

Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford

Schechter Shavua



Parparim and Shorashim classes pair up to learn about potatoes: both the science behind growing them and songs about potatoes! Middle School students think deeply about the treatment of Indigenous Peoples and make connections to other people in the world; and we share our SchechterPride in the caring work done by our alumni.

Mazal tov to the Sobel-Pressman family on the occasion of Ari becoming a bar mitzvah this shabbat.

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#SchechterPride in...

Schechter alumni **Samm Smith**-**Rapaport** (2015), **Eitan Ehrlich** (2016), and **Carly Dulitsky**, who will spend Thanksgiving hard at work in the Dominican Republic. Instead of gathering with friends and family at home, Samm, Eitan, Carly, and Schechter alum parent **Avi Smith**-**Rapaport** will help build medical



clinics, offer medical treatment to local residents, and bring much needed supplies and clothing to this poverty-stricken area. Samm reflects, "I really enjoy doing this service trip every year because I can help other people. I don't often have access to time where I can truly be selfless. This trip allows me to just put my head down and work not for my own benefit, but for that of others."

We will collect donations of supplies at Schechter. The residents are in great need of shoes, toiletries and over the counter medications like Tums, multivitamins, and others that are listed <u>here</u>. If you prefer to donate directly, you can make online donations <u>here</u>, or please make checks payable to Watkinson School and reference DR Service Team on the memo line and mail to:

180 Bloomfield Ave Hartford, CT 06105

Students' Understanding of History Shapes their World View

In the final year of Middle School Humanities, the students focus on three guiding questions: Who was here?; Who came?; and Who was brought? These questions frame the literature they read, the writing they produce, and the history they study as they grow their understanding of and empathy for others. Mrs. Simons works directly with the students to challenge false historical narratives and help



bystanders become upstanders. On Indigenous People's Day last week, the Middle School students watched "DawnLand," a documentary about the Wanabaki people of Maine who were part of the first Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the U.S. to redress the wrong of taking of Native children and placing them in white foster homes. UConn professor Dr. Mishy Lesser spoke with the students about the importance of honoring the history of those who were here before us, and reminded them that they are on indigenous land which belonged to Mohegan, Paugussett, Pequot, Quinnipiac, and Schaghticoke Territory. Morissa wondered, "In the film 'Dawnland' it talks about making Native children 'white.' I wondered what does being "white" mean and why was it something people felt needed to be done?

Highlight of the Week

Shorashim and Parparim wait in anticipation until it is time to plant potatoes!



Pictures of the Week!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dates for your calendar:

- Monday, October 22: Grades 6/7 to TEVA
- Tuesday, October 23: Scorpion Soccer- AWAY at Renbrook School
- Tuesday, October 23: All-School ELA (English Language Arts) and Math Night
- Sunday, October 28: Picking with PJ at Belltown Orchards 11:30 am
- Tuesday, October 30: Scorpion Soccer- HOME
- Friday, November 2: Last 3:30pm Dismissal
- Sunday, November 4: PJ at the Playground at Jonathan's Dream Playground

Click here for More Dates!

Special dates this fall for families with young children!

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