

September Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We are so happy that the school year has started.
Here are some highlights of the last few weeks!



WEEK 1

During the first week of school we were all very happy to be back at school. The children were very excited to see Morah Paola again and to meet their new Morah Sarah Chanah! We reviewed everyone's names and the new class routine. All the children went around the room and discussed when their birthday was. We then decorated cakes for the birthday of the world as well!

We had a couple of snack activities during which we made apple & soy nut butter sandwiches. We spoke about the steps on how to make them. We also dipped apples into honey and learned how to dip them so that the honey doesn't drip everywhere!

New Vocabulary: First, Second, Last, Top, Bottom

We made greeting cards for our parents for Rosh Hashana. The children received a paper plate and we made apples with clay to dip in a cup of honey. We learned that on Rosh Hashanah we dip sweet apples into honey, trusting that Hashem (G-d) will grant us a sweet year.



The children practiced putting thread through holes of an apple.

We learned the Blessings of Ha'etz & Shehechianu

We heard Rabbi Kramer blow the Shofar and went over sounds of the Shofar: Te'kia, Shevarim, and Teruah

WEEK 2

In preparation for Yom Kippur, and leading up to the theme of forgiveness, we started talking about how we are all unique- one of a kind. Our homes are also unique-no two are the same! Morah Paola went on Google Earth and showed everyone their homes. The children loved seeing their homes on the computer.

We spoke about the things that we have in our homes, like the rooms. The children spoke about their favorite place in their house. We also read the book 'My Favorite Place'.

During circle time we had reviewed the alphabet, the calendar, the weather, colors and shapes.

For **Yom Kippur**, the children built their own mini Kotels. Each child picked a brick with the color of their choice and made people, birds, and grass to put on their Kotel walls.



When each child was finished with their bricks we wrote notes to Hashem in our Kotels, asking to be written in the book of life.

During circle time, we discussed the theme of forgiveness and saw all the different things we do differently on Yom Kippur, such as wearing non-leather shoes and not using ointments/creams.

We had our first Shabbat Party in week two. We put chicken in the pot, stirred it up, nice and hot, and got it ready for Shabbat, for Shabbat...



We also discussed how this Shabbat was very special because it was also a Yom Tov and a Fast! We spoke about what type of things we can do to make this Shabbat an easy fast for our parents by playing quietly and praying at Shul.



WEEK 3

In connection to the mitzvah of building a Sukkah, and in continuation of last week's discussion on different homes, Morah Paola discussed various types of building structures and homes with the children. The children learned about Eskimos and made igloos out of sugar-cubes! During circle time with Morah Sarah Chanah the children learned the reasons why we celebrate Sukkot. We discussed what a Sukkah is and all the equipment it takes to build one. We learned what a Lulav and Etrog are and got to see and feel a real set. We also enjoyed playing with a Plush Lulav and Etrog, shaking it all around...

When talking about the Sukkah, we discussed that Hashem watched over us with 'Clouds of Glory'. Through the clouds of glory, Hashem protected the Jews against any kind of weather that would slow us down. We learned that the reason why we build the Sukkah is to remind us that Hashem protected us then and still protects us now.

Each child made their own Sukkot and Simchat Torah Memory Game! We also had fun making our very own Sukkah Decorations!

For Sukkot we sang:

Tune- Take me out to the Ball Game
Take me out to the Sukkah
Take me out in the Fall
Put some Schach (leaves, branches) on top of it
And decorations on the wall
We will shake, shake, shake, the lulav
Along with the Etrog too
And there's one, two, three haddasim and four aravot.



We are so excited for the weeks ahead! We hope that you have a wonderful Sukkot and we'll see you next week!

Sincerely,

Morahs Paola and Sarah Chana