

# Welcome Back!

By Yehudit Robinson, Director of Media, [yrobinson@mdsweb.org](mailto:yrobinson@mdsweb.org)

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful summer. School is back in session, and we are ready to dive right into an adventure! There are some exciting changes in our building and on our website. We have introduced a brand new system called ParentLocker that provides nightly homework emails and updates on classrooms and other activities in school. We also welcome several new teachers and students who are infusing our school with extra enthusiasm and energy. We are looking forward to a fantastic year of growth and learning.

We look forward to sharing updates with you through email and through the MDS Messenger. We are bringing back popular columns such as the Parents Council Corner, Parsha Challenge, Challenge of the Week, The Buzz on Books, and Mi Chadash b'MDS. We are also creating some new ones, such as MDS MiDoS and Where Are They Now?

We look forward to greeting you in person at our Parent-Teacher Workshops on Wednesday, September 21st!



Have you activated your ParentLocker account?

Please contact Yehudit, [yrobinson@mdsweb.org](mailto:yrobinson@mdsweb.org), if you need an activation code.



# My Awesome First Day of Fifth Grade

By Loren Elmann, 5G; Pictures taken by Messenger Staff

When I first got to school, I was nervous fifth grade would be a disaster. But then I met my teachers. I knew some of my teachers already and met others when I went down to the gym and wondered where the fifth grade lines up each morning. When I went to tefilah, I was so excited to see my tefilah teacher from last year, and I also met some new ones, including Ms. Fisch. Then science came with Mrs. Khanna, and we got assigned seats. I got a seat next to Rose Adelman, the new girl in our class. Next was art with Ms. Demirtas. I love art, and I was so happy we were having it so early in the day. I found out I had homeroom next, which is basically ten minutes of free time with announcements from our teachers. I had chumash and found out Mrs. Rossler also known as Morah Rivky was going to be my teacher for Chumash and Dinim. Next we had Language Arts. I have Mrs. Tenzer - the most fun teacher in fifth grade. Then came lunch recess and lashon. I have two teachers in lashon, Moreh Arnon and Mrs. Pesso. Then we played soccer in gym with Mr. B. Then we had math which is my favorite subject with Mrs. Posen. Then we davened minchah for the first time in the beit midrash with the middle school. Navi was next with Mrs. Sulimanoff, and then Social Studies with Mrs. Korn. Anyways, all in all it was the best day ever!!!!!!!



# The First Day of School

By Messenger Staff



# MDS Remembers 9/11

By Messenger Staff

The MDS Middle School commemorated 9/11 with a moving program in memory of two member of the MDS family who lost their lives ten years ago: Mr. Howard Lee Kane, brother of MDS teacher Ms. Holly Tanz, and Mr. Thierry Saada, father of Lior Saada (5B). After watching a short film about 9/11, Ms. Tanz shared the following remarks about her brother (pictured on the right):

“I have been blessed to be a part of Manhattan Day School for over 20 years. Let me share with you some of the wonderful things that you do on a daily basis which allows Manhattan Day School to be the outstanding school it is.

Each day we all come to a place where everyone embraces each other in a warm and comforting way. We support one another in our work to achieve the highest goals we can. We care about each other to the highest degree. We care about how our friends feel and what they think. We help each other with ease. We smile and give compliments. We do Chesed projects. We study Torah. We respect each other and our neighbors. We love to learn with each other.

These things might appear simple and part of everyday life. However, it was on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> that the world - not just myself - felt something completely different. Things became complicated. Innocent people lost their lives. We realized that not everyone practices what we thought was so simple.

My brother worked in the World Trade Center in the restaurant Windows of the World as a comptroller. He got to work every morning by 7am. He was 40 and a father, brother, friend, uncle and son. He practiced what we do. It was simple for him. He was kind, good hearted, sincere, and funny.

He supported me. He did what he loved to do. He knew all about Manhattan Day School and how much I love to be part of this family. He would want me to continue to do what I love. He would be so proud of you for doing the simple things which make a world of difference to help achieve world peace. We have to continue even in times of despair and continue to pray for all good things. I thank you for sharing his memory with me.”

After Ms. Tanz spoke, Lior Saada shared the following remarks about his father:

“My dad’s name was Thierry Eli Saada. He was born on January 11, 1974 in Charenton, France, where he also lived as a child. As an adult, my dad moved to New York City, which was always his dream. He worked as a broker on the 104<sup>th</sup> floor of the second World Trade Center tower, and I’m sure he was very good at it. My mom always tells me how smart my dad was. My dad died, as a kiddush Hashem, on September 11, 2011 at the age of 26, and I was born two weeks after that.

Even though I never met my dad, I think about him all the time. I still feel the pain of not having him in my life.

In gematria, 26, my dad’s age when he died, translates into yud-hey-vav-hey, the letters of G-d’s name. My father was very close to Hashem. I appreciate the fact that I have his midot and his kindness. My dad knew and helped a lot of people.

If I were to see my dad now, I would tell him how proud he could be of me. I work hard as a student and as a son.”

In memory of Howard Lee Kane and Thierry Eli Saada, our students have donated money to tzedakah to an organization called Connections Israel, which provides educational programming and general support for soldiers in the Israeli Defense Forces. Below is the letter that was sent to Connections Israel:

“Dear Connections Israel,

Enclosed are funds from the students of Manhattan Day School, to support your Soldier Education Program, which builds identity, pride and unity among the troops.

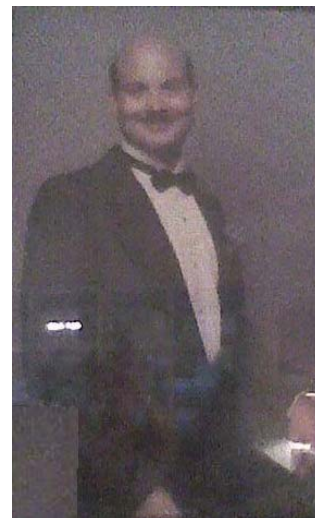
We would like to dedicate this donation in memory of two members of the Manhattan Day School family who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 (23 Elul). They are Hillel ben Baruch Kane, brother of an MDS teacher, and Eliyahu ben Mordechai Saada, father of an MDS student (who was born two weeks after the attack!).

When we said an ‘E-I Maleh Rachamim’ on their behalf this week at our commemoration assembly, we pledged money to Tzedakah, and this is where we are sending it.

May all our brave Chayalim be safe and may this be a year of Shalom Al Yisrael.

Rabbi Binyamin Yablok, on behalf of the students of MDS”

The program concluded with singing the Star Spangled Banner.



# Mi Chadash b'MDS? Susan Kurnit!

By Messenger Staff

Each week, the Messenger introduces you to the new teachers who infuse our building with extra energy. This week, meet Ms. Susan Kurnit, our new middle school Social Studies teacher:

"History is the story of us - who we are and what we came from. What can be more interesting than that? When I was a senior in high school in Brooklyn, one of my teachers got me interested in history. When I got my masters, I focused on history, and I taught mostly global history in public schools. In private schools in New Orleans, I started teaching American history. I loved it because you're dealing with a smaller historical period so you can focus more in depth. History is our biography. I love talking and learning about history, and I'm currently working on a doctorate degree.

I spent the last six years in New Orleans and taught in an elite independent school. I taught grades 9-12 including Advanced Placement U.S. History and Advanced Placement U.S. Government. I also taught World History to 9th graders and Western Civilization to 10th graders. I arrived there a month before Katrina and came back to NY three months before Irene. I loved my students, but missed my own three children and of course missed NY. My children are 36, 28 and 26 and all live in NYC.

I currently live in Northern Westchester, where I lived for 25 years and where I raised my children. We lived a mile away from the Clintons. In my spare time, I enjoy classical music, tennis, and yoga. I also love to oil paint, and all of my paintings are of animals, domesticated and wild. I'm a dog lover; I absolutely adore dogs." Welcome, Ms. Kurnit, to the MDS family!



## The Buzz on Books

By Michele Lyons, Librarian, mlyons@mdsweb.org

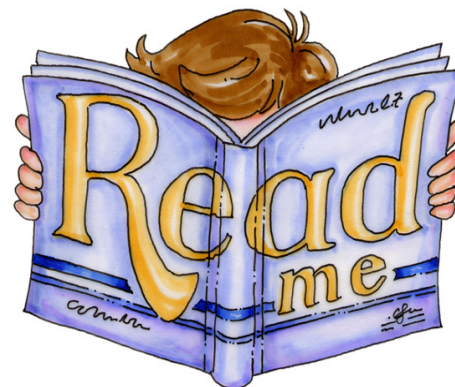
After a wonderful summer, it's my pleasure to welcome everyone back to the MDS library. As many of you know, our collection has grown significantly over the past year (and over the summer, as well) and it is truly impressive. Virtually every department has been update and revamped with exciting new acquisitions: picture books, fiction titles, biographies, non-fiction titles, series books for early readers, and hot-off-the-press novels for our students in upper grades. Our library is a veritable treasure of great reading opportunities that we are very proud to share with all of our students and faculty.

Students from Nursery to Fourth Grade visit the library once a week at scheduled times for a library class. Through our classes we address three goals: we enjoy a read-aloud together and discuss relevant topics, we acquire library skills, and we select and check out books.

In terms of our read-alouds, we incorporate both fiction and non-fiction titles into the library curriculum. A top priority is making curriculum connections with topics that are being studied in the classroom. What better way to reinforce learning! Our library skills component of each class varies widely by grade level but our objective is the same: to familiarize students with libraries and their various functions and to encourage competence in locating everything they want or need. Included in our skills curriculum for younger students is learning how to care for books, about the various parts of a book (title page, author's note, blurbs, glossary, table of contents, etc.) and about the various genres housed in most libraries. Older students enjoy authors' studies and direction on how to read critically. Library time is an opportunity for all students to become familiar with popular authors, many of whom are award-winners.

Students are asked to check out a book or two at the end of each class. Our policy is to check out one book per week to younger students and two books to students in upper grades. (If more are required, individual arrangements can always be made.) An electronic slip in the book pocket will indicate the due date (usually two weeks from checkout). Please remind students to bring their books back on time. There are often waiting lists for the more popular titles. Should a book go overdue, we do not charge fines. However, as with the public library, if a student is holding an overdue book, he or she will not be allowed to check out a new book until the outstanding book is returned. If after several reminder notices a book is not returned, a bill to cover replacement costs for the item will be sent home.

I am in the library Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays and will gladly help students select and check out books they will enjoy. Stay tuned for future updates on reader incentive programs and other special projects. In the meantime, feel free to stop by, say hello, and check us out!



# Talmud Tokens!

By Messenger Staff

Once again, Rabbi Czeladnicki's fourth grade students have the amazing opportunity to be a part of the Talmud Tokens program. He and Rabbi Yablok created actual tokens fashioned after the coins used during the Bayit Sheni based on the denominations of that era. There is a perutah, an issar, a dinar, a shekel and a dinar zehav. The boys receive coins for asking strong questions in class, completing extra assignments, or demonstrating exemplary behavior. If the boys save up enough Talmud Tokens, they can earn the coveted dinar zehav. Rabbi Yablok was able to show the students originals of the coins. This program has had tremendous success in motivating the students to do more learning, try harder in their studies, and participate more in class discussions. Rabbi Czeladnicki has reported that on the third day of school several boys asked for extra homework so they could earn more Talmud Tokens! This really proves the old adage: (Talmudic) money talks!



## MDS MiDoS and ChiDuShiM

Compiled by Rabbi Ariel Cohen, [acohen@mdsweb.org](mailto:acohen@mdsweb.org)

- ♦ Aaron Saxon (7B) and Benjy Feldmus (7B) participated in a summer learning project studying the "Concise Book of Mitzvot" written by the Chafetz Chaim. Aaron won the grand prize learning about over 100 different Mitzvot! Both will be generously rewarded for their efforts.
- ♦ Ariel Dubizh (7B) asked why the pasuk states "ויקרא אל משה" instead of the usual "ויקרא ה' אל משה"
- ♦ Simon Kofman (8B) explained the connection between ספר ויקרא and ספר שמות and was מכוון to the words of the רמב"ן
- ♦ Mikey Allen (8B) asked very perplexing questions regarding the first Mishna in פרק ד' of ברכות and the application of time bound Mitzvot.
- ♦ Julian Snyder (8B) wonderfully read from the Torah this past Thursday for the first time.
- ♦ Max Nussbaum (4B) stood up when a visiting teacher walked into the classroom. He also shared his supplies with a boy who was missing some during Ms. Goodstone's lesson.
- ♦ Daveners of the week (4G & 5G grade tefillah): Rebecca Roth (5G) and Hanna Gerber (4G).

## Challenge of the Week: Which Letter?

By Marissa Wolf Fries, [mwolf@mdsweb.org](mailto:mwolf@mdsweb.org)

Welcome back to Challenge of the Week! We're looking forward to another year of exciting stumpers!

Try your best to answer the questions given. All answers should be sent to Mrs. Marissa Wolf at: [mwolf@mdsweb.org](mailto:mwolf@mdsweb.org) by Tuesday. Prizes will be given to students that send thoughtful answers!

Good luck with this week's challenge, Which Letter?

The name of the letter **R** rhymes with *car*. The name of the letter **B** rhymes with *me*, and so on. There is only one letter of the 26 in our alphabet that does not rhyme with some English word or combination of words. Can you figure out which one it is? (HINT – It is not W which rhymes with *trouble you!*)



# Parents Council Corner

It's a new year at MDS and we're thrilled to be a part of it. We have many exciting Parent Council activities planned for you throughout the year—from community service events to student activities to family gatherings--and many are already underway.

**Parents MDS Council**

**We have been actively working on choosing committee chair people and class parents** so we can move forward with our planning. Thank you to all the many parents who have already volunteered their time and efforts. There are a few spots left for different programs and class parents for the upper grades (third grade and above). If you are interested in helping out, please contact one of us as soon as possible.

Once we have all the volunteers in place, we will be able to work on New Parent Night, Book Fairs, Chanukah Boutique, Chesed opportunities, Family Fun Days, Tu B'Shvat Programs, Mishloach Manot efforts, the Pesach Wine Fundraiser, Ladies' Night Out and lots more.

We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to attend the **parenting lecture scheduled for next Wednesday, September 21st. The topic is: *What To Do At Home To Help Our Children Excel in School*, featuring a lecture by Rabbi Jonathn Rietti.** The lecture will be held from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Beforehand, there will be an art exhibit featuring the artwork of MDS students, beginning at 6:30. Afterward, while parents of first to sixth graders meet their children's teachers, there will be a special program for parents of seventh and eighth graders focusing on How to Survive the Teenage Years. We need a couple of volunteers to help with the event so please contact us.

Another note: **New Parents' Night will take place on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.** It will be a chance for new parents to get to know each other and ask any questions they still have about school. We'd like to thank co-chair people Ruth Schwartz and Stacey Levy for volunteering to organize the event. They need volunteers to help with the planning and to be present at the event that evening so please contact us if you're interested.

If you have any thoughts you'd like to share or ideas for new activities, please reach out to us at any time.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

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## First Graders Say "Shalom!"

By Sharon Gopin, sgopin@mdsweb.org



# Parsha Challenge: Ki Tavo

Prepared by Rabbi Benjamin Yablok, based on questions from Congregation Beth Aaron in Teaneck, New Jersey

**1. (a) Why does the parasha begin, “It will be when you enter the Land”, right after the mitzvah in Ki Teitzei to not forget what Amalek did? (b) The mitzvah of bikurim (first fruits) (1) applies to which crops? (2) began when? (c) Why did the kohen have to place the bikurim in front of the mizbei-ach? (d) (1) In the Beit ha-Mikdash, who recited Parashat Bikurim and why? (2) Which shul procedure reflects this reason? (e) How did the recitation of Parashat Bikurim atone for cheit ha-meraglim (sin of the spies)? (f) Why does the Torah say, “an arami [Lavan], tried to destroy my forefather [Ya’akov]”, causing Ya’akov “to descend to Mitzrayim”, when, in fact, Ya’akov went from Lavan to Yitzchak’s house and left to Mitzrayim many years later? (g) Why is “va-yevi’enu” (and He brought us [to Eretz Yisrael]) spelled without a 2nd yud? (Devarim 26:1-10)**

1. (a) This indicates that Bnei Yisrael were commanded to destroy Amalek upon entering the Land – Amalek attacked to prevent Bnei Yisrael from entering (Ba’al haTurim). (b) (1) The species for which Eretz Yisrael is noted – (i) wheat, (ii) barley, (iii) grapes, (iv) figs, (v) pomegranates, (vi) oil-olives, (vii) date-honey; (2) 14 years after entering Eretz Yisrael, after dividing the land (Rashi). (c) To signify that the farmer brought the bikurim to Hashem, Who gave them to the kohen (Sforno). (d) (1) Originally, each farmer recited it – when Chazal saw that illiterate farmers were embarrassed to bring bikurim, they instituted a ba’al korei who always would be read the text; (2) originally, a man called to the Torah would read his aliyah – since some did not know how, Chazal required a ba’al korei to always read (Sotah 32a). (e) The meraglim, displaying Eretz Yisrael’s fruit, sinned with lashon hara about the Land – the farmer displayed his bikurim, acknowledging the good Hashem did by giving him a portion of the Land, negating the meraglim’s lashon hara (Ari haKadosh). (f) Lavan deceived Ya’akov into marrying Leah, instead of his beloved Rachel, resulting in a rivalry between the sisters. The rivalry transferred to the next generation, leading Leah’s sons to direct the sale of Rachel’s son, Yosef, causing Ya’akov to bring his whole family to Mitzrayim – Bnei Yisrael’s exile in Mitzrayim resulted from Lavan’s deception (Sifri). (g) The missing yud reminds us of the 10 times Bnei Yisrael in the midbar tested Hashem, Who almost stopped their entering the Land (Ba’al haTurim).

**2. (a) (1) When was viduy (confession of) ma’aser said? (2) What sin required confession? (b) How did not separating ma’aser affect the fruit? (c) Why could one not eat ma’aser sheini when he was an onen (grieving, before burial, for a relative who has died) (2 reasons)? (d) (1) What does the Torah mean, “nor have I given any [ma’aser sheini] to the dead”? (2) In addition to food and drink, for what may ma’aser sheini money be used? (Devarim 26:12,14)**

2. (a) (1) At mincha on Pesach’s 7th day of the 4th and 7th years of the shemita cycle (Rashi). (2) The cheit ha-eigel, which caused farmers to give ma’aser to the levi’im, instead of to the family’s firstborn (Sforno). (b) As long as Bnei Yisrael separated ma’asrot, the fruits were succulent, with a delicious flavor and aroma – when they did not, these blessings ceased (Medrash ha-Gadol). (c) (1) Kodshim, such as ma’aser sheini, are food from “Hashem’s table” – it is unfitting for one who is suffering to draw near to His table; (2) Eating kodshim atones for the owner if eaten with the proper intention – the mind of one who grieves is not calm and composed to have the proper intention (Sefer haChinuch – Mitzvah 608). (d) (1) Ma’aser sheini money may be used only to buy food and drink and may not be spent on anything that does not sustain one’s body – it may not be used even for a mitzvah, such as buying shrouds for the dead; (2) Ointments, which, like food, strengthen one’s body (Mitzvah 610).

**3. (a) (1) In which 3 places did Bnei Yisrael erect “great stones”? (2) Why not on Har Gerizim (3 reasons)? (b) How was it possible that the whole Torah could be written in 70 languages on 12 stones (3 views)? (c) Why were the stones erected (2 reasons)? (d) Why does the Torah twice say, “you shall coat [the stones] with plaster”? (Devarim 27:2-3)**

3. (a) (1) (i) In the Yardein; (ii) at Gilgal; (iii) on Har Eival (Rashi). (2) Hashem (i) foresaw that the Shomranim would dispute Yerushalayim’s kedusha and claim that the Beit haMikdash belonged on Har Gerizim – He ordered the stones and a mizbei-ach on Har Eival to show that Har Gerizim had no special kedusha; (ii) appeased the 6 tribes on Har Eival who read the curses – the sacrifices would protect them from the curses (Oznayim laTorah). (iii) The curses would inspire Bnei Yisrael to increase their Torah learning (Darash Moshe). (b) (1) Only the 613 mitzvot were listed, not the whole Torah; (2) the stones’ great size had room for the whole Torah in 70 languages; (3) it was a miracle (Ramban). (c) The stones (1) conveyed to Bnei Yisrael that they entered Eretz Yisrael only by Hashem’s Will – they could avoid exile only by fulfilling the Torah’s mitzvot (Alshich). (2) gave the Cana’anite nations a chance to read the Torah and accept the 7 mitzvot of Bnei Noach – they could not claim later that Hashem removed them from Eretz Yisrael without first explaining why; (d) After the Torah was inscribed on the stones, they were plastered with a 2nd coat, so curious Cana’anim could read them by removing the plaster (Sotah 35b).

**4. (a) To say the blessings and curses, why were (1) Shimon, Levi, Yehuda, Yisachar, Yosef and Binyamin on Har Gerizim? (2) Reuvein, Gad, Asher, Zevulun, Dan and Naftali on Har Eival? (b) What do the curses’ sins have in common (2 views)? (c) To which sin does the curse, “one who strikes another in secret”, refer? (d) What does the curse “not upholding the Torah’s words” mean (3 views)? (Devarim 27:12-13,24-26)**

4. (a) (1) All 6 shevatim on Gerizim were Rachel’s – 2 – and Leah’s – 4 – offspring; (2) 4 of the shevatim on Eival were Bilha’s – 2 – and Zilpa’s – 2 – offspring; they were joined by offspring of Leah’s oldest and youngest sons (Reuvein and Zevulun), for 6 shevatim on Eival (R. Bechaya). (b) These are sins performed (1) in secret – Bnei Yisrael proclaimed that Hashem will punish secret sins (Rashbam). (2) by leaders whom the people are powerless to punish – He will see that they, not the people, are punished (Sforno). (c) Speaking lashon hara (Rashi). (d) One who (1) learns Torah but does not enable others to learn; (2) denies the validity of any mitzvah; (3) does not properly lift the Torah for hagba (Ramban).

# MDS Flyers: MDS Art Show, 9/21



## Manhattan Day School 2011 Art Show Wednesday September 21, 2011

Dear Parents:

You are invited to participate in the viewing of artwork created by the extremely talented students of MDS. Throughout the 2010 -2011 school year our students learned about Master Artists including: *Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claude Monet.* In addition, they learned *Arts of the World, Ancient Art, and Art Across the Curriculum.* The students, with the guidance of our Lower and Middle School art instructors, Ms. Leyla Monica Demirtas and Mrs. Linda Kastner, created artwork for you to enjoy. The viewing will take place from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. The artwork is located throughout the building.

We look forward to seeing you.



# MDS Flyers: Parent-Teacher Workshops, 9/21

## Important Presentation for All Parents

Toddler– 8th Grade

Wednesday, September 21st

7:15 PM

Speaker:

Rabbi Jonathan Rietti

Topic:

What We Can Do at Home to  
Help Our Children EXCEL

In School

Rabbi Jonathan Rietti received his rabbinical diploma from Gateshead Talmudical College in 1986 after which he established a Kollel in Gibraltar. With a Masters in Education and Montessori Training, Rabbi Rietti has practiced as an Educational Consultant for over 25 years and has written curricula with hundreds of educational materials to assist teachers in reaching children of multiple learning styles and intelligences ranging from pre-school through elementary and high school. These materials include 'Ten Building Blocks of Chinuch' that are the framework for the necessary skills to master the Hebrew Language, reading accuracy and fluency, analytical ability and memorization. Though well known as a senior lecturer for the popular Gateways Seminar Program, Rabbi Rietti has been consulting with parents, teachers, principals and schools for over two decades. His main thrust in teaching the ten building blocks of Chinuch is in applying the adage of 'Al Pi Darko' in a child centered teaching model. He offers teacher training in Brooklyn several days a week under the sponsorship of Mishkan Yecheskel, an umbrella organization of 19 mosdos under the auspices of Rabbi Moshe Wolfson. A sampling of the methods of Al Pi Darko can be found on his website at [www.jewishinspiration.com](http://www.jewishinspiration.com).

# MDS Flyers: 2011-2012 School Calendar



בס"ד

## Manhattan Day School 2011-2012 Calendar

September 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**September**

- 6, 7 Faculty Workshops
- 7 Orientation grades 5-8
- 8 First Day 1-8; NK Parent Orient. 7:30 pm
- 12 First Day N-K; Toddler Parent Orient. 7:30 "
- 13 First Day School Toddler Program
- 21 Parent/Teacher Workshops Grades 1-8
- 28-30 Rosh Hashanah (No Sessions)

**October**

- 2 Tzom Gedaliah
- 7 Erev Yom Kippur (No Sessions)
- 10 Columbus Day No Bus Service
- 12-23 Sukkot (No Sessions)

**November**

- 3 8th Grade trip
- 8 BJE Conferences (No Sessions)
- Open House
- 11 Veteran's Day—No Transportation
- 17 7th Grade trip
- 20 8th Gr. BJE High School Entrance Exam
- Teacher/Parent Workshops; BOOK FAIR
- 24-25 Thanksgiving (No Sessions)

**December**

- 10 8th grade Shabbaton
- 26 Chanukah (No Sessions)
- 27-30 Regular Sessions No Bus Service

**January**

- 2 Regular Sessions No Bus Service
- 5 Fast of Tevet, 3:20 Dismissal Grades 1-8
- 14 Ladies' Night Out
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No Bus Service
- Kindergarten Pajama Party
- 19-29 Intersession

**February**

- 14 7th and 8th grade pm trip
- 20 Presidents' Day (No Sessions)
- 25 Grades 4-8 Father/Son Melave Malka

**March**

- 7 Ta'anit Esther 1:20 Dismissal
- 8 Purim (No Sessions)
- 19 1:20 pm Dismissal
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 21 3:20 Dismissal
- Parent-Teacher Conferences

**April**

- 5-15 Pesach (No Sessions)

**May**

- 16,17 7th Grade Boston Trip
- 28 Shavuot / Memorial Day (No Sessions)
- 30-31 8th Grade Washington Trip

**Jun**

- 3 Tentative: Celebrate Israel Parade
- 6-8 8th Grade Washington Trip
- 13 8th Grade Graduation
- 18 Last Day of School Grade 6-7
- 19 Last Day of School Grades 1-5
- 20,21 Faculty Conferences

February 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

No Bus Service

No Sessions

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**Manhattan**   
**Day School**  
ישיבה אור תורה

Email all articles and graphics  
to Yehudit Robinson,  
Director of Media,  
[yrobinson@mdsweb.org](mailto:yrobinson@mdsweb.org),  
one week in advance.

# Shabbat Shalom!

By Messenger Staff



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- ◆ Thank you for keeping our school a nut-aware environment.



- ◆ Please join our daily parent tehillim group which meets in the library at 8:15 AM.



## In the MDS Family...

- ◆ Mazal tov to Shana Fisher on her engagement to Paul Kalman.
- ◆ Mazel tov to Morah Adeena Kempe on her marriage to Bentzy Halberstam.
- ◆ Mazal tov to Jackie Kotler on the birth of Lea Sadie.
- ◆ Mazal tov to Nelly Brody on the birth of grandson Elimelech.



- ◆ Join Lincoln Square Synagogue this Shabbat, September 17th in welcoming our Scholar-in-Residence, Rabbi Ari Berman, who will speak throughout Shabbat. Rabbi Ari Berman, formerly the Rabbi of The Jewish Center, lectures widely throughout Israel and the United States and is currently completing his doctoral dissertation on the Philosophy of Halakhah at Hebrew University.

### Shabbat Morning After Musaf

Fractured Lives, Healing Relationships and the Power of Forgiveness: Halakhic, Philosophical and Psychological Dimensions of Mehilah

### Shabbat Afternoon, 5:35pm

Identifying and Maximizing Life's Opportunities: Rambam on Repentance

### Seudat Shilishit (mincha at 6:35pm)

Building Bridges to our Past and Future: Israel, American Jewry and the Road to Redemption