, I was sitting on the side with the kids and just kvelled as they congratulated each other after coming off stage. Our students are truly *menschen* and this lesson is the best gift we can give to them.

So my hope for next year is to continue all the good work started this year and soar to new heights. I am thrilled to be a part of the excitement here at Hebrew Day Institute. I appreciate all of the Board, teacher, PTO, and parent support that I have received this year and will continue to count on it in the future. Together the possibilities for success and achievement are – as we read in *Bereshit* – as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Have a wonderful, safe and happy summer!

Maddy

Kindergarten News

Hebrew and Judaic Studies by Dina Korman
General Studies by Ellen Joseph

puppet friends Kicky Kangaroo, Quacky Quacker, X-ray X, and Zaney Zebra. For their art projects, they have made kangaroo puppets, made faces of kings and queens, made X-ray X stick puppets, yarn pictures and zoo art.

In reading, the children have completed What Did Kim Catch?, The Fox in the Box, What Are You?, Animals, and A Zoo. They also illustrated and shared their class big book called Spring, which was brought home to be shared with fam-

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Kindergarten News
(Continued from page 2)
ily members.

We completed a unit on animals as part of an integrated study while doing our Torah Fair project on Noah's Ark. The class learned to read many animal words, categorized different kinds of animals, and learned about male and female animals. The children also learned animal baby names and learned how to read them. We wrote sentences about animals and drew pictures of many animals.

The class also discussed and learned about the American Holidays of Memorial Day, Flag Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day. We read books about each holiday and made cards and gifts for parents.

We are now starting a new unit on the four seasons. We will review what we learned throughout the year about each season, learn to read and

spell seasonal and weather words and discuss and write what we enjoyed most about each season. The children will also make a book called Kindergarten Friends. In this book, each child will write and illustrate what he or she liked best about their kindergarten experience. They also illustrated and wrote My Book of Favorites, which describes each child's favorite things.

In Math, the children have completed a unit on non-standard measurement. They measured many things in our classroom with blocks,ifix cubes, paper clips and pop-together beads. We are now working on a unit on money and are learning to differentiate between coins as well as learning to count with combinations of coins. The children have been practicing buying things and are learning to count out the correct amount of coins to make their purchases.

We have been very busy rehearsing and learning our songs for our end-of-the year play. As you know, we will perform on Tuesday, June 20 at 1:30 P.M. The children are excited and are looking forward to singing and dancing for the school as well as for their families.

I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to work with and teach your children this year. It has been so exciting and rewarding for me to watch them learn, grow and develop!! Continue to have your children read to you and work with them on reviewing their reading bank words over the vacation. Also look at the HDI website to get the reading list for your child to work on over the summer. I wish you all lots of luck, and hope that you have a happy and healthy summer vacation. I feel this was a fun-filled and successful year for the children as well as for me!! Thanks for your cooperation throughout the year!!



1st Grade Highlights

By Helene Stolzberg

On Wednesday, May 31st, the first grade class went on a trip to the Patuxent Wildlife Center. We took a trip on the tram around the wildlife refuge. Thank you to Samantha Noland's mom, Shaina Rudick's mom, and Tasha Mervis' mom for driving. We finished our units on "Birds" and on "Insects" and made books for each as we learned. The units were also embellished with stories and art projects.

The children made "watercolored butterflies" which were on display on the bulletin board outside our room. For "Flag Day" we learned about the American flag and made flags. Creative writing about "Why I Love My Dad" is also hanging up on the bulletin board opposite our room. It has been a great pleasure teaching your children this year. Please have a safe and wonderful summer vacation.



2nd & 3rd Grade Highlights

By Brenda Chapman

I cannot believe that another school year has come to an end. I have thoroughly enjoyed this year with both classes. It has been a pleasure seeing the children develop and grow both physically and academically. We have now completed all of the requirements for each grade. A big thank you to all

parents for their support.

Our last field trip is on Friday June 16th to the National Building Museum. At this time I would like to wish all of you a happy and safe summer vacation.



4th & 5th Grade Highlights

By Naomi Kaplan

Your students have been a treat to teach this year. They have been successful in their studies in reading, language mechanics and language expression. It's hard to believe that a year

could fly by so quickly. Thank you all for your cooperation and mostly for allowing me to teach your children. Have a great summer!!



6th Grade Highlights

By Debbie Gilbert

Dear Parents and Students of the 6th Grade,

This has been such a wonderful year with you all. The time we spent together has been some of the most precious time I have ever spent with a group of students.

Each one of the 6th Graders has grown in different ways, but always for the best. Some of the 6th Graders have learned patience, and I know that I have learned more patience! Some have learned compassion; others have learned respect. All of the 6th Graders have realized that people are different and everyone should be respected for their differences. Each individual has something to contribute to the whole. We are to be appreciated for our strengths and guided through our weaknesses. We are to be understanding of what makes each of us the individuals we are. And, we are to be kind, regardless of what we like or dislike about someone else.

Though we have covered various math skills, reading skills, writing skills, grammar skills and chapters in history, all of which we managed to pass the curriculum requirements, I believe some of the major growth the 6th Graders had was in who they are as people and how they see themselves... in their classes, in their families, in their communities and in their world.

As a parent myself, I can only reflect on this past year with pride. I have seen the 6th Graders change in the most beautiful ways. They have grown up and they are ready for their upcoming year, be it in Israel or in The Yeshiva, in The Academy or at JDS. Wherever they will go, I am confident that their time here at HDI has helped them mold into the very best people they can be. Where there will be challenges, they will rise to the occasion as they have proven. Where there is strife, they will overcome with understanding. And, where there is failure, they will absolutely succeed.

Having been in education for 16 years, I believe that every good teacher does more than teach; a good teacher also learns. I, too, have learned a lot from teaching the 6th Graders. I have learned that even in the worst situations, you can find the best in people. Our 6th Graders could have walked away from their time at HDI, having seen only the challenges they faced and not the ways we have overcome these challenges. Instead, they reached deep within themselves and tapped into beauty to make a positive difference in their school and in themselves. Rarely do students find such beauty within themselves accessible. But, these 6th Graders did.

I watched a frenzied Maayann play Alice on stage in "Wonderland" as she looked back at the Kindergarten-

ers and 1st graders after they finished their scene and reassured them that they were wonderful! Everyday, Adina reminded me that I should be careful when I used my arm because I had surgery and she was worried I would be hurting myself. I watched Zevi give out candy to everyone in class whenever anyone in class forgot their own snacks. Jacob and Seth were partners in crime, but they also helped others laugh when moods grew too serious. Kyra always held the door for the rest of the class because she didn't want it to slam on anyone else and possibly injure someone.

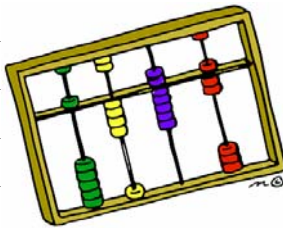
How could a teacher not be proud of such consideration? How could a parent not be proud of such thoughtfulness? These same 6th Graders went to New York together and tolerated everyone else's likes and dislikes; the boys actually went shopping and the girls actually made sure they were ready on time, even beating the boys more often than I would have thought! This is a beautiful group of 6th Graders and I will sorely miss each and every one of them.

I pray that they continue to grow into the special people they truly can be and I hope they make the same difference in this world as they have in my life, in the lives of those at HDI, and in each other's lives. Good luck next year!!!

End of Year Reminders

Please send all students to school on Tuesday, June 20 with a **large plastic garbage bag**. Students will be cleaning out their lockers. We can not leave anything in the lockers or desks over the summer.

Please **look around your house** and bring back any library or classroom school **books** that you might have at home. You can leave them with teachers or in the office. Thanks you!!



Math Message

By Robin A. Lempert

June has been the month for fractions in first through fifth grade math classes. It has been very interesting to see the students' understanding of fractions grow as each grade has explored the meaning of fractions as well as how to use them. Students have learned about fractions through stories, games and art activities.

First Graders have been acting out fraction stories and creating fraction counting books. They have also been busy working on building addition and subtraction fact power. They are developing a wonderful understanding of numbers.

Second Graders have used special cards and stories to learn about equivalent fractions. They also explored strategies for addition and subtraction with multi-digit numbers and have started working on multiplication facts.

Third Graders have worked on equivalent fractions with the help of card games and cutting and folding circles. They've also worked with fraction sticks. They have also been practicing multiplying with multi-digit numbers and are really enjoying the lattice method of multiplica-

tion. Today we multiplied two 6-digit numbers and our answer was a 10-digit number! The students have also been working with attribute games.

Fourth Graders have worked hard on many methods for multiplying multi-digit numbers and have been taking a deeper look into fractions and how to create equivalent fractions through card games. They are also working with common denominators. They are now working on a method of "low stress long division" which makes division very easy.

Fifth Graders enjoyed a "Fractions Lunch" this week where we shared pizza and talked about the fractions the slices created. We also looked at ways we could share 7 brownies with 10 people, making sure each person got an equal portion. Then we turned to M&Ms to see what fraction each color M&M was in the bags we opened. All the information on M&Ms was then put into the computer as we created pie charts to represent our findings. The students have also been working very hard on finding common denominators, adding and subtracting simple fractions and adding and subtracting mixed number fractions.

It has been a pleasure teaching all

math to such a wonderful group of students this year. Their enthusiasm is contagious and just keeps growing. Many days at recess the math room was full of students working at their own pace on a variety of problems. They were always disappointed if I couldn't meet them for math at recess!

In class the students have tackled some very difficult problems and have learned new ways to approach problem solving. They have always been willing to try new things, share their own ways of doing things and learn from each other.

I am happy that we've been able to bring Everyday Math to life at HDI this year. Over the summer I will continue to fine-tune the program for all grades and will be taking advantage of several professional development opportunities. We are also arranging for all general studies teachers to receive training in Everyday Math this before school starts in August.

By the end of next week there will be math activities and links posted on our website for you and your children to explore this summer to keep their skills sharp.

Have a wonderful summer vacation!



Science Explorations

By Sharon Turpie

Well we've come to the end of an exciting year. I hope you continue to experiment, examine and explore over the summer.

Kindergarten

In kindergarten we looked back at how we've grown by making growth charts and sand babies.

First Grade

In first grade we finished our study of zoology with a trip to the zoo to learn about mammals. We also studied birds, nests and eggs, beaks and bill, feet and feathers.



Second Grade

In the second grade we learned about the crystals. We also continued our study of geologic time. We enjoyed a visit from Mr. Mohr, a guest speaker who taught us a lot about minerals. It was fun panning for garnets and other minerals for our own collections.



Third Grade



In third grade we made kites to launch weather instruments and played one game to learn about the water cycle and another to review what we've learned this year. Then we started learning about space and the scale

of the known universe and our own solar system.

Fourth Grade

The fourth grade learned about water pollution, and detecting impurities. We learned how water moves through out environment. The students modeled an oil spill and then tried to clean it up. We also discussed how the environment is a complex system. We played a game to learn how the molecules in the air interact with pollutants in the air to cause acid rain.



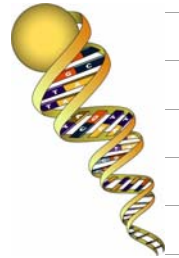
Fifth Grade

The fifth grade has done a lot of experiments to learn about different types of chemical reactions, including: synthesis, decomposition, single and double-replacement, endo and exothermic and acid-base reactions. They learned to write and balance chemical equations.



Sixth Grade

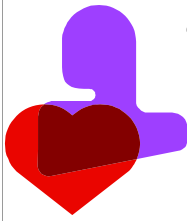
The sixth grade continued our study of comparative anatomy by conducting a series of dissections to learn about the body structures of different phyla. The students examined increasingly more advanced animals including; a fish, an amphibian, a bird's wing and an owl pellets and a fetal pig.



A+ Giant A-Plus Bonus Bucks

Giant Bonus Bucks helps HDI earn money. We earned \$500 from it this year. Laurie Goldman (Elan Rubin's mom) has agreed to coordinate the program again for next year. To help the process fun smoothly, she is collecting everyone's Giant Bonus Card number before school starts in August. She'll need the last name that is used on the card (the first three letters) and then the 12 digit number on the back of the card. There are 11 digits, then a space, then the 12th digit.

Please email this information to Laurie Goldman before you leave for summer vacation so she can keep track and make things go smoothly in the fall. You can email Laurie at: Goldman@Hebrew-Home.org. If two people in your family have different last names and numbers, she'll need the information for both people. Teachers can also send in their Giant numbers.



מצוה Mitzvah

As your children outgrow their clothes, if you have any clothes that are in good condition Dr. Knight will take them to El Salvador for the children there. He can use good clothes, and good toys with all working parts intact. (He does not need shoes.) Dr. Knight visited our school earlier this year to thank us for our collection of Spanish books and art supplies for children in El Salvador.

He met with our students and showed them pictures of the children who received our contributions. The clothing and toys he collects now will also go to children in the "My Father's Place" orphanage. If you have anything to contribute please contact Laurie Goldman at: Goldman@Hebrew-Home.org.



Birthday Buddies

The spring Birthday Buddies celebration was held in the Media Center on Tuesday, June 13. Students with birthdays between January and June whose parents signed up for the program were invited to the library to choose the books that would be dedicated in their name. Students also had a chance to make their own bookmarks and enjoy a snack. The following books were dedicated at the June party:

Rachel Rush: Princess Academy by Shannon Hale
Ethan Lipton: Sports Heroes and Legends: Tony Hawk by Edgar Greene

Elan Rubin: Sports Heroes and Legends: Mickey Mantle by John Marlin
Samantha Noland: Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Sucie Stevenson
Jason Salzberg: Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky
Frankie Salzberg: Trading Places with Tank Talbott by Dori Hillestad Butler
Aaron Rubinstein: Dogs Don't Tell Jokes by Louis Sachar
Shaina Rudick: The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog! words and pictures by Mo Willems
Rina Torchinsky: A Froggy Fable

by John Lechner
Sivan Shilo: Junie B. First Grader: Shipwrecked by Barbara Park, illustrated by Denise Brunkus
Martin Lempert: Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, illustrated by Greg Call
Maayann Colton: Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince by J. K. Rowling
Adina Felber: Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J. K. Rowling



The following contributions were made to HDI's Tribute Fund this month:

By Naomi and Harvey Kaplan
In honor of fifth graders Naomi Heiligman, Joshua Drucker, and Frankie Salzberg whose short stories will be published in the Fifth Grade Anthology of Short Stories.

By Naomi and Harvey Kaplan
In honor of the Rothbard children and their accomplishments. Mazel Tov.

By the Lempert Family
In honor of the Rothbard family wedding and graduations, and Mrs. Rothbard's birthday.

Did You Know??? You can **Honor** the accomplishment of a family member, friend or co-worker; **Celebrate** a special event in the life of someone special to you, **Commemorate** the life of a loved one with a contribution to **Hebrew Day Institute's Tribute Fund**. With a donation of \$18, HDI will send a personalized card (omitting gift amount) acknowledging your gift to the individual or family you designate. This is an easy way for you to honor someone celebrating a special event or accomplishment, or remember someone you love.



Congratulations to the 6th Grade Class of 2006

*Your friends at HDI wish you the best in all that you do.
Come visit us often.*

Thank You

The teachers and staff would like to thank all HDI parents for their cooperation and partnership this year and for allowing us to teach your children. It has been a wonderful year for growing and learning by students and by teachers.

Please have a safe and wonderful summer. We are looking forward to seeing you in August.

Please check the HDI website frequently this summer. We will be posting important information for next year including the list of school supplies. You will find information about back-to-school and anything else you'll need to know to get next year off to a great start. You will also find the Summer Reading materials on the website and links to websites with math games and activities.

BOARD NEWS

Thank you to the outgoing HDI Board Members for your dedicated board service:

Alyssa Drucker, Noah Silverman, Mark Solomon

Welcome to New Board Members:

Walter Gottlieb, Jodi Rudick, Louis Krupnick, Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld

Congratulations to 2006-2007 HDI Officers:

President: Marc Hall

Treasurer: Laura Torchinsky

Secretary: Joe Gamson

Thank you to continuing Board Members:

Jeff Gruber, Julie Boynton, Shelley Kline, Ruth Newhouse, Noya Shilo.



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