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# GESHER LA BAYIT

## The “Bridge” to the Home

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750 White Pond Drive  
Akron, OH 44320  
Ph. (330) 836-0419  
Fax (330) 869-2514

**Linda Brotsky**  
*Principal*

**Sarah Greenblatt**  
*Director of Hebrew & School Programs*

**Ruthellen Fein**  
*Office Administrator*

**Ceil Cohen**  
*School Secretary*



**Linda Brotsky**

*Principal*

[lbrotsky@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:lbrotsky@lippmandayschool.org)

This is our first Gesher of the year and you are reading this online. It's one of the positive changes we have incorporated at Lippman Day School. Our students and teachers are happy with other changes, too. “Team Time”, Spanish elective, Global Studies, Careers of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, All school TGIS (Thank Goodness It's Shabbat!), PreK/Kdg monthly Community Shabbat, Open Library on Wednesday mornings, our Intermediate Learning Team (4/5) and SMART Board training are some new “happenings” at Lippman. Our website is new, improved and full of information. Go surf the site to find the latest info about LDS ([www.lippmandayschool.org](http://www.lippmandayschool.org)). I am also sending a weekly “reminder” email each Friday to keep you updated on the week ahead. The transition process is of utmost importance. We must grow and change while continuing to keep our foundation solid. We need the support of our parents and our community. There is a new “suggestion box” in the office. Please share your ideas with us – they are important to our future.

The Pancake Breakfast was a huge success! My personal THANK YOU to Lou Kraus and his team of workers... Efrat & Meir Ohayon and Bob Fish. Those pancakes were delicious!

On Sunday night we begin Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. This is a time for self reflection and personal growth. As we all set goals for this school year, let's work together to make it a wonderful year for all our students and families.

Shabbat Shalom

Linda

**Wishing all families a  
L'Shana Tova!  
Happy New Year.  
School will be closed  
Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>  
for Yom Kippur.  
We will see you Tuesday  
morning.**

## School Programs and Events September

- We had a “buddy activity” to get to know our new buddies. Every student in the elementary grades has a buddy (or buddies) in the intermediate or middle school grades. Pictures of all of the buddies are posted on the bulletin board closest to the school office.
- Every Friday afternoon we end the week with our special TGIS (Thank Goodness It’s Shabbos) assembly. The students sit with their buddies, and each week different students have an opportunity to lead the service with their buddies. Thank you to Morah Shimer and Miss Judy for their wonderful accompaniment on the guitar! Parents are always welcome to join us at 3:05 for this program.
- We had special holiday services to prepare us for the High Holidays. The Rosh Hashanah service was lead by our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and the Yom Kippur service was lead by our 6<sup>th</sup> grade. At the end of both services each grade had a student representative blow the shofar for us to hear.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade visited with residents at Chambrel Nursing Home and sang songs and delivered Rosh Hashanah cards
- Grades K-2 went to the Beckwith Orchard
- Grade 4/5 went to the Akron Water Treatment Plant
- Grades 2/3, 4/5, and 6-8 participated in age appropriate Anti-Bullying Workshops
- Middle School students spent 3 fabulous days and nights of hands on learning with an excellent staff at the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center
- We all enjoyed starting our morning with a delicious Pancake Breakfast sponsored by ParenTeacher Team

Some Upcoming Events (please check October calendar for all events)

- We are building and decorating our school Sukkah in front of the school building next week.
- Deadline for cookie dough and candles fundraiser is October 9<sup>th</sup> and pickup date is October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Lippman Shabbat Dinner October 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:00 p.m.
- 5-8 grade attending Magical Theater performance of “Number the Stars” on October 20 (Lippman 8<sup>th</sup> grader Lani Skelley is one of the leads!)

### KINDERGARTEN KIBBITZER

1. Today is the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of school. We counted by ones, twos, tens and ones.
2. We met Fredrik Frog (F/f) and Octaves Octopus (O/o). We used our sound boards to make more new words and word parts. (Ex. big, am, if, at, go, and it).
3. Our newest Hebrew letter is *Tav*. *Tav* is the last letter in the *aleph-bet* and it begins Torah and *tapuach* (apple).
4. On Yom Kippur, we read the story of Jonah. Jonah tried to run away from God. But we can never “run away” from doing the right thing.
5. We read a special book called, “The Hardest Word.” We learned that sorry is, indeed, the hardest word, but very important to say.
6. In Math, we are working on Numbers 1-20. We are counting, putting numbers in order, counting one more, and reading graphs.
7. We love reading our Morning Messages!



**1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,17,17,18,19,20**

**1st Grade • General Studies**  
**Miss Glauberman**  
[lglauberman@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:lglauberman@lippmandayschool.org)

The month of September was a busy and productive time in first grade. The students have been very busy learning the first grade schedule and routines. They work very hard and love to help each other. They are such an enjoyable group.

In math, the first graders finished Unit 1. This unit focused primarily on routines and number sense. We practiced writing numbers, reviewed counting, played some math games, and worked in our math books. We just started Unit 2 this week. Unit 2's focus is on everyday uses of numbers. In this unit, we: count up and back on the number grid; explore telephone numbers; find complements of 10; create unit labels for numbers; work with an analog clock; tell time to the hour; count with pennies and nickels; explore number models; and tell number stories. For more information on this unit, please refer to the Unit 2 Family Letter that went home last week and the top of the Home Links each night. We are also working on our addition math facts. It is a good idea to make or buy a set of addition fact flash cards for your child to practice at home. We are doing weekly timed tests and also playing a game called "Around the World."

Reading Workshop has been a wonderful way to start our day. We begin with a mini-lesson and move right into independent reading time. From there, the students read with partners. Throughout this time, I meet with students individually or in small groups. At the end of the workshop time each day, the students choose one book for a response activity. The students complete either a response log entry or a sketch-to-stretch entry. A response log entry requires the students to write three words about the story. These words could be from how the characters felt, how the reader felt, or anything about the plot or setting. Sketch-to-stretch is similar, but the students use sketches and colors to show what they felt or thought. The first graders have been doing a terrific job with these!

Writing Workshop has also been an enjoyable time for our classroom. We begin with a mini-lesson and then go on to writing time. Students move at their own pace through the writing process. Once they have finished a draft, they meet with me for editing. They then publish their work on the computer or on a good piece of paper. All students get to read their published work at the end of the workshop. We especially love hearing what everyone has written.

Our first official unit was Apples. To begin the unit, the students completed a KWL chart. This chart shows what the students know, what they want to know, and what they learned. The first graders knew a lot about apples already and learned even more throughout the unit. We read various apple books and focused on the process from the seed to the apple. I also read two versions of Johnny Appleseed stories, which we compared and contrasted. Our next unit is on matter: solid, liquid, and gas. We will group objects according to what they are made of, discover what sinks and what floats, as well as look at the differences between the states of matter. The following unit will be on Australia.

Our first field trip was a success! The weather was beautiful and the kids were great. We even made apple crisp with the delicious apples from the orchard on Friday! I hope you all have a wonderful holiday.

Shabbat Shalom,  
Miss Glauberman

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade • General

Mrs. Zelin

[dzelin@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:dzelin@lippmandayschool.org)

Dear Parents,

During our trip to Beckwith Orchard last week, we learned that bats are one of the farmer's best friends. This week we read a *Scholastic News Magazine* which told about the world's biggest bat, the flying fox, whose body is about the size of a cat's. The second graders also completed their own book of Bat Facts and used their math skills to read a bat graph. Some of the vocabulary that was introduced was roost, nocturnal and mammals.

The sweet smell of apples could be detected in our hallway this week as we continued our unit on apples. The second graders compared six varieties of apples. We evaluated the look, feel, smell and taste of each type and then wrote the information down on a chart. The students will use this information to write apple poems which the students will type themselves.

The first and second graders came together on Friday to make apple crisp from our Beckwith Orchard apples. We used our math skills to figure out how to change a recipe that was made for 4, feed 24. Then the students measured, sliced, and stirred all the ingredients together. The best part, of course, came when we ate our delicious treat. Yummy!!

On Tuesday Homelink pages for Unit 1 were inserted into our red folders. When a page is assigned the students will write the information down in their planners and color in the house at the top of the assigned page. Please remind your child not to work ahead in the Homelink folder. Pages will be assigned after concepts are introduced in class.

This week the second graders completed Unit 1 in our math series. Next week you will receive, a copy of your child's Individual Profile of Progress: Unit 1. Also included will be a copy of our recent assessment. My hope is that this information will give you a better glimpse of how your child is progressing in math and what areas you may be able to help him or her with.

Unit 2 reviews addition number stories, addition facts and a variety of strategies that can be used to solve addition problems. Doubles facts, turn-around facts and the +9 shortcut are just a few examples of strategies. We will also review frames-and-arrow routines, "What's My Rule?" routines and counting strategies for subtraction.

Shabbat Shalom,  
Debbie Zelin

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade • Hebrew/Judaics

Mrs. Moss Hebrew

[emoss@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:emoss@lippmandayschool.org)

Dear Parents,

We have been studying about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this week. We are emphasizing the need to make ourselves better people and remembering the things we did or said that were not kind. We completed a paper listing all of the things that G-d likes about the world. We also listed all of the things we want to do better in the New Year.

With our pockets filled with crumbs, we walked down the road to throw our sins away. It was a modified "Tashlich" or throwing our bad things away. We wish we could have fed the fish with our crumbs but we fed the wild animals living in the woods.

We also listened to the story of Jonah. This story is often read on Yom Kippur because Jonah ran away from his responsibilities. Our focus has been to remember and improve.

We began our Shalom Ivrit text. We read in Hebrew about a family and their adventures on Rosh Hashanah with their honey and with the shofar. It is fun to read about the holiday in Hebrew!

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year.  
Morah Moss

## Morah Krieger and Mrs. Moss Hebrew/Judaics

[ckrieger@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:ckrieger@lippmandayschool.org)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Hebrew/Judaics

The past two weeks, the class studied about the holidays of *Rosh Hashannah* and *Yom Kippur*. The class enjoyed singing holiday songs. This week, students learned about Yom Kippur. They discussed that it is a holy day. We ask G-d to forgive us for our sins. Jews pray from sunset to sunset. They also fast during this time to remember how sorry we are for what we have done. Soon the students will be learning about the holidays of *Sukkot* and *Simhat Torah*. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the school or e-mail me at [ckrieger@jewishakron.org](mailto:ckrieger@jewishakron.org). Have a wonderful Shabbat and an easy fast.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade • General Studies

Mrs. Layman • [slayman@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:slayman@lippmandayschool.org)

Dear Parents,

It always amazes me how much is accomplished in third grade within a few short months. I hope you are as impressed as I am as to how far third graders have traveled so far this year.

In math we have completed Unit 1. This unit was a review of extended mathematical concepts that were developed in previous grades. Unit 2 concentrates on addition and subtraction facts. Please continue to practice the addition and subtraction facts with your child. If you haven't heard, on Fridays we have our math basketball game. Please ask your child to share the scores with you!

In reading we have been studying narrative elements by enjoying the realistic fiction story, Pepita Talks Twice and the historical fiction story, Frida Maria. The class made character cubes and created an invitation to a fiesta. In October we will begin reading the novel, Charlotte's Web. This is a wonderful novel that integrates many areas of our curriculum – reading, vocabulary, writing and science. A good book can touch our lives like a good friend. Within its pages are words and characters that can inspire us to achieve our highest ideals. It can also give us a cherished story to hold in our hearts forever. I hope the novels we read this year become good friends.

I have been reading the book, A Toad for Tuesday to the class. I stopped at a very suspenseful part and asked the students to write their own ending. We look forward to sharing the endings and finding out what happened to Warton and the owl!

In science we have been discussing life cycles. We learned about the life cycle of a butterfly and a frog. As a culminating activity each child will choose a butterfly or a frog and make a mobile. Our room will soon be full of butterflies and frogs. We will continue learning about living things and their environments by discovering different types of habitats and the importance of the food chain.

Geography is our first unit of study in social studies. The class has reviewed the cardinal and intermediate directions and the compass rose.

We will learn about different map skills and different types of maps. The students will also be identifying the continents and oceans.

I am so proud of all the third graders. They have adjusted so well to the third grade program. What a great group! Please remember our classroom door is always open. Do not hesitate to let me know of any questions or concerns.

Have a great weekend and holiday.

Sincerely, Sally Layman

### Mrs. Hurd • Intermediate Learning Team

[bhurd@lippmandayschool.org](mailto:bhurd@lippmandayschool.org)

We've had a terrific start to the new school year! The students have been working very well together, exploding volcanoes together, and stepping up to the challenges of critical thinking problems.

Water, water everywhere . . . we have also been experimenting with water, taking a field trip to the water treatment plant, and learning everything we can about this most valuable resource. As we get into the second half of the quarter, the students will be exploring other earth resources and ways our planet is changing.

On September 30, October 1, we will be giving our first book presentations. The students have been working hard, not only finishing their realistic fiction books, but organizing their narrative elements, analyzing their main characters, and comparing the book's conflicts to the solutions. We've made note cards and each presenter will have a visual to go along with their information. The September poem for recitation, "Water Wizard," is also due by September 30th.

In math we have just begun geometry. The 4th graders are having fun learning how to use a protractor and compass, with the 5th graders reviewing those skills and moving on to adjacent/vertical angles, congruent shapes, and tessellations. Everyone is learning the properties of polygons and, of course, keeping up on those multiplication and division skills!

The "Ancient Americans" of Ohio and North America is our current unit in social studies. As we move from the prehistoric to the historic Native Americans, the 4th graders will focus on the cultures of the Ohio and Eastern Woodland tribes. The 5th graders will focus on the other regional tribes across North America. The students will be making "hide" paintings with those brown paper bags sent in at the start of school and taking a nature walk to collect natural materials for models of tribal shelters from the different regions.

On October 20<sup>th</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending the Magic Theater performance of Number the Stars. We leave at 11:40 and return around 1:30 in the afternoon. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders will have a special activity in class that I've planned and will be supervised by a substitute teacher. On October 8<sup>th</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> graders have a presenter from the Summit County Historical Society on Paleo Indians of Ohio. The speaker brings artifacts, clothing, tools, bones, and activities for the children to

*Mrs. Hurd cont. on page 6*

**Mrs. Hurd cont. from page 5**

experience life in those ancient times. 5th graders will be working in our "science" room for this time period.

Just of few notes:

- Progress reports for the mid-term are coming out next week. For the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year, I send progress report for every child.
- Recitation poem for October is "Maps" due the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Book genre for October is historical fiction presentations are the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Shabbat family dinner is October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Parent conferences are October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Have a great weekend - Bev Hurd

**Morah Shimer 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chumash**  
**nshimer@lippmandayschool.org**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Chumash**

We have begun our textbook, Being Torah, and we've read the story of the creation of the world. We've noted several interesting things about this text, including the fact that there's a kind of pattern in the things that are created on each of the six days. We've had good discussions about what it means that G-d says that the things created are "good," and what it might mean that humans are created in the "image of G-d."

**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chumash**

In this class we read Torah stories in detail from our textbook, The Explorer's Bible. Our text also includes some *midrashim* (stories that help us understand the text) and some key Hebrew words. We started with a close reading of the account of Creation. In the next few weeks we will be reading the story of Cain and Abel, Noah and the first of the Avraham and Sarah stories. The students in this class have great questions about the text, and we get into some very lively and interesting discussions!

**The Art Studio - Mrs.Halpern**

Welcome back to the Art studio. In the primary grades we are reviewing and expanding our understanding of how color works. Kindergarten has completed the set of art projects that explain primary and secondary colors and how they are "related" to each other. The 1st and 3rd grades are using the Beacon Journal to cut familiar shapes (squares and rectangles) to learn about City-Scapes as an art theme. After looking at some modern paintings on the topic, the students used a palette of colors along with white and black to expand the "values" of the colors, to complete their paintings.

The 2nd grade finished cutting and constructing a color wheel with complementary colors. The interesting end result was (how amazing!) a Star of David. This class will be studying the proportions of the face next in a lesson about the portrait covers of Time magazine.

Students in the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade are visiting the 1960's and 70's and the style of psychedelic artist Peter Max. I called this lesson "Art and Sole" because it examines the creative possibilities of....of all things....sneaker treads. In a re-lated lesson (again based on sneaker treads) the 6/7th grade class is doing an in-depth study about printing processes. This lesson, called "Foot Prints", requires the students to design a tread, and then do a rubbing to reverse the image. They then cut the print block, do a test print and are now experimenting with a variety of ink colors and papers. They are becoming master printers.

The 8th grade, inspired by artists who use wire in their work, are making sculptures that show motion and form. The assignment began with continuous line drawings. We are grateful to ParenTeacherTeam for providing the funding for tools to make this project possible. If you would like to be an "arts" supporter, we could use old school suitable) magazines for collage projects, as well as Dean's milk Chugs bottles, and the mushroom shaped plastic bottles that Tang, Kool-aid and Country Time lemonade come packed in.

Upcoming lessons (especially in Middle School ) will relate to the current exhibit at the Akron Art Museum featuring the work of the artist Chuck Close, as well as a new display of the work of Jacob Lawrence (coming in Oct.). If you don't belong to the museum, you can still make it an interesting part of your family adventures. There are a number of free family-centered "make and take" events scheduled ...many on Sunday afternoons. There are also days when the museum is free to the community. We are so lucky to have this facility so conveniently located. For more information, you can call (330) 376-9185.

## PTT GESHER ARTICLE

The Lippman ParentTeacher Team welcomes all families back to school for the 2009-2010 year. We are excited about how the new school year has started and all the events and activities we have planned. All parents are members of the ParentTeacher Team and we are excited to offer you many opportunities to get involved.

Our purpose is to foster a close relationship between home and school so that parents and teachers can work together to benefit all students. Throughout the year, we work to develop and implement programs, regarding safety, health, education, special events and holidays.

We usually meet on the first Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the Lippman Library. All parents are welcome to attend and participate. Please see the school web site at [www.lippmandayschool.org](http://www.lippmandayschool.org) and check the calendar for all dates and times.

Our "Back to School" Pancake Breakfast on 9/22/09 was a great way to start the day. We want to thank Lou Kraus and Efrat Ohayon for all they did to prepare and organize the event and to Bob Fish and Meir Ohayon for making the best pancakes anyone has ever eaten. Thank you to all the staff and other volunteers who helped make this a fun time for all.

We also want to make you aware of some things PTT does throughout the year and some of our upcoming events.

- Birthday Books – Every month PTT donates a book to the Lippman Library in honor of the students who celebrate their birthdays in that particular month. Anne Biermann helps us select the book for the month! In August, we donated two books due to the large number of birthdays, *Wangari's Trees of Peace* by Jeanette Winter and *Puzzling World of Winston Breen* by Eric Berlin. September's book is *Dinotopia: Journey to Chandara* by James Gurney.

Our August Birthday Students were Benjamin Fish, Talia Horowitz, Aja Hunter, Yoel Klein, Josh Kovach, Dimitry Melnikov and Wyatt Schmid.

Our celebrants for September are Justin Bober, Olivia Kern and Erik Stern. Mazel Tov and Happy Birthday!

This October we will have our Main Street Cookies and Root Candle Fundraiser. We hope it will be better than last year and remember that not only can you buy cookies for home and friends, but you can also donate cookies to the school.

We will be supporting the Lippman/JCC Annual Auction by donating items to each classroom to be decorated by all students and to be bid on at the auction. We are sure that these one-of-kind items will be the hit of the event. We need volunteers to help with this fun project. Please contact Sandi Kraus or the Lippman office if you are interested.

- The Box Tops for Education is our old standby (but a GOOD one!), but this year we are making some changes. Instead of one day a week, you can send box tops any time, any day and as many as you can collect. We have put collection boxes in each classroom so your child simply puts them in the box in their room. As we reach certain "goals" all the students will be rewarded (probably with a special treat at lunch). With everyone's help, we can have our best year ever!
- All the money that PTT raises goes directly to the school and our children. From supporting events, to teacher appreciation week, to buying items for the school that help both our children and the staff, and we deduct no overhead costs like many of the larger charities we all know. Last year PTT was happy to be able to purchase many items for the school including a digital camera, and contributing to the purchase of the school's new laminator. Please check out the school web site for all the simple and easy ways you can assist with fundraising.
- Showing your school spirit is very important in the community and for your children. PTT gives a Lippman Day School T-Shirt to each Kindergarten child and each newly enrolled student every year. Our current Spirit Wear drive is on now to purchase Lippman apparel. It ends on **October 2, 2009**. Order forms were sent home but if you missed yours, you can download and print a form from the web site. Just look under Family Resources/Documents and Forms. Update your Lippman Day School look for the new Fall Season NOW!

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

The Parent Teacher Team

### 3rd Grade • Hebrew/Judaics

**Morah Krieger • ckrieger@lippmandayschool.org**

Students studied about the holidays of *Rosh Hashannah* and *Yom Kippur*. They have been singing songs, studying holiday prayers and Hebrew vocabulary words. The class learned that now is a time where Jews think about *Teshuvah*-repentance. They learned that G-d forgives people who apologize with their heart. People must apologize to those they hurt, to G-d and to learn from their mistake and never do it again. Some may have to work harder than others do on the apology, but in the end, G-d will forgive.

Students will be learning about the holidays of *Sukkot* and *Simhat Torah*. Also, the class will start working in the *Yesh Lanu Lama*, Hebrew book very soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the school or e-mail me at ckrieger@jewishakron.org. Have a wonderful Shabbat and an easy fast.

### 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Judaic Studies

**Morah Krieger • ckrieger@lippmandayschool.org**

This week, the class studied about the Jewish holiday of *Yom Kippur*. Students discussed and learned:

- The steps of *Teshuvah* and the special saying "*Kol Yisrael aravim zeh bazeh*" -All Israel are responsible for on another.
- Why Jews fast on this holiday.
- The historical significance behind the prayer "*Kol Nidre*" and what it means.
- *Yom Kippur* in the days of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem Students will be learning about the holiday of *Sukkot* and *Simhat Torah* very soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the school or e-mail me at ckrieger@jewishakron.org. Have a wonderful Shabbat and an easy fast.

### 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Hebrew and

#### Middle School Hebrew

**Morah Greenblatt and Morah Krieger**

**Morah Krieger • ckrieger@lippmandayschool.org**

**Morah Greenblatt•sbricklin@lippmandayschool.org**

We've had a very good start to the school year! The students are all getting familiar with the new Hebrew program that we have developed for our 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades.

This program emphasizes using Hebrew as a spoken language. Using thematic units with lessons and activities, the students work at different levels developing vocabulary and grammar, requiring them to speak and listen to Hebrew, as well as strengthening reading and writing. Students are engaged in using Hebrew while taking responsibility for completing all of the work at different learning centers, or with one of the teachers. Every unit includes a vocabulary and/or grammar quiz. The students especially enjoy the opportunities to play Hebrew games and do creative projects. Our first unit was a basic introductory unit about ourselves, our feelings, greeting and introducing others the next unit will expand to include our appearance. Each holiday the students learn holiday vocabulary with a special Hebrew reading or story. We are very excited about the enthusiasm and student participation we have seen during Hebrew class.

**Mrs. Biermann**

**abiermann@lippmandayschool.org**

#### Notes from the library

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be held the last week of October, to overlap with parent teacher conferences. Please support our book fair—it's our main fundraiser to buy new books for the library, as well as providing you the opportunity to stock up on some great books for your children. Many thanks as well to ParenTeam and to individual parents who have been supporting our library with Birthday Books and books in honor of other special occasions. If you wish to participate in this, contact Mrs. Cohen.

New this year in the library is an "Open Library" from 8:30 to 9:15 on Wednesdays for Lippman and Pre-school parents. You can check out books for your children, or for yourself from our new (and growing!) parent section. Also, if your child is in the early reading stages and goes through a lot of easy reading books (usually marked Level 1 or Level 2—each publisher is a little different!), and you would like more books as you help them read at home each night, I would be happy to send home packets of books. Just drop me an e-mail and I will send home packets of about 5 books at a time. That way your children can also continue to choose their own books during Library time.

If you have any questions about our library or technology curriculum, please contact me. E-mail is usually easiest; because I am part-time, I am sometimes not here at the beginning or end of the day, but I can usually make arrangements to be here then.

Lastly, I am still looking for volunteers for the library, especially for during the Book Fair but also to help with routine library tasks of shelving and processing new books. The odd hour here or there would be greatly appreciated!

Anne Biermann

**Middle School Global Studies, US History and Government, Language Arts**

**Mr. Lamb • blamb@lippmandayschool.org**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade American History and Government class has completed their introduction to the European colonization of North America. The students have begun a continuing study of the impact of cultural conflicts, the early colonial justice systems, the important events, and people of that period.

The class has performed a dramatization of the Salem Witch Trials, studied James Fennimore Cooper, and watched the recent movie version of, The Last of the Mohicans.

The 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade Global studies class began their study in the caves and valleys of the Early Stone age. The students made stone tools and explored the development of human relationships through the period of Ancient Egypt. The class created clay writing tablets using the alphabets of early languages. This week the students worked on constructing the most obvious examples of ancient Egyptian building pyramids and the Sphinx.

All three core classes are involved in reviewing basic writing skills and developing skills in differing writing formats. Using topics and people connected with their social studies, students have written biographies and worked on summarizing source material to improve research writing.

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade class has completed their first novel, I Heard the Owl Call My Name. The book was used for the routine understanding of characters, plots, settings, and also as a connecting element to their study of the development and conflicts of cultures.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have been reading individually assigned books, and magazine articles related to their social studies. During the next two weeks the students will read the teen version of the Greg Mortenson book, Three Cups of Tea.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade class has completed reading Zia, the sequel to The Island of the Blue Dolphins. They have also done independent reading including, The Graveyard Book, The Wizard of Oz, and Holes.

**Math and Science Ms. Sarah Shafer**  
**sshaffer@lippmandayschool.org**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

Before CVEEC, the class learned about the properties, formation, and mining of minerals. During these lessons, the class did several experiments to explore these properties. The class did mineral field tests to identify the hardness on Moh's scale for minerals and also found the density for a mystery mineral. In the upcoming month, the class will continue studying the rock cycle by making a sedimentary rock and modeling with clay the process of metamorphism in rocks. Then the class will learn about energy resources and complete a research project about specific alternative energies.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

Before CVEEC, the class had a great start to the year. They whizzed right through their study of "The Tools of Algebra." Now, with a review and introduction to the rules of combining integers, they will be ready to master even more of the Pre-Algebra skills. Next month, we will continue to work on integers and then will move our focus to equations.

**7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

Before CVEEC, the students studied the processes, tools, and models used to map Earth's surface. During their study, the class made a compass, heard from experts on the topic of using various map projections and modeled, then topographically mapped their own mountain. Currently the class is learning about plate-tectonics. We have begun by modeling the layers of the earth. As we continue this study, the students will learn about the movements of the plates, earthquakes, and volcanoes.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Math**

Before CVEEC, the students reviewed and started chapter 1. As we continue this study the students will master all of the necessary thought processes and skills needed to be successful in the Algebra curriculum. The "Geometry" students are finishing the Algebra curriculum. It is absolutely necessary for them to master these skills before moving into Geometry. The algebra skills they learn will also be greatly beneficial when starting geometry later this year.

## Middle School Hebrew

Morah Greenblatt •

sbricklin@lippmandayschool.org

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Judaics

Our first unit this year emphasized the value of Torah learning. We read about a famous rabbi named Yohanan Ben Zakkai who taught Torah during the time of the Roman Empire, when the Second Holy Temple was destroyed. We learned about how he was able to convince Vespasian to allow him to set up a school of Jewish learning at a time when Jewish learning and identity were being suppressed. We also discussed how the Torah can help us make decisions when we are faced with ethical dilemmas.

Our holiday studies so far have included Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The focus for Rosh Hashanah was Repentance, Prayer and Helping Others (*Tshuvah, Tfillah, Tzedakah*). We also discussed and read about God's qualities of justice and mercy, how they relate to the High Holidays and how important they are in society. The focus for Yom Kippur was: confessing as a community reminds us that we all have community responsibility to make our communities better; that people can change if they really want to and we have to be ready to forgive them and accept that they have changed; and that starting the Yom Kippur fast a half an hour early (before sunset) and ending it a half an hour later (after sunset) is an example of how we sometimes "build a fence around a mitzvah" to be sure that we completely fulfill it.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Judaics

Our first unit this year was an introduction to Jewish Life Cycle. The students shared who they were named for and the meaning. We emphasized how the name your parents gives you is good but the crown of a truly good name (*Shem Tov*) is the name you acquire for yourself by your actions and reputation. After the holidays we will begin learning about the Life Cycle celebration and mitzvah of *Brit Milah* (circumcision) for boys and special naming celebrations for baby girls as well. The focus for Rosh Hashanah was on the symbolism and meaning attributed to the mitzvah of sounding the shofar. We came up with ten reasons for hearing the shofar, included in which were some reasons also given by a great rabbi named Saadia Gaon. Our emphasis for Yom Kippur was the mitzvah of fasting, the first and last prayer service (*Kol Nidre and Neilah*) and the story of Jonah.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Judaics

We began the year laying a foundation for our study of the history of Israel. Our Rosh Hashanah studies focused on looking at *Tshuvah*, Repentance, in a more mature way and discussing why it is so difficult to change our behaviors, especially ones that are like addictions. We talked about finding the balance between our natural urges and to keep certain behaviors we have at a healthy level so that they benefit us and others and do not harm us. For example, how competition kept in balance can be a good thing but out of balance it can be harmful. We also talked about different approaches to really making personal changes. For Yom Kippur our main focus was the special holiday services, what "self-denial" or fasting is about and significant Yom Kippurs in Jewish history.

Morah Shimer • nshimer@lippmandayschool.org

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chumash

We are reading selections from *B'reishit* (the Book of Genesis) very intensively and examining some of the traditional commentaries. We have had a very interesting discussion about the incident of Jacob wrestling with the angel, and how different scholars throughout the years have interpreted this incident. We're looking forward to studying more of the challenging sections of the Chumash!

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Chumash

After a review of *B'reishit* (the Book of Genesis), we have begun our intensive study of *Shmot* (the Book of Exodus). We are reading the text line by line and learning to ask probing questions, so that we come away with a deeper understanding of this sacred text.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Chumash

After reviewing the major personalities and events of the Five Books of Moses, we are about to move into our study of the Book of Judges, in the second section of the Tanach (Hebrew Bible) which is called *Nevi'im* (Prophets). We will start with the Book of Joshua, which picks up with the entry of the Israelites into the Land of Canaan. We will "meet" some very interesting characters along the way!

**DONATIONS**  
**JEROME LIPPMAN DAY SCHOOL**

In honor of the birth of Pam and Joe Kanfer's new grandsons from Arlene Markey

**LIBRARY BOOK CLUB**

In honor of the birth of Pam and Joe Kanfer's 4 new grandsons from Ellen and Herb Moss

In honor of the birth of Sylvia Lewis's great-grandsons from Ellen and Herb Moss

For a speedy recovery of Linda Brotsky from Marsha, Courtney and Harvey Krieger

In memory of Sarah King's grandfather from the Lippman Staff

In honor of Olivia Kern's birthday from Mom and Dad

In honor of Kara Kern's birthday from Mom and Dad

**EIGHTH GRADE ISRAEL TRIP FUND 2010**

In honor of the birth of Pam and Joe Kanfer's new grandsons from Esther and Larry Hexter

In honor of Alisha Crane's Bat Mitzvah from Anne Biermann and David Perry

In honor of Lani Skelley Bat Mitzvah from Anne Biermann and David Perry

In honor of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduating Class from Anne Biermann and David Perry

In honor of Sarah Shafer's engagement from the Crane Family

In honor of Andrew Brotsky's engagement from the Crane Family

In honor of the birth of Livia and Phil Kades's new grandson from the Crane Family

In memory of Trish Crane's cousin from Mike and Linda Brotsky

In honor of the birth of Noam Sternfeld from Ceil and Ruthellen

In honor of the birth of Noam Sternfeld from Linda and Mike Brotsky

In memory of Trish Crane's cousin from Ceil and Mark Cohen

In memory of Trish Crane's cousin from Ruthellen and Rich Fein

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT FUND**

In honor of Linda Brotsky's Special Birthday from the Spector Family

In honor of Linda Brotsky's Special Birthday from the Sand Loud Family

**LIBRARY BOOK FUND**

In memory of Sarah King's grandfather from Linda and Mike Brotsky

In memory of Herman Korycan's birthday from Susan and Peter Korycan

In memory of David Silverman's father from Linda and Mike Brotsky

In memory of Sarah King's grandfather from Ruthellen and Ceil

In honor of Nathalie Mark's birthday from Elia Meltzer

**THANK YOU!**

We want to thank Giant Eagle, Smith Dairy, and Michael Litt of the Nervous Dog who donated the wonderful coffee and coupons. There are some coupons still left in the school office if you would like to stop in and get one.