

Mabat At a Glance

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Schechter in the NEWS

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

Monday-Thursday 8am -4pm

Friday 8am-2:30pm

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For Your Calendar:

March 5-7 **ERB** testing **Shabbat Shalom** Parashat Ki Tisa Candlelighting 5:25 pm March 2, 2018 15 Adar, 5778

A Message from Andrea

MORE at Schechter - a Glimpse into the Moments in Between

I am day school graduate, and it was common knowledge that graduates from the Epstein Hillel School in Massachusetts excelled. They were in the top of every graduating class in high school; they led the model UN and Harvard model Congress; they traveled to Israel in the summers; they grew into adults who succeeded in business, medicine, education, Hollywood, nonprofits and as parents, and they continue to give back to their communities. When I became a Jewish professional in day schools, I was shocked to encounter a belief that a Jewish day school education is viewed as deficient rather than abundant; as well as the constant barrage of questions wondering how it is possible for our students to learn and grow comparably to students in a non-Jewish school, where they spend their entire day on secular studies. I have now had the opportunity to work in five different Jewish day schools and I know Heads of Schools from across the country; we all encounter the same thing, and we are astounded. Our students here at Schechter and in day schools across the country transition beautifully into high schools, private and public. They lead sports teams, represent students on the school board, excel academically, advocate fiercely forthemselves and their communities, think deeply, make connections across content areas, are driven to give back through action and philanthropy, and take on leadership positions throughout the Jewish and American world. I wonder where this disconnect comes from - the data does not seem to change the perception.

March 9 EC RELISH

Fiesta Musical Latina

8th grade vs. faculty basketball game

Last 2:30 dismissal

March 12
Parent Conferences
No classes

8th grade Israel Experience Departs!

March 14
Evening Parent
Conferences

March 16
First 3:30 dismissal

March 19
Parents night out

March 21 7th Grade to NYC

<u>March 29</u> Passover Vacation Begins

> March 30 First Seder

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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?

Yesterday was Purim, and our halls were filled with crazy costumes and revelry. There have been preparations for this day for many days. Let me share a particular story how in this preparation for a



Jewish holiday our students get MORE. In past years, after the Purim parade, the faculty has put on a Purim Spiel. This year, as the faculty was just beginning to think about the Spiel, a 6th grader approached Nancy - she wanted to create a student Purim play. We gave her a resounding "yes!" and this student organized her class, and those who wanted to participate from the class above and the class below. She then proceeded to write the script with input from a classmate, assign parts, plan for the staging, work on costumes and direct the show during recess time. Every step of the way, she was in communication with faculty, creating the schedule and assuring there was an adult present. She worked with a core group in her class to work out every detail and they took input from the cast and crew, who their parts seriously and gave of their time to rehearse.

At Schechter we encourage our students to seize opportunities, especially those that impact the school community positively; in so doing we support skill and competency development in profound ways. In this case, students took the initiative to serve the community; they navigated the appropriate channels; they practiced their writing skills, and developed a script; they organized schedules, casting and rehearsals; they managed working collaboratively with their peers without the guidance of adults; they practiced oration and performance; they internalized their learning about the *Megilla* and added modern nuance and humor; they performed with poise, and they gave to the entire Schechter community this morning. Being here, in a Jewish school, gave these students a Jewish framework from which to build, think, create, collaborate and lead...and that is MORE.

Shabbat Shalom, Andrea

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Making Hamentashen with Gesher, Rimonim and Parparim!

Last week, Gesher, Parparim and Rimonim students joined

Email ASobel@ssdshartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



Pre-Purim
RELISH
(with some funny
and festive hats)
2.23.18











together to bake *Oznei Haman*, hamantaschen in preparation for the joyous holiday of Purim.



Excitement filled the cafeteria as the students rolled out the dough, filling the pastry with poppy seeds, strawberries and raspberries.



In addition to the hamantaschen, the students and teachers were well aware of the sweetness of community as the older Gesher students fulfilled the mitzvah of Ezrah Lazulat, helping the younger students roll out and fill their treats. What a thrill to observe our core values of Lev Tov, Good Heart, and K'lal Yisrael,



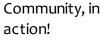








MORE Hamentashen making with Gesher, Rimonim and Parparim!





At the end of the day, the students took their oznai haman home to share with their families and friends, a delicious sampling for *Mishloach Manot*.



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EC4 Makes Hamentashen for Purim!!





























Save the Date for Ner Tamid!

Save the Date for Ner Tamid!

Evening of Sunday, April 29, 2018 at Beth El Temple

Ner Tamid will feature recording artist











MATISYAHU!!



Matisyahu sings our favorite Friday morning RELISH song, "One Day."

We will be honoring Jessica and Eric Zachs along with their children at our annual fundraiser benefiting Schechter's scholarship fund.

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Schechter's Baby and Me Music class with Chrissy Whalen is a Big Hit!

Excitement spreads across a child's face when they hear a fun song, clap along with a game, or hold the stick for a frog guiro (scraper instrument).

Miss **Chrissy Whalen,** Schechter's EC and Lower School music teacher, has introduced a Baby and Me Music Time class, a place where that special excitement is abundant!

The room is filled with young ones ranging in age from 6 months to 2 years, who are learning rhymes, songs, and fun games to play with their moms, dads, or caretakers.

The rhymes, songs, and games all help to stimulate musical development in each child. Miss Whalen teaches the adults that tickling, wiggling, bouncing, and clapping all help to encourage

steady beats, musical expression, and singing skills as the children grow. The music and physical interaction foster strong bonds between babies and caretakers.

The special bonds that are nourished through the unique power of music make the Baby and Me Music Time class fun for everyone!





Do you have (or know of) a young one who would love to explore music? Please be in touch with Karen Shakun by clicking here to get on our waiting list. We hope to offer additional classes in the future!

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8th Grade gets WILD at Idlewilde Printing

The 8th grade made a day trip to Idlewilde Printing in Parkville this week to learn about screen printing. This local print shop opened

its doors to
Schechter's 8th
grade students to
see and
participate in the
process of printing
their sweatshirts
for their upcoming
trip to Israel.



Students learned the steps involved in the whole process of creating a screen print.



First, owner Connor explained how they convert the art design onto a transparencies. The next step is preparing the screen with chemicals to then 'burn the screen'.'

"Burning the screen" is a photo/light sensitive process that allows part of the screen to harden, while other parts will allow the ink to get through the screen for printing.





After the chemicals harden the screen, they must be washed out to expose the print. The screen is now ready to print with ink!

The 8th graders took turns with owner Rachel at the 4 screen printing process for their design of their Israel shirts and sweatshirts. Rachel guided them in the layering and curing of each screen to create their print.





As Marley put it, "this is awesome!" Brady excitedly said, " we should all wear our shirts when we get back to school today."
The 8th graders are excited to show off their hard work and knowledge during their upcoming trip to Israel!



Community Turns out in Droves (and in Costumes) for Schechter's Hamentashen and RELISH Party!!



Inspired by the great turnout from our Latkes and RELISH party at Chanukah time, we pulled out all the stops to celebrate Hamentashen and RELISH for Purim. The event drew over 150 people, including prospective families, alumni, and current families and staff. Jason Kay, our

RELISH leader and parent of three Schechter students, helped all of the students sing a combination of Purim-themed songs as well as our usual Friday morning favorites with camp-like enthusiasm and energy. Volunteers had come to the school kitchen during the week to bake over 270 hamentashen for all the guests, and the guests truly appreciated having the homemade goodies.

To celebrate Israel's 70th birthday, mark your calendars for a special **Israeli RELISH** on April 20, co-sponsored with PJ Library. This event will take place from 8:30-9:15.















Thank you to everyone who helped pack the Purim Baskets!!!

Approximately 40 volunteers turned out to help Mishloach Manot Coordinator Leah Berson pack the baskets on Sunday morning. It was a great opportunity for new parents to get to know "Schechter veterans," and for children of all ages to pitch in to help the cause that raises so much money to support special programs for the school.



"Volunteering is such a great way to get to know other parents and to feel like part of the community," said **Karen Tuvin**. "It was fun for our whole family to help out." **Karen Shakun** added, "Everyone had a blast doing the assembly line, dismantling boxes, tying ribbons, and seeing the rows and rows of finished baskets line the auditorium."



From Coordinator **Leah Berson**:

We had a great CAST of volunteers this year to help make our Mishloach Manot fundraiser a huge success!. We hope everyone enjoyed their "Broadway" themed baskets.



Thank you to all the families who participated in this fundraiser. Although the final numbers are not yet in, we raised over \$11,000. Reciprocal bills will be

emailed soon. Please go online and pay your balance in a timely manner.

There are so many people to thank for their help on this project. Please see the list of our many great volunteers below.





















THE DIRECTOR- Leah Berson

THE PRODUCERS- Danielle Weiss, Gayle Temkin, Karen Shakun and Audrey Sobel

THE STAGE CREW (Basket Packers)- Danielle, Sammy and Andrew Weiss, Elizabeth, Lillian & Jethro Ehrlich, Karen, Alan, Rami, Tali & Shira Tuvin, Audrey Sobel, Karen Shakun, Julie Noll, Shera & Alex Golder, Noah Grosberg, Larry, Harris & Spencer Berson, Loren Gelber, Meredith Kowalsky, Tali & Nava Kest, Jason & Avi Kay, Samantha Mendolia, Miriam Bleich, Mitra Kabakoff, Robin & Harry Gold, Mo, Talia & Orla Leshem, Gayle, Steve, Alyssa & Lily Temkin. It truly was a family affair!

THE TECH CREW (Basket Delivery)- Courtney Covici, Alisa Band, Sherri Pliskin, Danielle Weiss, Julie Noll, Beth Kranc, Gavi Lehrer, Marissa Spector, Cindy Gerber, Nancy Gershman, Ivy Patt, Mo Leshem, Sheryl Levin, Jason Kay, Veronica Deere, Tanya Curran, Alex Medvedovski, Melissa Geller, Rob Dulitsky, Audrey Sobel,

Karen Tuvin, Michelle Patchen, Robin Landau, Chuck Gold, Ariel Gelber



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Schechter in the NEWS!

Schechter's Makerspace was featured in an article in the West Hartford Life weekly publication! Here is what the featured article looks like.... Since an online version isn't available for us to link here, please be sure to look for it in your paper!





Solomon Boheanter Day Behool has two ele they have designated as Makeropsec.

they have designated as Makeropace, with auchinosis Armos the hall no moun for "fage technology," which is home to computes, nobots, electronics and a wards of machinesis as and a wards of machinesis as and a facility. They get with a facilities and a facilities are also a facilities and a facilities. They go with a facilities are also a facilities are also in the facilities. They go no main farms architecture. They propose in the facilities are applied to expose to the facilities are applied to the propose for the facilities are applied to the facilities and they are facilities and the same to a facilities machine and get it manda gain. They can fall they go be a facilities are the conditional facilities and the same to a facilities. They will facilities they can take they can use the conditional facilities are the conditional facilities and the same to a facilities of the conditional facilities. They will facilities they can use the conditional facilities and they can use the conditional facilities.

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To delifical, Kooper said, students are given in or opportunity to work the Cut Innace and to timbe, countries the post.

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N. P.

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That he and of drawing to read a list work.

The machine can be programmed to more, making the fail of the fail of

Jethro Ehrlich, Andrew Weise and Charlie Leute are smitten with an old handheld video game.

the with an ald handhold older game. See he has also discovered the micked occurred in the space, and expectally enjoyed to branche-file components of flagging.

John P. Hiller has been then transfer may be a design was part of a delating composition in the flagging of the seed of



Ellane Zackin programed a robot to play the xylophone.

"You can imagine," added Eliana.

isobit-le Woodoury was rered as a math and other as teacher, and began at the school in Soptember. She is also overseeing the Makerspace.

Since school began she has been collecting as many tools and machines as she can find.

This been coel firm," she said. Her students have enjoyed trakering with whatever she can find and learning how the trackings works.

"We are such a disposable society and the kids get that," she said. Some of her students took a broken flat screen television and figured out what was wrong with a and fixed it so it's working again.

As for the not chocolate machine, abother group of girls took it apart, cleaned it and are learning how to make kosher hot cocoa they plan to sell to raise money.

Sitting in the corner of the hightech space was a broken dengional machine, which Woodbury said her students have been eyeing with much enthusiasm. Like the not chockets muchine, students workmifect and make donuts, which the first and make donuts, which they also will sell.

Learning how to J.x zemicista and Woodbow can buy fallen by "If I being something in, they will look at it totally differently than I would," she said.

When a student approaches ner asking a soft how to do sumething or make something work. Woodbury uses a series of questions to see if the student can figure out the answers then self.

"I don't hink there is such a thing as high technology and low perhasions, it's all about great technology. Woodbory said. That their imaginations help than create something. Howetheir enthusiasm and I would ove their enthusiasm and I would ove to see them corry that through life."

Students have also made their own wind turbines after taking a tour of Becom. Inc. in Bioomfield; they have also learned different technology to make their own movies and are now beginning to delve into learning how to use a great screen.

As enti-usiastic as her students are, Woodbury has just as much anthusiasts for the fact that space has been opened up to all students.

"We are doing a lot of phonomenu stuff," she said.

"We are growing this into the accordance school culture." Kamper said.

The space, Korper continued, also abtuile the school a values of

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PA Updates on Events

Passover Break Program with CT Science Center on Thursday, March 29: (ages 6-12)

We did not get the minimum of 20 students, but there is good

news!

We are changing the program and going to the CT Science Center. And more good news, the cost decreased to \$26 per student!! The program will run from 9:30 till 2:30. You can still drop off your children (if you can help chaperon, we need one other parent). The students will have two lab sessions "Washing Away" and "Crash Lab." In "Washing Away", students will learn how water travels on earth and make their own model stream. In "Crash Lab", students will explore forces and motion by crashing cars.

After the two lab sessions, we will have a brown bag lunch and then get to enjoy the Science Center!

Please let Alan Tuvin know at atuvin@comcast.net if your child is interested and/or with any questions.

Also today is the last day to sign up for

Solomon Schechter Science Camp at Children's Museum for ages 6 - 12

Science Day - Spend the day learning about science at the CT Children's Museum.

Drop-off between 8:45 and 9:00 am, pick-up between 3:45 and 4:00 pm. Cost \$70 per child

Please pack a lunch, water bottle, and snacks.

Need a minimum of 10 people.

Please let Alan Tuvin know at atuvin@comcast.net if you are interested

Muse Paintbar, Monday March 19

Please join us for a Parents Night Out @ Muse Paintbar, Monday March 19.

The Bar opens at 6:30 - Painting Starts at 7:00 PM Cost is \$40/pp Come out and paint with other Schechter parents. Just like the talent show, no actual "talent" required. They show us and help us how do do everything.

We have the backroom reserved for us, but seating is limited to the first 22 people.

Use the following private link to register:

https://www.musepaintbar.com/events/55235

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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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Do You Shop at Big Y??

Big Y Education Express is a Family Program to help local schools get FREE, much needed supplies & equipment!

Everyone can participate! Do you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or even neighbors? You can support Solomon Schechter by signing up for Education Express. Click <u>HERE</u> to see more information about how to sign up and the benefits you can earn for Schechter.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Parents Night Out @ Muse Paintbar, Monday March 19

Bar opens at 6:30 - Painting Starts at 7:00 PM Cost is \$40/pp

Come out and paint with other Schechter parents. We have the backroom reserved for us, but seating is limited to the first 22 people.

So please register as soon as possible.
Use the following private link to register HERE

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Schechter Spirit Wear!

Its back by popular demand!! The Spring Schechter
SpiritGear Sale is on **NOW through March 9!**!
Check our our new offerings! Order replacement shirts
or larger sizes for kids who have grown. Think about
ordering ahead for next year.

As before 10% of all sales goes directly back to
Schechter to help support our school.
As before, Youth and Adult Sizes can be purchased
using the following link:
www.spiritgeardirect.com/shop
Toddler sizes can be ordered via the attached order
form and turned into the office



Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?



Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!



JOIN US!

Shabbat, March 3rd for an sumptuous gala cholent kiddush! Sample the finest and best cholents from across region and cast the deciding VOTE for West Hartford's Best!

Dare to put your culinary skills to test?

Do you have what it takes to bring home the golden ladle? Try your hand this year in our competition – enter at www.youngisraelwh.org/chulent





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-Saturday, Warch 3, 2018 6:30-8:30pm

> \$5 per child/Adults free Additional fee for game tickets & food

We bring you the return of a Mandell JCC fan favorite - the beloved Family Purim Festival! Come in costume and try your hand at festival games and prizes. Dance to the beat of your own grogger at the costume parade.

For more information, contact Karen Wyckoff, 860-231-6317, kwyckoff@mandelljcc.org





Monday, March 12 | 7:30 PM | Mandell JCC

GREATER HARTFORD PREMIERE

RAISE THE ROOF

Director: Yari Wollinsky
Documentary | USA | 85minutes | 2015 | English and Polish with English subtitles

Artists Rick and Laura Brown are not Jewish and not Polish, and yet they set out to rebuild Gwoździec, one of the magnificent 18th-century wooden synagogues of Poland, the last of which were destroyed by Nazis during World War II. Their vision inspires hundreds of people to join them. Using their hands, old tools and techniques, they rediscover Gwoździec's history, culture, and art.

Raise the Roof follows the Browns and the Handshouse Studio team to Sanok, Poland, as they begin building the new Gwoddziec roof. The crew has six weeks to hew, saw, and carve 200 freshly logged trees and assemble the structure. Working against this deadline and despite torrential downpours and exhaustion, the team must create the structure, and disassemble it again for shipping and eventual installation in Warsaw's Polin Museum.

* Audience Awards Philadelphia JFF, Rutgers JFF, Washington DC JFF, Seattle JFF

6:00pm: Pre-screening Dinner Program with filmmakers, Cary and Yari Wolinsky and Professors/Artists Laura and Rick Brown - \$30 (includes dinner and film) rsvp to ekafer@jewishhartford.org by March 5th, 2018 (film only - \$12.00)

SPONSORED BY: Solinsky Eye Care

Community Partners: The Jewish Hartford Heritage Project Sponsored by the Konover/Copps Fund at UConn Global Affairs
The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford
Venue donated by Spotlight Theaters



22nd Annual Mandell JCC Hartford Jewish Film Festival | 23





Do you have a child preparing for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Are you looking for ideas for mitzvah projects? Join us and learn about volunteer opportunities in the community suitable for middle school students. Representatives from local organizations will be present to meet families and distribute information.

Co-sponsored by the Mandell JCC Social Action Committee and The Emanuel Synagogue Religious School.

Free and open to the community
Questions: Barbara Fink, 860-233-2774, school@emanuelsynagogue.org





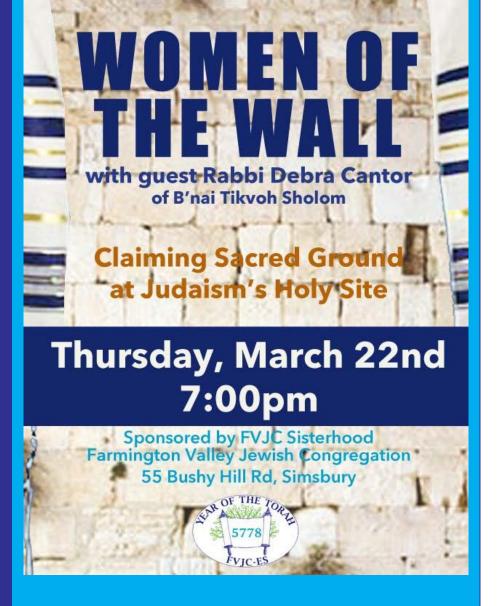
Shabbat Speaker

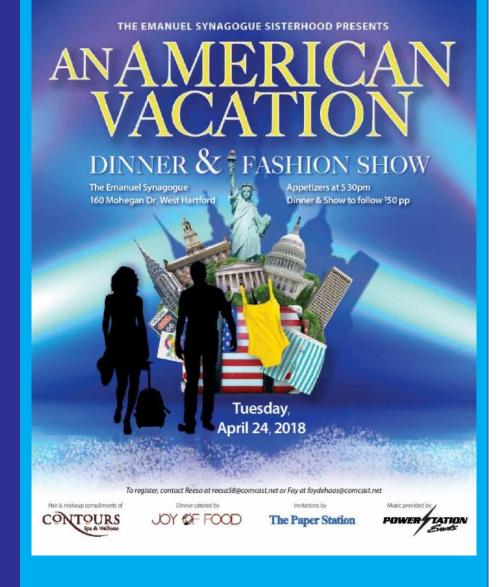
March 16th, 7:00pm

Uncle Nat Rescues the Torah!

Presentation by Shari Cassutt on the rescue of a Holocaust Torah by her Uncle Nat







Dinner and Fashion Show

West Hartford - The Emanuel Synagogue Sisterhood invites you to "An American Vacation" Dinner and Fashion Show on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. Fashions for women, men and children will be provided by J.Jill and REI. The evening will begin with appetizers at 5:30, followed by a catered dinner and fashion show. As part of this event, we are giving back to the community by asking attendees to bring new baby and toddler clothing or toiletries as a donation to Jewish Family Service. This event will be held at The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. For more information, contact Reesa Olins at reesa58@comcast.net or Fay Dehaas at faydehaas@comcast.net.

FVJC-ES Sisterhood

Tourname



Sunday, June 3, 2018 8:45am - 4:30pm

8:45..... Player Arrival, Coffee and... 9:00.....Reading of Rules

9:30.....Round 1 10:30.....Round 2

11:30.....Round 3 12:30-1:15..Catered Kosher-Style Lunch

1:15..... Round 4 2:15..... Round 5 3:15..... Round 6

4:30..... Announcement of Winners

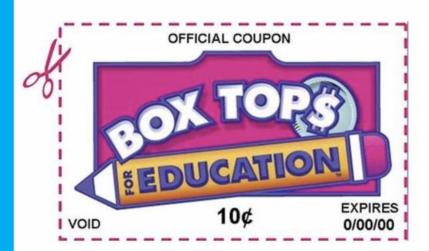
Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation 55 Bushy Hill Rd, Simsbury, CT



Cost: \$36

Questions? Call Terry Cole 860-558-2587 (please also use this number in case of a problem on event day)

ame	Em	oil	Phone Number
YESI I have a	set and I am happy	to be East! *No b	plack or vintage sets, please.
	Save time by purch	asing your tickets	for the Cash Rafflel
\$5 for 6\$	10 for 13\$20 fo	or 30 Yesli've ac	dded \$to my check for raffle ticket
Please make che	cks payable to FVJ	C-ES Sisterhood, F	Please send to:



Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is <u>free money</u> 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