Calendar Corner פינת לוח הזמנים December 12, 2014
Candle Lighting 5:11 p.m.

כ' כסלו, תשע"ה פרשת וישב



Tues. 12/16

1st night of Chanukah

Sun. 12/21

Kindergarten Chanukah Play 10:00 a.m. in Gym 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> grade Boys' Choir Performance at Kroger 4:00 p.m.

Mon. 12/22

**2G Chumash Presentation** 

2:00 p.m. in Gym

Tues. 12/23

2B Siyum

2:00 p.m. in Beis Midrash

Wed. 12/24-Fri. 1/4/2015

**NO SCHOOL-Winter Recess** 

Mon. 1/5/2015

School resumes-regular times

Below: TDSA joined the nationwide "Hour of Code" to teach students the logic of computer programming. Grandparent/Tech consultant Mr. Allen Sher and Mrs. Burns worked with students on coding activities.





#### The 2014 FRIENDS OF TDSA ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN has begun!

The Friends of TDSA Annual Campaign is off to a great start! Our theme this year is Rededication to Jewish Education and we hope that everyone will join us in making your children's education your number one *tzedakah* priority. This year we are keeping it short and sweet with a 14 day online campaign. Each day, you will receive an email filled with compelling reasons to give or make a pledge to TDSA along with prizes, raffles, games, photos and fun! We kicked off the campaign on Wednesday, treating carpool drivers to orange juice in the morning and sparkling water in the afternoon. So far, we have given away campaign T-shirts, had a matching donor and raffled off two tickets to the Hawks game on Jewish Heritage Night. We are looking for 100% participation from our families and faculty. We believe in the value of Torah education and we must lead the way in supporting our own institution. Make sure you don't miss a day. We have more excitement to come! Please contact Marcy Kalnitz (mkalnitz@torahday.org) with questions, or if you are interested in becoming a member of the "Crown of *Torah*" Society. Society membership donation levels begin at \$1200 and include 2 tickets to our Annual Dinner of Honor.

The Friends of TDSA Annual Giving Campaign is the school's largest fund-raiser of the year, and a critical part of our budget! Contributions impact EVERY student and EVERY area of the school, including academics, athletics, arts, instructional materials, programs, faculty salaries, professional development, facility

maintenance and security and lower tuition levels.

#### QUICK:

- ✓ 14 day ONLINE campaign December 10 – 23
- ✓ 14 days to get 100% parent & faculty participation
- √ 14 days to reach our goal of \$50,000

# FUN:

- ✓ 14 days to give 14 compelling reasons why you should give your tzedakah to TDSA
- ✓ 14 days of emails filled with prizes, raffles, games, matches & more!
- ✓ 2 weeks of surprise treats in carpool and walkpool!
- ✓ 14 days of school spirit

### EASY:

- ✓ Open your emails and click the DONATE button
- ✓ Give now and still receive a 2014 tax credit
- ✓ Pledge now and pay in installments
- ✓ Feel great about Rededication to Jewish Education

Thank you for your generous support in helping make a difference in the lives of our children!

This week's Spotlight is sponsored by

- Rabbi Binyomin and Mrs. Dena Friedman in honor of our eighth grade boys, who made a beautiful Kiddush Hashem on their Shabbaton at Congregation Ariel;
  - Judaica Corner and the Afrah family in honor of the TDSA faculty and students and the pre-Chanukah sale.

    Each week's Spotlight may be sponsored with a donation of \$18 to TDSA PTA.

Please email Mrs. Levin at dlevin@torahday.org by Wednesday to arrange sponsorship.

### Divrei Torah by Eighth Graders for Parshas Vayeshev

By Ariel Kaminetzky

In this week's parsha we see that Yaakov loved Yosef more than any of his other sons. (37:3) "וְיִשְׂרָאֵל אָהָב אָּת יוֹסֵף מָבֶּל בְּנָיִי "Why? Rashi gives many answers to this question. First, how similar Yaakov and Yosef looked. Rashi quotes Onkelus writing that Yosef was a wise son because Yaakov gave over to him everything he had learned from Shem and Eber. Another answer that Rashi gives is that Yosef was born in Yaakov's old age so he was very dear to him. Another question can be asked: Weren't all of his sons born to him in his old age? Yissachar and Zevulun were only around two years older than he was! The Ramban answers this question by saying that it was a minhag of the Zekanim-elders of that time to take one of their sons who would help attend to them. This was called a ben zekunav. This is why Yosef was with Yaakov while his brothers were attending to the flock in the pastures.

We can take a lesson from *Yaakov* about love. Love is not just a feeling; there are reasons why we feel love towards someone. As said before, one way *Yaakov* loved *Yosef* was by giving over the *Torah* that he learned. By giving someone something it develops a deep relationship between you and the other person.

By Harry Steele



In parshas Vayeshev, Rashi says that Yosef said bad things about his brothers to Yaakov. First, he told his father that the brothers ate aver min hachai which means that they would eat from a living animal. Next, Yosef says that the brothers would make fun of the sons of Bilha and Zilpa. Finally, he says that they engaged in inappropriate behavior. Rashi describes a punishment for each thing that Yosef said about his brothers. For saying that the brothers ate from a live animal, before the brothers threw Yosef in the pit, they shechted a goat properly and ate it. For saying that the brothers made fun of the sons of the maidservants, Yosef was sold as a slave. For the inappropriate behavior, Yosef was tempted with inappropriate behavior. We learn from here that middah k'neged middah- Hashem punishes exactly in the way as the thing you did wrong.

#### כל הכבוד Kol Hakovod

Putting the concept of *hakoras hatov* into action, our eighth grade students joined the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta's annual Phone-a-thon last Sunday. TDSA is a constituent beneficiary of Federation support, with a significant annual allocation, as are other day schools locally, and many agencies and programs that support Atlanta's Jewish community, in addition to international aid for Jewish communities. This year, TDSA once again earned Federation's Golden Phone award for having the largest group of phone volunteers. Accompanied by Rabbi Einzig, Mrs. Stroll, Mrs. Kalnitz, Mrs. Rabinowitz, and Mrs. Morris, our students courteously and effectively made calls to inform others of Federations goals and projects and to solicit financial support. We are very proud of how well our students represented all of our TDSA family.











### פעילויות בכתות Class Acts

#### **Elementary Science- Dr. Feingold**

The second graders learned all about worms - segmented worms, flatworms and round worms- this week. As part of the lesson, they watched a video on the giant earthworm of Australia which is six feet long. To end the lesson, they observed earthworms up close and personal.

# Fourth grade boys and girls- Mrs. Krohn's General Studies



Fourth grade classes were given a creative challenge. In teams of three, the students were to build the tallest structure possible using only spaghetti and mini-marshmallows. This exercise taught them to work cooperatively, think creatively, apply scientific concepts in real life, and solve problems without being told what to do. Previous lessons over the last two years have been laying the groundwork for these skills. This year, the fourth graders are being given more independent exercises to tackle with no or minimal teacher input.

#### **Club Fun**

Look at the beautiful and creative puzzle pieces we designed in "Club Fun!" We learned that we are each different and unique, but can work as a group and fit together like a puzzle!



### Middle School - Mrs. Gleicher's Social Studies

Was James Oglethorpe a good leader? To help form their opinions, the students are gathering information from various sources. So far, they have read a newspaper account, looked at a painting, and seen a video produced by Atlanta's own Dr. Perry Brickman. Dr. Brickman's video describes how Oglethorpe went against the colonial Trustees' wishes to allow 40 Sephardi Jews into the infant colony. One of those passengers, Dr. Samuel Nunez, single-handedly saved the colony from an outbreak of yellow fever. Was Oglethorpe a good leader--what do you think?

Seventh graders are pondering the question, "Was it the place or the people?" They are learning about the beginning of civilization in Mesopotamia. Along with sending an email describing the physical features, and creating advertisements for products that could have been sold in a Sumerian shopping mall, the students have also learned "the Mesopotamian rap" to help them remember the important facts.

The sixth grade classes have begun a review unit in map skills. They are also practicing their note taking skills.

#### With our Condolences

To Mr. Matthew Needleman and family on the passing of his father, Howard Needleman. *Shiva* will be observed in Atlanta at their home on Motzei Shabbos, 7:00- 10:00 p.m.; Sunday and Monday, *Shacharis* until 11:00am, 2:00pm until *Mincha/Maariv*, and 6:00pm - 8:30pm. Those wishing to participate in *shiva* meals should contact Betsy Cenker: 678-468-6971.

#### May you be comforted among those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem

# Mazel tov מזל טוב:

Rabbi Michoel and Mrs. Chashy Alterman and family on the bar mitzvah of their son, Shraga.

#### With our alumni

• Mr. Psachya and Mrs. Livana (Habif) Fetterman in Israel on the birth and naming of Zahava Bracha, and to grandparents Mr. Lenny and Dr. Sharon Habif.

Please let us know about your *simchos*; our TDSA family likes to share in your *nachas* with you! A great way to celebrate your *simcha* is by sponsoring a TDSA Day of Learning for \$180 to sponsor a full day or \$90 for half a day (must be shared with another person). You can also do a Group Day of Learning if you have a number of friends who want to sponsor with you. Please contact Ms. Shawndrika Lewis in our Business Office, 404-982-0800 or email dlewis@torahday.org.

## A Message from Mrs. Sheva Frenkel R.N., School Nurse

Dear Parents,

As cold and flu season comes into full effect, I would like to remind you of several health policies. The following are indicators that you should **keep your child home**:

- Vomiting within the last 24 hours.
- Diarrhea within the last 24 hours.
- A temperature of 100 degrees or higher within the last 24 hours. (Child may return to school when "fever free" WITHOUT taking anti-fever medication for 24 hours.
- Strep Infection is suspected, i.e. results of a throat culture have not been received.
- Positive throat culture for Strep Throat. (Child must be on antibiotics for a full 24 hours before returning to school.)
- Any symptoms of acute illness such as persistent cough, runny nose, and body aches.
- Your child should look and behave like him/herself for 24-48 hours before returning to school!

Please....promote hand washing in the family. Hand washing is the most effective means of preventing the spread of communicable diseases!!

#### In the Community



JUDAICA CORNER invites you to join us for a PRE-CHANUKAH PARTY!

Saturday night, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 p.m.

Shop for oil, toys, candles, dreidels, menorahs, books and more!

Enjoy many one-night-only specials including ALL BOOKS 20% OFF!!!

2185 Briarcliff Rd. 404-636-2473



## **Photos of Our Week**

I-r: row 1-School Counselor Ms. Marx and Director of Students Mrs. Stroll led a PTA workshop on parent-child communication; row 2: 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders toured the Fernbank Science Museum; 5B took a math field trip to Kroger. Rows 3 & 4: Kindergarten boys prepared for Shabbat! Good Shabbos, everyone!



























