

The Hillel Gazette

TEACH. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.

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Hillel's Leaders

Orelle Maghen, 8th Grade

At Hillel leadership is shown in many ways. It could be a parent volunteering, a student showing Hillel pride or a teacher helping out a student. Two extremely important ways of showing leadership are being a part of the PTA and taking a role on the School Board. This year, we highlight our leaders in these roles: PTA President Rona Lalazary, and Board President Amy Kestenbaum.

Rona's role in the PTA is to bring new ideas to the table, make more people involved by creating more committees, and oversee the events to see what people enjoy! She enjoys being a leader at Hillel because it is a big privilege for her to give back to a community that does so much for her children.



Above: Amy Kestenbaum, Hillel Board President, with her family.

Left: Rona Lalazary, PTA President, with her family.



She decided to be the President of the PTA because she saw that Hillel had so much potential and she thought that she could help Hillel reach its full potential. This year, the PTA plans to change up some events; for instance, during Chanukah time, they will have a chess event and wrap presents and have tomchei shabbat. This role in the PTA is important to Mrs. Lalazary because she is setting a good example for the children and makes her and her children feel proud. (Continued on p. 10)

70 and 70! Celebrating Hillel and Israel's Anniversaries

Dorin Rabbanian, 8th Grade

In 1948, our land, Israel, was established, and this marked a great milestone in all Jewish people's lives. In addition to this establishment, Hillel was also established in the year 1948. Throughout the year, teachers will be incorporating this theme into our learning in order to remind us all of this celebration. To celebrate the 70th birthday of Israel, there will be many events commemorating this event in America, as well as in Israel. (Continued on p. 5)

חוקרים את העבר • מוקירים את ההווה • חוזים את העתיד 

חוגגים ישראל/הלל 70

Dorin Rabbanian, 8th Grade

מדינת ישראל קמה ב-1948, והיא המדינה והבית לכל היהודים. גם, בשנה הזאת נוסד, בית ספר שלנו, הלל. השנה אנחנו חוגגים את יום הולדת ה-70 של מדינת ישראל וישיבת הלל. בית הספר שלנו חוגג את ההצלחה שלו ללמד ולחנך אלפי תלמידים. השנה הנושא של כל האירועים בבית הפר הוא חגיגות ה-70. גם בארץ ובארצות הברית חוגגים. י בשלש עשרה עד חמש עשרה למאי, יהודים מכל העולם מתאספים בכותל בירושלים וחוגגים את שנת ה-70 של המדינה ויום ירושלים ב"צעדה של העמים". 40,000 אנשים מתאספים בירושלים. בתאריך הזה, תלמידי כיתה ח' יהיו במדינת ישראל לטיול ומשתתפים לחגיגה הזו בירושלים כמו כל האנשים האחרים. 18 מדינות משתתפים ביום הזה. התלמידים בבית הספר לומדים כל השנה על ישראל. למשל התלמידים של הלל למדו על הצהרת בלפור ומה שהוא עשה ואיך הוא אמר שישראל היא המדינה ובית של כל היהודים בעולם. גם הנושא של הגאלה השנתית של הלל הוא יום הולדת השבעים של ישראל וישיבת הלל. מזל טוב!

Message from Student Council

Dear Hillel Students, Faculty and Friends,

Student Council has had a very busy, exciting first few months of school! On the first day of school, STUCO showed a fun and informative music video letting the students know about the what to expect for this year. We handed out Tootsie Rolls with stickers that read "Get ready to ROLL into the 2017-2018 school year!" It was an amazing day that got the middle school ready for the exciting year ahead!

Moreover, Student Council planned a meaningful Hillel Voice assembly, which focused on the hurricane disasters that have occurred. We watched a video made by the Yellin family, a Hillel family who moved to Houston, Texas. It was an important day for all the students to recognize the impact of the natural disasters and to think about what we can do to help.

For the holidays, STUCO worked hard to bring the feel of Tishrei to Hillel! For Rosh Hashana we passed out honey sticks wishing everyone a sweet new year. During the ten days of Teshuva, we passed along a card where if you get it, you do an act of kindness, then pass it on.

Middle school just returned from the annual shabbaton in Running Springs! We had a weekend packed with singing, dancing, and fun activities, such as bingo night, capture the flag, and movie night, all planned by STUCO. There was singing and ruach throughout the whole weekend, and it brought us together as a middle school kehilla.

We are looking forward to a fun and exciting school year!

Hillel Middle School Student Council

Written by Yaelle Shaye and Jacob Hoenig

Hillel Gazette Faculty Advisors

Ms. Samantha Pack
Mrs. Dalia Golan

Welcome, New Hillel Administration!

Gabriella Gomperts, 8th Grade

This year, three Harkham Hillel Academy teachers have transitioned from teaching to administrative positions. Rabbi Swigard is the new Middle School Judaic Studies Director. Mrs. Orenshein is Associate Elementary Principal of General Studies and Morah Kenigsberg is Elementary School Judaic Studies Director.

Rabbi Swigard, who has been a teacher for 10 years, has spent the last 7 years at Hillel teaching the whole range of Judaic Studies subjects. He has also served as advisor to the Harkham Hillel Student Council and to the Yearbook Committee. Last year he was in charge of Technology Integration, advising teachers on ways to integrate technology into their lessons. "While the job of an administrator is certainly different than that of a teacher, at the end of the day, we both have the same goal. We are here to support the students in our school," says Rabbi Swigard. While a teacher is more focused on their class curriculum and students he adds, "An administrator has a more global view of the entire student body, including all classes and curriculum. I have the unique pleasure to partner and support students, teachers and parents in a different capacity than I had as a teacher." While he doesn't consider either position more challenging than the other, Rabbi Swigard views challenges as opportunities. Difficult situations are an opportunity to grow. "Through reflection and creating a growth mindset, the challenge can be turned into an opportunity to change similar scenarios in the future." And what does Rabbi Swigard look forward to? "I very much appreciate the opportunities to grow and learn from my experiences, so that I can constantly strive to improve."

Over the course of her teaching career, Mrs. Orenshein, has taught many grades and subjects. "Kindergarten, 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades, as well as middle school Algebra" lists Mrs Orenshein. "Thanks for asking!" The great advantage of her new position, says Mrs Orenshein, is that it allows her get to know so many more students. She is proud to "support my teachers in any way I

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Hillel Administration

Rabbi Y. Boruch Sufrin	Mr. Jason Ablin
Head of School	General Studies Principal

Rabbi Zach Swigard
Director of Judaic Studies, Middle School

Mrs. Ilana Zadok
Director of Campus Life

Mrs. Daphne Orenshein
Associate General Studies Principal of the Elementary School

Mrs. Chaya Kenigsberg
Director of Judaic Studies, Elementary School

Mrs. Yirat Horwatt
Early Childhood Director

Kamocha and #HowWouldYouFeel

Yaelle Shaye, 8th Grade

“You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it” (Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*). Empathy (noun) - the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. In life, before you judge someone or act rash, take a moment to think. Put yourself in that person’s shoes and ask yourself: how would you feel?

Recently, seventh and eighth grade students from local Jewish day schools had the opportunity to participate in Kamocha, a program created by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation. All the schools were brought together as a Kehilla, where we learned that if we all take responsibility in our homes, schools, etc., and do our part we can positively impact our community. The students were brought into a “pact” that day; to consider others before saying or doing anything that could negatively impact another, and to be aware that nobody should be left out or ignored. We heard from an inspirational speaker, Rabbi Yechiel Spero and watched a short video focusing on the power of empathy. The video followed the life of a young boy who got new “glasses,” which helped him see life from others’ perspectives. He learned about empathy, and how to positively act in a variety of typical school situations, which was an important lesson for all of us watching.

Rabbi Yechiel Spero shared a story with us discussing the impact of simply being a bystander. “When I was young, a new kid moved into my neighborhood. David was bullied and excluded, and although I wasn't the one harming him, I didn't do anything to stop it. Years later, I reached out to David, and apologized. At first, David said that he forgave me, but I wasn't convinced, so I asked him again. David admitted angrily to me that the bullying he had been a victim to had caused him deep pain throughout his teenage years. Don't look back at these years of your life wishing that you hadn't been a bystander, that you had intervened.” Throughout our lives, we have witnessed bullying, unfair judgements, and careless and insensitive actions, and done nothing about it. Simply being a bystander can change the course of another's life, even if we don't realize the consequences. Next time react, and be an upstander. After all, wouldn't you want someone to stand up for you in that situation?

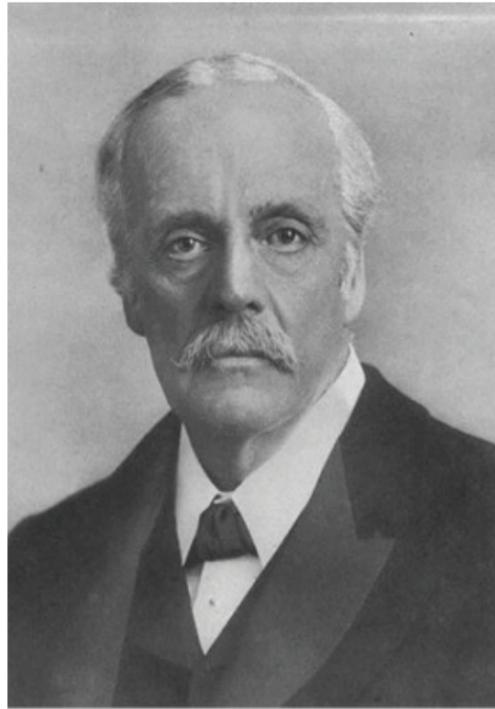
“Empathy... it means watching our child’s frustration and focusing on how life feels in that little child’s body, while putting our own anger and agenda into the background” (Andrea Nair). In a story Rabbi Yechiel Spero told us, Rabbanit Weinberg did exactly that. A young boy had been yelled at and insulted by his father, the janitor of Rabbi Weinberg’s yeshiva. He ran to Rabbanit Weinberg who asked him to look in a mirror and say what he saw. He responded that he saw a “foolish, stupid boy.” Then she pulled out her mirror, and said, “You know what I see? A good, genuine, smart boy.” Years later, the boy is now a grown adult, and he pulls out her mirror and says that she saved his life. Kamocha means to be a mirror. When a peer is in a situation where they feel insecure about themselves or neglected, be their mirror. Allow them to look at you, and see what you think of them, all the best parts about them. You can help another feel good about themselves if you are mirror for a friend.

True empathy is about looking at someone, imagining yourself in that situation, and attempting to experience their feelings. It is not enough to just feel bad and move on; you must physically and emotionally experience what they are going through. It is a difficult task; one can never know what another is experiencing. No two situations are the same, despite how similar they may seem. Nonetheless, we must all strive to have empathy towards one another, and to see life from others’ perspectives. At Hillel, the students in the Chessed Committee put up signs around the school which read: #HowWouldYouFeel? How would I feel if I was in that situation? Wouldn't I want others to help me? Would I want that done to me? In life, we must not only acknowledge others’ feelings; we must imagine their feelings as our own, their situation as ours, and act. I urge you all to recognize a harmful situation when it occurs, have empathy, and be an upstander. Because, after all...#HowWouldYouFeel?

100th Anniversary of Balfour Declaration

Lior Shachar, 8th Grade

Who do you credit the creation of the state of Israel to? If you thought of names like Hertzal and David Ben Gurion, you would be correct. But, there is one man who was instrumental in the foundation of Israel. His name was Lord James Arthur Balfour. He wrote a letter to the British government that was meant to help recognize the Jewish right to their ancestors homeland. This letter became a sign of Britain's pro-Zionist political stance. The Zionism in Britain was led by a Jewish chemist named Chaim Weissman who settled in Manchester, England. Britain's motives for being in support of the Zionist movement (aside from feeling Zionism was a virtuous cause) were that Britain thought that it would be advantageous to gain Jewish support for the allies in neutral countries.



Foreign Office,
November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

J. A. Balfour

It was also strategic to have control over Palestine because it would serve as a landbridge between important territories like India and Egypt. All in all, through many acts of G-d and the strength of heart of our grandparents, we have the blessing of the state of Israel.

Hillel Banquet Honors 70 Years

Abigail Benhaghanazar, 8th Grade

Have you been to a Hillel Banquet? The Banquet is an event honoring the graduating class, parents and sometimes teachers and administrations. This event is held to fundraise for scholarships. The Banquet is very exciting for Hillel, because the whole Hillel community comes together and celebrates the graduating class, parents and sometimes teachers and administrators.

There is a lot of work put into the banquet. From mid-October until the day of the banquet, the Advancement Office prepares by doing many tasks, such as getting together advertisements, posting on social media, reminding the 8th graders about their baby photos and banquet journal paragraphs in English and Hebrew, and reaching out to the faculty. I wanted explore more about the process of working on the banquet so I interviewed one of the members of the Advancement team. She said, "It's is hard to plan, because I need to connect to the teachers even while they are working but it's all worth it." Everyone who is working on the banquet is balancing their jobs! She added, "I'm really excited to see what the 8th graders say they will be when they are 70." It's clear that so much work goes into the banquet!

This year's banquet theme is the 70th Anniversary of Hillel and the state of Israel. Hillel is an established school and has grown so much since its founding in 1948! The banquet is held on December 6th at the Beverly Hilton. This year's honorees are Dr. Jonathan Hoenig and Mrs. Danya Hoenig and Mr. Shmuel Barak and Mrs. Felice Gottlieb. The Hoenigs have been parents at Hillel for about 15 years. During their time at Hillel the Hoenigs have supported and given time into the community. Dr. Hoenig has been on the Board of Directors for a number of years. Additionally, Danya is currently serving as the PTA Treasurer. The Baraks are also extremely active in our community! Currently, Mr. Barak serves on the Endowment Investment Committee. Felice has been a President of the PTA and an alum of Hillel's class of 1996. Hillel can't wait to honor the Hoenigs and Baraks for what they have done and continue to do for the Hillel community!

הצהרת בלפור**Liel Khalili and Natan Levi, 8th Grade**

השנה אנחנו חוגגים מאה שנים להצרת בלפור. הצהרת בלפור ניתן על ידי שר החוץ הבריטי ג'יימס בלפור וולטר לרוטשילד שהיה נשיא של ההסתדרות הציונית. בהצרה כתוב ממשלת בריטניה מכירה בזכויות הלאומיות של היהודים בארץ ישראל. הוא אומר שהבריטים מוכנים לעזור ליהודים להקים בארץ ישראל בית לאומי. בריטניה מוכנה לעשות מאמצים רבים כדי לעזור ליהודים להקים בארץ ישראל בית לאומי. אבל, יש שני תנאים. שלא יפגעו בזכויות של התושבים הלא יהודים שבארץ. שלא יפגעו בזכויות של היהודים בכל מדינה אחרת. אז למה זה חשוב בחיים המודרניים? הרב סאקס מסביר: היום יש הרבה מדינות כמו אירן, שאומרים אין ליהודים זכות למדינה בארץ ישראל. אנחנו באדמה שהובטח על ידי ה'. ארץ ישראל היא המולדת של העם היהודי.

השורשים של עם ישראל**Jacob Hoenig, 8th Grade**

בבית ספר הלל השנה חוגגים "ישראל בת 70 והלל בת 70". ארץ ישראל וגם הלל נוסדו בשנת 1948. אנחנו בבית ספר עושים דברים שקשורים לעובדה הזאת. בעברית אנחנו לומדים על השורשים שלנו לארץ ישראל. אנחנו לומדים שהקשר בין עם ישראל לארץ ישראל הוא עתיק יומין בזמן של אברהם אבינו. יהודים מתפללים לחזור לא"י בתפילה "שיר למעלות" שאומרים לפני ברכת המזון. אנחנו לומדים מהשיר שהיהודים מתגעגעים לא"י ועובדים קשה לקבל את א"י. גם היום, היהודים שלא בישראל עדיין מתפללים על ארץ ישראל. וגם בישראל מתפללים על א"י ועל בנין ירושלים ובית המקדש.

70 and 70! (Continued from front page)

On May 13-15, 2018, in Jerusalem, Israel, there will be a March of the Nations, commemorating the 70th birthday of Israel. The theme of this event is the movement from the Holocaust to the new life. On Monday, May 14, the day will start with prayer at 8:00 am. After, there will be seminars and speakers from throughout the day, leading to a special afternoon with Holocaust survivors. At the end of the day, there will be worship, a concert and other speakers. On Tuesday May 15, the day will also start at 8:00 a.m. with prayer, and will continue with teaching, seminar, and worship. Right after that, the March of the Nations at Sacher Park will happen until 8:00 p.m. Luckily, the 8th graders will be in Israel at this time for their Israel trip. They will join the March and celebrate Israel's birthday in Jerusalem with the rest of the world celebrating along with us.

To provide some background, the March of Life movement started in Germany in 2007, when the descendants of Nazi perpetrators broke the silence about their terrible family history and met with Holocaust survivors and their descendants. Healing, friendship and new life were the results of this movement started in Germany. This did not just stay in Germany; about 40,000 people have taken to the streets in 18 nations and 350 cities with a joint voice for remembrance and reconciliation, against anti-Semitism and for Israel.

Another way the Hillel community is celebrating the 70th year of Israel, and the school, is by incorporating it throughout the year. One way to continue this year's theme of the 70th anniversary is by displaying it throughout the Hillel Middle School Shabbaton, starting from November 17 to November 19, 2017. Later on in the year, the theme for this year's Annual Scholarship Banquet is Israel's 70th anniversary and Hillel's 70th anniversary. Everything that is taught to the students connects to this theme throughout the year. The curriculum this year is dedicated to this ongoing theme. Students have been researching the past, focusing on being proud of the present, and are looking forward to the future. The Declaration of Balfour is also taught throughout the students' classes, reminding them that with the help of the influence of Lord Balfour, Israel became a nation for all of the Jews. To conclude, Hillel is commemorating and celebrating the 70th year of Israel, and the 70th year since the Hillel community was created and established. Israel is celebrating this by hosting the March of the Nations, and Hillel is incorporating this theme throughout the year for the students and for our community.

FIDF Visit to Hillel

Bracha Garmaise, 7th Grade and Nicole Kahen, 8th Grade

Hillel and Israel are celebrating a momentous occasion this year. They are both turning 70! In order to celebrate this, on November 3, Hillel excitedly welcomed 16 Israeli soldiers. A special assembly took place in the upper gym, followed by a oneg for the soldiers and eighth graders.

The students and teachers waited excitedly to see the soldiers. The soldiers were greeted with loud, enthusiastic singing and a standing ovation. Rabbi Sufrin spoke briefly about how exciting it is to meet real heroes, since we hear about them almost every day. Rabbi Sufrin's opening remarks were followed by speeches by the STUCO presidents, Danielle Finn and Boaz Edidin, welcoming the soldiers. Representatives of FIDF, an organization that supports the soldiers, spoke, including Ms. Rudin, a former middle school English teacher at Hillel! They spoke about how the soldiers' jobs are to protect Israel, and our job is to protect them, which is the FIDF's motto.

The soldiers each introduced themselves and the unit they serve in. One soldier talked about the stress that comes along with serving in the army and how he deals with it, and shared an anecdote of a stressful experience and how he dealt with it. He added that it is really important to lean on your friends for support in hard situations. Another soldier talked about her life story and what led up to her joining the army. Then, students asked questions that they had for the soldiers, and the soldiers gave interesting answers. The eighth graders were dismissed first along with the soldiers for a special opportunity to get to know the soldiers personally: they participated in a special oneg. It was a great day for Hillel!

הלל בית ספר ציוני

Boaz Edidin, Yosef Levi, 8th Grade

הלל בית ספר ציוני. אנחנו חוגגים חגים ציוניים, שהם- יום העצמאות, יום ירושלים וימי הזיכרון לחיילי צה"ל. בהלל יש לנו 4 בנות "בת עמי"-הן בנות שבאות מישראל לבית ספר שלנו ובתי ספר בעולם, כדי ללמד עברית ולהביא את הרוח של ישראל ליהודים בעולם. הלל התחיל כבית ספר ציוני לפני 70 שנה, והיום הוא עדיין ציוני. בשלישי לנובמבר, חיילי צה"ל הגיעו להלל. רבי ספרין הראה לחיילי צה"ל את בית הספר בזמן שהילדים הקטנים שרו להם. כאשר החיילים נכנסו לאולם, כולם עמדו ומחאו להם כפיים. נשיאי מועצת התלמידים בירכו את החיילים, וסגנית הנשיא הביאה לכל אחד מהם מתנות, בקבוקי מים, חלות שאפו הילדים בגן, ומכתבים שכיתות ו' כתבו. אחר כך, שני חיילים סיפרו על החיים שלהם בצה"ל. אחרי קבלת השבת, החיילים הלכו עם כיתה ח' לעונג שבת. בעונג שרנו, אכלנו צ'ולנט, ודיברנו עם החיילים. היה מאד כיף לפגוש את החיילים של צה"ל מקרוב, לשמוע מהם סיפורים ולבלות איתם.

לכל החיילים יש סיפורים שונים, חטיבות שונות, והם ממקומות שונים בארץ ובעולם, אבל, לכולם יש מטרה משותפת- להגן על עם ישראל ומדינת ישראל!

Carpool Channa Light, 6th Grade

Are you ever stuck waiting for the school carpool line? Well, sometimes I am, and I notice things that you might not. First of all, we should put up a big sign saying, "ATTENTION! If you are not part of Hillel and don't want to wait...". Then, under that, write: "This is a carpool line from 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM. For Grades 1-2 carpool starts at 3:15; grades 3-4, carpool starts at 3:40, grade 5, it starts at 4:00 and middle school starts at 4:30. Carpool ends at 4:45."

Second of all, if you or your parents realize that people that are not in our school are waiting and don't realize it's a carpool line, your parents should indicate to them with a hand motion that they are in a carpool line. Or, if their window is open, roll down your window and tell them, "Hey, you're in a carpool line. If you don't want to wait for a long time, I suggest that you move to the other lane."

So in conclusion, you should always keep an eye out for people that probably don't want to be waiting for a long time, but don't realize that they are in a carpool line. So vote for a sign!

Character Counts and Chessed Committee

Juliet Weiner, 8th Grade

At Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy, one thing that is expressed a great deal is the Character Counts program and our all-around chessed. Both of these topics focus on specific positive values that all Hillel students should display and own. Kindness can go along way and it definitely improves the school environment. Hillel's goal is to encourage its students to gain and be proud of these specific values (plus others) and display them always.

For the past year and a half, Hillel has shown the importance of having a good character through the Character Counts program. There are six different values that the school focuses on in this program: kehilla/citizenship, ahava/caring, achrayut/responsibility, kavod/respect, yosher/fairness, and ne'emanut/trustworthiness. This program is meant to teach students the importance of treating others the way you want to be treated and to help students learn values that will get them far in life. Not only have students taken away valuable lessons from these middot, but so have faculty and staff.

At Shabbat assemblies, this program is introduced to the younger kids on some weeks by Rabbi Broner and the Hillel staff and teachers. Occasionally, different staff members dress up as the famous "Captain Character," who the elementary school kids just love and admire. This fun approach to the idea of having a good character inspires the younger students to make sure they are completing the six different pillars of the program. In addition, students use these traits in their daily lives in and outside of school. For example, achrayut/responsibility applies for keeping track of school assignments and work; students show ahava/care and look out for their peers and friends constantly; everyone in the school is connected as a kehilla, and students show kavod/respect to elders, parents, faculty, and their friends. These are just a few examples of these specific traits that are part of this program. These six attributes are also incorporated into teacher's class lessons. For example, in Ms. Pack's class, the pillars are discussed frequently and are tied into the books we are reading, our class expectations and assignments. In addition, some of Hillel's middle school students are working to plan a Character week at the school to show the positive contributions that these values add! (Continued on p. 37)

New Administration, continued

When asked how her new administrative responsibilities compare to teaching, Mrs. Orenshein states, "It is a far cry from teaching, as I have many more responsibilities and I never know what new challenges will come my way." She adds, "I am also learning new skills that I never thought I would need to learn and master." Her enthusiasm and care for Hillel and the students are very obvious in her final thoughts. "It's a challenge but I'm up for it. I love Hillel and want only the best for our students."

Before becoming the Judaic Studies Director in the Elementary School, Morah Kenigsberg taught a wide range of Jewish topics on the 5th, 6th and 8th grade levels. When asked to compare the differences between her teaching and administrative roles, Morah Kenigsberg says, "I found that I have really appreciated both roles." She says of being part of the Hillel faculty, "I love being a part of such a student-centered, growth orientated, positive school environment."

When asked about her philosophy about facing challenges, Morah Kenigsberg declares, "I believe that in life, we are presented with challenges and our job is to take risks, learn from our mistakes, and try again."

חשוב ללמוד עברית?

Ella Rose Hoenig and Nili Horwatt, 4th Grade

חשוב ללמוד עברית כי אנחנו צריכים לדעת לדבר עברית כשאנחנו טסים לטייל. בישראל נוכל לדבר עם הישראלים ואם משהו מישראל מגיע לאמריקה אנחנו נוכל לדבר בעברית איתו. וגם חשוב ללמוד עברית כי אנחנו יהודים וזאת השפה של היהודים וככה גם דיברו האבות שלנו בתנ"ך. אנחנו אוהבות ללמוד עברית כי זאת שפה קדושה, יפה, ומיוחדת.

School Lunches at Hillel

Bracha Garmaise, 7th Grade

The school lunches are a privilege that the students all appreciate. During lunch, hungry students line up for their lunch. The menu depends on the day. There is also a bagel and salad option everyday for picky eaters and students with allergies. The salad bar is a great option if you want a balanced lunch with veggies and protein. You can add tuna or cheese to your salad to make it more filling. You can also request a toasted bagel and choose a spread — cream cheese with cucumbers and tomatoes, Nutella or tuna.

There is also a main menu, which is hamburgers and fries on Mondays, couscous and chicken on the bone on Tuesdays, and the most popular one: rice, ground beef, tacos and burritos on Wednesday. On Thursday, there is Fettucini Alfredo mushroom pasta, garlic bread, baked ziti and lentil barley soup. On Fridays, there is everyone's favorite: pizza. A yummy food combination is the pizza dipped in ranch, which is a popular Hillel favorite. Hot lunch is available to all grades. David and Aviva, the hardworking owners of To Life Catering, make delicious and nutrient-rich foods for us all to enjoy.

A couple suggestions would be to add a few more options for students who don't like meat. A lot of students end up eating french fries with ketchup on Mondays, but most people like the chicken on Tuesdays. Another suggestion is to lower the prices for the bagels. Overall, the lunch is convenient, delicious and filling. Thank you, David and Aviva!

Air Conditioning

Chana Light, 6th Grade

Do you think that Hillel needs to update their air conditioning? Well, I do, and here are some reasons why. The first reason why is because the air conditioning only works well in some classrooms. For example, the air conditioning does not work well in some of my classrooms, like room 258 and room 260. In room 258 and room 260 there is a fan for the room to help air flow.

The second reason that Hillel should update the air conditioning is because it still blows, even when it is cold outside. For example, in room 353 and the Beit Midrash, the air conditioning is sometimes unreliable. Room 353 is where my first period class takes place, so imagine walking to the classroom on a cold morning and the air conditioning could be blowing. One time it got so cold that I wore sweatpants for a whole week. The Beit Midrash is my second period and it is sometimes even colder than room 353.

Here is what some teachers had to say about it. I interviewed Ms. Pack. She said, "It is difficult with such an old building to make sure that everyone is 100 percent comfortable. The facilities team work very hard to make sure the air is working for everybody."

She also mentioned the plans for the new building: "When we upgrade our building I think air conditioning should be part of the plan." Then she said, "It's important to be aware of how the air conditioning impacts our environment. When we use too much air it's wasteful. I would love to reduce the amount of air conditioning we use to save energy."

So, in conclusion, the air conditioning needs to be updated so that everyone in the building will be comfortable, especially the teachers who work so hard to teach us and deserve to be comfortable. We are excited for the plans for the new building!

The Importance of Lockers

Sydney Elyson, 6th Grade

Lockers may not seem so important, but they can benefit you in many ways. Carrying one's backpack all day can cause backaches, shoulder dislocations, disorganization, bad grades, distractions and more! Lockers can prevent all of that from happening. Even if a student is not enthusiastic about school, with lockers, a student can decorate the locker any way he or she wants, so lockers help students be excited for school.

Organization is very important. Without organization, students can lose their supplies and papers, and showing up in class without the proper materials can cause bad grades and can affect students in the future. Being messy also can get very frustrating; for example, putting all your papers and binders on top of your markers can open the caps of your markers and can stain your backpack. If you are organized, finding your materials will be a lot easier and will save time so you won't be late to class. Organization is also a big part of your grade for most classes, so if you are a straight-A student but extremely messy, your grade can go down.

You can also design your locker any way you desire while still staying organized. For example, a locker shelf is a great tool. With a locker shelf, you will be able to store your supplies on the top and bottom. You can also get a locker shelf in any color. If you are a person that can't remember homework, you can get a magnetic locker whiteboard so you can write down your homework. Another thing for your locker is a magnetic pencil holder that you can put in your locker to store your pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils and more. More cute things you can get for your locker include cute magnets to hang pictures, notes, reminders and a lot more. You can also purchase wallpaper with any design. Finally, you can also get chandeliers and all kinds of lights!

Lockers are good for your health. If your backpack gets too heavy, it doesn't just cause disorganization: it can cause more, such as backaches and shoulder dislocation, and can possibly get worse. This is why we need lockers. Without proper lockers it will be hard to prevent these things from happening.

Hillel can update the lockers, and students can take responsibility for caring for the lockers. One way Hillel can update the lockers is by first fixing the locks. Many students' lockers get jammed and some locks pull right off, trapping all of their books and supplies in their lockers. Hillel can also fix the lockers by cleaning them up. Some lockers have discolored spots and some, like mine, have notes and drawings from students who had the locker in the past years. Another way we could update the lockers is making them bigger. With these small lockers, students are not able to fit all their books and binders. I know from experience my binders are all slanted because they do not fit straight and this can also cause disorganization and can jam the lockers. If Hillel doesn't have proper lockers, then most of these things can happen. All it takes is one person to make a bad choice and ruin the locker. That is why we should work together as a community to take care of our lockers!

Apartments

David Wintner, 6th Grade

Have you ever wondered how much an apartment costs in L.A. or around L.A.? Apartments throughout Los Angeles range from \$2000 to \$10,000! In the city of L.A., the average cost of a one-bedroom apartment is \$2000; a two-bedroom is \$2500, and a three-bedroom is \$3300. In the city of Woodland Hills, the average cost for a one bedroom is \$2150, a two-bedroom apartment is \$2700, and a three-bedroom apartment is \$4000. In Compton, it's much cheaper: a one-bedroom is \$900 and a two-bedroom is \$1200. As you can see, the prices can range very differently in different cities and areas.

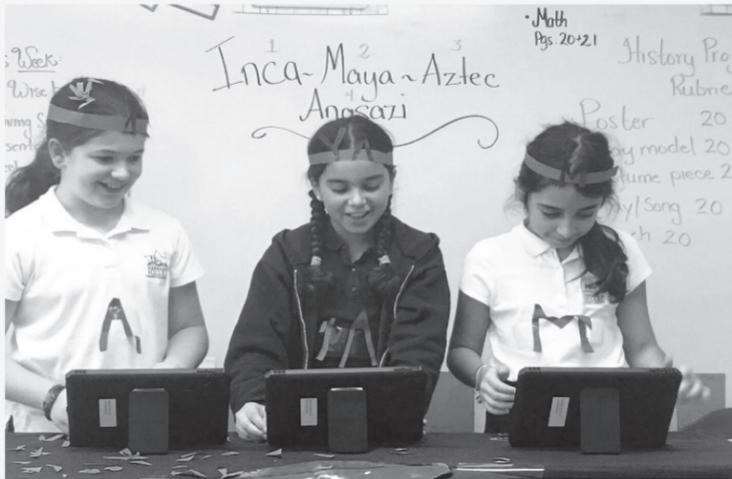
Do you know the difference between a studio and an apartment? An apartment has either 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms, or 3 bedrooms with doors for each, a full kitchen and one or two bathrooms - and sometimes even a pool right outside. A studio usually has 1 bedroom, a small kitchen and a bathroom and it's very open. A bachelor is the same thing as a studio, just a little smaller. A condo is much bigger but you can rent it out or buy it.



History Comes Alive in 5th Grade!

Left: Shyli Shemtov, Leila Nelson, Chloe Noorani

The Mayans used art as a reflection of their culture and lifestyle. They used tools such as stone tools, pottery and wood. The ancient Mayans invented a calendar that was adopted by the other Mesoamerican nations, such as the Aztecs.



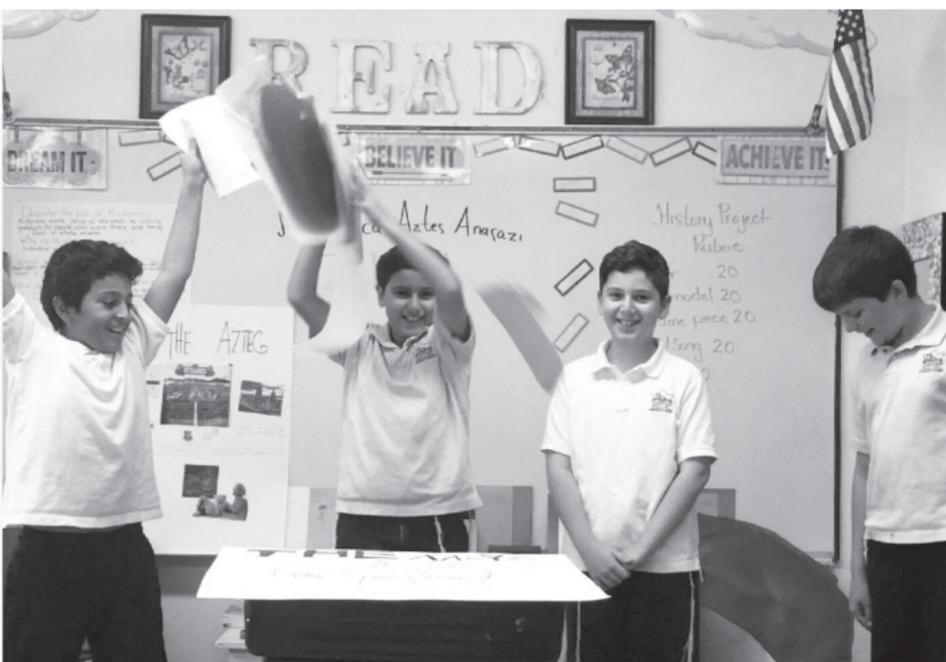
Right: Aliza Katz, Lila Kessler, Jesse Benloulou, Jaden Azeroual

Below: Manny Rosenkranz, Parker Gruenbaum, Eliana Deitcher, Eden Azose

Gods of Nature: The Anasazi tribe believed in many supernatural beings. Everything they needed they got from nature and they developed a rich religious life. Rain played an important part in their religion. One of their most exciting dances was the Kachina rain dance.

Most of the people in the Inca Empire lived in adobe brick homes with thatched roofs. The homes were mostly single story with one room. There had very little furniture in the homes, just some baskets for storing things, thin mats to sleep on, and a stove.

Below:
Aiden Drake, Aaron Itzhakov, Ethan Dawoody, Eli Schwartz
Every Mayan City had a ball court where a game was played with a rubber ball. This game was a form of entertainment as well as a religious event.



Sciencegarten: Kids Get Hands-On Experience

Adina Kurzban, 8th Grade

Morah Andrea's kindergarten class is doing hands-on experiments using the five senses: touch, taste, smell, sight, and sound. Morah Andrea says, "When you touch, and feel, it creates memory, and they [the students] internalize the learning." The students love these hands on experiments, because they "love things they can touch and experience - "the gooier the better," says Morah Andrea. These kindergarteners have already accomplished so much; they are going from making and touching goo one day, to experimenting with sight and smell of eggs the next. One of the experiments that this kindergarten class did took eggs, Coke, vinegar, and water, and made these everyday items into a fun learning experience. The class placed three eggs in different liquids: one in a cup of vinegar, one in a cup of coke, and one in a cup of water. They waited a day, and then checked the eggs. Many of the students hypothesized that the egg in vinegar would stay white, while others predicted it would become hot. In the end, the egg turned bubbly. These bubbles ate away at the shell, leaving the shell with the consistency of a rubber ball. The eggs in Coke turned brown while the eggs in water had no effect.

Dylan Kestenbaum said his favorite part of science is "making stuff." He said his favorite experiment so far is turning apples into an apple volcano. Another special thing about science this year is that there is no technology involved. The students are learning to use their hands and eyes, instead of using an iPad. Morah Andrea said that "[learning science] this way gets them excited about learning, and encourages their exploration." She was definitely right. The kids seemed so happy with science, and really love what they are learning. Morah Andrea also said about teaching younger kids "I actually think it's amazing, because everything is new. They are really curious and excited, which makes me excited about teaching it." In fact, she feels like she is "facilitating it, and not teaching."

אצלנו בלוס אנגילס

Abigail Benhaghnazar, 8th Grade

What is Life?

Shirel Shakeri, 8th Grade

What is life?, you may ask yourself.
Many people may think that life is a box of chocolate,
Not knowing which flavor you're going to get.
Also, people may think of life as a roller coaster,
Sometimes having bumps, twists, and turns and
having smooth parts.
If you ask me what life is, I would tell you that it is
a box of puzzle pieces.
Life is you figuring out the pieces and how to solve
them.
Sometimes you will make mistakes. You may not
put the pieces in the correct space,
But that is ok, you will figure it out.
It is ok to make mistakes along the way because
that is a part of life: you will make mistakes.
Once you solve a piece, it may break, or you will
find another piece to fix.
At the end of all the hard work and solving,
This hard thing that has millions of pieces to solve,
you will have a beautiful impact.
Life is a puzzle that has so many confusing things in
it - it can make you go insane.
It can be positive or it can be negative, you decide
that.
(Continued, right).

אצלנו בלוס אנגילס
שבלב הרי הוליווד
היו לוקחים את הילד
שהגיע לגיל חמש
כיפה של הלל עושים לו
אצלנו בלוס אנגילס
כיפה של הלל בראש מלבישים לו
כל ההורים בבית
חגיגה גדולה עורכים לו
שהגיע לגיל חמש
אצלנו בלוס אנגילס
ואז את ילד בכיתה א'
שהגיע לגיל חמש
אצלנו בלוס אנגילס
מכניסים לבית ספר הלל
כותבים לו על לוח חכם
מאלף ועד תי
את כל האותיות בטושים
ואומרים לו חביבי תקרא!
והייתה תורה צבעונית
כמו להצבעים של טוש
אצלנו בלוס אנגילס
שבלב הרי הוליווד

But you always got to think to yourself:
"After I am done putting all of those pieces
together,
It may break again," and you have to keep
trying to fix the pieces.
Even if you missed one or two, or even a
few, it is ok because people make mistakes,
And not everything that you are going to do
will be perfect.
That is what life is according to me.

Hillel Leadership, continued from front cover

She is also really passionate about the school's vision, which is to teach, empower and inspire. Mrs. Kestenbaum believes that it is important to be a leader at Hillel and any organization because if you really care about it, you should spend your time to make the school the way you envision it. To give some background information, the PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association, which creates a community between the parents and the teachers at Hillel. The PTA hosts events like Pier Night, Bingo Night, the Book Fair, the Purim carnival, the Ladies Luncheon, and Teacher Appreciation Week - which is a week of thanking the teachers for all the hard work they did the whole year - and many more. This year, they have a new event for all the children that have their birthdays in a month: at the end of each month, the PTA organizes a celebration of all of the children's birthdays.

Some events the Board President and the rest of the Board are in charge of are the Golf Tournament, The Annual Scholarship Banquet, Poker Night, The Matzah Ball Run, and lastly, the annual Trustee Event. The Board of Hillel plays a big role for the school; for instance, they keep the school running financially, they set the tuition for each year, and they enhance student services and support.

In conclusion, some great leaders at Hillel that stand out from the rest of the school are the president of the PTA, Rona Lelazary, and the President of the Board, Amy Kestenbaum. They show their leadership by standing up and taking a role in making the school a better environment for the students, teachers and parents, and by helping the school reach its full potential.

A Chat with a New Student and New Teacher at Hillel Abigail Kestenbaum and Sydney Elyson, 6th Grade

Starting at a new school is never easy. Being a new student means getting adjusted to a new schedule, trying to find all your classes in a new building, and meeting new people. Usually when you are a new student, you don't know your way around and have to learn how to get around and where everything is in the building. It can be hard to come to a new school. That's why we should make all the new students feel welcome.

When Sydney and I decided to interview a new student at Hillel, we were very excited to get to interview Chana Light. Chana is a new student at Hillel in 6th grade who enjoys acting on her free time. The moment we sat down with Chana we could tell she was very enthusiastic about answering our questions. She had so much to say! The first thing we asked her was how has your experience at Hillel been so far? She responded that she has been enjoying it. Then we asked her, "What is your favorite part about Hillel?" She said she likes being with her friends. Chana said that if she could change one thing about Hillel it would be more free time and more time in between classes. When we asked Chana how the transition to Hillel was, she said, "It was hard because no matter where you go it is always hard to be the new person when everyone has already been there." Lastly, we asked her, "How does technology impact your learning?" She answered, "It is easier to do work on the iPad because with a click of a button or a tap on the screen you can do anything!"

Mr. Steinberg is a new middle school history teacher at Hillel. He plays the violin, piano, and guitar. He also is an amazing artist. One of the questions we asked Mr. Steinberg was, "How was your experience at Hillel so far?" He replied that it's been challenging and exciting. Another question we asked him was, "What is your favorite part of Hillel so far?" Mr. Steinberg replied, "My favorite part about Hillel so far is all the students." When we asked Mr. Steinberg, "If you could change one thing about Hillel what would you change?", he said that he would make a bigger music program. Then we asked Mr. Steinberg: "Was the transition to Hillel hard?" He replied, "Yes because there are so many types of students." We also asked Mr. Steinberg what he thinks of the Hillel community, he said, "It's a joy." The last question we asked Mr. Steinberg was: "Does being a musician impact your teaching life?" Mr Steinberg replied, "Yes, because just like music happens in between the notes, teaching happens in between the lessons."

Jewish Identity

Lior Shachar, 8th Grade

Would you choose to be Jewish? I mean, why would you sign up to live a strictly restricted life? Many people don't understand what it's all about and think that Judaism is just restrictions. The way I think we should fix this problem is by looking into the 'why' of the restrictions. We need clear and positive reasons to stay Jewish. Failing that, why should Judaism survive? Is there a good argument for not assimilating into the welcoming societies surrounding us? Is there a compelling reason to stay proudly Jewish in the face of anti-Semitism? Judaism is the most powerful idea the world has ever seen. Jews have survived because we have a message the world needs to hear. The Jewish way of life is a revolutionary force that can transform ordinary lives into lives of meaning.

So, why keep shabbat? A family that keeps shabbat is always reminded of what is really important—that there is more to life than accumulating wealth. Shabbat is for those that need a break. When you have a day off, it is usually just a day where you eat and binge-watch a TV show, but shabbat is a day in which we are forced to put down the iPad or the phone. It is a day for connection to our families. Why keep kosher? The kosher restrictions teach us that we are not mere animals that must feed our every urge and desire and that eating itself can be holy. Why put a mezuzah on your door? A mezuzah on the door tells the world that this home is built for a higher purpose. It is a reminder that G-d is watching over us and protecting us every step of the way.

So it is important to have these laws and restrictions for the purpose of gaining wisdom and elevating our quality of life, and for the purpose of putting meaning into our lives. That is why Judaism is special.

The 6th Grade Pali Trip

Tamar Scheinfeld, 6th Grade

This year the 6th grade class went to Pali Institute Outdoor Education located in the San Bernardino Mountains. Pali was so much fun.

We learned about aerodynamics by making rocket ships out of soda bottles and launching them. We also dissected a squid and learned about all of its organs. We also dissected owl pellets which are owl hairballs.

We learned about the planets and the constellations. We did archery and we did a fun ropes course. The activities on the ropes course were climbing up a pole and jumping and trying to hold onto a trapeze, but if you missed it, it was still cool because you floated down. Another activity on the ropes course was climbing up a pole and walking across a tightrope, but you have a rope above you. The last activity on the ropes course was climbing up a tangled net that swayed back and forth and then climbing up wooden planks, which also swayed back and forth.

The food was very good. It was from Leiders and was mostly the same menu from the 5th grade overnight. When we ate and were finished early, there were things for us to do there - a foosball table and a piano - or you could just talk with your friends.

We davened and when we said Shemoneh Esrei there was an amazing view of the mountains and we could see so much beautiful scenery. The 6th grade had a great time. I hope next year the 6th grade has an amazing time, too.

My Truth

Sophia Ratner-Stauber, 8th Grade

My Truth is an organization that is created by Bnei Akiva, that shows all people the struggles that Israeli Soldiers have to go through during operations, training, or in their daily life. Two representatives who work at My Truth, Avichai and Yaelle, came to Hillel and spoke to the eighth grade students about this program.

Avichai shared a story that he experienced while he was in the IDF: in the year 2000, there was fighting in Israel called the Second Antifada. Avichai volunteered at a first aid course because he wanted to help out the hurt during the fight. While taking this course, he felt that he was really making a change during this event. "We didn't come here today to talk about ourselves personally---we want to talk about Israel." Avichai shared a story about a soldier named Matan who was in the Gaza Strip and was in an intense conflict zone. In 2005, Israel decided to take out Jewish settlements out of the Gaza Strip to give the Palestinians their own piece of land to have peace. Because of this action, 8,000-9,000 Jews were taken out of their community in the Gaza Strip. Soldiers had a hard time handling this because they were removed from their homes so it was emotional, but they believed and understood that this may promote peace between the Palestinians and Jews.

Next, Yaelle gave a group exercise for the eighth graders to solve, that also doubles as a real life scenario for soldiers: she asked the students to brainstorm ideas to strategically break into a house where an anti-Israel group, like Hamas, may be inside the home. One strategy that a student offered is to send in a trained K9 to determine whether the human targets are in the house, and this is something that the IDF does often. She explained that the reason why they do not put a bomb in the home, is because they do not want to harm the target since there may be innocent people inside the house as well.

It is very important for our community and the rest of the world to know the struggles, bravery and strength that the IDF soldiers give to defend our country.

למה אומרים את התפילה לשלום מדינת ישראל?

Mica Jahan and Ariana Myers, 7th Grade

היהודים בכל העולם מתפללים בכל שבת לשלום מדינת ישראל. אנחנו מבקשים מה' לברך את מדינת ישראל. בתפילה הזאת אנחנו מבקשים מה' שלום וברכה למדינת ישראל. זה פסוק מהתנ"ך בתפילה: "אם יהיה נידחך בקצה השמים. משם... יקחך והביאך ה' אלוקיך אל הארץ אשר ירשו אבותיך וירשתה". אנחנו לומדים מהפסוק שה' לוקח את היהודים מסביב לעולם ומביא אותם לארץ ישראל. ליהודים שגרים מחוץ לארץ חשוב להתפלל בשביל מדינת ישראל, כי היהודים בכל העולם אוהבים את מדינת ישראל וחשוב להם שמדינת היהודים חזקה. בעבר בזמן שהיהודים היו בגולה עם ישראל תמיד רצה לחזור לארץ ישראל. אנחנו יכולים לראות את זה בתפילות. היום יש לנו את מדינת ישראל וכל יהודי יכול לנסוע לישראל בכל זמן שהוא רוצה.

תפילה לשלום מדינת ישראל

Bracha Garmaise and Emunah Garmaise, 7th Grade

בשיעורי ארץ ישראל בכיתה ז', אנחנו לומדים על התפילה של "שלום למדינת ישראל". התפילה הזאת ממש חשובה כי ישראל המדינה של היהודים, אבל יש עוד דתות בישראל, מוסלמים ונוצרים גם גרים בישראל. יש הרבה מדינות שכנות, ויש בעיה — אין לנו שלום. בכיתה של מורה דליה, אנחנו עושים פרסומות על התפילה של שלום למדינת ישראל. בתפילה יש שלוש מילים מאוד חשובות: ברוך, הגן וחזק את מדינת ישראל והחיילים. תפילה מיוחדת כי אנחנו יכולים להתפלל למדינת ישראל. החיילים הם אנשים שעובדים קשה להגן על מדינת ישראל, ומאוד חזקים. אנחנו עושים פרסומות על התפילה: "תפילת לשלום למדינת ישראל".

בפרסומת כתבנו:

יש לך בן בצבא ההגנה לישראל? אתה רוצה שלום ושקט ולא אוהב רעש של מלחמה? יש תפילה מאוד מיוחדת לשלום. תיתנו שתי דקות מהזמן שלכם בשבת ותתפללו למדינה של היהודים.

Hurricane Harvey

Josh Haboosheh, 8th Grade

How much do you know about hurricane Harvey? The hurricane started on Thursday, August 17, 2017, and destroyed more than 40,000 homes. The hurricane was so bad, it killed 77 people. What we can do to help is make a small donation to fix and rebuild Houston. We can also spread the word and try our best to help the people in Houston. The people in Houston will help to pay the damages of the flood and it will cost more than 180 billion dollars to rebuild it, and it may take 4-6 years to rebuild Houston.

The hurricane as we know it is also one of the biggest hurricanes in history. The hurricane has injured somewhere around 200 people. The hurricane ended on Sunday, September 3, 2017. In conclusion, Hurricane Harvey was a disastrous mess and we hope a hurricane like this will never happen again.



Hurricane Irma's Effects on Florida

Judah Robin, 6th Grade

Did you wonder what Hurricane Irma did to the state of Florida? About 6,200,000 houses and businesses lost power, around 25 people died and around 50 people were injured. The whole state was flooded and very badly damaged. No one was able to go outside, and they had to stock up on food and water. However, the water couldn't be cold and the food couldn't be warmed up because all the power was out! Most people left Florida before the hurricane happened because it was all over the news that there was going to be a hurricane in Florida, but some people thought it would be better to stay.

Here are some examples of the types of damage that happened: east of Tampa, a city in Florida, the wind knocked a power pole and power line into a police car on Sunday, September 10, 2017. The police and paramedics were trapped for two hours until people rescued them. They were not hurt, though. More than 120 homes were evacuated, which means 120 people left their homes, early Monday near Orlando, Florida. Water poured into the city. Firemen and National Guardsmen used boats to get families to safety. A few miles away, 30 others were evacuated when a 60-foot sinkhole opened under an apartment, though no injuries were reported.

Hurricane Harvey: Hillel's Response

Dorin Rabbanian, 8th Grade

Do you know that Hurricane Harvey has affected about 30,000 lives? Recently, one of the strongest hurricanes in the century hit Houston, Texas. The hurricane caused almost unrecoverable damage to environments and homes, which resulted in millions if not billions of dollars to recover these damages. This hurricane has caused enormous floods and has affected many people's lives, including a Hillel family.

Wikipedia explains "Harvey is the wettest tropical cyclone on record in the United States. Harvey caused at least 90 confirmed deaths, 89 in the United States. Economic losses are preliminarily estimated at between \$70 billion to \$200 billion, with a large portion of the losses sustained by uninsured homeowners. The resulting floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and prompted more than 17,000 rescues." This hurricane affected 50 counties in southeast Texas and Louisiana, with the majority of the damage occurring in Houston. According to an article in the New York Times, written by Niraj Choksi and Maggie Astor written on August 28, 2017, "Hurricane Harvey is a category 4 hurricane has heavy rains, 130 mph winds, and huge amounts of destruction during this hurricane. Shelters are overflowing with people, entire cities have no running water, and 30,000 people do not have homes to go back to from the shelters. 14,000 members of the National Guard have come to Texas to offer their help. They have saved 8,500 people in Houston alone. Firefighters, police officers, and members of the media are doing everything they can to help victims of the hurricane." Many organizations have been set up to raise money and collect food and supplies so that people outside of the affected area can help, too. Hurricane Harvey will have long-term effects on its victims. It may take months or even years to clean everything up. The process of recovery and clean-up can be so stressful that it amounts to a kind of 'second disaster' for victims. People need to rebuild their homes and communities because they have been flooded and destroyed.

In addition, with this unfortunate tragedy, Hillel wanted to inform the community about what happened. As Jews, we have a responsibility to step up and help those in need. When tragedies occur, whether they are close to home or halfway around the world, we are inspired to help. There is a gemara in masechet Ta'anit that says, "When the community is in trouble, do not say, "I will go home and eat and drink and all will be well with me;" rather, involve yourself in the community's distress. We need to step up and help.

The Student Council at Hillel prepared a Hillel Voice explaining to the students and the community the causes and effects of Hurricane Harvey. Hillel prepared a video of the Yellin family, a Hillel family that recently moved to Houston. This video showed the experience and the feeling of being part of this natural disaster. The Student Council took on a project to connect with other students at Beren Academy in Houston. They partnered with them to connect, send letters, and empathize with them as they rebuild their community. At the time of the hurricane, there was not a current mail system in Houston as the mail trucks would not be able to send the letters. However, once there is more clarity on the situation, Hillel will be announcing this project. The students who attended left this Hillel Voice with thoughts and idea of what they could do themselves as individuals to help, and how they would feel if this natural disaster would have affected them. I interviewed Gabriella Gomperts, an eighth grade student and asked for her thoughts on this tragic disaster. She replied, "After the assembly, I felt sympathetic towards the victims and felt the need to help them. Something I and everyone else can do to help is donate money to help fundraise for the hurricane victims. This is a terrible catastrophe, and we all need to make a difference and help the victims."

In conclusion, Hurricane Harvey caused long-term damage, which will cost millions of dollars to recover. Hillel put all of their efforts to help the victims of the hurricane. About 100 people have died, and 30,000 people's lives have been affected. Have you done anything to help the victims?

זכויות הנשים באתיופיה ואמריקה**Liel Khalili, 8th Grade**

באתיופיה ואמריקה יש הבדלים גדולים בזכויות של האדם. אבל יש אחד שבולט וזה הזכויות של הנשים והחינוך שלהן.

באתיופיה, הנשים הולכות לבית ספר, אבל האנשים לא מטפלים בהם טוב. לפחות 80% אחוזים מהנשים הן אנאלפביתיות. הנשים בממוצע לומדות בבית ספר למשך שנתיים. הנשים לא יכולות לקבל עבודה מחוץ הבית. הן מנקות את הבית, מבשלות אוכל ויולדות תינוקות. הנשים באתיופיה, אין להן זכויות לחינוך.

אבל באמריקה, יש זכויות לכל אשה. באמריקה רק 14% מהנשים אנאלפביתיות. יש לנשים עבודה מחוץ לבית. יש לנשים באמריקה שוויון זכויות.

לסיכום, באמריקה לנשים יש הרבה זכויות למשל, יש להן עבודה מחוץ לבית. באתיופיה, אין לנשים זכויות למשל, אסור להן לעבוד מחוץ לבית. העבודה שלהן בבית כל יום. אני שמח שאני גר באמריקה.

זכויות הנשים תימן**Juliet Wiener, 8th Grade**

תימן הוא מקום שאין בו זכויות לנשים. בתימן נשים חייבות להינשא בגיל 8 שנים. הם לא יכולות לבחור עם מי הן רוצות להתחתן. בתימן הנשים זקוקות לגבר כדי לנסוע ולקבל דרכון. לנשים צריכות להישאר בבית ולא לקבל השכלה. הן מקבלות טיפול רפואי רע ורבים מתות בזמן הלידה. תימן זו אחת ממדינות רבות שאין להם זכויות נשים.

ארצות הברית היא שונה מתימן כי לנשים פה יש זכויות. לנשים בתימן אין הזדמנויות לחינוך ולעבודה. אבל בארצות הברית זה לא קורה. לנשים בארצות הברית יש יחס שווה כמו לגברים. היום אישה יכולה להיות טייסת בארצות הברית. אבל בתימן נשים לא יכולות לעשות דברים רגילים כמו ללכת ברחוב ולבית ספר. זו הסיבה שבגללה ארצות הברית היא מקום לנשים לחיות ולשגשג, במיוחד בהשוואה בתימן.

שוויון זכויות בארצות הברית**Orelle Maghen, 8th Grade**

באמריקה לא היה לאפרו-אמריקאים שוויון זכויות עם האמריקאים הלבנים. בערך ב-1800 האפרו-אמריקאים היו עבדים ללבנים ולא הייתה להם הזכות לעבוד או להתחיל לחיות איך שהם רוצים. הם לא נחשבים לאנשים רגילים. אבל מאז העולם השתנה. יש הרבה מאוד אנשים שקמו והתנגדו והשפיעו ואפילו היה לנו נשיא אפרו-אמריקאי.

מגילת העצמאות אומרת שלכל האנשים יש שוויון זכויות. עם זאת בתחילת 1800 של חלק מאמריקאים אפילו לא רואים אפרו-אמריקאים כמו אנשים רגילים ורואים אותם כמו העבדים שלהם. יש אנשים שנגד האפרו-אמריקאים רק משום שהם היו אנשים של צבע. עם זאת שנים לאחר מכן "רוזה פרקס" rosa parks קמה ואמרה כי היא לא מסכימה שהשחורים והלבנים לא יושבים יחד באוטובוסים, בבית ספר וכמעט בכל מקום. כמו כן, מרטין לותר קינג עשה נאום חזק ואמר שיש לו חלום שלכולם יש שוויון זכויות ולא משנה מה הצבע שלהם. אבל היום העולם שונה ובשנת 2008 היה לנו נשיא אפרו-אמריקאי הראשון שהיה אירוע גדול בהיסטוריה. לסיכום, אפרו-אמריקאים עברו הרבה זמנים קשים. הם נלחמו על מה שהם רצו, שוויון זכויות ביניהם לבין הלבנים והיום מקבלים יחס דומה. אנשים רבים עבדו קשה, כדי להפוך את העתיד טוב יותר עבור אפרו-אמריקאים.

Fantasy Football

Adam Westerman, 6th Grade

My article is about fantasy football. It is about who to pick, who is projected to have the most points this year, and who is going to be the best in each position. If you are wondering what fantasy football is, it basically works like this: you join a league, and then there is a draft. Let's say there are six people in your league. You will then have a draft and you will need to pick players, and then when the league starts, you play something called head-to-head with these six people in your league. Each fantasy team, which is managed by you and the people in your league, has the players that they pick, and when those players play, the fantasy team gets points. At the end of the week whoever wins that week (whoever has the most points), gets one win.

Now, let's discuss quarterbacks. If you are wondering what a quarterback is, he is the player on the team who throws the ball to the other players. The quarterback is one of the key players. The quarterback gets fantasy points when he throws to a player on his team and that player catches the ball. Also, let's say the quarterback throws the ball and the player catches it in the touchdown zone - then that fantasy team can also get points from that because the quarterback threw a touchdown. According to espnfantasy.com, the best quarterback this year is Tom Brady, then Aaron Rodgers, Drew Brees, and Matt Ryan.

Let's talk wide receivers. If you are wondering what a wide receiver is, he is the person whose main job is to catch the ball from the quarterback. When the wide receiver catches the ball, he gets receiving yards. Let's say the quarterback throws the ball to the wide receiver, and the wide receiver catches it, and that catch is a ten-yard catch. Then the wide receiver runs 90 yards to the touchdown zone. The person who has those players on his or her fantasy team would probably get lots of points because the wide receiver caught the ball, and then he ran a lot of yards and scored a touchdown! According to espnfantasy.com, the top five wide receivers are: number five is A.J. Green, then Mike Evans, Odell Beckham Jr., Antonio Brown, and number one is Julio Jones.

This next paragraph is about the running backs. If you are wondering what a running back is, it is the person who runs with the ball. They run the ball when the center - who is the blocker - snaps the ball to the quarterback. After this, the quarterback usually hands the running back the ball and he runs with it and tries to get the touchdown. The running backs get points by running the ball as far as they can. Let's say the running back runs the ball for thirty yards; he would get a good amount of points. According to espnfantasy.com, the top five running backs, starting from number 5 are: Devonta Freeman, number 4 is Todd Gurley, Leonard Fournette, Ezekiel Elliot, and number 1 is Leveon Bell. Fantasy football is a great topic to learn about. Along the way I have learned a lot of things, and I hope you did too!

NBA Awards

Eliron Maghen, 6th Grade

The NBA season has been so amazing so far this year. Giannis Antetokounmpo has improved so much with his shooting and his defense and everyone says he is the front runner for the MVP award this year. Ben Simmons has been amazing in his rookie year and he is also a frontrunner for the Rookie of the Year Award. The front runner for the most improved player award is again Giannis Antetokounmpo. As I said before, he has improved and the award goes to the player that has improved the most and in my opinion Giannis has improved so much. The defensive player of the year in my opinion will be Rudy Gobert. For coach of the year, I can't predict. That's because it's not even halfway into the NBA season.

Now let's look at the stats. Let's start off by looking at Giannis Antetokounmpo's stats this year and last year. Last year he averaged 22.9 ppg (points per game), 5.4 apg (assists per game) and 8.8 rpg (rebounds per game). Now this year, he averages 31.3 ppg, which is a big improvement, and 5.1 apg and 10.7 rpg. That is a very large improvement from the year before. Now let's look at Rudy Gobert's defensive stats: he has 10.4 rebounds a game, 2.5 blocks a game and .6 steals a game. Having 10 rebound and 2 and a half blocks a game is crazy! Now let's look at Ben Simmons's stats. He is currently averaging 17.8 points a game, 10.1 rebounds a game and 8 assists a game - that's almost a triple! He is a rookie, so that's amazing, and that's why I think he deserves Rookie of the Year.

2018 NBA Playoffs: Stats, Information and Predictions

Eliron Maghen, 6th Grade

The 2018 NBA season has started and so far it has been amazing. Let's start off by talking about the offseason. Here is some information about the NBA draft: the 76ers took Markelle Fultz with the first pick and the Los Angeles Lakers took Lonzo Ball with the second pick. The Boston Celtics took Jayson Tatum with the third pick and the Timberwolves traded Kris Dunn, Zach Lavine and the 5th pick for Jimmy Butler. Then in free agency, the Clippers traded Chris Paul to the Houston Rockets for Patrick Beverly, Lou Williams, Sam Decker and other players a pick and some cash. Then Paul George got traded to the Thunder for Victor Oladipo and Domantas Sabonis. Then, Paul Milsap signed with the Nuggets and Kyrie Irving got traded to the Celtics for Isaiah Thomas and Jae Crowder and the Nets 2018 First round pick. Then Carmelo Anthony got traded to the Thunder for Doug McDermott and Enes Kanter.

Now that we've seen the first few games of the year, let's take a look at what we saw. The Rockets can beat the Warriors with Chris Paul since they beat them 122-121, and we saw that the Celtics' chances of winning the finals has dropped after Gordon Hayward got injured. The Thunder trio can play well together and it's hard to predict who will win the finals so let's look at the stats.

The case for the Rockets is that adding up to this: Chris Paul to the Houston Rockets helps if James Harden isn't having a good game and they need another leader to come in and help. The Rockets have Chris Paul to help and his stats last year were 18.1 points per game, with five rebounds a game and 9.2 assists a game, as well as two steals a game. That helps the Rockets, and we all saw how Chris Paul made Deandre Jordan great, so he could probably do the same with Clint Capela. The two steals also help a lot on defense. Another factor in making the Rockets' defense amazing is that they added two great defenders: Luc Mbah A Moute and PJ Tucker.

The case for the Warriors is that they are just great, especially because they have Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Kevin Durant and Draymond Green - that's four all-stars, and they have a great rookie - Jordan Bell in the NBA draft.

The case for the Thunder is that everyone thought that after losing Kevin Durant, the only good player was Westbrook, but then they traded for Paul George. Well, that changed things: everybody previously said, "Who cares about Kevin Durant when you have Paul George?" and then they traded for Carmelo Anthony then everybody was like they are better off without Kevin Durant adding Paul George and Carmelo Anthony helps the teams offense a lot. The case for the Timberwolves is that they improved a lot in the offseason. They traded for Jimmy Butler and they signed Jamal Crawford, which is a big offensive and defensive improvement. The Timberwolves also have two young amazing stars in Andrew Wiggins and Karl Anthony Towns. The Spurs are great and they have a great coach, but Lamarcus Aldridge has to play better for them to do well. Kawhi is great and Tony Parker isn't coming back until January. When he comes back, he won't play like he used too - he is getting old. Manu Ginobili is getting old, too, but he can still shoot and drive.

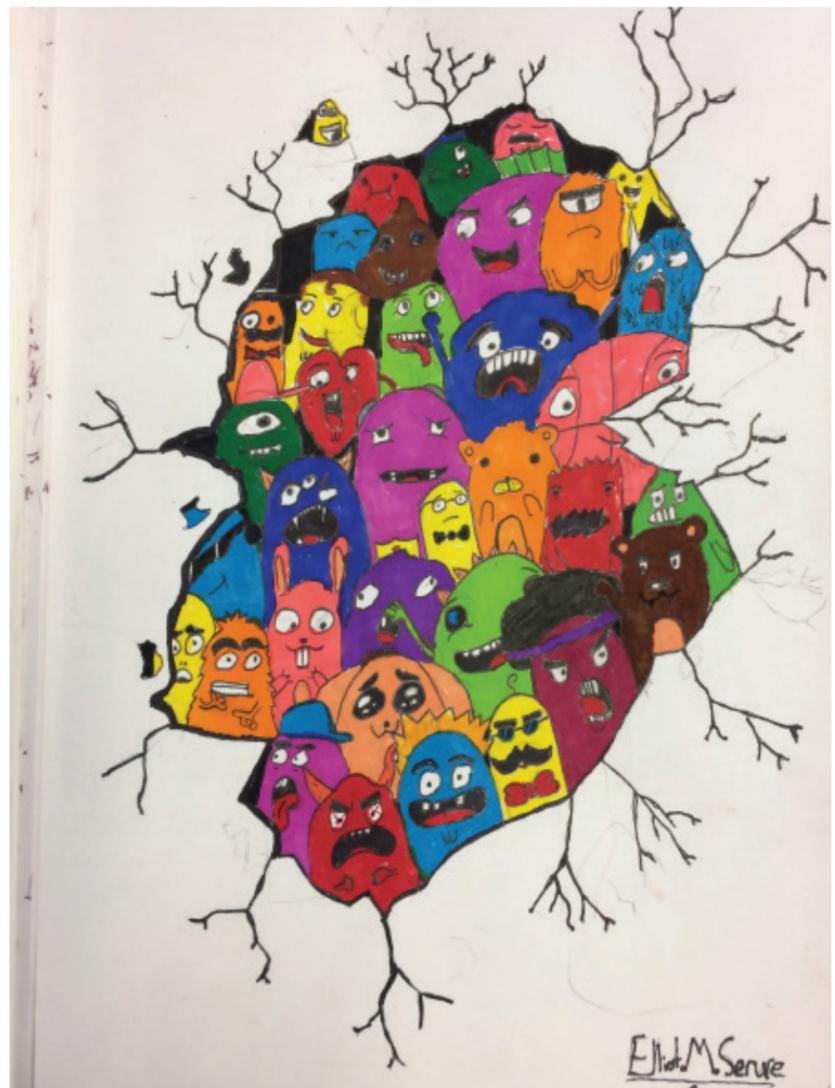
Now let's look at the east. The Cavs are just amazing: they have picked up so many good players during the offseason. It began with the drama of Kyrie Irving wanting to leave Cleveland and go to a team that he could lead. Then the Cavs signed Derrick Rose, and then the Cavs traded Kyrie to the Celtics for Isaiah Thomas, Jae Crowder and the Nets 2018 1st round pick. At that point, everyone said that they were bandits in that trade, meaning the Cavs obviously won the trade. Then the Cavs signed Jose Calderon and Jeff Green, and then the Bulls bought out Dwyane Wade and the Cavs signed him.

The Celtics improved a lot too. First, in the offseason, they drafted Jayson Tatum, and then in free agency they signed Gordon Hayward. Then they traded Avery Bradley for Marcus Morris and then they traded Isaiah Thomas, Jae Crowder and the Nets 2018 first round pick for Kyrie Irving. Everyone who loves basketball started going crazy about that trade and lots of people started saying they will have a amazing matchups with the Cavs when they play each other. When the Celtics played in the first game, Gordon Hayward had a very gruesome injury and now people think that they will not do as well as everyone said they will because of the injury.

Shelly Golbahar, 6th Grade



Elliot Serure, 7th Grade

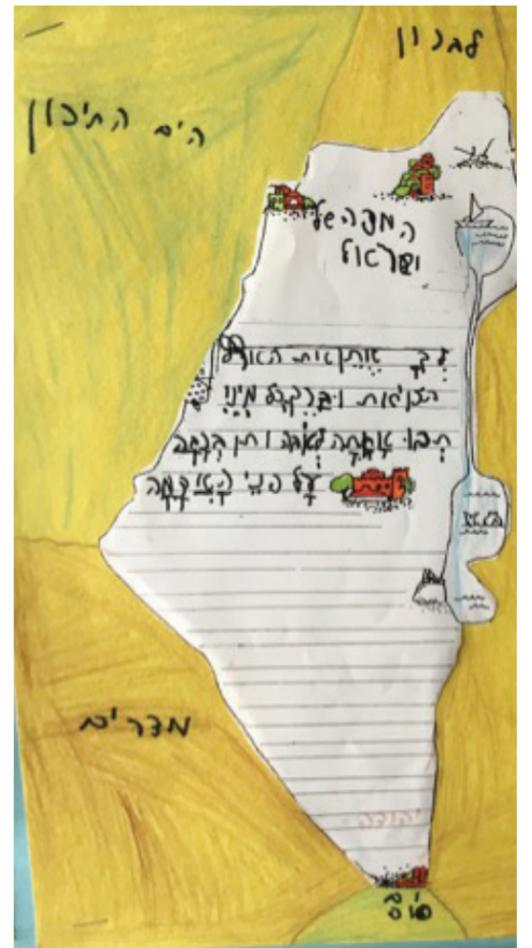




Vincent Van Gogh and the Sunflowers
1st Grade

לד אתו את הארץ הזאת

Nathan Rabbanian, 3rd Grade



לד אתו את הארץ הזאת

Chloe Westerman, 3rd Grade



Drawing using the Right Side of the Brain with Morah Lillian!





So my 2018 NB Finals prediction is the Cavs winning the finals in 7 games!

As you can see, I have the bracket with my predictions. On the west side, we see the Warriors sweep the Blazers, then you have the Timberwolves and the Spurs clash in the first round with the matchup being close and the Timberwolves win in 7 games. Then the Clippers and the Thunder collide for an epic matchup of Blake Griffin and Deandre versus the Thunder trio of Westbrook, George and Carmelo, and the thunder win in six games. Lastly, in the first round matchups, you have the Rockets and the Grizzlies going up against each other. It's kind of close, with Houston winning the first two games at home then the Grizzlies losing one and winning one at home, and then we're back in Houston. The Rockets lose and then in Memphis the Rockets win and head on to the second round to face the Thunder.

Now on the East Coast, you have the young 76ers team going against the Cavs and the Cavs win the first two games at home. Then the 76ers win two close games back at home, and then LeBron James has a serious talk with his team and they step up and win two straight games, and go on to the second round. Then, the Raptors come face-to-face with the Wizards: the Raptors win one game and lose one game at home. Then the Wizards win one game and lose one game at home and then the Raptors win two straight games to head on to the second round. Now there's the Celtics facing the Hornets. I predict that the Celtics win two games at home and then Charlotte wins one game and loses one game at home. The Celtics will win and go on to the second round. Finally, there are the Bucks and the Heat, where Gianni just dominates and helps his team sweep the Heat.

Now in the second round in the west, we have the Warriors versus the Timberwolves. I predict that Golden State wins two games at home and then Minnesota wins two games at home, and then the Warriors dominate and get two straight wins to go the conference finals. Now let's consider the Rockets versus the Thunder: this matchup will be amazing, since you have the duo of Chris Paul with James Harden versus the Thunder trio of Westbrook, George and Melo. The Rockets win the first two games at home then the Thunder win two games at home. Then, Houston wins back at home and the Thunder win at home to tie the series 3-3 and make it go to Game 7! With that game being close, and Houston winning, it will go to the conference finals to face the Warriors. Then on the east, you have the Cavs playing the Raptors. I predict that the Cavs win two games at home and then the Raptors win one and lose one at home. Then The Raptors win in Cleveland to make the series 3-2. Then in Toronto, the Cavs win and go on to the conference finals. Then the Celtics face the Bucks: the Bucks win one and lose one. Then in Boston, the Celtics win one and lose one, and then in Milwaukee, the Bucks win. In Boston, the Celtics win to tie the series at three games apiece. Then in Game 7, Boston wins and goes on to the conference finals to play the Cavs. In the Warriors versus Rockets matchup, I have the Warriors losing one and winning one at home. Then Houston wins one and loses one at home, and then Golden State wins at home. Then the Rockets win at home to tie the series 3-3 and force Game 7. In Game 7 the Warriors win, but it's a very close game. On the east side, the Cavs win two at home, and Boston wins one and loses one at home. Boston then wins in Cleveland then the Cavs win in Boston to face the Warriors again for the fourth straight time! In this matchup, Golden State wins one and loses one at home. Then, the Cavs win one and lose one at home, and then the Warriors win at home, and then the Cavs win at home to force a Game 7. In Game 7, they both go back and forth and in the final seconds, I predict someone on the Cavs will hit a clutch shot.

NBA Predictions, continued from p. 19

The Bucks will do great in the playoffs, with Giannis Antetokounmpo working much harder to improve his game and he has proved it so far this season. He's leading the league in scoring and he's showing off his good defense and his amazing athleticism. The Bucks also have the 2016-2017 NBA Rookie of the Year, Malcolm Brogdon, who is a great defender and Kris Middleton, an amazing shooter and scorer. I predict that they are going to do better than they did last year in the playoffs.

כדורגל בישראל

Noa Talasazan, 7th Grade

אתם יודעים שבישראל הרבה ילדים משחקים כדורגל? כדורגל הוא המשחק הכי פופולרי בישראל. הרבה ערים יש להן קבוצת כדורגל. יש שלוש קבוצות גדולות בישראל והן: הפועל, מכבי ובית"ר. קבוצת בית"ר מייצגת את עיר הבירה, ירושלים. הפועל ומכבי הן הקבוצות של תל אביב. מכבי חיפה מייצגת את הצפון, הפועל באר שבע, היא הקבוצה של הדרום. היום האלופה היא "הפועל באר שבע".

מצפון הארץ עד הדרום ילדים בישראל משחקים כדורגל חברים שלהם בשכונה ובבית הספר. יש קבוצות כדורגל של ילדים, נערים ומבוגרים. היו כמה שחקנים ישראליים ששיחקו בקבוצות שונות בעולם. האוהדים כתבו הרבה שירים על הקבוצות שלהם.

שיר לקבוצת מכבי: מכבי שלנו מכבי תל אביב, בקיץ, בחורף, בסתיו ובאביב!

שיר לקבוצת הפועל: הו, הפועל עולה, הפועל עולה, הפועל עולה!

כדורגל הוא המשחק האהוב בישראל.

NFL and Colin Kaepernick Adam Westerman and David Wintner, 6th Grade

Crazy things are happening in the NFL. If you don't know what the NFL is, it is the National Football League. It is a professional football league and it has 32 teams. It was founded in 1920, on August 20, and the commissioner is Roger Goodell. The team that has the most championships is the Green Bay Packers, with 13. The most recent championship was won by the New England Patriots. Recently, Colin Kaepernick has been kneeling during the national anthem. The reason he does not stand up is because he says, "I won't stand up to show pride in a flag in our country that oppresses black people and people of color." Colin Kaepernick first sat during the national anthem during a pre-season game on August 14, 2015. Another person who has been kneeling right beside him is Eric Reid. The reason why he is kneeling is because he has been paying attention to the number of black people that were unarmed who were killed. These killings are deeply disturbing, but the one that brought him to tears was the killing of Alton Sterling, who was a man that lived in his hometown Baton Rouge, Louisiana. So, Eric Reid wanted to do something as respectful as possible. A few weeks later Colin Kaepernick sat on the bench but the media didn't notice. Then finally, on August 27, 2016 at the third preseason game is when his protest gained momentum.

Since Colin Kaepernick started kneeling during the national anthem, many other players have been doing it as well, such as like three Miami Dolphins players: Michael Thomas, Kenny Stills and Julius Thomas. These players broke the team rules and stayed in the tunnel that leads to the field during the national anthem by kneeling. Also, during week three of the NFL all the Steelers players waited in the tunnel after President Trump spoke about this protest. One player, Alejandro Villanueva, who is a U.S. Army veteran, came out of the tunnel and sang the national anthem outside of the tunnel.

Kneeling during the national anthem is an important topic because it is showing that everyone should be treated the same way, regardless of his or her skin color. Some people think that it is not okay that some players sat down or kneeled during the national anthem because everyone should support our country, and it is rude to sit down during the national anthem.

אליפות כדור בסיס

Talia Schapira and Alexandra Gomperts, 7th Grade

"נותרה רק נקודה אחת בשביל הדודג'רס" האליפות העולמית ב-2017 היה ממש מרגש. זאת היתה הפעם הראשונה אחרי שלושים שנה שהדודג'רס הגיעו לאליפות העולם. אנשים בלוס אנג'לס התרגשו והיו מאוד שמחים. אנשים קנו כרטיסים ב-\$1500-\$5000. בטלוויזיה וברשת החברתית דיברו הרבה על המשחק. אנשים עשו הרבה מסיבות. כל האנשים בלוס אנג'לס התפללו שהדודג'רס ינצחו את המשחק. לצערי הדודג'רס לא ניצחו את אליפות העולם. זה היה מאוד עצוב, אבל אנחנו מקווים שהם ינצחו בשנה הבאה.

Deshaun Watson Gabriel Shraga, 4th Grade

This year, Deshaun Watson, the Quarterback for the Houston Texans, was having one of the most exciting Rookie seasons for a QB in the history of the NFL.

Even though he was on the bench for the first game of the year, he came in during the second game and by week 8 of the season he was already on track to break many Rookie QB records. His good play was not surprising since last year in college he led his team (Clemson) to win the National Championship. Unfortunately, in one of Houston's practices before their Week 9 game, Deshaun Watson was running and tore his ACL. Houston now has lost their QB (Watson) and their best defensive player (JJ Watt). Both players are gone for the season. But the Texans are still battling to make the playoffs. The new Quarterback taking Watson's place is Tom Savage. He has experience with their Wide Receiver DeAndre Hopkins, and we'll see how their season goes.

MLB Playoffs

Gabriel Shraga, 4th Grade

The MLB Playoffs have now ended and we're going to walk you through how it went. In the first round known as the NLDS, the LA Dodgers played the Arizona Diamondbacks. The Diamondbacks had just come off a Wild Card Win against the Colorado Rockies. The Dodgers beat the Diamondbacks in that series in 3 games. In the other NLDS series, the Chicago Cubs played against the Washington Nationals. That series went a full 5 games and the Cubs pulled it out. Over in the American League, the Houston Astros played against the Boston Red Sox in the ALDS. The Astros took that series in 4 games. In the other ALDS series, the New York Yankees played against the Cleveland Indians. Surprisingly, the Yankees beat the Indians who had won over 100 games in the regular season. They won in 5 games. That left 2 teams in the American League and 2 teams in the National League to play in League Championship Series.

In the NLCS, the Dodgers played the Chicago Cubs. The author of this article, Gabriel Shraga, actually went to Game 2 of that series and was only a few feet away from catching the winning walk-off home run hit by the Dodgers 3rd baseman, Justin Turner. The Dodgers took the series in 5 games and made it to the World Series for the first time since 1988. In the ALCS, the Astros played against the Yankees. It was an exciting 7 game series and the Yankees put up an amazing fight, but the Astros won the series and made it to the World Series where they would meet the Dodgers. In the World Series there were now 2 very evenly matched teams who would face off for the Trophy. In an amazing series the Astros took the trophy home, beating the Dodgers in 7 games.

The NBA Tip Off Has Started

Moses Burstein, 4th Grade

The NBA tip off the beginning of the season. It was a wild offseason. Many trades were made! For example, Kyrie Irving went to the Boston Celtics. Isaiah Thomas went to Cleveland Cavaliers. Along with Paul George going to Oklahoma City, the Minnesota Timberwolves also acquired Jimmy Butler. The first night of the NBA tip-off, there were two games in the West Houston Rockets against the reigning champs, the Golden State Warriors. The rockets won because Kevin Durant scored a buzzer beater but it did not count. In the east, the Cavaliers played the Celtics. The Celtics were off to a good start until Gordon Hayward got injured so the Cavaliers won by a three pointer. Let's see what will happen in the next few games!

JJ Watt Injury

Moses Burstein, 4th Grade

In a game between the Houston Texans and Kansas City Chiefs on October 8, 2017, Defensive End JJ Watt suffered a major broken leg injury. The Texans were finally getting it together this season. Rookie quarterback Deshaun Watson threw a great pass and Deandre Hopkins caught a great pass in last week's game. Will JJ Watts's injury affect the Texans and their race for the playoffs? Will Watts's injury highlight Deshaun Watson's ability, as spectators turn their focus on him?

Chris Paul Injury

London Brakha, 4th Grade

On October 18, 2017, Houston Rockets star point guard Chris Paul suffered a bruised knee when bumping knees with Memphis Grizzlies guard Mario Chalmers. He will be out for 2-4 weeks! He has not played a regular season game yet. Get well, Chris Paul.

Odell Beckham Jr. Gabriel Shraga, 4th Grade



Above: Odell Beckham, Jr. suffers a major injury this season.

Odell Beckham Jr. has been one of the most electric wide receivers in the NFL since he was drafted by the New York Giants in 2014. Not only is he an amazing player on the field, but he is also very exciting off the field. In 2016 Odell had the most catches in his career and he couldn't wait for the 2017 season to start knowing he was going to have a great year. He missed the first game of the 2017 season due to a minor injury. He played in the 2nd game of the season and he was back to his usual self in Game 3, making two amazing touchdown catches. In Game 4, he went up for a high catch from Eli Manning and came down awkwardly with a broken leg. This was Giants' fourth wide receiver that they lost to injury. The next day, October 9, 2017, Odell had surgery on his ankle and he's already saying that he can't wait to be back next season.

Green Bay Packers Super Star Quarterback Aaron Rogers Hurt London Brakha, 4th Grade

In week six, Green Bay Packers super star quarterback Aaron Rogers suffered a season-ending collarbone injury while being tackled during his game with the Minnesota Vikings. The injury is a serious blow to the Green Bay Packers' playoff chances. Backup Brett Hudley will take over as the Packers QB, probably for the rest of the season.

Head Coach Mike McCarthy called the hit on Aaron Rogers illegal. Anthony Barr, who sacked Rogers on the play, said he had no intentions of hurting the star quarterback. Rogers was put on the injured reserve list, which means he will be out for at least eight weeks, but there is a real chance he will be out for the rest of the season. In nine games without Rogers in the past five seasons, the Packers are 2-6-1. Good luck, Brett Hudley.

Gordon Hayward Gabriel Shraga, 4th Grade

Gordon Hayward was drafted by the Utah Jazz in 2010. He spent the first seven years of his career with that team. In the 2017 offseason, he was a free agent, and signed a contract with the Boston Celtics. Boston also traded for Kyrie Irving from the Cleveland Cavaliers. All of the fans were excited for the season opener. However, five minutes into the first game of the season, the small forward went up for a rebound and landed in an awkward way. He screamed in pain and it was clear that he had broken his leg badly. All the players on the court had to look away. They couldn't stand to look at the bad injury that had just taken place. Gordon Hayward was carried off the court on a stretcher and was taken to Boston for surgery the next night. Celtics fans lined up to sign a banner urging Gordon Hayward to "come back stronger than ever." One of his teammates wrote Hayward's initials on his shoes.



Above: Gordon Hayward gets injured in the beginning of the season in 2017.

The crowd that bought tickets to see him make his Boston debut chanted his name. A few miles away, Hayward was being wheeled into surgery to repair his ankle he broke in the season opener. Hayward's agent said that the surgery "went really well."

Philosophy: What's it all about?

Lior Shachar, 8th Grade

What is philosophy? To understand this broad topic, let's start by looking at the definition. Webster's Dictionary defines philosophy as the study of the basic ideas about knowledge, truth, right and wrong, religion, and the nature and meaning of life. I think this says it perfectly. Philosophy is all about thinking about all the things that concern people.

Just like science, philosophy is too expansive to have one category. There are four main subcategories of philosophy. The names and descriptions of the subcategories are in this table (see right).

Branch	Description
Metaphysics	An attempt to determine what is real.
Epistemology	Questions about knowledge and knowing.
Logic	Procedures of philosophical debate that bring people to a valid conclusion.
Axiology	Seeking wisdom about the nature of ethics and aesthetic values

To tackle the gargantuan beast that is this field of study, let's start with metaphysics. You could say that metaphysics is the study of reality: things being real, and absolutes. Some better-known metaphysicians are Plato, Galileo Galilei, and Baruch Spinoza. Many famous topics that are talked about in this field are the meaning of life, free will, and naturalism. Naturalism is the theory that only nature and forces of science operate in the world. This is just a skimming of this branch. Those who choose to take this path will encounter many different and exciting ideas but I named these few because they are some of the most discussed. If you want to study philosophy, you have to know yourself. Everybody's mind is different. You might have skills and points of view that your friend doesn't have and he might have ideas that you don't. You have to find what is tailored to your thought process.

Then there is epistemology. This is the study of knowledge and knowing. Famous epistemologists are Thomas Aquinas, Aristotle and George Berkeley. They discuss things like: what are the criteria you must meet to show that you "know something?" And, what makes your statement correct? This question is as old as philosophy itself. The study of knowledge is an ongoing discussion that took place for a good number of years. At different periods of time, many different answers and variations of those answers were accepted. Through much thinking, the last of the variations of this answer was true justified belief, meaning that you are right if you believe something and it is justified and true. The example given for this went as follows: A man is standing on the mountain looking at a valley. He sees a white dot. The man believes that the white dot is a sheep, and he therefore says the dot is a sheep. Upon closer inspection, the dot is a sheep. Ergo, the man's statement is justified and true. But there was a philosopher named Edmund Gettier and he said that there is a hole in this idea. He made what philosophers now call Gettier cases. Let's say that the man is standing on the same mountain and looks down and sees a white dot and says there is a sheep in the valley. Upon closer inspection, the dot is a dog. Unbeknownst to the man, there was a sheep in the valley, but he did not see it. His statement of 'there is a sheep in the valley' was true and justified because it is technically correct. But because of the dog, it was technically wrong because he was referring to the dog. Once you understand this, it's pretty easy to make Gettier cases of your own. This is just a small example of the things discussed in epistemology.

In contrast to epistemology, the philosophical branch of logic focuses on coming to an actual conclusion rather than discussing how to come to one. Any time you use a philosophical process to come to a conclusion, you are practicing logic. (Continued on next page).

What is Life?

Judah Pardau, 7th Grade

Breathing, eating, sleeping. These are all components of life. But how do all these things combine together to make humans, human? What about animals and plants? How do they sustain life? All living things on planet earth come together to create life. But what is it? What is life?

Cells are the building blocks of life, therefore every living thing contain cells. Within the cell, the only living thing inside it is it's nucleus. The additional organelles act as tools that create chemical reactions using the laws of the universe. These chemical reactions form other chemical reactions that continue as long as the cell is alive. So, if every living thing has cells, and cells are the building blocks of life and within the cells, chemical reactions take place to keep the cell alive, then life must be the result of billions upon billions of chemical reactions.

In addition to a composition of chemical reactions, life, I believe, is also a worldwide competition. Because of natural selection, species are forced to adapt to the constantly altering environment. Over a long period of time, the DNA in a species changes. The species with the best DNA stay alive, and the species with the least adaptive DNA, die off. Currently, humans are winning. Therefore, in addition to chemical reactions, life is also a large competition between all of earth's species.

Life is also a long chain of choices you must make. For example, if you are in a store and you see a candy bar you really want. You dig your hands into your pockets and find you have no money on you. So what do you do? You grab the candy bar and run out of the store. A second person sees this same candy bar, finds he has no money in his pocket and keeps walking. So, what's the difference between these two people. Well, nothing. One person just consciously made a decision to take that candy bar. This is free will. Because we have free will, we are faced with decisions we must make on a daily basis.

In conclusion, life is three things. It is a result of many chemical reaction occurring simultaneously, a large competition between the different living things in the world, and a long chain of decisions we must make because God gave us free will.

Philosophy, continued from previous page

On the other hand, axiology has much more complexity than the other branches, in my opinion. Within axiology, there are two subcategories. The first subcategory is ethics. Ethics deals with many things, including two of the most famous questions ever: What defines good and evil? And, what is right and wrong? Any question about what is correct ethically go into this category. For example, medical ethics deals with triage. If you are in a war and there is a limited amount of medical supplies, who gets them? Philosophy can be hard and sad at times but people have to think about these things. People cannot shy away from dealing with problems and issues that concern them. Philosophy can also be nice and pleasant to think about.

The next subcategory is aesthetics. Aesthetics deals with beauty, art and artistic taste. It also concerns itself with the appreciation of beauty. For example, one who studies and practices aesthetics would think about how to determine what constitutes beauty. One hundred years ago, beauty meant something different than it does today. In art, an aesthetician would think about what it means for something to be art. For instance, many people can't stand the bagpipes or yodeling. For many, these are just annoying sounds, but aestheticians think about it and talk about whether these should be considered art forms or not.

The thing about philosophy is that it's all opinion, based on personal theories and ideas. Philosophy contrasts with science in that science is all about the facts. Many people are still discussing whether philosophy should be considered a science or not. My point is that philosophy is so vast and if you want to study philosophy, your brain might be skilled in certain areas and you have to find what is right for you. I believe all people have it in them to be great thinkers and I enjoy having the privilege to share this field of work with the community.

The Book Thief

Gabriella Gomperts, 8th Grade

The Book Thief is the astonishing #1 New York Times bestselling novel by Markus Zusak. Narrated by Death, *The Book Thief* is the story of a young girl named Liesel Meminger living in Nazi Germany. Zusak weaves an intricate tale that is thought-provoking and ultimately, haunting and heartbreaking.

The Book Thief is about a foster child, Liesel, living in a small German town called Molching. She lives with her foster parents, Hans and Rosa Hubermann. Liesel is immediately drawn to Hans, who seems to be the opposite of his sharp-tongued wife. While living on Himmel Street, Liesel is gradually exposed to the horrors of the Nazi regime. One day, a young Jewish man named Max shows up on the Hubermann's doorstep and begs for refuge. The Hubermann's take him in, endangering the whole family.

As Liesel learns how to read, she starts writing her own stories. She shares them with Max and they develop an incredibly close friendship. Certain books in Nazi Germany were considered propaganda, and owning them became a form of defiance. By stealing, reading, and even writing her own books, Liesel is defying the Nazi regime in her own way.

Overall, *The Book Thief* is a haunting, incredible novel that I highly recommend you read. As the war progresses, your love for the characters grow and the suspense regarding their fate is intense. I can guarantee you will be left devastated and begging for more.

Harry Potter series Review

Leah Cohen, 5th Grade

In the Harry Potter series, a young boy named Harry Potter finds out that he is a wizard on his 11th birthday. He learns that he has a mortal enemy, named Voldemort, who wants to kill him. Everyone in the wizarding world is afraid of Voldemort, so they call him You Know Who. Harry fights You Know Who six times and eventually Voldemort's killing curse bounces back at him and Harry wins. Along the way, Harry learns that loyalty to his friends Ron, Hermione, Hagrid, Dobby, Neville, Luna, and Professor Dumbledore will always protect him. If he shows loyalty to his friends, they show loyalty back to him.

Because the Harry Potter series has some violent parts and hard vocabulary, some people think that it is not suitable for young children. Others say that there are more good lessons and all of the bad things work out in the end, so it is not so bad for kids. Common Sense Media, a website that gives parents age appropriate ratings, says that the first two books in the series are okay for kids aged 8 and 9, but that the last two books are for ages 11 and 12.

Different people have different schedules. In my family, my mother read the first three books out loud to my sister and me when we were in first and second grade, and then we took about a year break before we read the fourth and later books. I asked eight 5th graders how old they were when they first read Harry Potter and how old they thought other kids should start. They started between ages 6 and 9 and most of them said that age 7 was a good time to start.

No matter what age you are when you start reading it, Harry Potter is a series you will love as a child as well as an adult.

Preface: A Century Earlier

Eliyav Zendeledel, 6th Grade

The sky was a beautiful figure. How it rose from the mountains, bathed in the light of the sun and reflecting its beauty. Covered in the pale, vivid white clouds, it was a sight to behold. It would have been entirely amazing, except for two things. There was a thin trail of smoke, rising from the west. It was small, but there. It looked as if the sky was an ancient pottery mug, which had been cracked and destroyed. It looked as if it was a puzzle with a piece missing.

All together, it looked as if the sky was broken. But the other dilemma was not the sky itself, but what the sky held in store. It held what would happen on that day, something that could change Majestria, possibly forever.

At the castle, the king was speaking to his general of war. The general was giving the king the latest updates on their search for the evil sorcerer.

“...and we’ve searched the mountains too, sire, but he seems to have disappeared. But not to worry, our best searchers and warriors are on the case, and we’ve even got the help of the Fire and Water masters.”

King Maximus scratched his head. He vaguely remembered when his kingdom was at peace. And after that, even with the evil sorcerer around, at least the Element Masters could stop him. But now he was growing powerful and gaining more allies, that it was almost impossible to stop him. He looked out his large window and gasped. He saw a trail of smoke coming from the west. And when he looked closer he saw tiny black specks marching toward his castle. The general followed his gaze then jumped. The king quickly recovered from his gasp and grabbed the general by the shoulders.

“Darien Devilon is coming, general, COMING! Assemble all the warriors at once!” The general picked up his coat and ran out the room, mumbling a “Yes, sir.” The king ran around the room and finally found his sword, which he strapped to his waist. Next, he donned his helmet and cape. Finally, he picked up his shield. As he looked out the window, he saw the army of men and women that Darien commanded. He didn’t see Darien’s black chariot, which worried him, since that must mean that the evil sorcerer wasn’t leading his army.

But if that was true, then where could he be? The sorcerer had always been with his army, through every battle and through every siege.

“Where are you, Darien?” The king thought out loud.

“Why, I’m right here.” The voice. It was not deep and dark, like a menacing lion, as some villains go. But neither was it shrill and thin, like a snake ready to strike. It was more like a mixture of the two, a voice that you recognized, and yet couldn’t quite place. He had an accent too, a foreign accent that sounded as if it should belong to someone that lived long ago. All this was what made King Maximus fill with fear. That, and the fact that the man behind him was his mortal enemy.

To read more, contact the author!

מלאלה - סיפור מעורר השראה

Nooria Kerendian, 8th Grade

מלאלה יוספזאי היתה בחורה שזכויות שוויון נשים היו חשובות לה. היא נולדה ב-12 ביולי 1997 בפקיסטן. החינוך לילדות היה מאד חשוב לה אבל אנשים לא אהבו את הרעיונות שלה והחיים שלה היו בסכנה. כשמלאלה היתה בת 15, איש ירה בה כשהיא היתה בדרך מבית ספר. אחרי הרבה ניתוחים קשים היא נשארה בחיים. היא עדיין מדברת בעולם כמה חינוך ושוויון זכויות לילדות ונשים חשובים. היא קיבלה פרס נובל לשלום כאשר היתה בת 16. מלאלה היא הבחורה הכי צעירה שקיבלה פרס נובל. ילדים וילדות בעולם מעריצים אותה.

What is Global Warming?

Abigail Kestenbaum, 6th Grade

You hear about global warming on the news, in books and magazines, and many other places. But how many people really know what it is? In the past 50 years the world has been getting hotter at the fastest rate in history. This pattern of weather change is called global warming. According to dictionary.com, global warming means “an increase in the earth's average atmospheric temperature that causes corresponding changes in climate and that may result from the greenhouse effect.” Climate change is caused by many things but one of the most common is known as the Greenhouse Effect.

Global warming is caused when carbon dioxide (CO₂) is released into the air. In the United States, the burning of fossil fuels used to make electricity is the biggest source of CO₂ pollution, using two billion tons of CO₂ every year. The country's second biggest source is transportation (i.e. car and truck emissions), which uses 1.7 billion tons of CO₂ a year.

Global warming is caused by people not taking care of the earth. Not recycling and throwing our garbage on the ground cause additional CO₂ to be emitted, which increases global warming. That is the reason the world is so much hotter than it was when our parents and grandparents were kids.

Scientists believe global warming is linked to severe weather changes. For example, bigger droughts, heat waves, heavier rain, and stronger hurricanes have been associated with global warming. In 2015 ,California had the biggest drought it had ever seen in 1,200 years. Rather than the norm of 15% less water in a drought, we had 20% less water in this drought. Global warming is also the reason that in 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck so hard in New Orleans and in 2012, Hurricane Sandy affected New York in a more severe way than if global warming was not an issue. Scientists predict that hurricanes in North America could start reaching up to Category 4 or 5. Recently, Houston, Texas was struck by Hurricane Harvey, a Category 4 hurricane. The effects of global warming that we are seeing now can be heat waves, heavy precipitation, sea level rise, droughts, wildfires, arctic melting, and danger to habitats of animals. Sources: <http://www.dictionary.com>, [Kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com)

iPhone 8

Benji Rabbanian, 6th Grade

The iPhone 8 is an extraordinary iPhone. It has a price tag of over \$800 for the biggest storage capacity! It has the colors of silver, gold, and space grey. It has many different specifications such as a full glass surface, and a more advanced quick chip microphone for more efficient and easy to use.

The iPhone 8 was released to the public on September 12, 2017 by Tim Cook in an Apple presentation. The iPhone 8 introduces an all-new glass design, and the world's most popular camera, but now it is even better: it has the smartest, most powerful chip ever in a smartphone. It also has wireless charging that's truly effortless, and augmented reality experiences that were never before possible. iPhone 8 is a new generation of iPhone. The battery lasts 2 hours longer, which is a great upgrade. It has a 12 megapixel high definition camera. I think the iPhone 8 will be the most popular phone in the 2017-2018 year. A tremendous amount of thought has been put into the product. It is water resistant and is great for people that get their phone wet or splashed a lot. The iOS operating system is the most advanced, easy to use, and secure mobile operating system in the world. It's designed to help you get the most out of your iPhone. Visually, the iPhone 8 is almost exactly the same as the outgoing iPhone 7. According to the Apple website, it's still your typical slab, with rounded corners and curved edges. The aluminium rear, which has been around since the iPhone 6, has been changed for a glass panel here that feels very similar to the front. The switch to a glass rear is both for design purposes and functionality, but it's immediately obvious just how much better it feels. Also according to the Apple website, the iPhone 8's glass is much grippier than aluminium and adds a notable extra bit of weight. On the Plus model it feels too heavy, but here it works perfectly. Sandwiched between the glass is the 7000-series aluminium rim, which is home to the volume rocker, antennas and lock switch. (Continued on p. 33)

Is Technology Good or Bad for Society?

Judah Pardau, 7th Grade

Technology, it is something we all rely on. It is used by the government, military and doctors, but also students. Thankfully, these people use technology to do good, but modern technology has also caused many problems. At least 11 teens die each year because of texting and driving, according to the National Safety Council. That number is climbing fast. The National Safety Council reports that cell phones cause 1.6 million car crashes a year! Terrorists use technology to convey propaganda and instructions on how to create homemade weapons. Many children and adults become distracted by technology as well. So, is technology good or bad?

Technology, if used correctly can be very useful and helpful. The military uses technology as a tool to defend our country. In terms of travel, before there were planes, trains, buses, and fast cars, it took weeks or months for people to travel the world. Now, with the help of technology, it takes hours. Another benefit that technology provides is being able to talk to someone on the other side of the world with the click of a button. While this has become as regular as cooking dinner, it is really quite amazing. Before humans were able to make long range phone calls, or even regular, local phone calls, you had to travel to visit a sick relative. Now with a simple phone call, there is no need to travel, you can check on them over the phone. This is something we don't take for granted, but if you take a step back, it is really quite amazing.

While I do believe technology is the key to developing society, there are still people that use technology negatively. An example of technology being used negatively are hackers. Hackers steal people's identity and credit card information. Sometimes, when hackers steal one's identity and/or credit card information, it can result in people losing their houses. Hackers also breach mainstream company's such as Yahoo. Hackers got into users emails and revealed them to the public. The only way to prevent these data breaches is with technology. This shows how technology can solve problems.

Society has the choice to use technology for the good or for the bad. Those who use it for the good, make life easier for themselves and help make advances in society. As for those who use technology for the bad, society has to find an effective method to prevent it. What do you think, is technology good or bad for society?

World Records

Yoel Giat, 7th Grade

Have you ever been curious about how big the largest Gummy Bear in the world is? The world's largest Gummy Bear weighs about 5 pounds and is 10 inches long. This giant Gummy Bear is the size of 1400 regular-sized Gummy Bears. The giant Gummy Bear is 6120 calories. That's pretty amazing.

The tallest person in the world was Robert Pershing Wadlow. He was known as the Alton Giant and the Giant of Illinois. He died on July 15, 1940, in Manistee, MI and he was born February 22, 1918 in Alton, Illinois. He was 8 ft 11.1 (2.75m) tall. That's so tall! He died from an infection. His weight was 490 lbs.

I'm sure you are also curious about what the biggest animal in the world is. Don't worry - I have you covered. The world's largest animal is the blue whale and it is a female that weighs 389,760 pounds (176,792 kg) and is 100 feet tall, head to tail. The head is as big as 50 professional football teams combined! Sources: Vat19.com, animals.howstuffworks.com, Wikipedia



Monkeys

Zev Rub, 7th Grade

Monkeys are a wild species of animals that live now in rainforests in the Americas. But, the old world monkeys lived in Asia and Africa. Monkeys are personally my favorite animal because they are so much like humans. The American Museum of Natural History believes that six or seven million years ago, our DNA evolved from chimps gradually and was passed down by apes generation to generation. Interesting fact, huh?

Many people think that bananas are the only food that monkeys eat but that is not true. Greatapetrust.org proves monkeys enjoy eating vegetables, fruits, seeds, leaves, and honey. The website also explains how howler monkeys are the loudest land animal to be on this earth currently. Another fun fact is that only the gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutan, and bonobo are apes that eat meat. Unfortunately, in 2012, a ban was made against owning monkeys in California along with 18 other states in the USA. In conclusion, monkeys are very interesting and appealing animals and people should consider learning more about them because many people dislike them, but they are just misunderstood.

Why Every Girl Needs a Dog

Alyssa Portnoy, 4th Grade

For as long as I can remember I have wanted a dog. A cute, cuddly, white dog that will lie in my lap while I read a book, or draw a picture, or just listen to music. I sometimes daydream that this little puppy is waiting for me at home and will run excitedly as I get back from school in the afternoons. One day a few weeks ago, I arrived home and my parents actually did surprise me with a cute little white dog named Bella. I couldn't stop screaming for joy. It was almost as amazing as getting an iPhone.

After I calmed down from all the excitement, my parents told me we were fostering Bella, which means we were watching it for a bit of time while they found her a home. But hey, getting to have a dog, even for only a few days is a big step up for me and I was excited. Every night I would have Bella cuddle on my floor while we both fell asleep. In the morning, I would take her for walks. She wasn't my best friend - no dog could ever be as great as my true friends - but she was awesome.

Sadly, the day came when we had to give Bella back. I was sad and sorry to see her go, but I was also so happy I got to spend time with her. Since she left I have had time to think through all the reasons every girl needs a dog which I am glad to share with you (and Mom and Dad, if you are reading, please take note).

Reason number 1 - Dogs teach responsibility. During the time I had with Bella, I fed her, took her for walks, and even cleaned up for her. Talk about responsibility, if I didn't take her for a walk she would have an accident and that would be bad news for everyone. This meant I woke up early, was ready in time for school, and generally learned the very important lesson of taking responsibility. I am sure if Bella had stayed with me longer I would be even more responsible.

Reason number 2 - Dogs give unconditional love. Everyone has a bad day every now and then, but no day stays bad when there is a dog in the house to cuddle with and make you feel better. Dogs love us no matter what, and often that is all we need to cheer up our day or make a good day even better.

Reason number 3 - Dogs provide company. It's great to have a dog in the house that is always up for playing games, running around, or just keeping me company. Playdates with my BFFs are more fun, but they can't be at my house all day long. A dog can!

Reason number 4 - Dogs protect the house. I don't think anyone would mess with my house, but even so, having a dog will keep the bad guys away. Especially a cute little white dog with a very loud bark. (Continued on next page)

All About Cats

Yoel Giat, 7th Grade

Cats are one of my favorite animals, and I wanted to share with you some amazing facts about them. According to the website www.science.kids.com, cats sleep 13 to 14 hours a day to conserve energy and activity. Cats and humans have been associated with each other for close to 10,000 years. Cats spend a long time licking their fur to keep themselves from getting dirty. This is also called grooming. There are over 500 million domestic cats on planet earth. The fastest domestic cat breed are the Egyptian Mau cats. Mau cats can run 30 miles per hour. The average cat lives roughly 12 to 15 years. Domestic cats love playing. This is especially true with kittens. Cats have excellent hearing and a powerful sense of smell. Cats have flexible bodies and teeth for hunting small animals like mice and rats. In conclusion, cats are awesome - don't even deny it!

Diabetes

Zev Rub, 7th Grade

Diabetes has an enormous impact on people's everyday life. First of all, what is diabetes? Diabetes is a disease that causes an organ called the pancreas to not produce insulin. In order for people to understand what diabetes is, they must learn the importance of insulin. When one thinks of insulin, it is best to picture it as a key that allows glucose, also known as sugar, into the blood cells. In the case of diabetes, when no insulin is flowing, the following happens. If there is no insulin flowing in the bloodstream, it cannot open the blood cells to let the insulin in. If the glucose cannot enter the cells, it stays in the blood, causing high blood sugar. The high blood sugar then sends signals that enter the brain, which sends signals to the kidneys to let the sugar out through frequent urination. Because you're constantly urinating, you need water to process through the kidneys; therefore diabetics experience almost constant thirst. When you have high blood sugar, you get certain symptoms such as lightheadedness, headaches, and nausea. People don't always get these symptoms. In fact, some people can get high and low blood sugar and never even feel it.

How does diabetes affect your life?

Diabetes adjusts the way you eat, exercise, and sleep. How, you might ask? I interviewed my grandfather asking him questions based on what diabetes changes. He claims, "It is harder to eat food because you are tempted to eat all the unhealthy food your friends around you are eating." My grandfather also told me, "You really have to be careful when you exercise because if you work out too much your blood sugar levels will drop and you have to constantly check your blood sugar before and after a good exercise." In conclusion, diabetes is a serious disease that affects people in many different ways and people need to look out for unhealthy foods and too much exercise.

Why Every Girls Needs a Dog, continued from previous page

Reason number 5 - It brings families closer. I remember when I was fostering Bella that every morning my siblings and I would take her for walks together. Pooper scooping is most certainly a lifetime bonding experience. Another example, when we were all watching TV in the den she would sit between us and we would all pet her at once.

There are countless other reasons, but these five should be enough to convince every parent to get their child a dog. So if you are like me and trying to convince your parents, maybe tell them some of the arguments. I myself may need to put our school newspaper on my parents' bed when it comes out...and then maybe the next time I write a column, it will be to tell you all about the new dog I will surely get when they read this.

iPhone 8, continued

Based on my opinion, I recommend the iPhone 8 to users that are seeking a new, mobile, and versatile new change for their phone. The iPhone has many features such as a high megapixel camera, and wireless charging, which are a huge step up into the Apple game. The iPhone 8 is not for all people because of the huge price tag, but if that's what you are looking for, it's the right phone for you. Are you planning on buying the iPhone 8?

Biography of George Washington

Elijah Stern, 7th Grade

George Washington, the father of our country, was born on February 22, 1732 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. Washington's dad, Augustine Washington had two wives. He had four children with the first, Jane Butler, and six children with the second wife, Mary Ball. George grew up with his parents, but was then sent to England for school. By the time he was 11 years old, his father and many of his full and half siblings, had passed. In 1753, Governor Dinwiddie, governor of Virginia, appointed George to be one of the four district adjutants with rank of major in the Virginia Militia.

By 1774, George Washington was sitting at a meeting in Philadelphia after he had said that he would raise 1000 men, subsidize them at his own expense, and march himself at the head for the relief of Boston after the Boston Tea Party. George Washington had become commander in chief in the army. In 1775, the British were trying to take over Boston. Washington's army was running out of gunpowder, and if they didn't have enough, they would lose the war. Washington got France to give them gunpowder, and ultimately, Washington was able to force the British out of Boston. Many news reporters disparaged the patriots, but they had much praise for Washington, as he was the new commander in chief. Washington then crossed the Delaware River in the winter, and then won two battles against the British. He gained some momentum, and took New Jersey back. In 1783, George Washington resigned from being in the army.

George Washington was a highly respected human being in all of America. After resigning from the army, he was elected by the electoral college to become president of the United States in the first two national elections. Washington stepped in as president, and he started right away. He worked with Alexander Hamilton to create a tax system, banks, and fair government rules. In 1795, to avoid having to fight with Great Britain, Washington signed a peace treaty that said that there would be peace with America and Great Britain for at least a decade. George Washington had created a safe and fair government and country that he oversaw as president. Washington also created precedents that are still being used today, such as the Cabinet System, the Inaugural System, and the name, Mr. President. After two terms as president, George Washington resigned and had a fair well that had remembered his establishments as president. John Adams became president after Washington, to carry on overseeing the country. Up until today, we still have an electoral college and new presidents every 4-8 years.

George Washington is probably the most well-known person in our entire country. He is one of the Founding Fathers of our country. His courage and strength has led our country to now being one of the most powerful countries in the entire world. Washington will be remembered as a leader in the army who never gave up, and a president that took control of his job. There have been thousands of books and articles written about Washington and his achievements. George Washington sadly died on December 14, 1799. Although he is not with us anymore, he is a legend and will always be remembered as our first Founding Father. He is a role model for many people. Any time we are stuck or do not know what to do in life, we can look at what George Washington did in his life, to lift ourselves up.

תל אביב

Eliana Kerendian, 7th Grade

העיר תל אביב נמצאת במרכז מדינת ישראל. בעיר תל אביב גרים ארבע מאות שלושים אלף אנשים. העיר ליד יפו ונוסדה (קמה) בשנת 1909. יהודים מכל העולם בנו את העיר. בעיר אין מקומות קדושים. ראש העיר הוא רון חולדאי. שגרירות אמריקה והרבה מדינות זרות בתל אביב. תל אביב היא עיר גלובלית והיא המרכז השמיני החשוב ביותר בעולם. תל אביב יש לה את הכלכלה השלישית בגודלה במזרח התיכון. העיר מקבלת יותר ממיליון מבקרים מדי שנה. קוראים לעיר עיר שלא ישנה אף פעם. תוכלו למצוא שם כמעט הכל, חופים יפים, מקומות בילוי, מקומות תרבות וגלריות ומוזיאונים רבים. תל אביב היא העיר השנייה בגודלה בישראל, גרים בה 400 אלף תושבים, עיר על חוף ים התיכון ומזג האוויר הם מאוד בקיץ. בתל אביב יש יותר מ-25 ק"מ של שבילי אופניים. כיף להיות בתל אביב.

היסטוריה

Gal Cohavy, 7th Grade

זה כל כך חשוב לדעת היסטוריה במיוחד ההיסטוריה של העם שלנו. בשיעורי עברית ולימודי ארץ ישראל, למדנו על ההיסטוריה של ישראל ושל היהודים. בשיעורים הבנו, כי אם אנחנו לא נדע ולא נזכור את ההיסטוריה של ישראל אנחנו לא נדע מה קרה לעם ישראל בתקופות שונות. לא נדע למה ואיך יש לנו מדינה, כמו השואה, הקמת המדינה ועוד. אם אנחנו לא נחקור את העבר שלנו אז אנחנו לא נוכל ללמוד ממנו. למדנו על ארכאולוגים. הם חוקרים וחופרים באדמה כדי לדעת יותר על דרך החיים בעבר. הארכאולוגים מחפשים הכל: מטבעות, אבנים וחפצים אחרים. כשהם מוצאים משהו הם מתחילים לחקור על התקופה ועל מה שהם מצאו. כך אנחנו לומדים על התקופות שונות. אנחנו מגלים איך האנשים בעבר חיו, אכלו, ישנו והתנהגו. אפילו איזה תכשיטים היו להם ובאיזה מטבעות הם השתמשו. העבודה של הארכאולוג היא חשובה, כי רק ככה נוכל ללמוד מה היה בעבר.

שמות ארץ ישראל ומנהגיה

Tamar Scheinfeld, 6th Grade

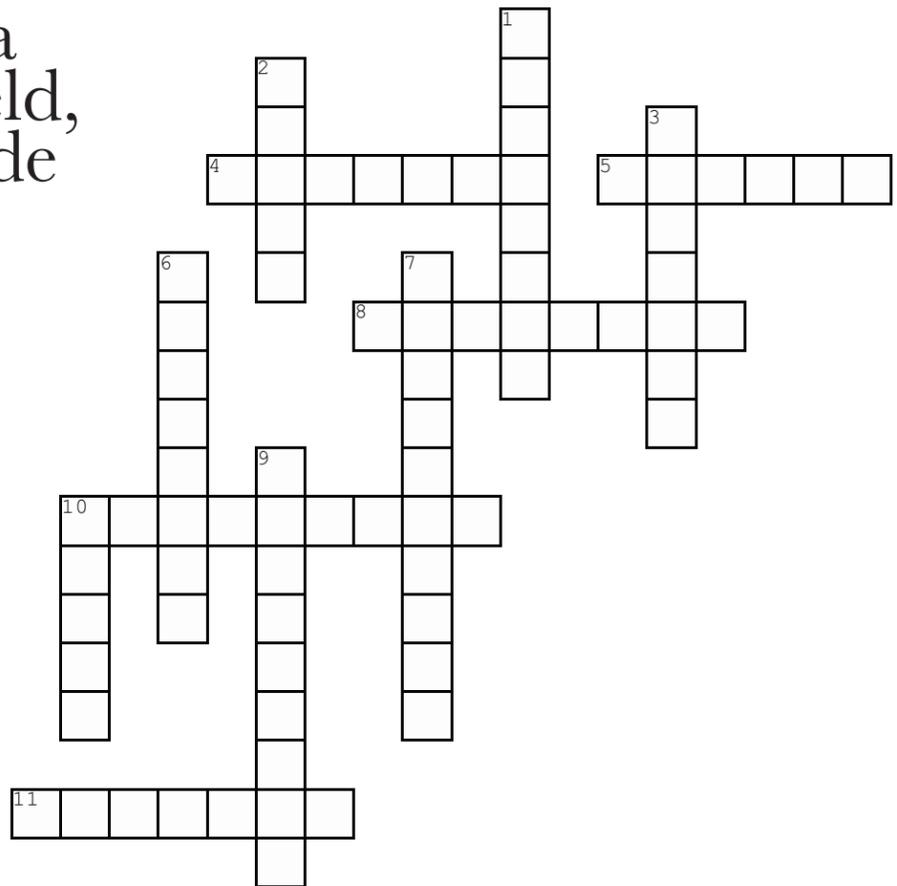
בשיעורי עברית למדנו על ארץ ישראל וארבעת שמותיה השונים. השמות של ארץ ישראל הם: ארץ ישראל - לפי הפסוק "ושרית עם מלאך השם ויכלת". השם "ישראל" ניתן ליעקב על ידי מלאך ה' אחרי הקרב שהיה ביניהם. שם אחר הוא, ארץ זבת חלב ודבש שמתאר את כל השפע והטוב שיש בישראל. שם נוסף הוא ארץ חמדה, ארץ עשירה בכל טוב שכולם חומדים (רוצים) אותה. לבסוף, ארץ כנען, השם המקראי של ישראל. למדנו גם על מנהגים שונים של היהודים. בכל שמחה אנחנו מזכירים את חורבן בית המקדש שלא נשכח אותו לעולם. למרות שאנחנו שמחים השמחה שלנו לא שלמה בלי בית המקדש. למשל, שבירת הכוס על ידי החתן בחתונה יהודית ועל פגימה בשלום הבית. למדנו גם את השיר "פה בארץ חמדת אבות" ושרנו אותו כולנו יחד. השיר מספר על כל התקוות, החלומות וכל מה שרוצים בארץ ישראל.

Name: _____

Famous Americans

What do all the below have in common?

Batsheva Scheinfeld, 4th Grade

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle](http://www.theteacherscorner.net)**Answer Key:**

Across (4) Madison/\$5000
 (5) Wilson/\$100,000
 (8) Hamilton/\$10 (10)
 Cleveland/\$1000 (11)
 Jackson/\$20

Down (1) Franklin/\$100 (2)
 Grant/\$50 (3) Lincoln/\$5
 (6) McKinley/\$500
 (7) Washington/\$1
 (9) Jefferson/\$2 (10)
 Chase/\$10,000

What do they all have in common? They are all faces on U.S. currency!

Across

4. Dolley's husband
5. President during WW I
8. 1st Secretary of the Treasury
10. 22nd & 24th president of the U.S.
11. Old Hickory

Down

1. Poor Richard's Almanack
2. Buried in famous tomb
3. Civil War president
6. Tallest mountain in North America
7. The Father of Our Country
9. Declaration of Independence
10. Chief Justice Salmon P.

Yosemite National Park
Hillel Nachimson, 7th Grade

Yosemite National Park, located in the central part of the Sierra Nevada mountains, is home to some of the most famous sites in the country.

Yosemite has many sites and places to camp and explore. Half Dome, El Capitan and Cathedral Rock are just three of the many beautiful rock formations that tower over the valley. They were formed by ancient glaciers. They make Yosemite a great place for rock climbers. The highs also provide beautiful views, and good sites to look out to the valley are Glacier point, Sentinel Point and Tunnel View.

Yosemite Valley may be beautiful, but at the southwest end the park is home to the giant sequoias, trees that are high and wide. There was even a tree you could drive through! This site is now closed, but will be opened soon. It has two of the largest 30 sequoias in the world. The oldest and biggest tree is the giant grizzly, which is the fifth largest tree in the world. With snow melting on the mountains, the water comes down to the valley in the form of amazing waterfalls, and runs into the Merced River, the river that runs in the valley. Some of the nicest waterfalls are upper/lower Yosemite, Bridalveil, Nevada, Ribbon and Vernal Falls. Yosemite Falls, the most well-known, is a 2,425-foot drop from the upper fall to the lower fall. Some of the smaller falls will dry out, so the best time to come to Yosemite to see the falls is in spring.

If you're not into camping or cabins, there are many places to stay in Yosemite, such as the majestic Yosemite Hotel, Yosemite Valley Lodge and Big Trees Lodge. In the Yosemite radius there are many hotels to choose from. Yosemite is amazing, so don't miss out. It is about four hours away from Los Angeles and a short flight to Fresno is less than a hour. Come to Yosemite on your next vacation!

מקהלת הלל

Manny Rosenkranz, 5th Grade

אני שר במקהלה של הלל במשך שנה.

במקהלה אנחנו שרים את השיר "אבינו מלכנו".

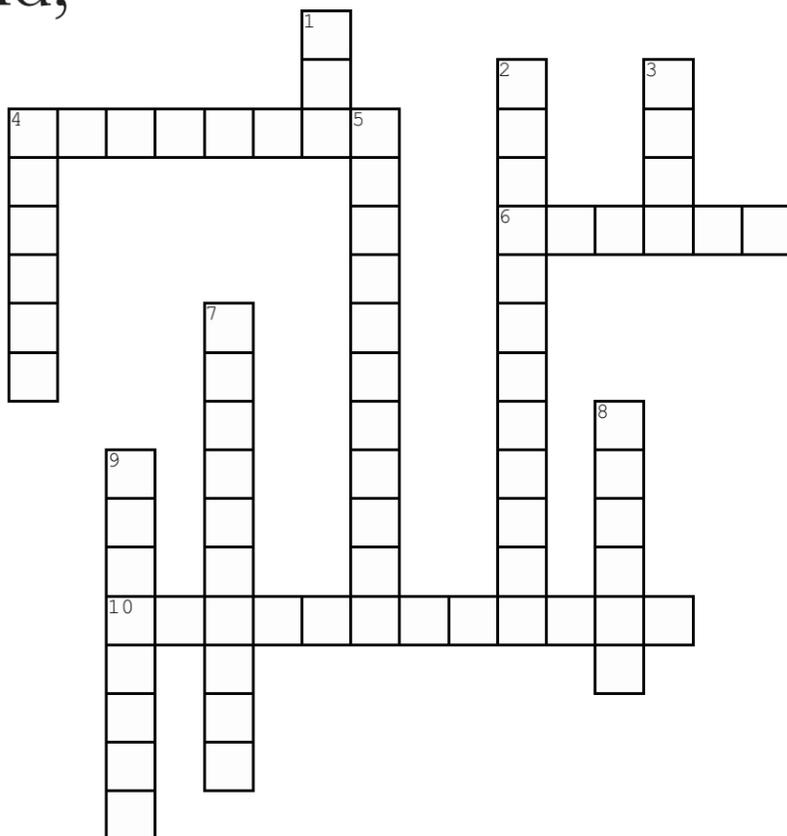
אנחנו מתאמנים הרבה כדי לשפר את השירה שלנו, בערך, פעמיים בשבוע, עד שאנחנו ממש טובים! אני מאוד אוהב לשיר במקהלה, ואני נהנה להופיע עם החברים שלי באירועים שונים של בית הספר.

Name: _____

Yudi Scheinfeld,
3rd Grade

Torah Titles

What do all the below have in common?



Answer Key:

Across (4) Proverbs (6) Esther (10) Ecclesiastes

Down (1) Job (2) Lamentations (3) Ruth (4) Psalms (5) Song of Songs (7) Chronicles (8) Daniel (9) Nehemiah

What do they all have in common? Books of Ketuvim (Writings)

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Generator](http://www.theteacherscorner.net)

Across

- 4. Book of wise sayings
- 6. Chanted on Purim
- 10. Chanted on Succot

Down

- 1. HASHEM really tested him
- 2. Chanted on Tisha B'Av
- 3. Chanted on Shavuot
- 4. There are 150 of these
- 5. Chanted on Pessach
- 7. Jewish History in 2 Books
- 8. In the Lion's Den
- 9. Ezra's Partner

Character Counts and Chessed Committee, continued

Another idea at Hillel that is being emphasized is chessed and what it means to be a mentsch. Kindness is a major component of what makes up a Hillel student. For example, Mrs. Ilana Zadok, Director of Campus Life, shared with me an act of kindness in the school that she witnessed that impacted her. She explained, "Just today, a mother of a student in ECE shared with me that her son came home and shared that he fell on the ECE yard and an older student came to help him. I love this story because it not only shows someone who needed help being helped, but an older student coming over to the ECE yard to help a student in need is showing that the kindness showed no bounds. Our students look out for ways to help others. A sign of a strong kehilla." Some other ways we are aware of chessed and that chessed is expressed at Hillel is through Student Council, the Chessed Committee for middle schoolers, throwing surprise parties for the school's custodians, welcoming new students and teachers, and school-wide projects like Shabbat kits, which is where students put together things needed for Shabbat for Jewish people who are in the hospital. Furthermore, Hillel's Chessed Committee has recently been focusing on the topic of how would you feel? This is to raise empathy in the middle school and to tell students that before doing something that may not be right, we should really pondering this question - how would I feel if someone did this to me? This teaches students to always be kind to and support others, rather than to bring them down. A project that this committee conducted not so long ago was the caring sukkah chain project, for all of elementary school. Every student received a thin piece of paper and on it, they wrote either something nice they did for someone else or something nice that someone else did for them. All these papers were collected and attached into a massive chain that was hung in Beth Jacobs sukkah over the holidays.

Additionally, Student Council created cards that said "Do a kind act and then give this card to the next person." These cards made it all around the school thanks to many different students completing acts of kindness! I honestly believe that Hillel's goal of creating an environment full of chessed was a success, and I am proud to be part of it.

The values Hillel expresses throughout the school have positively affected the school's environment and have a positive impact on the students. The attributes of kindness, being a mentsch, fairness, responsibility, citizenship are definitely reflected in the students. Overall, these projects to encourage Hillel's students to wear these traits proudly have been a success!

מוסיקה בחיים שלי

Nathaniel Aviv-Gabay, 5th Grade

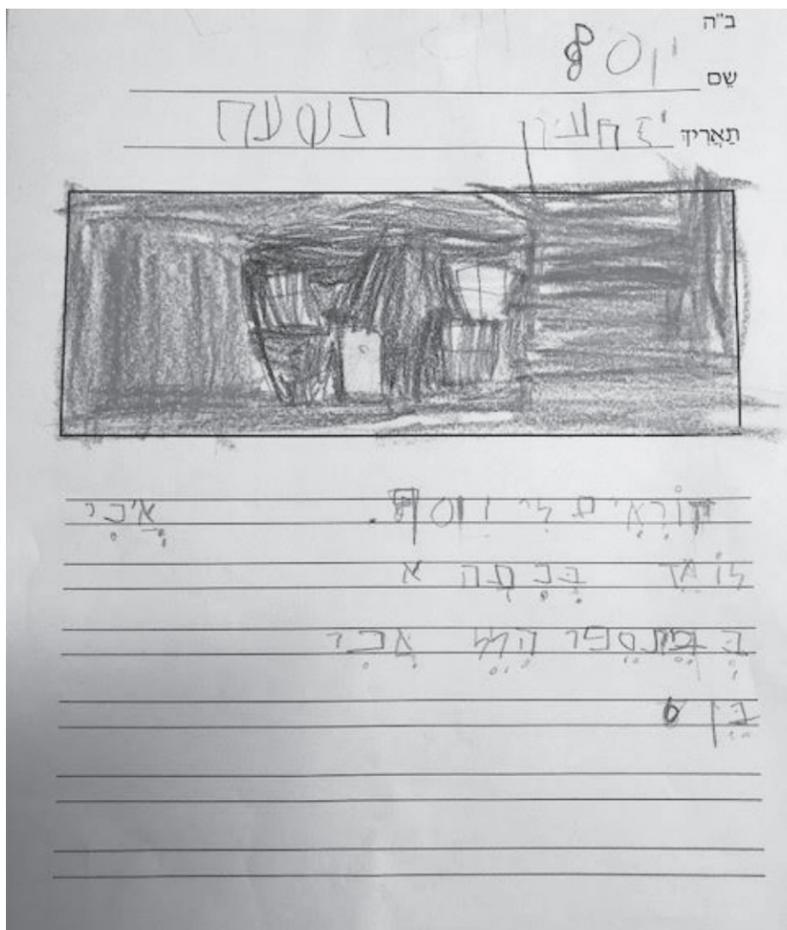
אנחנו שומעים הרבה מוסיקה בבית. כמעט בכל יום, אני ואמא שלי בוחרים שירים, ורוקדים עם האחים שלי. מוסיקה עושה לנו הרבה שמח בבית ובעולם ומעלה את מצב הרוח! ביהדות אפשר למצוא הרבה מוסיקה. בכל יום אנחנו שרים את התפילה "אז ישיר משה" כמו שבני ישראל שרו ביציאת מצרים, בקריעת ים סוף. בכל שבת קודש, אני ואבא שרים פיוטים וזמירות וזה כיף!!

- על הצילום - אז והיום

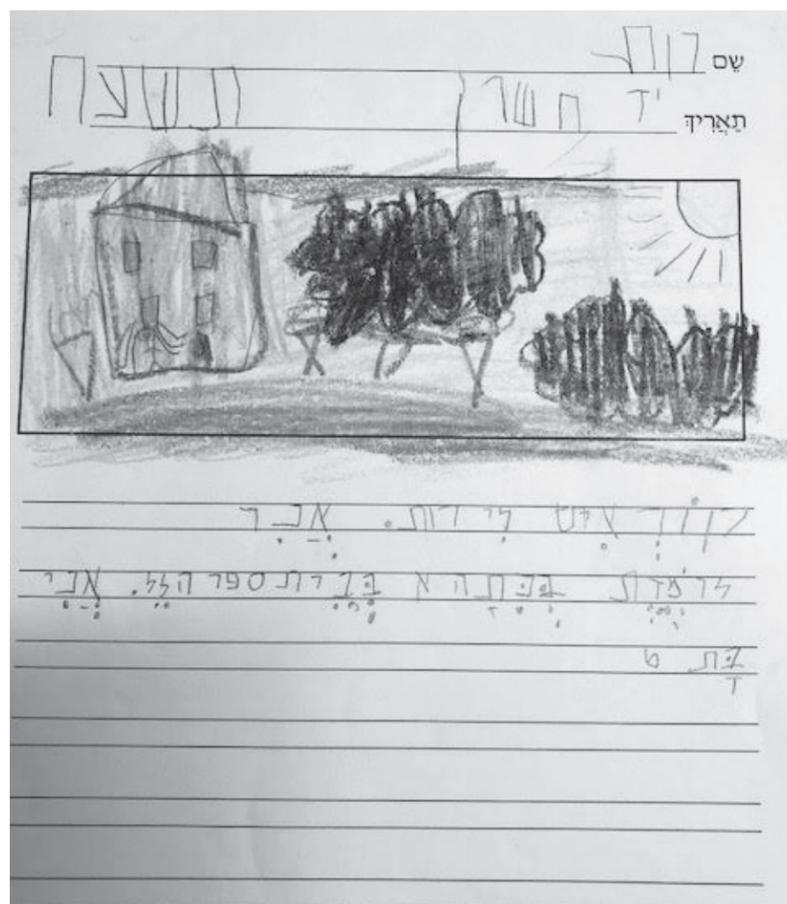
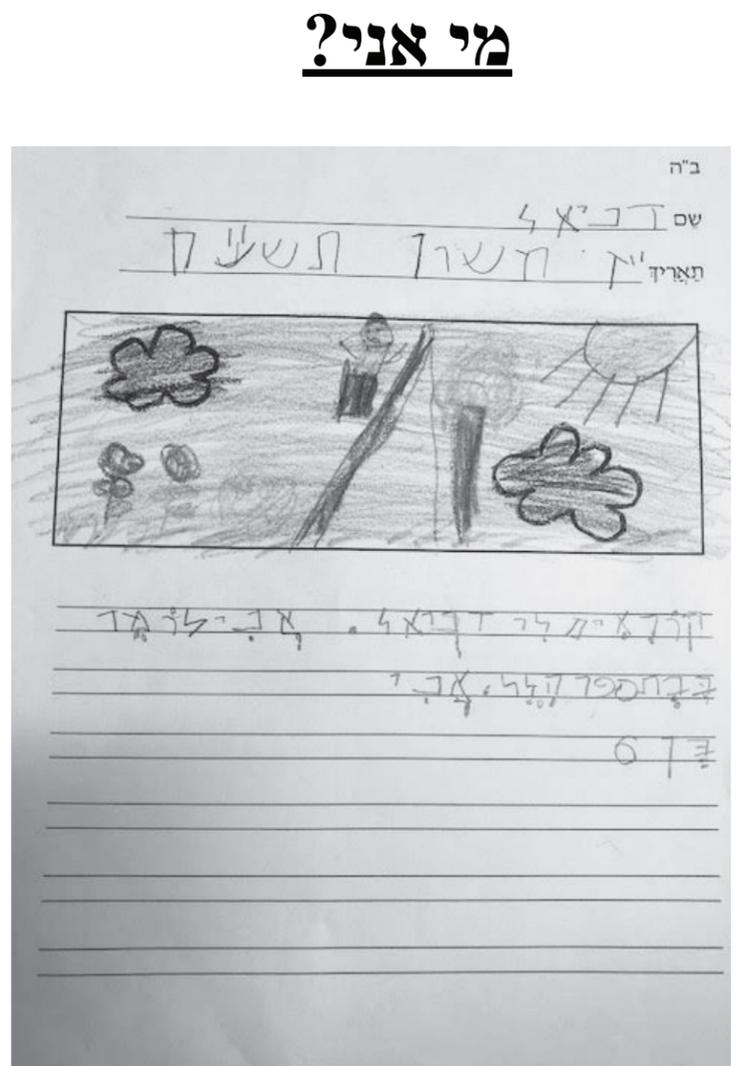
Zohar Sabag, 7th Grade

בשיעורי עברית למדנו על ההיסטוריה של צילום ואיך הדברים השתנו במשך השנים. בעבר כל המשפחה הייתה מתכנסת במקום אחד בו היו קובעים מראש להצטלם. היו בוחרים רק תמונה אחת כי לא היה מספיק כסף כדי לפתח את כל התמונות. התמונות היו בצבע שחור ולבן ולא היו יכולים לראות את הצבעים האמיתיים של התמונה. אנשים היו עומדים או יושבים ולא מחייכים. הם היו עם פנים רציניות מאוד. היום, אנחנו מביאים איתנו מצלמה לכל מקום, כי בעצם יש לנו מצלמה בטלפון ובכל מקום שאנחנו נמצאים אנחנו מצלמים תמונות. עכשיו אנחנו גם יכולים לשמור כל תמונה גם בטלפון שלנו וגם להעביר למחשב ואפילו לעשות אלבום תמונות דיגיטלי. התמונות היום צבעוניות, ואפשר להשתמש באפליקציות, כדי לשנות את הצבעים של התמונה ובכלל לשנות את התמונה. אנשים היום מחייכים בתמונות ויותר "משוחררים" מפעם. אני חושב שזה השתנה לטובה. מה אתם חושבים?

Joseph Hami, 1st Grade



Jace Roshan, 1st Grade (right)

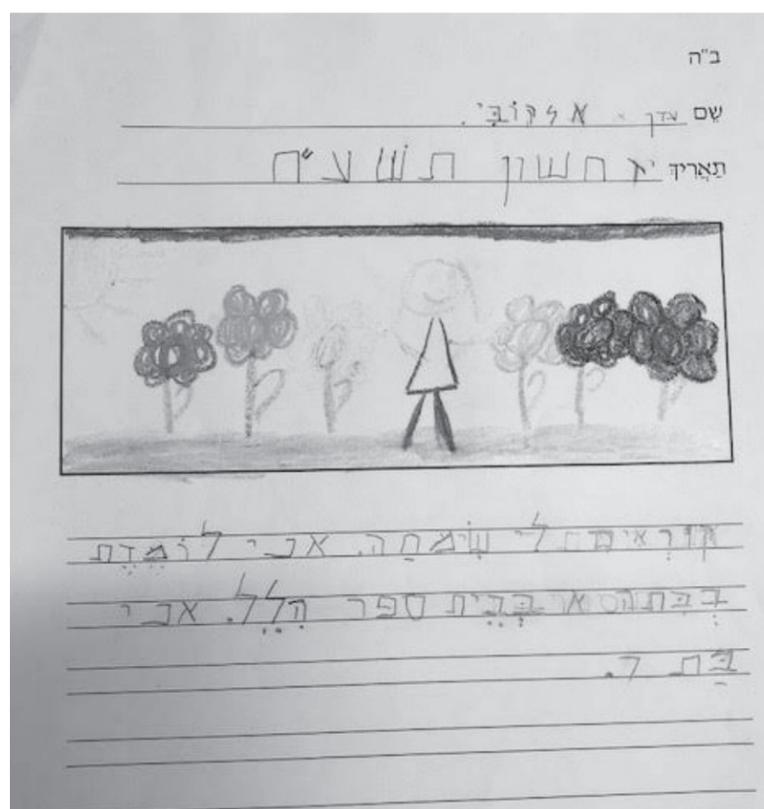


Talia Harosh, 1st Grade (right)



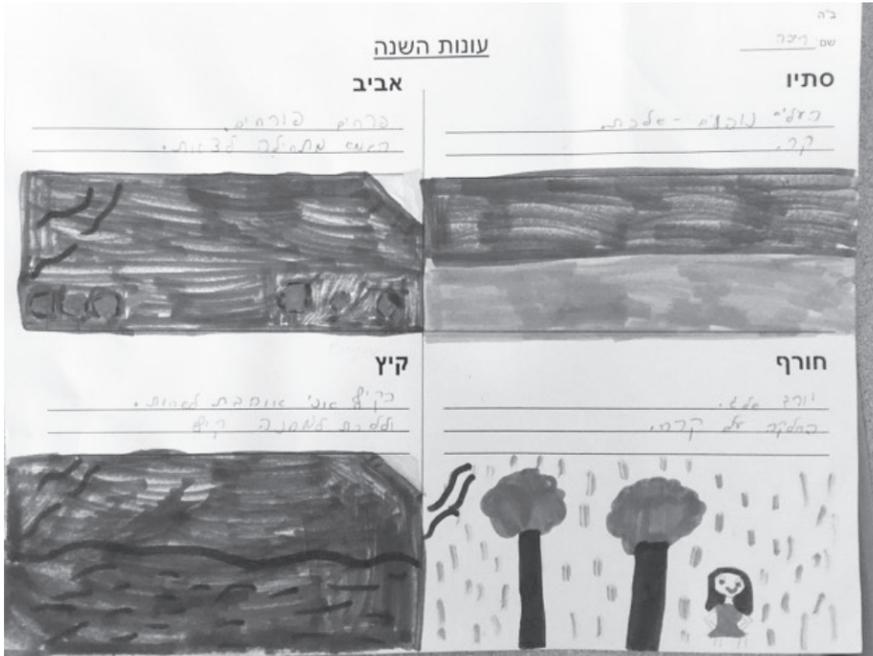
Eden Elkoby, 1st Grade (below)

Olivia West, 1st Grade



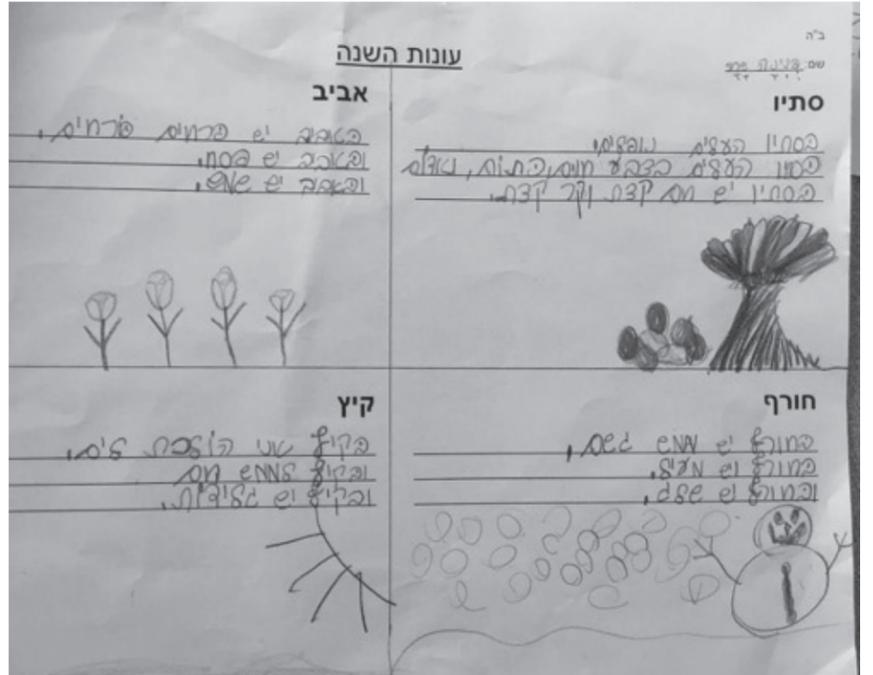
העונות השנה

Reva Egorin, 3rd Grade



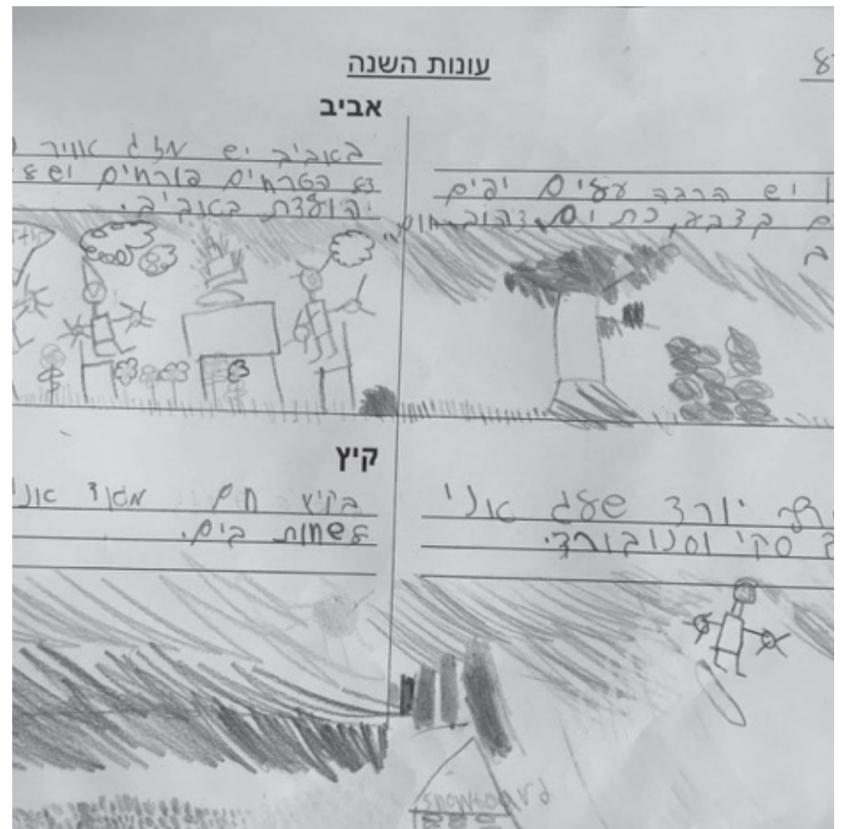
עונות השנה

Sophia Wizenfeld, 3rd Grade



עונות השנה

Max Ratner-Stauber, 3rd Grade

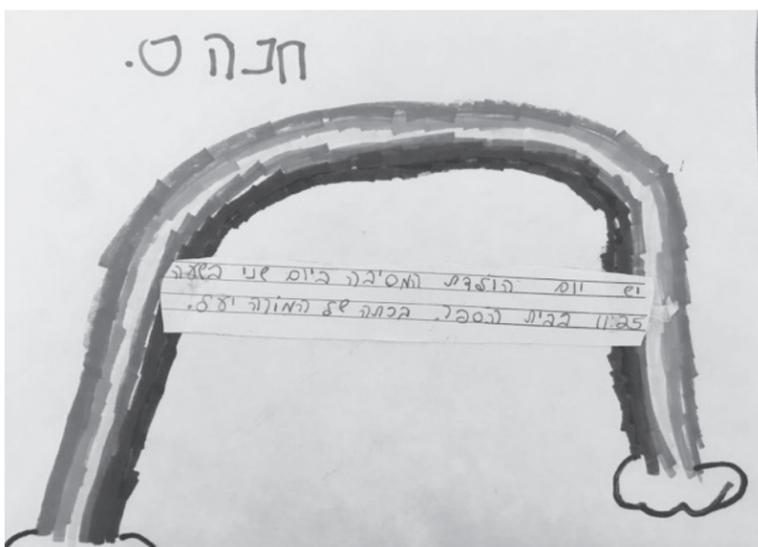


יום הולדת

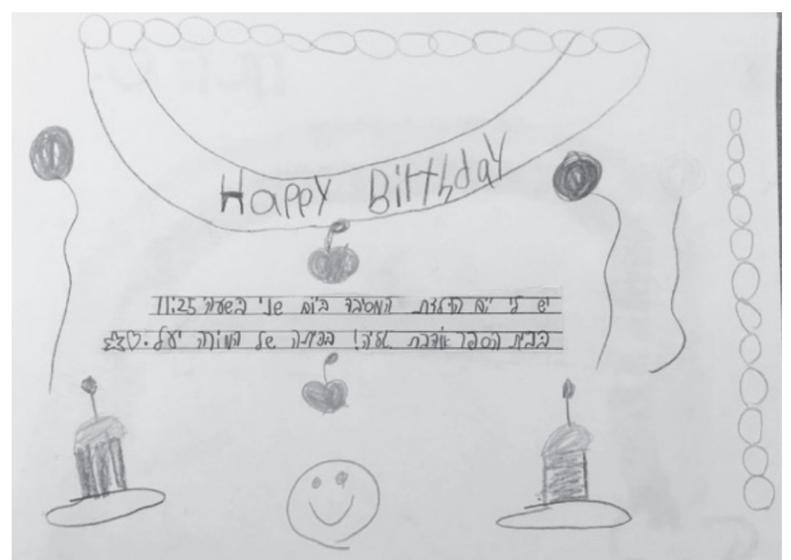
Benjamin Portnoy, 2nd Grade

בשיעור לעברית אנחנו לומדים על יום הולדת. היום זה לא היום הולדת שלי. אני בן שמונה, עוד מעט יהיה לי יום הולדת, ואני אהיה בן תשע. בסיפור שאנחנו לומדים אבא של תמר במטבח, הוא מכין עוגת יום הולדת. בבית שלי אמא אופה את העוגה ליום הולדת שלי. אני אוהב ללמוד על יום הולדת. אני גם אוהב להזמין חברים למסיבה שלי. והכי הרבה, אני אוהב לקבל מתנות!

Hannah Sinai, 2nd Grade



Talia Corn, 2nd Grade





Israel celebrates 70 years! You are invited to design a new emblem for Israel 70!

Please turn in your designs by January 5, 2018 to Morah Dalia Golan in Room 304.



אנחנו בוחרים סמל חדש לצה"ל

Nicole Kahen, 8th Grade

השנה, שנת תשע"ח, ישראל חוגגת 70 שנה. לכבוד חגיגות ה-70 צבא ההגנה לישראל החליט להוציא סמל חדש. כולם יכולים לבחור את הסמל החדש של צה"ל. בשלושת הסמלים נמצא המספר 70 שמסמל את יום הולדתה ה-70 של מדינת ישראל. ביום שישי י"ד בחשוון הגיעה אלינו משלחת של חיילי צה"ל לבית הספר לקבלת שבת מיוחדת. אחרי הטקס, ליד הקפטריה היה קלפי וכרטיסים לבחירת הסמל. בעזרת בת עמי, כל ילד בחר את הסמל שהוא אוהב ושם בקלפי. התלמידים של הלל בחרו את הסמל שבתמונה. הסמל שנבחר הוא הסמל עם מגן דוד, המספר 70 וענפי זית לשלום.

תן בלבנו ללמוד וללמד

Daniel Zarur, 8th Grade

בשיעור עברית למדנו פסוק מהתפילה "ותן בלבנו". בפסוק מבקשים מה' בקשות: להבין ולהשכיל, ללמוד וללמד, לשמור ולעשות את כל הדברים של התורה באהבה. לפי התפילה, הבקשות של אדם בתפילה "עולות": הוא מבקש להבין, אבל הוא לא רוצה רק להבין. הוא רוצה גם ללמוד ולדעת יותר. הוא מבקש ללמוד, אבל הוא רוצה גם להיות מורה לאחרים; הוא רוצה לשמור את המצוות ולא לעשות רע, אבל הוא מבקש גם כוח לעשות את הטוב. אדם מבקש להבין ולדעת, ללמוד וללמד, לשמור ולעשות הכל באהבה, כי עם אהבה אנחנו יכולים ללמוד, יכולים ללמד, ויכולים לשמור ולעשות את מצוות ה'.

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