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**Schechter School
Office Hours
(Winter):**

**Monday-Thursday
8am -4pm**

**Friday
8am- 2:30pm**

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For Your Calendar:

**December 6
PA Book Fair**

Shabbat Shalom
Parashat Vayishlach
Candlelighting 4:03 pm

**December 1, 2017
13 Kislev, 5778**

Exciting Zachs Family Challenge for FOSS donations!



**DOUBLE
YOUR IMPACT!**

**Announcing the Zachs Family Foundation
Matching Challenge:**
*Dollar-for-dollar match for new and increased giving
to the annual campaign and all gifts to Schechter's
endowment. Match ends at the end of the calendar year.*

Contact Sherri Pliskin, Development Officer
spliskin@ssds-hartford.org | 860-561-0700

**Solomon
Schechter**
Day School
of Greater Hartford

[Donate Now!](#)

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A Message from Andrea

December 10
Wine, Cheese,
Cookies, and
BOOKS!

December 11
7th Grade to NYC
9/11 Memorial and
Jewish Heritage
Museum

December 12
First Hannukah
Candle

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Quick Links

[Solomon Schechter](#)
[Website](#)

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Join Our List

Would you like a grandparent, relative, or friend to receive the Schechter newsletter? Email ASobel@ssds-hartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



GIVING TUESDAY!



The Courage to Change

When and where do you observe courage in a changing environment? I always thought it was at the moment of decision - the point when the leadership agrees to take the risk. That's what I thought a little over a year ago when we decided to re-imagine our lower school.



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Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS,
Follow us on Twitter [HERE](#) and on Facebook [HERE](#)

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EC2 shows Love on Giving Tuesday to our Bus Drivers!

Everyday the children In EC 2 wait and watch the busses pull in driveway.



The children love to sing the wheels on the bus, as well as push the small buses around the room.

To support this passion and to thank the bus drivers for all they do, for Giving Tuesday, the children made chocolate chip muffins, which they delivered to the bus drivers in the morning.



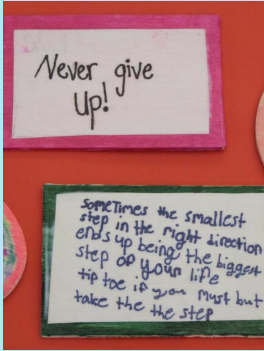
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Gesher Goes to the Capitol!

The Gesher class has been learning about the United States government system and recently visited the Connecticut State Capitol to learn about how the CT government functions.

The students toured the massive building, visiting the House and Senate Chambers, Legislative Office Building, and looking at famous statues. The students took part in a simulation of how a bill becomes a law, learning about what happens to the bill in each room of the capitol until it reaches the Governor.

Anya enjoyed when she got to sit in a special chair that the



tree." You can find a frame in the Museum holding the famous charter, encased in a wooden frame made from that first Charter Oak Tree.



representatives sit in when discussing a bill. Lily said, "I had so much fun at the capitol! Making a law is much harder than you think." The students also visited the Connecticut History Museum. They looked at many interesting documents from Connecticut's past. Eli and Jeremy loved learning about the Charter Oak Tree, noting, "it got its name because the colony's charter was hidden within the



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EC2 and EC3 join together for a FEAST!





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7th Grade Turns Their Note-Taking into Found Poetry

7th grade students have been working diligently in the ArtStudio on research for their Monuments and Memorials project, in conjunction with the organization *Facing History and Ourselves*. While viewing films, reading text and processing all the information within the class, students discovered that forming Found Poems from quotes and other people's words helped make a deep connection for them. Using phrases, text, and the deep emotions found in the work, the students created impactful poems. The following are a selection from the group's entries:

Noah G.

Words borrowed from Elie Wiesel

*Was I still alive
No. it couldn't be real
Look at this place.
Think of a city that vanishes.
We didn't know what Auschwitz was.
Later sobs became screams.
I saw fire. I smelled burning humans.
I have seen so many things in life, but I still don't grasp it.
Suffering doesn't give privilege.
Believe in humanity.
We lived inside death.
Remember*

Alyssa T.

Words spoken by Elie Wiesel

*I have the feeling I did not do enough. I have no answers.
Only a few voices are still left here.
Here, death was the norm.
Dead bodies were piled up by the thousands. It was so hard to see
humanity at this place.
The death of a child makes no sense, the death of millions, what
sense does it make?*

Morissa K.

Words borrowed from Elie Wiesel

*Those selected to die had no fate.
Death took 15 minute suffocation.
Bodies burned in pits.
How was it the world was quiet?
I've seen what I saw when I was here before.
The souls silent, they cry and warn.
The stench of burning flesh.
We had no idea,
We still don't.
I'm helpless.
I can't do anything.
The death of one child makes no sense.
The death of millions, what sense does it make?*

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Dancing Leaves with EC3

Finally, a warm-ish sunny day...and perfect for a outdoor parachute activity! The children had a blast collecting fallen leaves and placing them in the center of the parachute. When a large pile had been collected, everyone grabbed an edge of the parachute and...shake, shake, shake... the leaves danced in the air! The sound of laughter warmed our hearts as the leaves floated and landed on the ground. So fun!



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Schechter Alumni Has a Special Reunion

In 2010, then Schechter 5th grader Maddy Pliskin was paired up with a veteran to conduct an interview for a school project. Her partner was Mr. John Wagner, who served in the Navy during WWII. They established a friendship and have kept in touch all of these years via email. This month, the two were reunited. Maddy notes, "age should not define a friendship; rather, the care and concern that one has for another should be what matters."



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LATKES AND RELISH!

A community-wide Hanukkah celebration for all ages,
bringing the warmth of Schechter's Friday morning
Shabbat RELISH to the joy of Hanukkah.

Free and open to the public.



**Bring your family and friends for
Singing, Storytelling, and Delicious Latkes**

Sunday, December 17, 2017. 2:30-4 pm

At Solomon Schechter Day School

26 Buena Vista Road

West Hartford, CT 06107

Kindly RSVP: rsvp@ssds-hartford.org

Solomon Schechter Day School
of Greater Hartford



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Featuring Scholastic Books, the Schechter PA brings you

AN EVENING OF WINE, CHEESE, COOKIES, & BOOKS



Enjoy an evening with your Schechter friends & family. This is a great opportunity to shop, with or without kids, while sipping wine and eating cheese. There will also be cookies for young and old!



Sunday December 10, 2017 6:30-8pm



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**Coming Soon - Just in time for Hanukkah:
The Scholastic Book Fair!
December 6 - 12**

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Proudly Presents

Talent Show

SAVE THE DATE

When: Sunday, February 4 at 3 pm

Where: Schechter Auditorium

For questions, contact Bella Medvedovski
shnayder@hotmail.com

Showcasing the talented students of Solomon Schechter

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Annual Toy Drive!!!

Once again we are pleased to join forces with the Jewish Children's Service Organization (JCSO) to help support their annual Channukah Toy Drive. JCSO is a local organization that offers individual financial support for basic needs such as food and clothing, college scholarship assistance, awards to Jewish educational and recreational facilities, as well as financial aid to Jewish children in need.

We ask that families bring in new toys, books or money for tzeddakah that can be applied towards gift cards.

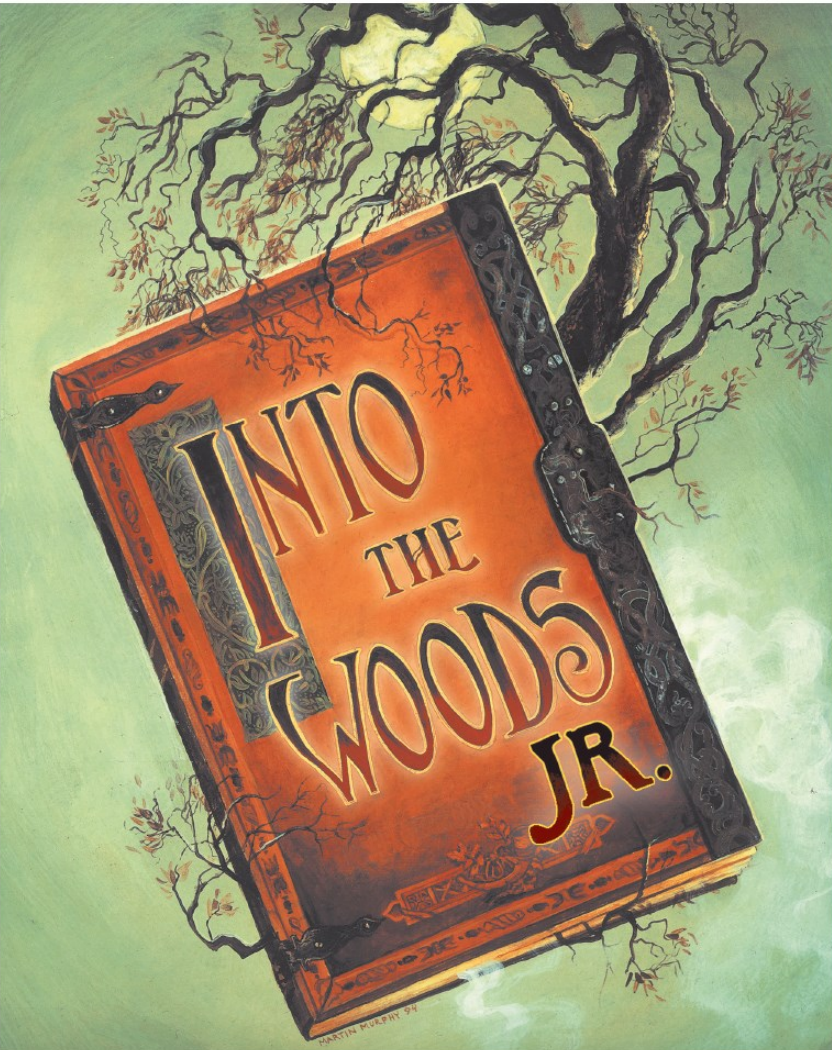
Thank you for your support!!



PosterMyWall.com

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Check out Schechter Students
Alyssa (Gr. 7), **Lily** (Gr.5),
Zelia (Gr. 4) and **Eliana** (Gr. 4)
 in the production of Into the Woods Jr. !!!



MANDELL JCC YOUTH THEATER PRODUCTION


Herbert Gilman Theater


Director: Chris Mansfield | Musical Director: Vera Kushner | Choreographer: Jen Mansfield

Performance Dates:
December 2, 7pm
December 3, 2pm
December 9, 7pm
December 10, 2pm

Tickets and Information:
\$11 Students/\$13 Adults
Member Services Center
860-236-4571
www.mandelljcc.org

Thank You Mandell JCC Partner

 **ROSENBERG**
ORTHODONTICS

 **JCC** you belong here

Zachs Campus | 335 Bloomfield Ave.
West Hartford, CT 06117
860-236-4571 | www.mandelljcc.org

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JOIN HHNE & JTCONNECT FOR A **CHANUKAH MISHMAR CELEBRATION!**

Come for a night of light, learning and lots of latkes!

From battle elephants to self-driving cars, and everything in between, HHNE's Head of School Rabbi Jeremy Bruce will lead a guided exploration of big questions and moral dilemmas arising around the next-generation technologies of the 21st century.

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

7-8:30pm

300 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford CT

RSVP:
SKOGLUND@HHNE.ORG



This program is partially funded by the Alfred and Helen Weisel Education Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford.

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“Light One Candle”

A Hanukkah Celebration for the Entire Congregation!



- **Tues. Dec. 12**
- **6:00 – 7:30 pm**
- FREE and open to ALL**

Join your *extended Emanuel Synagogue family* for the lighting of the first candle of the Chanukiah, Hanukkah Stories, Arts & Crafts and more! Please feel free to bring your own family Chanukiah to light along with us!

The evening will include:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • DINNER | courtesy of: Emanuel Connections |
| • LATKES | courtesy of: Brotherhood |
| • SUFGANIYOT | courtesy of: Adult Ed |
| • DREIDELS and GELT | courtesy of: Sisterhood |

For Tikkun Olam, we are accepting donations to support IsraAID's efforts in aiding survivors of the Yazidi genocide. IsraAID is Israel's largest nongovernmental, nonprofit, international, humanitarian organization.

Event location: The Emanuel Synagogue 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford, CT.

RSVP BY DECEMBER 10 TO: <http://evite.me/1fdWbwBqwP>

For more information contact David Bomzer (Emanuel VP), at tdbomzer@gmail.com

www.emanuelsynagogue.org

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THE SIGEL HEBREW ACADEMY PTO

PRESENTS

ShLOCK ROCK

**A FREE JEWISH CONCERT FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017**

AT THE SIGEL HEBREW ACADEMY
53 GABB RD, BLOOMFIELD CT 06002
860.243.8333

**6:15PM - DOORS OPEN
6:30PM - COMMUNITY CANDLE LIGHTING
AND CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCE
7:00PM - CONCERT BEGINS**

COME CELEBRATE CHANUKAH WITH US

LIGHT REFRESMENTS TO BE SERVED

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

53 GABB RD, BLOOMFIELD | WWW.SIGELACADEMY.ORG | 860.243.8333

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Mini Minyan Chanukah Celebration

Open to the community
For families with children ages 0-5
Sponsored by Farmington Valley
Jewish Congregation, Emek Shalom
www.FVJC.org



Saturday, Dec 16

9:00 - 10:00am

**at the Farmington Community
and Senior Center**

321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville



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GIVE OUR NEW NEIGHBORS A HELPING HAND! Toiletry Drive for Centro de Ayuda

Imagine arriving in a new place with the clothes on your back and not much else.

Thousands of Puerto Rican and other Caribbean refugees are arriving in Hartford in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. Let's extend a hand of friendship!

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Hartford is partnering with local synagogues and Jewish agencies on a toiletry donation drive. Donations will be distributed by the Centro de Ayuda Para Nuestros Amigos Caribeños (Relief Center for our Caribbean Friends) in Hartford, managed by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC).

What Is Needed

Please donate the following new items in closed packaging:

- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant
- Soap and body wash
- Washcloths and towels
- Feminine hygiene products
- Hairbrushes and combs

DROPBOX LOCATIONS

Drop off your donations to:

Community Services Building
Zachs Campus
333 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford
(enter off Simsbury Road)

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday - Closed

Or drop off at a participating synagogue, school or agency: Congregation Beth Israel, Hebrew High School of New England, JTConnect in Farmington Valley, Mandell JCC Early Childhood Center, Solomon Schechter Day School, Temple Beth Hillel of South Windsor, Temple Sinai, Young Israel of West Hartford

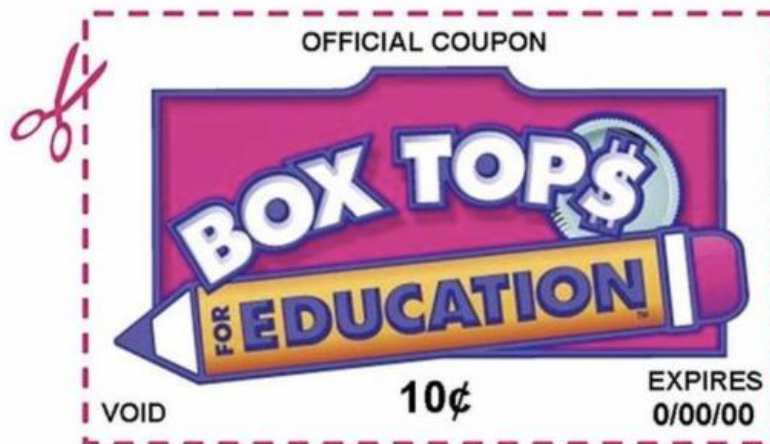
Questions?

Please contact Alana Butler at 860-727-6152 or
abutler@jewishabuthartford.org.



JEWISH COMMUNITY
RELATIONS COUNCIL

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Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is free money for our school!
There are many brands that you may purchase that
have this coupon on them...

Pillsbury

Kleenex

Ziploc

Betty Crocker

General Mills

Hefty

Box Tops will be collected the **First Friday of each month!** Drop them off in any of the collection bins you see around the school. Be sure to visit www.btfe.com to sign up for additional offers, support Solomon Schechter and even download the easy to use app!

Thanks for your support!

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Audrey Sobel and Rhiannon Van Bindsbergen, Co-Editors
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford