Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford

Mabat At a Glance

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Schechter School Office Hours (Winter):

Coming Soon

Monday-Thursday 8am -4pm

Friday 8am-3:30pm

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Shabbat Shalom Parashat Shemini Candlelighting 7:12 pm

April 13, 2018 28 Nissan, 5778

WHY WE LOVE SCHECHTER!

This week, our students shared what they love Schechter. We are excited to begin this new series with words from our Gesher students!

What I love most about Schechter... Ellie: The teachers are really nice. I like the small classes, and I get to know everybody. Jethro: It gives you a good understanding of both English and Hebrew, and the

school lets us have time



between our classes to let our minds take a break. We are split into equal learning groups for learning times.

Charlie: Everyone is so heartwarming and nice, especially the teachers. I like the curriculum. We get to express ourselves in the stories we write. The building is so clean and awesome! We learn a lot of everything from different countries and America.

Zelia: The teachers have really good relationships with the kids and there are no rivalries between teachers and kids. It is a small school so that everybody knows everybody, and the teachers have time to interact with every kid.

Eliana: They teach you everything about the holidays and they teach you all the prayers, so that when you are older you will know all the right words. Even if you don't know a teacher, you still know that if something happens, you can go to them.

Troy: In the morning on Fridays, we get to go to RELISH. We get Chromebooks and there is good air conditioning. We get to go on field trips.

For Your Calendar:

<u>April 16</u> Doug Lyons (CAIS) presentation

<u>April 18</u> Israel @ 70 Yom HaZikaron to Yom Ha'atzmaut Program

<u>April 20</u> Israeli Style RELISH!

> <u>April 22</u> Earth Day

<u>April 24-26</u> 7th grade Science trip throughout New England

<u>April 27</u> 8th grade vs. Faculty basketball game

<u>April 29</u> Ner Tamid Gala!!

<u>May 3</u> Israeli Dance Festival

> <u>May 21</u> Shavuot: School Closed

<u>June 13</u> Last day of classes 8th grade graduation

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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 Alex: Math is a lot of fun! (especially with Mrs. Spector) Playing basketball with my amazing coach Mr. G. Andrew: The food served at lunch! Lily: The teachers are able to have one-on-one time with students.

Jeremy: Because of the small classes, all students get an equal amount of attention.

Eli: Math.

Anya: Because I walk in every morning to see smiles on everyone's faces!

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A Message from Nancy

Last week, we experienced a confluence of events: Passover and the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr's speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop," which was followed by the brutal assassination of Dr. King. The power of the timing cannot be lost on us.

During the Passover seder, we relive the experience of deliverance from slavery to freedom. Although Moses' name is not mentioned during the seder, his presence and impact is clearly felt. As one of the 6th graders commented, it wasn't until Moses accepted



the responsibility to return to Egypt as God's agent that God was able to end the Israelites' slavery.

Moses was not allowed to complete the journey of freedom. Throughout the entire book of Devarim (Deuteronomy) we read of Moses' charge to the people, reminding them of their experiences, God's laws and their responsibilities to others as freed slaves. Then, with Joshua firmly in place as the new leader, Moses climbed to the top of the mountain, Har Nevo. From there, he was able to see the Promised Land-and there he died.

In his speech, given on the day before his own death, Dr. King stated that he had been to the top of the mountain, that he had seen how beautiful the Promised Land could be for all Americans. He shared his sense that he might not live long enough to reach that Promised Land, and he charged all of us, those present when he spoke and those yet to be born, to complete that journey, to make the Promised Land a reality. The very next day, he was gone.

Both of these leaders faced much adversity as they struggled to make their visions reality, and yet they persevered. From Moses' perspective: while Joshua succeeded in bringing the people to the Promised Land, year after year, we relive the journey so that we Email ASobel@ssdshartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list! Join Our

Schechter newsletter?



Mazel Tov to...

Rachel and Spencer Glantz on the birth of their daughter.

Tova Raizel Glantz was born on Sunday, April 1, 2018, and joins big sister Ayelet (EC2). We wish them a lifetime of happiness!

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Condolences to...

Dan Emrick and his children, Tia (Gesher), Drew (Rimonim), and Evan (Parparim), on the loss of their beloved mother and grandmother,

Faith Emrick.

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RELISH March 23



never become complacent, taking freedom and our rights for granted. From Dr. King's perspective: the journey continues. With the Passover experience in mind, it is no wonder that so many Jews took active roles in the Civil Rights movement.

This week, Gesher students demonstrated that they have internalized the lessons that Moses sought to instill in the people before his death. In their study of Parashat Bo, they discussed the importance of memory-both collective and personal. In answer to the question as to why it is important to remember people and events, Andrew commented, "So you can tell stories for generations and generations." This is exactly what we do at the Pesach seder and through Torah all year. According to Charlie, "It is history. You can't change it...so learn about it and keep your culture... so you don't make those mistakes and pass it on." Ellie suggested, "So you can teach others," an important lesson that is part of the Shema that we recite every morning and evening. Jethro stated so succinctly and powerfully, "So you can know who you are."

It is already clear that, steeped in the texts and stories of our



people, Schechter students are prepared and ready to take up the mantle carried by both Moses and Dr. King, to continue the journey on to the Promised Land. We are indeed privileged to be on that journey with them.

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Ner Tamid Tickets are Available Now!

















Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford Ner Tamid Gala

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Honoring : Jessica & Eric Zachs and Family



Peaturing Recording Astist : MADE STATES

Purchase Tickets : ONLINE: SSCIS-hartford.org CALL: 860.561.0700 Where: BETH EL TEMPLE, West Hartford When: SUNDAY, APRIL 29th

Time :

7:00 PM

Tickets :

\$118 PER PERSON \$54 STUDENT WITH VALID ID (INCLUDES PERFORMANCE AND DESSERT RECEPTION)

> Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford

Free and Open to the Community!















MONDAY, APRIL 16 The Impact of Schooling on the Development of the Life-long Learner

In the past two decades, dramatic advancements in neuroscience have given researchers a better understanding of how children, adolescents and adults learn. Scientists are discovering how memory works and what contributes to, or interferes with good memory function.

Two components of this research are particularly important for parents and teachers. These critical factors are: the role of emotion in learning and the impact of the school environment in developing the ideal graduate, defined as the life-long learner.

Independent schools have distinct advantages for students over the increasingly compliance-driven model that characterizes public education in the No Child Left Behind era.

After 46 years spent working with students and families, Dr. Lyons will share research and personal anecdotes that illustrate the influences that shape a child's journey from innocence to maturity.



Presenter: Doug Lyons, Executive Director of Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)



Talk is free and open to the public!

RSVP:

rsvp@ssdshartford.org

SOLOMON SCHECHTER DAY SCHOOL 26 Buena Vista Road West Hartford, CT 06119 860-561-0700

www.ssds-hartford.org

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A Warm Welcome on a Cool Morning!



Schechter Alumni Give Back to Jewish Community: Ariel Gelber (2009)

Schechter graduates go out into the world with a strong sense of self, a connection to their Jewish values and ready to contribute meaningfully to their communities. Ariel Gelber is such a graduate. Ariel, a Schechter graduate from the class of 2009, began working at Schechter in January as an intern from the University of Hartford, Greenberg Center. Ariel has split her duties between helping in the Gesher classroom with the 4th and 5th grade students and working with Sherri Pliskin in Development.

Ariel has helped Sherri Pliskin prepare for Schechter's annual Ner Tamid Gala, which is coming up on April 29. Sherri noted, "It has been a pleasure working with Ariel. She is so helpful and has such an upbeat and positive attitude. She



has helped me with an array of jobs from establishing an event database to critiquing promotional materials. She is a wonderful addition to our team!"



In the classroom, Ariel has been helping students with Hebrew reading and decoding during tefillah and Judaic Studies. Her background, knowledge, and experience as a Schechter graduate helps her share her

love of learning and teaching Jewish values. Limor Shefer, Gesher Hebrew teacher, said, "the Gesher class is always excited to see Ariel and they look forward to the time they spend together."

Nancy Rosen, one of Ariel's former teachers at Schechter,

commented, "It's not often that we have the privilege to see who our students become once they leave Schechter. It fills my heart to see that Ariel has chosen to become a Jewish educator, sharing her knowledge and love of Judaism with a new



generation. What makes this even more exciting is that Ariel is just as kind and caring as she was as a student. What a great role model for her students!"

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Schechter Alumni Parent Ronit Shoham Recognized as a "Wonder Woman"

Before Ronit Shoham was named West Hartford's go-to volunteer, she was a dedicated Schechter parent who introduced our fantastic Mishloat Manot Fundraiser at Purim! Congrats Ronit! Full Article <u>HERE</u>



Hearts for Parkland

Hearts of Hope is a non profit organization which sends messages of hope to hard hit communities. Under the guidance of Colleen Simon, the Middle School Humanities Teacher, middle school students recently painted hearts which will be given to a Rabbi in Parkland, Florida for distribution. Check out the beautiful designs the students created to share with those who need a little love.















6th Grade Weather Experiment using... straws??

Think We've had Crazy Weather? Ask our Middle School Students!

We're all under a lot of pressure...literally, 14 pounds per square inch of pressure is weighing down on us all. However, Rogow Middle School students take it all in stride as they spent some thoughtful time learning about and creating a barometer as well as a traditional storm glass using simple household materials to see how good they were at predicting the weather by looking at patterns. They learned that low pressure systems generally mean rainy weather, while high pressure systems usually mean milder and cooler weather. Students watched this fascinating TED-Ed episode prior to creating hand-made weather forecasting barometers. Please take a moment to watch it too:

https://youtu.be/EkDhlzA-lwl





We analysed and discussed everyone's set up, ultimately determining that the aneroid barometers we initially made were more accurate than the



water barometer or storm glass. Students determined that there are many variables which influence barometric pressure changes. Try this experiment for yourself with younger or older family members, then please share your results with us too!

http://easyscienceforkids.com/make-your-own-barometer/

Students are looking forward to working with their HHNE mentors on a weather project in the near future. They'll be designing and making their own anemometers as well as releasing a weather balloon to get a glimpse of the weather as far above their heads as we can monitor.

Happy Sciencing, Bobbi



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Schechter Students travel the World!

This week, two Schechter Middle School students are joining Teen Cultures Connect on a journey to Cuba. They are playing baseball, touring Havana and Matanzas, connecting with host families, and learning about Cuba's culture by visiting historic sites and eating authentic food between activities.

We look forward to learning more about the adventures of 8th grader Michael W. and 7th grader Willie P. upon their return!

To find out more and follow the journey, click <u>HERE</u>



Schechter Students William P. (left) Gr.7 and Michael W. (right) Gr. 8

Teen Cultures Connect is a non-profit organization formed to provide teens the opportunity to meet and connect quickly with their peers from around the world through the common language of shared interests.

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Gesher Cooks and Learns for Pesach

In preparation for Passover, Gesher students learned the order of the seder from a hagadah, discussed the rituals and the various blessings that take place during the seder. The students celebrated their learning by organizing and participating in a class seder, applying everything they have learned. As part of their preparations, the students made their own matzah balls and *charoset* and set the table with attention to details.

Matzoh balls are ready to roll!







Making three different varieties of charoset



















Earth Day Festival

Join us on between 3PM - 5PM on Earth Day for nature games, crafts and more! All ages are invited. \$2 per person admission donated to the Environmental Defense Fund.

> Sunday, April 22, 2018 3PM - 5PM Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford 26 Buena Vista Rd West Hartford, CT 06107



Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford

World Dance Performance with Rimonim!

















Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS, Follow us on Twitter <u>HERE</u> and on Facebook <u>HERE</u>

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Parents: Save the Dates!

Schechter's ISRAELI DANCE FESTIVAL

In honor of Israel's 70th

Please join us for a performance by Schechter's K-8 students. Bring your dancing shoes for the audience participation grand finale!

Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 7 pm At the Hebrew High School of New England 300 Bloomfield Avenue West Hartford, CT 06117



EC kicks off the celebration with their Israeli dance performance during RELISH on Friday, April 20 at 8:30 am.

Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford





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.

Nadav BBYO Presents: Lox Box Order Your Lox Box Today!

All proceeds will benefit local chapter programming as well the chapter <u>Stand Up Cause</u>, the Michael J. Fox Foundation.



Your Lox Box will contain: Half dozen bagels Plain Cream Cheese A Package of Lox A bottle of orange juice A copy of the Jewish Ledger

Place your order online: squareup.com/store/nadavbbyo

Order by **April 16th** and your Lox Box will be delivered to your door on April 22nd!



For more information about Lox Box or BBYO please email CVR@BBYO.org

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Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?

crown market _____café_____

Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!



Emanuel Connections Presents Make your own Pizza Bagels Sunday, April 22nd 12:00-1:30 (our final event of the 2017-2018 school year)

Meet us in Silverman Auditorium

Pizza making 12:00-12:30 Lunch and games 12:30-1:30

Pizza bagels, salad, pasta, drinks, dessert

Face painting! Gaga! Music! Free & open to synagogue and unaffiliated families!

עמנואל The Emanuel Synagogue

160 Mohegan Drive West Hartford, CT 06117 RSVP by April 15th to Elana Schaner at elana_schaner@yahoo.com





Sign Up for a Season of Fresh, Local, Organic Produce!

Pickup Location: Beth David Synagogue 20 Dover Rd, West Hartford Pickup Time: Thursdays 4:30 - 6:45pm from 6/8 - 11/9

Size: Seasonal shares like the one pictured weekly or every-other-week







Learn More and Register at whcsa.adamah.org









Good Deeds Day at the J Sunday, April 15, 11:00am-4:00pm

Good Deeds Day is a global day that unites people from over 90 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet. Since 2007 when the event was found-ed in Israel, millions of people from thousands of communities, organizations and businesses join together every year to volunteer and do good. Join the Mandell JCC and take part in Good Deeds Day with a variety of options for all ages!

For more information about Good Deeds Day please visit www.good-deeds-day.org.

Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel

The Tale of Team Israel 11:00 am-12:30 pm A stiring story of sports, patriotism and personal growth, "Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel" charts the underdog journey of Israel" snational baseball team competing for the first time in the World Baseball Classic. "Heading Home" is about the players and their connection to each other and to Judaism and as their "Mensch on the Bench" mascot tage along, the team does much soul searching, as they represent Israel on the world stage. Mature language. Admission: Free with a day-of donation to the Israel Baseball Association Scholarship Fund which helps children from low income Fund which helps children from low income families participate in baseball in Israel. Tickets required, seating limited – 860-231-6316, www.mandelljcc.org/tickets

SRAEL * FESTIVAL

You Can Be a Super Hero! Cooking for a Cause 1:30-2:30pm

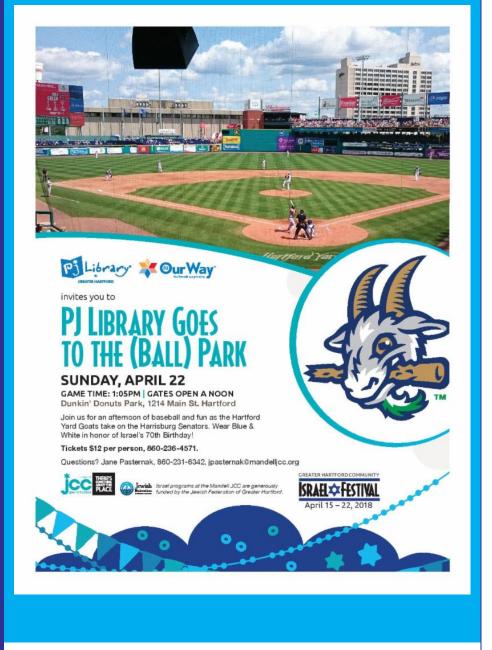
1:30-2:30pm Help us honor our "Hometown Herces," our local police. firefighters and ambulance drivers. Your "Good Deed" will be making cards and baking cockies to let those real life herces know how much we appreciate all hat they do. While the cockies are baking, Coach Thai and "Captain America" Sensei Dave will provide Superhero training, cape and certificate included! We'll package and deliver all the goodies, so many hands are needed. Bring a triend! Free and open to the community Questions and registration: Jane Pastemak, 860-231-8342, [pastemak@mandell[cc.org.

Open to 6th-12th graders Join teas from throughout the community to help raise awareness about hunger, while also learning culinary skills. Chef Lindsay Perkins will lead us in preparing a meal to be donated to local Hartford residents in need. Suggested donation of S5 per person at the door. Co-sponsoroed by JTCONNECT, BBYO, NUTSY, Mandell JCC. Questions and registration: Colby Wyckoff, 860-231-8376, cwyckoff@mandelljcc.org.

Open to 6th-12th graders

2:00-4:00pm





Celebrate our Learners!

Saturday, April 21 9:30am at Beth El 2626 Albany Avenue • West Hartford, CT bethelwesthartford.org • 860-233-9696





Celebrate our SULAM Beth El & Schechter Community during Shabbat services featuring SULAM & Schechter Learners! We will honor parents, educators, and teen madrichim.

Every child will participate. Community Lunch follows free and open to all!









Shabbat Club Mazel Tots at 11:00am too!



All-Star Break (optional): 2-day/2-night adventure exclusively available for campers who enroll in consecutive sessions (dates: July 9-11 and July 24-26).

First time at a Jewish overnight camp? Your child may be eligible for a need-blind grant of up to \$1,000 this summer! Visit www.onehappycamper.org.

FIND OUT MORE AT RAMAHSPORTSACADEMY.ORG.

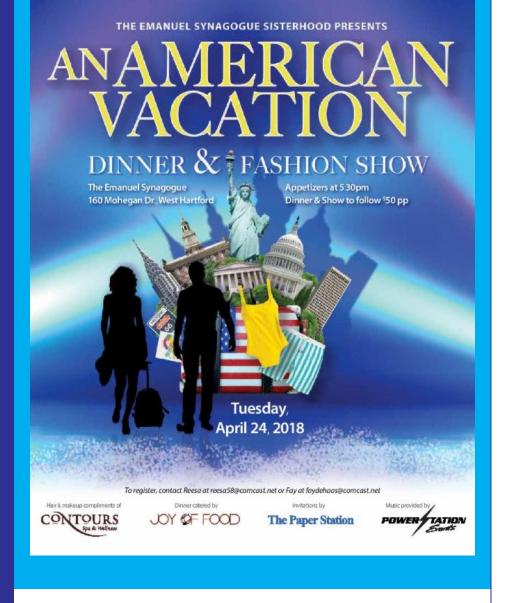
Summer Ramah Sports Academy c/o BCC 212 1073 North Benson Road Fairfield, CT 06824 Winter

3080 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Contact 855-577-7678 Info@ramahsport.org

Ramah



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.



Supporters and Staff

Program Chairs:

Wendy Amblo, Lisa Berman, Louisa Kalsner, Dana Keller, Robin Landau, Michelle Patchen, Sherri Pliskin , Amy Raisner , Laurie Silverman , Lauren Drazen, Hope Bash, Dana Greenberg



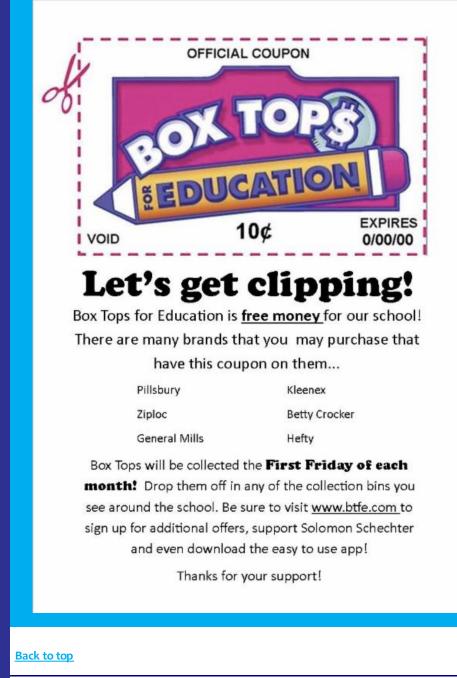


____YES! I have a set and I am happy to be East! "No black or vintage sets, please.

Save time by purchasing your tickets for the Cash Raffle!

___\$5 for 6 ___\$10 for 13 ___\$20 for 30 Yesl I've added \$_____to my check for raffle tickets.

Please make checks payable to FVJC-ES Sisterhood. Please send to: Terry Cole, 5 Banbury Road, West Simsbury 06092. Your RSVP must be received by May 29th. No refunds for any reason after this date.



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