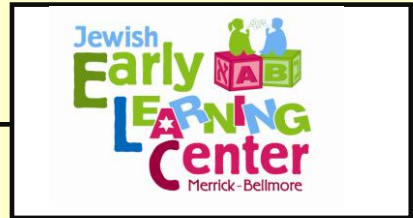


February Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We have been very busy learning about Purim - a time for fun and celebration!

We learned that long ago in Shushan, there lived a man named Mordechai. He was a good man, and always tried to help people and do the right thing. Mordechai lived with his niece Esther, and they were Jewish, just like us.

In Shushan there was a king called King Ahashverosh. He lived in a big beautiful palace but was very lonely because he needed a new queen. He looked all over until he found Esther who was beautiful on the outside and inside too. So Esther said goodbye to her uncle Mordechai and went to live in the palace with the King and became his queen.

A man named Haman was the king's helper in the palace, and he was not very nice. He expected everyone to bow down to him. Everyone did, except for Mordechai. Mordechai said, "No, I'm a Jew and I only bow down to Hashem (g-d)!" Haman got so angry he asked Achashverosh to hurt the Jewish people. Achashverosh agreed.

When the Jewish people heard this, they became sad and worried. Mordechai sent a message to Esther at the palace asking for help. Esther told the Jewish people to pray for three days. After that she thought, "I must be brave," and invited the king and Haman to come to a party with her. At the party, the king asked Esther, "What can I do for you?" Queen Esther said "Can you save me and my uncle Mordechai and all our friends from Haman who wants to hurt us?"

"I won't let Haman hurt my queen!" said the King, and he told his guards to take Haman away.

Then the king asked Mordechai to come and work at the palace and do Haman's job – but of course Mordechai was much nicer than Haman! So after that, everyone lived happily in the Kingdom. Mordechai did a really good job working for the king, and together with Queen Esther he wrote the story of Purim in the Megilla for us to learn.

On Purim when the megillah is read in shul we sit very quietly. But as soon as we hear Haman's name we make as much noise as we can-booo! We dress up in costumes and bring baskets of food to our friends. We eat Hamantashen which are shaped like Haman's hat. We give money to the poor and eat a yummy Purim meal.

Purim songs:

1. Nosh, nosh a hamantash
Nosh, nosh a hamantash now.
roll the dough with me
you will see

Haman's hat was just like that
hamantash now.

2. Oh once there was a wicked wicked man
And Haman was his name, Sir.
He would have hurt all the Jews,
they were not to blame, Sir.
Oh today we'll merry merry be
Oh today we'll merry merry be
Oh today we'll merry merry be
And nosh some hamantashen.

And Esther was the lovely queen of King Ahashveyrosh
When Haman said he'd hurt the Jews
Oh my how he did scare us.
Oh today...

3. Mishe, Mishe, Mishe, Mishe,
Mishe, Mishe, Mishe, Mishe,
Mishenichnas Adar
Mishe, Mishe, Mishe, Mishe,
Mishe, Mishe, Mishe,
Adar Mishenichnas, Adar, Marbin besimcha
Mishenichnas, Adar, Marbin besimcha
(When the month of Adar comes, we increase in Joy)

4. Chag Purim, Chag Purim, chag gadol la Yehudim.
Masechot v'raashanim, zemirot v'rikudim.
Hava narisha- raash, raash, raash! (x3)
b'raashanim..

(A song in Hebrew that means that Purim is a great Holiday for the Jews. We wear masks, have graggers, sing & dance. Let's make noise-rash rash rash-without graggers!)

Letter S and T

The children were very excited about all the snow so we made an experiment out of it. We watched which cup of snow melted faster. Morah Paola put different amounts of salt in cups and then put snow on top. The children were very interested in seeing which one melted the quickest, as well as seeing all the different colors in the snow.

For the letter T, Morah Paola and the children taught all the children about the triangle and the trapezoid shape. We discussed the differences between a square, rectangle and trapezoid. The children love trying to pronounce the word. During share day we were lucky enough to celebrate Purim with our costumes as well as enjoying Kaleb's Thomas the Train Tent!

Hope everyone has a fun and safe Purim.

Shabbat Shalom,
Morahs Chaya, Laura & Paola

