



Connections

A weekly publication for MMSC Day School

Annual Lamplighter Dinner



Dear Community Members, Family, Friends & Staff,

We are very appreciative of the support you have shown by contributing to the Annual Lamplighter Dinner and even more so by joining us for the beautiful evening. When we work together for mutual goals we accomplish so much more. Those of you that attended heard from our inspirational guests, Zoi Microulis, Rabbi Heber, Rabbi Charytan, Rabbi Levitin and Alumni - Jenny Dershowitz. We hope that we were able to express our devotion to this special cause, our Cheder, and that all of you will continue to support the school and its growth.

A special thank you to Rabbi Bogomilsky for helping with the Fund an Item and a Big

thank you to all you for your generous donations.

Together we raised **\$112,000.**

Yasher Koach!!
Mark & Tziviah Goldberg

The development office would like to take a moment to thank the parents that volunteered to help with this year's Auction. Whether you were stuffing envelopes or displaying merchandise, all your help was greatly appreciated. The event was a huge success. Thank you!

Torah Tidbit

Pharaoh's Contrition

By Zalman Posner

The slavery in Egypt is approaching its final stages. The ten plagues are beginning to descend upon a hapless Egypt. Though Pharaoh's reactions are not spontaneous -- his reversals and broken promises were foreordained -- still, men of free and not pre-determined will, often emulate him.

It was after the second plague, Pharaoh had assured Moses that Israel would be freed, and the plague was in fact lifted. "But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite,

he hardened his heart and repudiated his pledge. His promises were forgotten when the pressure was removed.

Religion and G-d are frequently kept in reserve, like resources to be used only in the most desperate need, when all other means are exhausted. In case of sickness or some other calamity people will remind themselves of G-d, and will contritely resolve never again to forget. There is no doubt that their faith and promises are honest and thoroughly sincere, but they are unproven as yet.

G-d is a refuge in distress, but not if He is otherwise ignored. Pharaoh set the example of promising to do good when he was suffering from a plague, but he promptly "hardened his heart when there was a respite." The time of respite, that is the test of faith. Suffering, desperation, and calamities may impel one toward religion and G-d, and they can well mean the start of a truly religious life. But the person whose religion is in direct proportion to his suffering is an apt pupil of Pharaoh, hardly a worthy teacher.

Issue 15

January 23, 2009
27 Tevet, 5769

Calendar

Shabbos Candle Lighting 4:38pm
Shabbos Ends 5:43pm

Mid-Winter Break; no school
February 12—16th

REMINDER
To report an Absence
Please call Sue
206 523-9766



Chof Daled Teves

The founder of Chabad Chassidism, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi (1745-1812), passed away on the eve of the 24th of Tevet, at approximately 10:30 pm, shortly after reciting the Havdalah prayer marking the end of the Shabbat. The Rebbe was in the village of Peyena, fleeing Napoleon's armies, which had swept through the Rebbe's hometown of Liadi three months earlier in their advance towards Moscow. He was in his 68th year at the time of his passing and was succeeded by his son, Rabbi DovBer of Lubavitch.

In honor of this Yahrzeit the high school Bnos program conducted a special dinner and Farbrengen. The girls got into the spirit of the story by playing a game of 'mafia' to reenact the escape of the Alter Rebbe from his hometown in Liadi. Next the girls watched an inspiring video from the Living Torah archives that discussed the significance of the Alter Rebbe's contribution to Chassidus and the Chabad methodology. Afterward everyone sat down to a sumptuous dinner that was created by Sheina Brown, Miriam Goldberg and Tzivie Marasow. After being satiated with a wholesome menu, Rabbi

Charytan joined the group to Farbreng about the life of the Alter Rebbe. Pictures of various artifacts of the Alter Rebbe were shared as well as some pictures from his Ohel in the city of Haditch. Bnos Head Dassi Hoen also shared some of her personal reminiscences of her visit to Haditch last year.

Special thanks to Dassi



Hoen and Mushky Karp for heading our Bnos programs.



Martin Luther King Day - Teacher talk



The 6-8th grade boys engaged in a discussion about the significance of the day and the historical figure. This discussion quickly turned into a debate over the efficacy of a non-violent struggle

vs. a violent struggle, which the boys seem to be much more engaged in, due to the events unfolding in Israel. We then watched a video of the "I Have a Dream" speech while following along with the printed handouts. And we concluded our unit by competing to complete a word search...Mike Walter

This past Monday, the 7th-9th grade girls remembered Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by discussing who he was and his impact on society. They read his "I Have a Dream" speech and reflected on what his dreams were and how they related to our current president, Barack Obama....Marci Morita



For Martin Luther King Day we watched



his

speech. We discussed his dream and talked about whether or not it has been achieved. The girls also made connections with their cultures and the struggles of African American people.



On Martin Luther King Day our Kindergarten class drew pictures of children from different cultures and races playing together.

Save the Date

February 6th at 9:15am
Mendel Herbstman will be celebrating his Upshernish (3rd birthday and first hair cut) Please join the Herbstman family in this Simcha at MMSC Day School

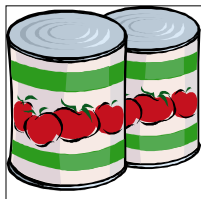
Thank you

Mazel Tov!

Shneur Marasow
On his Bar Mitzvah
this weekend

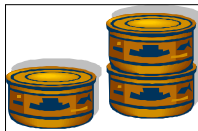
MMSC food drive

January 26 thru February 6, MMSC is holding a food drive. The food drive will collect non-perishable, kosher food and other items for the Jewish Family Services (JFS) food bank. The JFS theme for the Jewish Community Food Drive is "Let's Bag Hunger in Our Jewish Community." More than half of JFS Food Bank clients are over 55 years of age. The need for food has never been greater; the lines for food have never been longer. MMSC will collect food in the classrooms. The class that donates the most food, or other items, for this very important food drive will be treated



to a pizza lunch hosted by Rabbi Charytan and Marcia. These are some items that JFS suggestions for donation.

Canned Tuna, Canned Pears or Peaches, Toiletries, Canned Tomato Products, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soups, Peanut Butter (not in glass), Cooking Oil (plastic bottles), Whole Grain Pasta, Brown Rice, Soap & Toothpaste, Laundry Detergent



We appreciate your support of your children for this mitzvah of helping those in need in the Jewish Community



AN EXCITING POTTERY CLASS OPPORTUNITY FOR MMSC CHILDREN

Trish Tuttle, a former MMSC parent, has offered to teach an afternoon pottery class at MMSC for children in first grade and up. Pottery Class Description: How to make pinch pots, coil pots, and work with slabs are some activities that may be included in the classes. She will try to incorporate projects that are both artful, as well as pertain to something Judaic. Fee: \$39. per child for a series of three pottery classes. Class Schedule: Feb. 9, 16, 23. Class Time: 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Class Location: MMSC Lunchroom Trish will need a minimum of 5 children, no younger than first grade, to run the series of three classes. If you are interested, call Sue at 523-9766 by Friday, January 30, with your child's name and telephone number.

Presidential Inauguration - Teacher Talk



The 6-8th grade boys together with grades 4-5th boys watched both the Oath of Office and the Inaugural speech. At this activity, they also had a copy of the speech with which to follow along. We began the viewing by informing them that the goal of the speech was to instill hope and confidence in the country and encouraged them to listen for examples of this in the speech.

By Mike Walter

Inauguration Day was very busy in Miss Emerson's Second and Third grade classroom with a variety of inauguration activities. We began with a "Math Tease" about how many days and months the president would be serving in his first term. We had a vocabulary Dictionary Challenge about different words associated with the inauguration such as the word inauguration, term, oath, Democrat, Republican, and candidate. The students designed flags that would symbolize the new President and hung them on the wall. During writing class, we wrote a short paragraph about the three things we would change if we were president. In the civics portion of the day, we had a lesson on how the president is first chosen as a candidate and later elected. The students were encouraged to always look respectfully on the office of the President of the United States as an example of leadership in our country.

By Shannon Emerson

For the Presidential Inauguration, the girls learned about the events of this special day. They wrote about what they expected to hear in the inauguration speech or what they would say in their own inauguration speech if they were president. On Tuesday, they watched as President Obama gave his first address to the nation as president, and then reflected on and shared what they liked and disliked about his speech during class.

By Marci Morita

