



## COMMITTEE CORNER

Dear Parents,

Hopefully you received the blue Purim Bag order form in the mail last week. Although open to ALL PSJC members, this project is a fundraiser for the Hebrew School.

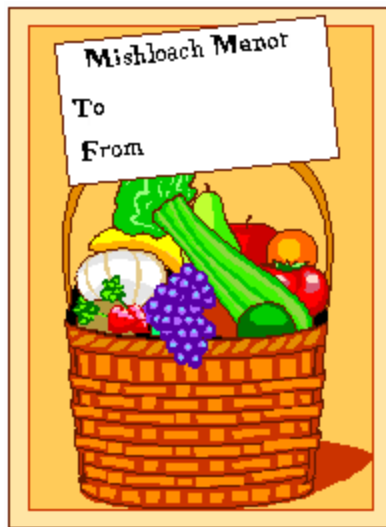
As you may know, our tuition does not completely cover all of our expenses. So that we can maintain our great student-teacher ratio and continue to have special programming, it is so important that all parents try to participate in this fundraiser. It is also a great way to fulfill the Purim Mitzvah 'to send packages of food' to friends and neighbors. If you are not familiar with the project, each recipient family receives one package (brimming with juice, candy, hamentaschen and other goodies) along with a card naming all of the people who have requested to send the package.

Packages are given out at the Wednesday, March 7th evening Purim reading (or can be picked up later if you can't attend.) These packages are NOT for sale the night of Purim – so don't disappoint your kids – send in your order form TODAY.

Ordering even just one package for another member (or teacher) insures that YOUR family will have a package waiting on Purim!!! The deadline for Order forms is Friday February 17th.

If you have additional questions, please contact Reva Grossberg at [revacarm1@aol.com](mailto:revacarm1@aol.com). Don't miss out – order now!

-The Hebrew School Committee



### SHAVUAH TOV!

## MISS CHOCOLATE-PASSOVER CANDY FUNDRAISING SALE!

It is hard to believe, but Passover is fast approaching! Don't worry, you still have more than two months to finish your cleaning, but in the meantime, we're starting our annual Miss Chocolate Passover Candy Fundraising Sale. Each student should have received a form and is encouraged to participate in the sale. Hit up your friends, family and especially grandparents! The school benefits greatly from every item sold (plus there are prizes for everyone who participates!) Contact Elisabeth or Catherine Drogin (mom of Alexander in Kitah Gimel) if you have any questions. **Completed forms are due by 2/29/12!**



### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/7 HS (K-2)/Parent Teacher Conferences for K-2nd grade
- 2/8 HS (3-7)
- 2/10 Kitah Vav Shabbat Dinner
- 2/11 Shaarei Mitzvah-Express Innovation program (pre B'nai Mitzvah class)
- 2/12 HS (3-6)—NO Kitah Zayin/Kadima!
- 2/14 HS (K-2)
- 2/15 HS (3-7)
- 2/19-2/26 NO HS—Mid winter break
- 2/28 HS (K-2)
- 2/29 HS (3-7)/Passover candy orders due

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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



**Pearl M.** (Kitah Gan) 2/10

**Ezra S.** (Kitah Dalet) 2/11

### KADIMA!

Join KADIMA next Sunday, Feb. 12th, 5-7pm at PSJC for an awesome time! We'll be playing fun games, like GaGa and Wah! and we'll be making our connection with Israel even "sweeter" than it already is! Kadima is youth group for 6th-8th grades; it's a place to experience being Jewish that's comfortable and low pressure, while still being meaningful and fun. Come on down--don't miss out!



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**Elisabeth Albert**  
*Director of Family Education*  
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**Carie Carter**  
*Rabbi*  
718.768.1285/rabbicarie@psjc.org

### Kitah Vav Shabbat Dinner

Calling all 6th graders! Join us at the **Nachman's** home this Friday, February 10th at 6:30 for your annual class dinner. Contact **Shaan** or **Lizzi** (class parents) for more info...see you there!

### Shaarei Mitzvah/ Express Innovation

It is time for the second Express Innovation Shabbat experience in our program for the pre B'nai Mitzvah families. This time, we will meet after services on Shabbat morning, February 11th (gathering at 1:30pm in the sanctuary) for an hour and a half of "Mapping our Jewish Journey". There is no Kitah Zayin on Sunday, February 12th!

### Hebrew School Shabbat

Save the date for **Saturday morning, March 3rd...** aka Hebrew School Shabbat. This is a wonderful day for ALL students and their families to join us for Shabbat morning services. Each class will be leading a song/prayer in the main service and many of our teachers and parents will be participating in the service as well. We hope you can join us! Stay tuned for more details in the coming

## Parents Night Out RETURNS!

Don't miss out on Parents Night Out!

**Date:** Saturday, February 11th

**Time:** 7:00- 10:00 PM

**Location:** PSJC

**WHAT:** Drop your kids off in the responsible hands of PSJC teens, and go out for a night on the town! Teens, under the supervision of Dina Garfinkel will be available for you between the hours of 7 pm and 10 pm. The price for this night is a FLAT rate of \$25 per family (max 3 kids). The event is for children ages 3-10 (potty-trained please), and we will have many fun activities planned!



All the money raised will go to our Solar Cooker Project (<http://www.jewishworldwatch.org/projects/ontheground/sudan/solar-cooker-project>). Don't miss out on this fabulous opportunity to have your kids spend time with others in the community, for you to have that night out you've been waiting for, and to help others in need. (We will NOT be serving dinner, but snacks will be provided). If you have a child between the ages of 10 and 14 s/he can help run activities with the other kids. Please sign up here: <http://bit.ly/zBAYAn>

And contact Dina (dinagee@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Hope you can join us!

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE MADRICHIM PROGRAM

One of the special things about the PSJC Hebrew School, is the involvement of our teens in the Madrichim (literally "guides") program. Madrichim are teachers' assistants in K-4th grade classes. Not only do these incredible teenagers provide amazing support for our teachers, the time that they VOLUNTEER sets a beautiful *doogma* (example) for our students. Many of our younger students look forward to the day when they are old enough to be a Madrich or a Madricha. Today's spotlight is on one of our Kitah Gimel (3rd grade) Madrichot, **Maxine Gross**:

**Where are you from/where did you grow up:** Ditmas Park, Brooklyn, born and raised  
**School (or schools) attended/attending:** Hannah Senesh Community Day School, Bay Academy I.S 98 for the Arts and Sciences, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts -Vocal Major

**Hobbies:** Soccer, singing, writing, swimming, blogging

**Favorite Jewish Holiday:** Passover

**What do you do outside of Hebrew School?** School, Soccer on the weekends, BBYO (Jewish youth group), homework and the.

**Did you go to Hebrew School? Day School? Jewish Camp? (if so, which ones):** I went to Hebrew school here for 6th and 7th grade. I also went to HSCDS from k-5. ANDDD I am a very happy camper at Habonim Dror Camp Na'aleh.

**Favorite thing/topic you've learned in your Jewish education:** learning songs in Hebrew has been really cool, I still remember songs I learned in second grade!

## TU BISHEVAT HIGIYAH! (ON FEBRUARY 8TH)

*Tu Bishvat* (Hebrew: **ט"ו בשבט**) is a minor Jewish holiday in the Hebrew month of *Shevat*, usually sometime in late January or early February, that marks the "New Year of the Trees" (Hebrew: **ראש השנה לאילנות**, *Rosh Hashanah La'Ilanot* (*Tu Bishvat* is one of four "New Years" mentioned in the *Mishnah*. Customs include planting trees and eating dried fruits and nuts, especially figs, dates, raisins, carob, and almonds. In Israel, the flowering of the almond tree, which grows wild around the country, coincides with *Tu Bishvat*.

