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

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

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

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**For Your Calendar:**

**November 10**

**Shabbat Shalom**  
Parashat Chayei Sarah  
Candlelighting 4:17 pm

**November 10, 2017**  
**21 Cheshvan, 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

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First 2:30 Friday  
Dismissal

November 13  
6th Grade to Teva  
EC3 Visit with West  
Hartford Fire Dept

November 18  
FOSS Party

November 21  
Parparim to  
Planetarium  
Gesher to State  
Capitol

November 22  
Noon Dismissal

November 23  
Thanksgiving  
SCHOOL CLOSED

November 27  
Professional  
Development  
No Classes

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**Schechter's Makers  
in MakerSpace!!**

**Solomon Schechter Day School**  
of Greater Hartford



## Friends of Solomon Schechter

Sign up now  
for our FOSS Kickoff!

**Saturday, November 18, 2017**  
**8pm**

Location:

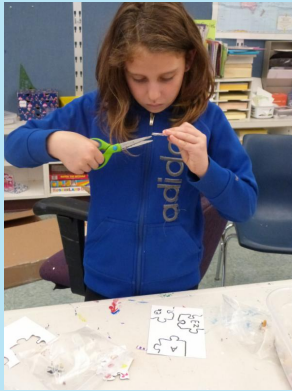
Solomon Schechter Day School  
26 Buena Vista Road  
West Hartford, CT 06119

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP!

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### A Message from Nancy

A story that I shared with the Middle School students this week: After a storm, thousands of starfish washed up on a beach. Each new wave dumped even more on the shore. Standing at the water, a man stood fast, throwing one starfish at a time back into the water. Another person came along and asked, "Why are you bothering? There must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference." The man bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"



Turning to this week's parasha, *Chayei Sarah*, we read that Avraham sends his trusted servant back home to Haran to find a wife for Yitzchak after the death of Sarah. Feeling the weight of his task, the servant asks God

for a sign: if the woman offers water to him AND offers to give water to his camels, then she would be the right woman for Yitzchak. The servant encounters Rivka, who kindly offers water to both him and his camels, and before long, Rivka leaves with the servant to begin her new life with Yitzchak in Canaan.



Two very different stories, and both serve as a foundation for a Schechter education. We want our graduates to be students who know how to learn, how to engage and to succeed in subject areas such as math, Judaic Studies, humanities, Hebrew, Spanish and science -- and they will! However, at Schechter, we want MORE for our graduates. We also want our students to be like Rivka, welcoming the stranger, sharing their resources, never giving up, knowing that even though they may not be able to save the world, they can begin by making a difference to just one individual.

That is why developing a social conscience is so much a part of our Schechter curriculum and why our core values include *K'lal Yisrael*, community, and *Lev Tov*, having a kind heart. Please join our students, faculty, staff and families as we follow in the footsteps of Rivka, collecting toiletries as we prepare to welcome more than 20,000 residents from Puerto Rico into our community. This initiative, sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Hartford in partnership with area synagogues, schools and Jewish agencies, runs through Friday, November 17th. There is a collection bin just inside the front doors of our building.

A daunting task, for sure. Let's fill that bin together -- one starfish at a time.

Nancy

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**A Great Big THANK YOU from Schechter!**





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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](mailto:ASobel@ssds-hartford.org) and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



### Tefilot with Rogow Middle School



Our MakerSpace has benefitted from the involvement of Creative Consultant, **Stephen L. Potts**. Among other things, he has donated three bicycles, a hot chocolate vending machine, and technology as well as shared ideas to facilitate the forward momentum of our STEAM and MakerSpace programs.

Thank you, Mr. Potts!



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## Follow Schechter on Twitter & on Facebook!!!

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

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### Coffee Culture of the Bedouin with Ivrit 3

Students in Ivrit 3 are learning about the lives of the Bedouins in



the desert through articles, discussions, pictures and folk tales.

Bedouins value hospitality. They welcome every guest with greetings, good food, coffee and cakes. Every guest of the Bedouin can write a good story about them.



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As part of their studies about Bedouin life, the students of Ivrit 3 brought some of their traditions to Schechter. They enjoyed preparing and drinking Bedouin coffee.



Miriam stated, " That is a good coffee!"



"It is a strong coffee!" Noah noted.

Talia decided, " I prefer tea!"



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## A Celebration of Life: Dia de Los Muertos

Middle School Spanish students have been learning about Día de los Muertos, (Day of the Dead) a holiday celebrated on November 1 & 2 in Mexico, parts of Central America, and by Hispanic communities in the United States. Although Dia de los Muertos coincides with the Catholic holidays All Soul's & All Saint's Day, the indigenous people of Mexico infused this holiday with their own ancient beliefs and traditions of honoring their deceased loved ones. To demonstrate their cultural understanding, students created projects and completed written assignments.



For their projects, some students prepared and shared with their families "pan de muerto" (a sweet bread), calaveras de azúcar (candy sugar skulls), or chocolate caliente (Mexican hot chocolate). Others researched the traditional elements of an

"ofrenda" (an offering) set up in homes to honor the ancestors. Finally, others created a Dia de los Muertos book with a partner.

On Nov. 10, students celebrated Día de los Muertos with Señora Castro by tasting 2 treats associated with the holiday: a "pan de muerto" roll and "chocolate caliente." 6th and 7th graders shared their projects and listened to a Dia de los Muertos song in the "Cumbia" style, describing this holiday as a celebration of life.





8th graders watched a Spanish/English documentary "Muerte Es Vida (Death is Life)" about the connection between the migration of the millions of monarch butterflies from Canada to Mexico just in time for this 3,000 year old celebration.



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**Congratulations to Schechter Scorpions on Finishing a Super Soccer Season!!!**





Special thanks to our coaches, Mr. G and Coach Corey, for their inspiration on the field!



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## Play, Provocations, and Preparing for Kindergarten with Schechter's Early Childhood



The importance of play for the development of young students has gotten international attention. Click [HERE](#) to see Michelle Fontaine's full article about all the great PLAY (work) being done in our Early Childhood classrooms!!



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

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**"Blue and Yellow Make... Green!" in EC 2**



The students in Early Childhood 2 were given blue and yellow paint on the easel and were given the chance to explore what happens when you paint with one or both colors. They learned that when they mix blue and yellow paint together, it turns to green.



"The children really got into it," said EC2 teacher **Yeshiva Cohen**. "It was really great to see them experimenting with the two colors and noting the outcome. And then they liked it so much they wanted to try it again."



## Open for business! Student Council Hot Chocolate Stand

Students of all ages lined up Wednesday morning for hot chocolate.

Middle School Student Council started selling hot chocolate on Wednesdays to raise money to purchase new basketballs and/or soccer balls for the gym. Student Council will continue to sell hot chocolate for a buck a cup on Wednesdays before school. The proceeds will go to a variety of causes both in and outside of the school.







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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## A Rainbow Connection

Connecting kids to Torah through science and art!

### Rainbow Slime

Ages: 5-10

Facilitated by Leslie Adler

Start Time: 4:00 pm

### What Makes A Rainbow?

Ages: 4 and below

Facilitated by Allison Gamzon

Start Time: 4:30 pm

*November 19th at Beth David*

Please register by November 14.

Complete the form below and submit to the shul office,  
or call 860-236-1241 to confirm who will be attending from your family.

-----  
Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanying Adult's Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Children attending What Makes a Rainbow must be accompanied by an adult. Children attending Rainbow Slime must be accompanied by an adult per two kids.

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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 Caribenos (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?

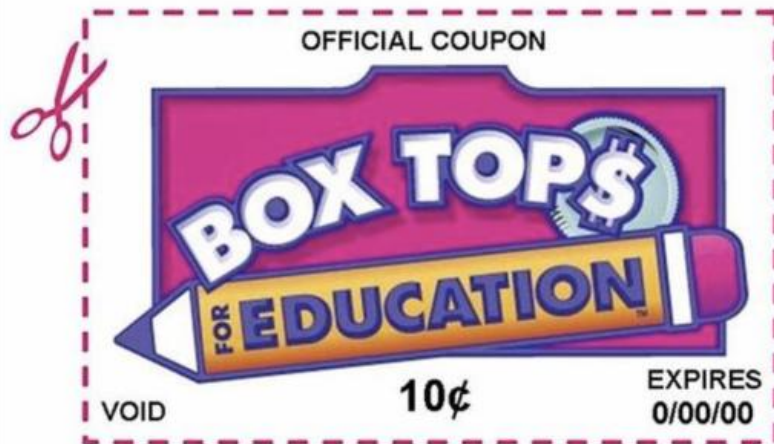
Please contact Alana Butler at 860-727-6152 or  
[abutler@jewishabuthartford.org](mailto:abutler@jewishabuthartford.org).



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](http://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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# The Jews are Back

With Special Guest  
**Rabbi Y.M. Wagner**

***A Story of Survival & Rebirth***  
The first German-born Rabbi since the Holocaust, will describe the deep struggles that have contributed to the amazing resilience of Jewish life in Germany today.

**79 YEARS AFTER  
KRISTALLNACHT  
HAS GERMANY CHANGED?**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 7:30 PM**  
Fee: \$10 in advance or \$13 at door

**Chabad of Greater Hartford**  
2352 Albany Avenue, West Hartford CT

RSVP: [www.ChabadHartford.com](http://www.ChabadHartford.com) [info@ChabadHartford.com](mailto:info@ChabadHartford.com) 860.232.1118

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Each teen's Jewish journey is unique. Through JTConnect, teens have the freedom to reach beyond the familiar to prepare them to become leaders in the Jewish community. JTConnect is a learning and social program for teens from throughout Greater Hartford to live and learn Jewishly in a broader community!

There is a place and a program for everyone at JTConnect.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information about our different programs and how to register!





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