



KESHER DAY-A NOTE FROM ELISABETH

Parents of our 3rd-7th grade students,

Hopefully you have seen the notices in the Shavuon L'Mishpachot leading up to the e-vite you should have received (if you didn't, please let me know). We are preparing to send invitations by mail as well and ask that you send your child to school (or email me) with the address(es) of the grandparents/special people you would like to invite to Keshet Day. If your special people are available via email, please forward them the email invitation as well! We hope to have lots of wonderful guests to help us celebrate Chanukah, "Hebrew School style" and show off some of the unique learning opportunities we create at PSJC! We will be filming our first ever MUSIC VIDEO (Maccabean style, aka an awesome pop song parody written by one of our amazing teachers, Andrea LeVine). Each class will be in charge of filming a different segment of the song, along with the chorus, creating props, bringing in fun costumes, and using every ounce of creativity they have! Afterwards, a few select staff members will have fun editing all of the footage together into one crazy music video which we will then send out to the whole school community (and you can forward it or share it with all of the

special people in your lives/family members/those present at Keshet Day).

We are so excited to welcome in guests from outside of the PSJC community to see what we are all about. This is truly our chance to show off and we appreciate your cooperation in contacting relatives, encouraging your children to participate, and adding to the positive buzz about Jewish education and our school!

The school day starts at 9:30 as usual and it is **IMPERATIVE** that students be **ON TIME!** We will not be starting with Havdallah on Sunday, December 18th, but instead we will start with music video rehearsal. You don't want to miss that or it could cause a lot of confusion during the recording session. We will do Havdallah at 11 AM when our special guests arrive.

We also need a few more FlipCams (or other digital video cameras) to help us record the various pieces of our music video, which we will then edit and send out to all of you!

**SHAVUACH
TOV!!!**

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- 12/6 HS (K-2)
- 12/7 HS (3-7)
- 12/9 Kitah Bet (2nd grade) Shabbat Dinner
- 12/11 HS (3-7)/ Kitah Zayin Parent Study Session w/Rabbi Carter
- 12/13 HS (K-2)
- 12/14 HS (3-7)
- 12/18 HS (3-7)/Keshet Day/ In School Chanukah Celebration
- 12/20 HS (K-2)/Shorashim/K-2 Parent Study Session with Rabbi Carter/In School Chanukah celebration (parents invited to candle lighting at 5:45 PM)
- 12/21 HS (3-7) (parents invited to candle lighting at 5:45 PM)
- 12/22-1/3 WINTER BREAK
- 1/4 HS (3-7) resumes

Happy Birthday

The PSJC Hebrew School wishes the following birthdays this week a "Yom Huledet Sameach!"

Sophie F. (Kitah Dalet) 12/5

Craig E. (Kitah Gimel) 12/9

Jessica H. (Kitah Gimel) 12/9

PSJC COOKBOOK SALE—2 WEEKS ONLY

Just in time for Chanukah...buy 1 PSJC Cookbook (\$20) and get 1 at 50% off (\$10)! We'll even do the math for you...2 copies of PSJC Cooks! for just \$30! Are you looking for a great Chanukah gift that also gives back to your community and has original student art work? Then look no further! We have a limited number of cookbooks so get your copies now!

The sale takes place from 12/1/11-12/15/11

See Elisabeth in the Education office or call 718-832-5863 to get your copies today!





Park Slope Jewish Center
1320 8th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215
718.678.1453/www.psjc.org

Elisabeth Albert
Director of Family Education
718.832.5863/principal@psjc.org

Carie Carter
Rabbi
718.768.1285/rabbicarie@psjc.org

Tzedakah Fair

Students in 5th-7th grade should spend the next week or two thinking about which charitable organization they would like to research and represent at this year's Tzedakah Fair on Sunday, January 29th. Students may work in pairs. All students need to let Elisabeth know which organization they have chosen BEFORE winter break. If anyone is having trouble choosing an organization, see Elisabeth for suggestions. Pre-B'nai Mitzvah students can present the same organization they are using for their "Mitzvah project." The whole community is invited to the Tzedakah Fair! More details to come soon!

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah!

Come join us as the following Hebrew School students lead the congregation in Torah and prayer, celebrating becoming a Bar/Bat-Mitzvah.

Josh Birnbaum (Kitah Zayin) Shabbat morning 12/10

Katie Pearlman (Kitah Zayin) Shabbat morning 12/17

THE 613 CHALLENGE—UPDATE

UPDATE: We have collected 150 items so far! This is great but we still have a long way to go!

If the school as a whole, can bring in 613 cans/boxes of food to donate to the food drive between now and winter break (12/21/11), Rabbi Carter will throw the school a pizza party!!! (That works out to about 4-5 items per student).
Suggested items to donate:

CANNED FRUIT, CANNED VEGETABLES, PEANUT BUTTER IN A PLASTIC JAR, CANNED TUNA/SALMON, MAC & CHEESE, HOT AND COLD CEREAL-FAMILY SIZED.

Upcoming Parent-Student Study Sessions with Rabbi Carter

Parent-Student Study Sessions are a fun, interesting way of learning more about what your children do in Hebrew School. 1) Parents are encouraged to join us at the beginning of the day for Havdallah or T'fillah. 2) Parents join Rabbi Carter for an adult-level lesson on a subject the students have been working on. All parents are welcome regardless of their Jewish educational experiences...there is no homework or pre-requisites. 3) After the lesson with the Rabbi, parents join their children and the teacher for a special Parent-Student lesson/activity. We hope to see you at your class study session soon!

Upcoming Study Sessions

December 11: Kitah Zayin (7th grade)

DO YOU HAVE A FLIPCAM?

Do you own a FlipCam? Would you be willing to loan it to us on Sunday, December 18th during the school day? We need to gather 8 more FlipCams for our special Chanukah celebration/Kesher Day activity! We also need parent volunteers to record (so if you are interested/more comfortable using the camera yourself, speak to Elisabeth and we'll get you all of the details). It is essential that we have a number of recording devices in order to successfully execute this awesome program!

CHANUKAH CONCERT with Shira Kline!

Join us for an amazing Chanukah Concert with Shira Kline on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00PM. Sing and dance along with the wonderful, dynamic ShirLaLa! Plus crafts and snacks before the concert. Visit www.psjc.org or contact Elisabeth for full details!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Though the school won't be going as an official group on this day, if anyone is interested in volunteering as a family, this is a great chance to do so!

If you are interested/available to volunteer at the Brooklyn Friends Community Meal on Sunday, December 25th (from about 1:00-4:00 PM), you can email Andres (the coordinator) directly to RSVP. andrescolapinto@gmail.com



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Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to **Michael Bashner** (Kitah Zayin), big brother of **Maya Bashner** (Kitah Hay) on becoming a Bar Mitzvah this past Shabbat at PSJC. Michael did a wonderful job leading services and reading Torah and Haftarah. Yashar Koach!

Bracha Bee continues!

Keep it up 3rd-7th graders! It might be getting a little more difficult, but keep practicing and keep earning those prizes! The *brachot* are posted online and there are always copies in Elisabeth's office.



Kitah Bet Shabbat Dinner

Just a reminder that this Friday, December 9th is the Kitah Bet (2nd grade) class Shabbat dinner. It is being hosted by **Elliot Horn's** family. Be in touch with class parent, **Stephanie Hochman** for more info or to RSVP.

Winter Break Dates

There is NO HEBREW SCHOOL on 12/25, 12/27, 12/28, 1/1 and 1/3. School resumes on Wednesday 1/4.

K-2 PARENT STUDY SESSION WITH RABBI CARTER

On Tuesday, December 20th, parents of K-2 students are invited to join us at Hebrew School for the day! From 4:00-4:30 we will have our lively musical T'fillah service as usual. Then from 4:30-5:10, parents will have the opportunity to learn with Rabbi Carter (no homework or pre-requisites, so no worries!) and then after the break, parents can sit in on class with their children and get a taste of what it is like to be in Kitah Gan, Kitah Aleph or Kitah Bet. Then as a special treat, we will all come together at 5:45 PM in the sanctuary to light the first Chanukah candle and say the blessings! If you can't make it for the whole day, feel free to come for part of it. There will be another opportunity to come learn with Rabbi Carter and join our students in the spring. Hope to see you there!

Kadima YOUTH GROUP FOR 6-8TH GRADERS

Come out for PSJC's first Kadima* program of the year-SUNDAES AND S'MORES. This first event will be an interest meeting to get everyone together and hear what our 6th-8th graders want to get out of their youth group! We'll make ice cream sundaes and gooey s'mores, enjoy some icebreaker games, and have a lot of fun!

When and where? Sunday, Dec 11th 5-7pm @ PSJC

*Kadima is a kid focused youth group that will engage programs based in in community service, Israel, peer social interaction, and general fun, all in a comfortable Jewish environment. We'll be meeting about once per month on Sundays (time will be determined after this preliminary event).

Kadima is not something you want to miss out on or let your child miss out on!

If you have any questions or comments please contact our Kadima Organizer, **Dan Graber**, at Dan.A.Graber@gmail.com

SPOTLIGHT ON THE HEBREW SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Name: *Julie Hendel*

Who are the members of your family (and what Hebrew School classes your kids are in): *Ken and Julie Hendel. Benjamin Hendel (Kitah Dalet) Jessica Hendel (Kitah Gimel).*

When did you join PSJC: *August 2009.*

When did you join the Hebrew School: *September 2009*

When did you join the Hebrew School Committee: *June 2010.*

Where you are from: *I'm from New York*

What do you do when you aren't on the Hebrew School Committee (job/volunteering/hobbies): *I'm an Elementary School teacher by profession. Currently I work as a mother and homemaker. I also do volunteer work at my kids school. I love to travel.*

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the HS community: *I'll share one of my favorite expressions; No matter how you feel you just have to get up, dress up and show up.*

