

Vayishlach 5778 - candle lighting 4:18 p.m.

# Hillel Highlights



**There's still time to participate in  
Hillel Academy's Chinese Auction!**

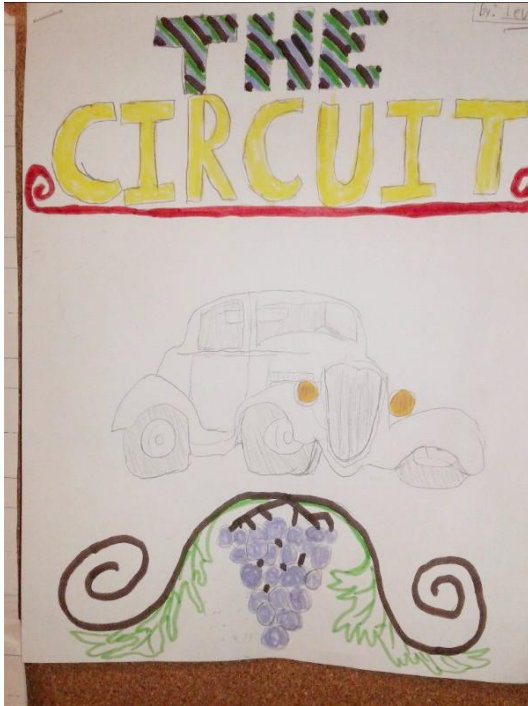
**Tickets are available until December 10th at 10am  
and are available online at [www.hillelauction.com](http://www.hillelauction.com)  
Amazing prizes to be won!!!**

Sunday, December 10th  
at East Denver Orthodox Synagogue (EDOS)  
Doors open at 5:30 pm  
French Provençal Buffet Dinner at 6:30 pm  
Live Auction drawing begins at 7:30 pm  
Door prizes, amazing prize packages!  
go to

**[WWW.HILLELAUCTION.COM](http://WWW.HILLELAUCTION.COM)**

## Views from Hillel Academy

The 7th grade boys created book covers illustrating a short story they read in Language Arts.



In conjunction with their study of the various states, Mrs. Bram's 5th grade girls, wrote letters, using their Chromebooks, requesting information about their particular state - composition, computer skills, organizational skills - all rolled into one exercise!



---

Reading can transport one to new and wondrous places. Ms Drechsel's 1st graders traveled on the Magic School Bus through a storm and returned to their classroom to talk about it!



---

## Lost and so wanting to be found...

We have so many beautiful winter coats, sweaters, etc sitting in the lost and found. We put them out during Parent Teacher Conferences but they have still not found their way home! We will put them out next week, Wednesday through Friday, before donating them to a worthy cause. Please remind your children to look for their missing clothing.

---

## Spotlight on our Teachers Ms. Jaime Pillette - 6th Grade Language Arts/Social Studies

Hillel 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been busy this year learning a variety of things in their English language arts and social studies class. We finished our novel study of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz a few weeks ago and have launched into new books that take the protagonist on a journey of understanding their identity. The 6th grade girls are exploring this literary theme using Alice in Wonderland while the boys explore this theme in The Jungle Book. The kids are also continuing their studies in grammar with lesson diagramming a few times a week. In social studies we are exploring the beginning of America with the 13 colonies and discussing the impact of Imperialism on the colonies and our current world.

It's not too late to send in your Staff Appreciation gift donation.

## Staff Appreciation Holiday Gift

Each year before Chanukah, the Hillel PTA asks our families for a gift donation of \$10 per child (not \$10/family) which will be distributed to all staff and faculty members in appreciation for all that they do for our students.

Please send in your check to the Hillel Office by Monday, December 4th.

Mark the envelope "PTA Holiday Gift" and don't forget to include your name. If you are sending it in with a child please email the office ([reception@haod.org](mailto:reception@haod.org)) or call 303-333-1511, informing us that your child has the envelope to ensure delivery.

If you have any questions please call Estie Rotstein at 848-299-9994.

## Counselor's Corner

# How to Build Up Confidence in Your Children

*Dr. Robyn  
offers these tips:*



### 1 Praise effort over personal characteristics.

Studies show that when we praise the effort it takes to make progress or achieve a goal rather than fixed, personal characteristics, your children will be more likely to work hard and see challenges as hurdles that they can clear.



### 2 Surround them with positive, confident people.

When children are around people who work hard and have a "can do" attitude, they are more likely to adopt a "can do" attitude as well. Especially when children are around others who are conquering similar challenges that they face, it can be particularly powerful.

---

## D'var Torah - Vayishlach

Self-control and discipline are keys to success in many areas of life. Without them, we are slaves to our emotions and at the mercy of our whims and desires. With them, we are able to make wise and prudent decisions that will stand us in good stead for both the short and long term. In both Hebrew and English we

say that someone who has a situation under control has the situation well “in hand”. This is because we have direct control of that which we grasp in our hands. This figure of speech will soon help us to both understand and learn a lesson from an anomaly in the wording of two pesukim in this week’s Parsha.

After fleeing Lavan, Yaakov spent two years on his return trip to Eretz Yisroel. Along the way he encountered many challenges and mishaps. Finally, in the beginning of perek 35, HaShem speaks to Yaakov and tells him to go up to Beis El, dwell there, and then make *amizbeiyach* there for the service of HaShem. In preparation for this ascent, Yaakov directs his household to get rid of “*the foreign gods that are in your midst.*” They obliged, and as the parallel passuk puts it: “... *they gave to Yaakov all the foreign gods that were in their hands...*” The *Kli Yakar* points out the inconsistency of the wording: Yaakov asked them for the idols in their midst, but they gave him the foreign gods that were in their hands. Poetic license? Not in the Torah! So, what is Torah getting at?

The *meforshim* agree that it is inconceivable that members of Yaakov’s household would keep forbidden idols in their possession. These “idols” were, in actuality, religious icons spoiled from Shechem, which, for a various technical reasons, were no longer forbidden. However, due to their former association with idolatry, Yaakov wished to do away with them before entering the rarified spiritual atmosphere of Eretz Yisroel.

The *Kli Yakar*, however, takes a different tack, suggesting that these “*foreign gods*” were not material idols at all. Referencing Gemara terminology, he explains that “*the foreign gods in (our) midst*” are an allusion to the *yetzer hara*, an alien entity that attempts to dominate and subjugate our innermost being. When Yaakov bid his household to do away with “*foreign gods*”, he was asking them to vanquish their *yetzer hara* and take full control of their own spiritual destiny.

Yaakov’s family responded to this challenge by giving up “*all the foreign gods that were in their hands*”. The Torah uses the words, “*in their hands*”, to teach us that they were able to demonstrate to Yaakov that they had full power over their baser urges and drives. Being in control, they had the situation “*in their hands*”. Having asserted full control, they were ready to go up to Beis El to serve HaShem in purity. (The wording of their response may also be teaching us that it is futile to try to completely do away with one’s physical inclinations and proclivities. Rather, one must get a handle on and harness one’s material appetites to help one serve HaShem properly.)

For us, asserting full control over the *yetzer hara* is the work of a lifetime. Yet, it is well within our reach and close at hand. While it is a process that begins in childhood, it needs to continue on as the focus of a lifetime if it is to bring to true growth. Using the Torah as a road map, we can achieve self-mastery. This will enable us to lead well-balanced lives, facilitating and encouraging our service of HaShem.

***Rabbi Yisroel Goldbaum***

---

## Hillel Updates

- **Friday Dismissal** is at 1:15 pm for K-8th grades from now until Friday, March 9th. Preschool is always dismissed at 1 pm.
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Goldbaum** would like to invite the community to their son Aharon's bar mitzvah / siyum reception. It will be at Aish Denver at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 7th iyh.
- **Mazel tov to Moshe and Sara Schwab** on the birth of a son, and to grandparents, Rabbi Aron Yehuda and Esti Schwab and great-grandparents, Rabbi Myer and Mrs. Bruria Schwab.
- **Mazel tov to Avi and Suri Walles** on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents, Rabbi Yaakov and Chaya Meyer and great-grandmother, Mrs. Simmy Wagner.
- **Thank you to Yehuda and Chana Aminov** for having sponsored the Boys Breakfast this past week in the zechus of a refuah Shelaymah for Refual Chai ben Istam
- **Mazel tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Tzvi and Bracha Steinberg** on marriage of their daughter, Chaya Nomi to Menachem Shlomo Shain. All are invited to an open house Sheva Brachos to take place, Motzei Shabbos Parshas VaYishlach, December 2nd, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. David and Sivia Fine and Mr. and Mrs. Allan and Helena Striker at the home of the Fines, 1664 Wolfe Street. from 7:45–10:00 pm.
- **Are you talented with selling items online?** The school has some Judaic art that we would like to sell. Please contact the office if you want to take on this project. This will qualify for Give or Get hours.

**Special opportunity to do some Give or Get Hours  
Motzei Shabbos, Dec. 9th  
Help set-up for the Chinese Auction at EDOS.  
Contact the Hillel Office to volunteer.**

## Community Events

**December 2 - Motzei Shabbos:** The hilarious and uplifting story of a successful Hollywood screen writer discovering the world of Torah. Come hear the story of David Weiss, the writer of Smurfs, Rugrats, Shrek 2 and more! December 2nd at Bais Menachem, 7:30pm. [www.chabadcolorado.com/weiss](http://www.chabadcolorado.com/weiss)

**December 3 - Sunday** - Jewish Women's Circle presents the feminine side of Chanukah at Bais Menachem, 7:30 pm. Learn the art of herbal oil bottling and blending and, of course, enjoy delicious treats! Couvert \$18. RSVP to 720-838-4093.

**December 14th - Thursday** - Chanukah Night at the Children's Museum! Exclusively for the Jewish community! Special Chanukah activities and refreshments. 5-8pm. For more information and to buy

tickets: [www.chabadcolorado.com/museum](http://www.chabadcolorado.com/museum)

**December 23 - Motzei Shabbos Women's Night Out** -Enjoy viewing the movie "My Sister My Keeper" not yet out for rental or on DVD!! 7:15 pm at the Bais Yaakov School Building, \$8 a person. Information: call or email Rochel Field: 303-623-0422,[fieldrochel7@gmail.com](mailto:fieldrochel7@gmail.com).



# Donut sale

8<sup>th</sup> grade girls are having a doughnut sale, for Chanukah.

To order or for more information, please call (303)-429-5177 or email [Chavaleahfleisher@gmail.com](mailto:Chavaleahfleisher@gmail.com) or [Brachabrackman@gmail.com](mailto:Brachabrackman@gmail.com). You can also order by handing in this form to the Hillel Office.

Order deadline is Thursday, December 7.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type	1 Dozen	Half Dozen
Chocolate Glazed		
Chocolate Glazed With Sprinkles		
Powdered Sugar		

½ dozen = \$5

1 dozen = \$10

Pick up will be available on all sides of town on Tuesday Dec, 12.

Please mark off where you would like to pick your order up from.

Eastside: Hillel Academy, 2:00-3:30 \_\_

Westside: Baxman, 1361 Vrain St, 4:30-6:30 \_\_

Southeast: Rotstein, 8740 E Bellewood Pl, 4:30-6:30 \_\_



