

## Religious School News

**DECEMBER 20, 2023** 

Dear Religious School Families:

We had a wonderful final session of the semester! Special thanks to all our Hebrew Through Movement Learners who ALL took on the role of teaching. Be sure you ask them about everything they have learned. It's great to see the enthusiasm for learning Hebrew. We will be sending home a list of the words and actions Pre K-3rd graders have learned this semester so you can practice at home over the break.

There is always extra joy when our youngest learners and their families are here for Tots Academy. Their joy increased as they made their very own wine! And, I'm so proud of the leadership of our oldest learners as the 7th grade continued their planning for the January 28th Mitzvah Day. K-1st learners made a gorgeous,



life-sized Chanukiyah with memories of the holiday. 2nd grade filled their day with music, Hebrew and Torah stories. They are ready and eager to become the Hebrew Through Movement teachers, so if you have a 2nd grader, ask them to give you a lesson!

3rd-6th grade spent time reviewing their learning about the first BIG Question of the year: What is the story of the Jewish people? Here are some of their reflections on the BIG Ideas and BIG Questions:

- Torah teaches us about Jewish history and how it can relate to your life today...like Esau and Jacob fighting but still loving each other, and us fighting with our siblings but also playing with them.
- Torah is important because it shares stories of our ancestors and we learn about Jews who came before us.
- The role of Torah in my life is a teacher. Torah teaches us what it means to be like Abraham,
   Jacob, Rachel, Leah, Rebecca and others.
- Torah is important because it teaches you to be grateful, and in your daily life it teaches you not to be greedy. It also guides you to believe that anger and hatred cause problems between people.
- The Torah can help us learn to be kind to all people even if they are annoying.
- These stories of our ancestors are part of my culture and history.

Debbie

Deborah Niederman, RJE
Director of Lifelong Learning

## **Upcoming events and important dates:**

- December 20 Midweek Hebrew classes and Next Dor
- December 22 January 8 Winter Break
   NO Sunday Classes January 7 and 14
- January 6 Munchkin Minyan note special time 5PM
- January 21 Sunday Classes resume
- January 26 GFC Camp Shabbat
- January 28 7th grade Mitzvah Day watch your email after the New Year for special collections for this day.
   Pizza, Paint and Pour Party with GFC



HEBREN week words of the week

תִּשׁפְּחָה Mishpacha Family אַבָּא Abba Dad אַמָא Eema Mom אָח Akh Brother אחוֹת Akhote Sister

And here's a simple song to help you review together (Cindy Paley is not related ♥)

<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWcJx1Dz0R4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWcJx1Dz0R4</a>















