

Issue 11

Friday, March 18, 2011



Dear Parents:

Chag Purim Sameach! The JELC has been knee-deep in preparing the children for this joyful and festive holiday. By now, your three and four year old children are well-versed in the mitzvot, songs and the story of Purim. The walls and the windows can't help but scream out "Purim!!!" with all of your children's artwork so proudly displayed throughout the classroom. Not only will your children be coming home with their very own original gragger, megillah, and shalach manot basket, another special surprise awaits you. For the past two weeks, the children and teachers have been working hard in putting together a multi-media Purim production for you. We are not going to mention it here, in case you choose to read this before you watch the DVD. As the teachers of our most favorite students, we hope you enjoy watching this Purim Production as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

We began the teaching of Purim with the abbreviated story found in the Megillah. The song: "King Achashversoh Made A Great Feast..." was a great accompaniment to this. When we took our walk through the Merrick Woods neighborhood, the children never tired from singing this song. Please ask your children to sing it for you. Next, the children learned about the ousting of Vashti after she refused to attend the King's feast.

The children learned the importance of giving gifts during Purim and created their very own Shalach Manot baskets. To help beautify their strawberry baskets, the children weaved colorful ribbon in and out of the slots, resulting in original creations. They finished decorating the baskets by gluing jewels and crown stickers all around it. Like each student, no two baskets are alike. The



NEWS

Candle lighting times:
Friday evening, March 18, 2011
6:45 pm



Hamantashen found in the baskets were created by your children, beginning with the making of the dough. Each child had the opportunity to add one of the ingredients needed for the dough and everyone mixed the "stuff" together while the morahs held tightly onto the bowl. We all had to wait patiently until the next day to actually create the Hamantashen as the dough needed to be wrapped up and stored in the refrigerator overnight. The following day, we filled the dough with apricot butter, prune butter or chocolate chips and baked 4 Hamantashen each. Two Hamantashen were placed into each basket and the other two were enjoyed as part of a Purim snack during our celebration.

We so much enjoyed our Purim Extravaganza on Thursday. We began with a Fashion Show where your children stood at the top of the "runway" to show off their costumes. Once again, our beloved Morah Myrna joined in the festivities and came dressed as a clown. She played games with us which all of the children were happy to be a part of. Next, we enjoyed three different carnival games. The children had to attempt at "pinning" a crown on Esther while being blindfolded, knock down bowling pins and try to get bean bags into the holes of a Bean Bag Toss. With the real Purim holiday ending on Sunday, we will be welcoming the beginning of Spring. Our Teddy Bears will be coming out of hibernation next week and we will have a fabulous Teddy Bear Picnic. We will continue with the learning of the English and Hebrew alphabets, with "R" and "Lamed" being our next letters.

It is a true joy and pleasure to be working with your children each and every day during the week.

Happy Purim, Spring and Shabbat Shalom!

Morah Tara & Morah Rochel