



# DECEMBER 12, 2014 NEWSLETTER

B”H

## PARSHAT VAYEISHEV, Candle Lighting 4:09

Dear Parents,

What a fun and busy two weeks! We hope you enjoy reading what we've been busy with.



**Literacy:** Our letter of the week was “F” and we rolled clay into “F” shapes and reviewed many words with “F”: flag, flower, fish, four, five, foot, finger, face, frog, fir tree, fox etc. Thank you for sharing all your items from home that begin with the letter “F”! We learned the word ‘seal’. Morah showed us how a seal keeps food fresh and clean like the seal on the olive oil in the holy temple/Beit Hamikdash. We started a new activity for literacy. We did a “book share”. We looked at books about Chanukah and found a picture to share with our friends and told them about it. We read the book “The Runaway Latke” out loud.

**Math:** We made a graph on how many candles of each color were in a box. We also played a counting game and counted out numbers 1 through 8 using dreidels.

**Art:** We made a large menorah for our bulletin board by coloring coffee filters with markers and painting over them with water. We were so surprised when our beautiful designs transferred to the paper! We made mini “donuts” from cheerios and melted chocolate and sprinkles. We played with the sand table looking for all the hidden dreidels. We used cookie cutters to make all kinds of Chanuka shapes- dreidels, menorahs, the Star of David etc and we and we made our own frying pans and latkes too!

**Social Studies/Science:** We are learning about fire safety and the special equipment that fire fighters wear and use, such as helmet, boots, gloves, raincoat, axe, hose, ladder, and mask. Our theme also tied in nicely with F - our letter of the week! We learned about olive oil and different kinds of fires. We did an experiment with candles, olive oil and water to see what would burn and what wouldn't.

**Judaic Circle:** During the past 2 weeks, we learned about the weekly Torah Portions of *Vayishlach & Veyeishev*. Yaakov (Jacob) left Lavan's house prepared for a fight with Eisav (Esau) who was still angry that he took the number one son blessing from Yaakov. We sang a song that went like this: “Eisav was coming with 400 men, Yaakov davened (prayed) to Hashem”. Yaakov sent presents and messengers of peace to Eisav and they did not fight. After a few years, Rochel passed away, but first she had a new baby boy Binyamin. Kever Rochel is a special place in Israel that we still pray at today.

This week we learned that Yosef's (Joseph's) bothers were jealous of him when he got a special coat with colorful stripes from their father Yaakov. Yosef told his brothers that he had a dream that they will one day bow down to him. They got angry and put him in a hole and left him there. Some people took him to Mitzrayim (Egypt) and Pharoah put him in jail. When he was in jail, he met Pharoah's head baker and wine man there, and told them what their dreams meant. The wine man was supposed to help out Yosef when he got out of jail, but he forgot, and so Yosef remained in jail. We can't wait to hear what happens next!

We also learned all about the Chanukah story. Stay tuned for details of the story to come!

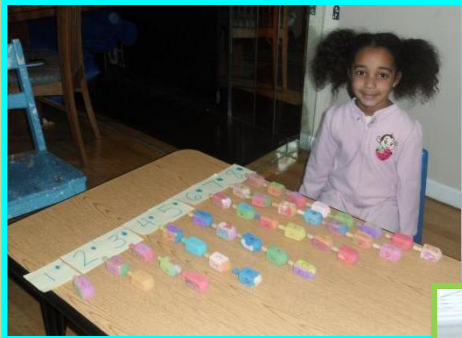
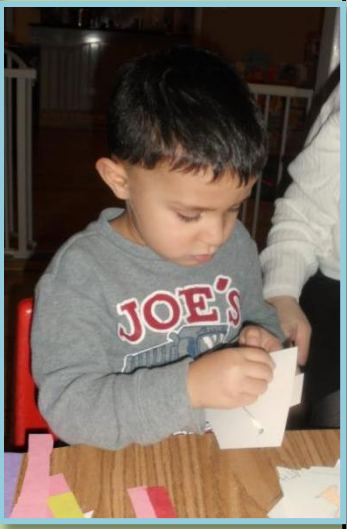
**Music & Movement:** We learned three new Chanukah songs. The children are having fun trying to guess the rhyme when Morah Shari makes up new verses for “I have a little dreidel”. We marched all around the room and even outside to our “marching” Chanukah song and pretended to be Maccabees. During music & movement, we practiced being spinning dreidels and latkes jumping in and out of the pan and flipping over.

**Alef Bet:**

The Hebrew letters of the week are Nun, Gimmel, Hey, Shin and Daled for dreidel!



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Shabbat Shalom,  
*Morah Shari and  
Morah Tamari* 😊

**REMINDER:**

**PLEASE SEND IN A WINTER CHANGE OF CLOTHES AS WELL AS GLOVES /MITTENS AND HATS FOR DAYS THAT WE ARE ABLE TO SPEND A SHORT TIME OUTSIDE!**