

Vayeishev 5778 - candle lighting 4:17 p.m.

This week's Hilights is sponsored by:

- Rabbi and Mrs. Goldbaum in honor of their son, Aron, on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.

Hillel Hilights



Don't Miss Out!

**Tickets are available for the Chinese Auction
online until December 10th at 10 am
at www.hillelauction.com**

Amazing prizes to be won!!!

PLUS

**Any auction packages bought between
now and midnight Motzei Shabbos (December 9th)
will be entered into a bonus raffle for
2x Club Level Broncos tickets for Dec 31st!**

Live Auction

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

go to

WWW.HILLELAUCTION.COM

Views from Hillel Academy

The fifth grade boys hard at work preparing review games before a major vocabulary test.



Second Lieutenant Tasia Reed of the United State Air Force spoke to Mr. Rawson's 3rd grade boys during Science class. Lieutenant Reed is part of Space Command and spoke to the boys about satellites, rockets and our solar system. The boys peppered her with thoughtful questions and were thoroughly engrossed in her hour-long presentation. At the end of the class, Lieutenant Reed taught the boys how to stand at attention and salute.



With special funds from DPS, 10 Hillel faculty and staff members were able to attend a CPR/First Aid certification class this past Tuesday night. The class covered CPR for both adults and children (including infants), using an AED, the proper way to administer the Heimlich maneuver to help a choking victim and basic first aid procedures and protocols. All of the participants felt that it was an outstanding class to take. Currently the school does not have an AED on the premises. If anyone is interested in assisting Hillel in obtaining an AED for the school, please contact Mrs. O'Connor at 303-333-1511 or info@haod.org.



(CPR class pictures continued)



Collecting **Box Tops for Education** is one of the easiest fundraisers for our school. Thousands of items have Box Tops coupons on them. You can go to <https://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products> to find a complete list of participating products. Attached at the end of this Highlights is a Box Tops form. When you have completed the form, send it in with your child to the office to receive a prize. That's it!

Our 7th & 8th girls continue with their monthly visits to Kavod Senior Life. This month they enjoyed playing games and doing puzzles with some of the residents. One of the residents offered to share her knowledge of quilting with the girls, so they will be learning this craft throughout the year.



Spotlight on our Teachers

Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Krausz - 4th Grade Boys Kodesh

When Moshe Rabbeinu descended from Har Sinai with the Torah, a dazzling light of holiness was radiating from his face. In a similar vein, the Gemara Yerushalmi mentions that the Aron in the Kodesh HaKadoshim, which contained the Luchos, exuded a shining light. Due to the sheer brilliance of Moshe's illumination, the people were unable to bear gazing at him, so he masked his face. However, he exposed his face when he taught Klal Yisrael Torah. Why? The Gemara tells us that serving a Talmid Chacham can be greater than learning Torah from him. When transmitting the Torah to the masses, Moshe wanted to impart that Torah is not merely an intellectual pursuit of knowledge. It must influence and elevate the person, until he himself becomes a personification of Torah.

In 4th grade we strive to equip the boys with more than just data and skills. We endeavor to impart a sense that Torah and its ideals must play a foremost role in who we are and how we live our lives, no matter what our occupation may be.

This year's fourth grade boys class is comprised of a large (20!), vibrant, and geshmake group of smart boys. In addition to enhancing their textual skills, the boys are encouraged to actively employ their thinking skills. They actively participate in the learning process, demonstrate superior comprehension of the subject material and concepts, raise original questions, share insightful and well thought out answers, and conceive creative and novel scenarios to which they can apply their newly acquired information.

This year's class is exceptionally competent at comprehending and analyzing the text and ideas being learned. We are progressively increasing our study of the rationale and sources for the halachos mentioned in the mishnayos, Rashi's comments, extra words in the pesukim, etc. The boys are becoming familiar with, not just the stated words of the subject material, but also their underlying principles and reasoning.

In Mishnayos we are becoming familiar with the various halachos and concepts that pertain to the proper construction and usage of a Sukkah. In Chumash we are studying the complex relationship between Yosef and his brothers, and are accompanying Yosef on his arduous and lonely journey into the abyss of the foreign and anti-Torah culture in Mitzrayim.

It is a joy to teach such a wonderful group of boys and observe their phenomenal growth!

Counselor's Corner

continued from last week

How to Build Up Confidence in Your Children

3 Give them a job.

When children are given the opportunity to feel resourceful, helpful and successful, they receive an internal boost that can't be attained in any other way.



4 Encourage them to set goals.

When children set meaningful goals, they are able to strive, feel the excitement of progress and eventually earn the confidence that comes with goal achievement. What are they interested in learning? Have them write it down and devise a plan.



5 Show them the evidence.

When your children are feeling down, talk to them about what they have achieved with hard work and perseverance. Reminding them of the high grade they achieved on a tough test or the award they received for a sport or contest will be difficult to deny.



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D'var Torah

The Yom Tov of Chanukah is closely linked with the lighting of the Menorah. However, the perfunctory act of kindling the Menorah is limited in its capacity to inspire spiritual rejuvenation. In order to attain the spiritual high that Chanukah and its mitzvos afford us, we must take the time to consider the core lessons of this Yom Tov. A fresh awareness of Chanukah's essence will empower us to be fully inspired by its mitzvos, so that this year's lighting of the Menorah will be transformed into a spiritually stimulating experience.

A logical starting point for a better understanding of Chanukah is the paragraph of *Al Hansom* that is inserted into the *Shemoneh Esrei* and *Birkas HaMazone*. Rabbi Yaakov Neiman, zt"l, points out in his work, *Darhei Mussar*, that although this Tefillah makes mention of the *Chashmonaim* kindling the Menorah's lights in the *Beis HaMikdash's* precincts, no mention is made of the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days. Why not?

Rabbi Neiman explains that the authors of *Al Hansom* intentionally de-emphasized the open miracle of the Chanukah "story" to teach us that all aspects of creation are equally miraculous. The fact that oil burns at all is just as miraculous an occurrence as a one days supply of oil burning for eight; they both happen solely at HaShem's behest, as He, and no other power, actively stage-manages every aspect of what we might, otherwise, casually refer to as "nature".

So, what does *Al Hansom* call attention to? Let us examine these words: "*You placed the stronger ones (the Syrian-Greeks) into the hands of the weaker ones (us Jews); the many in the hands of the few; the impure into the hands of the pure, the wicked into the hands of the righteous; the sinners into the hands of those who study Your Torah.*" This quotation underscores the *Chashmonaim's* willingness to give up everything by taking on a force infinitely more numerous and powerful than them for the sake of HaShem and their dedication to the study of His Torah. Knowing full and well that their chances of success were next to nothing and not naively expecting miraculous intervention from HaShem, the *Chashmonaim* nonetheless focused their attention on their obligation to take a stand for HaShem. They took that stand, putting their lives on the line. HaShem responded to their self-sacrifice, and saved them.

What motivated them? To put it briefly, they cared! This is the intent of the words, "*But with Your great mercy, You stood up for them in their time of trouble. You fought their battle; You judged their case; You took revenge for them*". HaShem invoked His great mercy on *their* behalf (Not His own, as He lacks for nothing!) because they were personally troubled by the Syrian-Greeks attempts to wage war against their faith. HaShem's battle became their battle, His cause was their case and because they so acutely identified with the insult wreaked upon HaShem's honor, His vindication became their revenge.

These are some of the Chanukah themes that we can reflect upon this coming week as we begin to light the Menorah. To the degree that we absorb these ideals and incorporate them into our thought process, we, too, will be inspired. Our lighting of the Menorah will take on an extra dimension of meaning, and the spiritual fulfillment we feel will warm us with its light all through the year!

Rabbi Yisroel Goldbaum

From the Principal's Desk....

Dear Parents,

As we enter the week of Chanukah, I'd like to draw your attention to just a few "Hillel Highlights" that are in no way meant to be exhaustive.

- First of all there is our annual Hillel Academy PTA Chinese Auction at 5:30 PM this Sunday evening @ EDOS. We look forward to seeing everyone in attendance at this special event.
- Our 8th Grade Boys and Rabbi Schnall get a hearty Mazel Tov for completing during recess time a review of Maseches Makkos, which they began along with the Daf Yomi about a month ago. They will soon celebrate their accomplishment with a special siyyum lunch at the ESKD.
- Our 8th Grade boys are also busy selling tickets for a Split-the Pot raffle to raise funds for their graduation trip. Please support their endeavor by buying tickets with any cash you have left over after Hillel's Chinese Auction.
- 8th Grade Girls just completed a successful bake sale and are now busy with a Donut sale in honor of Chanukah. Proceeds will fund the girls' graduation trip.
- Rabbi Schnall has challenged his class with a Menorah Contest that will combine functionality, aesthetics and halacha in a fun Chanukah activity.
- Rabbi Sher and his fellow Rebbeim are organizing a special Father, Grandfather, Son, etc... pre- Chanukah learning program this Sunday. This is the approximate schedule: 8:30 Davening; 9:15 Rabbi Kagan & Rabbi Seidenfeld to speak; 9:35 Breakfast; 10:15- 11:15 Learning, Siyyum, Dancing; 11:15 -11:45 Fun Activity; Dismissal @ Approximately 11:45- 12:00
- Rabbi Abrams' 3rd Grade boys have been busy decorating the front lobby of the building in honor of Chanukah.

As I mentioned, this list is far from exhaustive; as a matter of fact, the more I write the more I see that I have left out. I will IY"YH share with you many more wonderful activities taking place in school in future editions of Hillel Highlights.

Have a wonderful Shabbos and an illuminating Chanukah,

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.
- **Mazel tov to Miriam Sher (1)** who placed 3rd in the K-1 category of the IJN Doris Sky Chanukah Drawing Contest.
- **Mazel tov to Rabbi Pesach and Chany Scheiner** on the marriage of their son, Moishy to Tzilka Katz, daughter of Rabbi Mordy and Rivky Katz, Los Angeles.
- **Thank you to Mordechai and Karen Schweitzer** for having sponsored the Boys Breakfast this past week in the zechus of a refuah shelaymah for Eliyahu Dovid ben Ita Sheiva
- **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.
- **We welcome Avraham and Sara Weitz** to Hillel Academy. They have 4 children who will be attending Hillel starting on Monday— Liba (8G), Batsheva (5G), Shifra (3G) and Yaakov (K). They are living on the Westside.

Special opportunity to do some Give or Get Hours
Motzei Shabbos, Dec. 9th
Help set-up for the Chinese Auction at EDOS.
Meet at EDOS at 7:00 pm

Community Events

Dec. 9 & 11 - The Women's Division of the Denver Community Kollel presents the Rabbanit Yemima Mizrachi video, "Bringing the Light of Chanukah into Our Lives." Dec. 9 at Aish Denver. Dec. 11 at the Fine home, 1664 Wolff St or at the Halpern home, 210 Oneida St. Doors open at 7:45 pm, program begins at 8:00 pm for all locations. Suggested donation of \$5 to help cover costs of future video presentations. This presentation is sponsored by Esti Schwab Li'ilui Nishmas Yocheved Ruchoma Bas Avraham Aaron

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

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.

December 24th – Sunday – The Denver Community Kollel presents the Jewish Family Extravaganza at the South Suburban's Family Sports Center, 6901 S. Peoria (at Arapahoe Rd), Centennial from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Unlimited rides, laser tag area, rock climbing wall, ice skating, Ferris wheel, teacup ride and more all for \$15 per child, \$7.50 per adult. For more information contact info@denverkollel.org or 303-820-2855. Please note that this is a date change from previous years.

Donut sale

8th 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 or 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 __

