

Volume 4 Issue 7
 January 16, 2015

25 Tevet 5775
 Parashat Vaaira

From the Principal's Desk



The Parashot we are learning walk us through the process of the Jewish people becoming a nation. The Jewish people enter Egypt as 70 people and walk out as a strong collective unit of a few million. While our nation is coming together, the Torah highlights for us the efforts of a few individuals. The Torah tells us specific life experiences that these individuals had. Some of their struggles, challenges, and greatest accomplishments are written for us to learn from. The balance between community and individual that is presented teaches us that these values are part of the DNA of a Jew. It shows us the importance of being part of a community and the level of greatness that each individual person can reach.

These are the values that create our Ohr Chadash vision. We are creating a community. We started small in number and are growing by leaps and bounds. As we grow, we are focusing on each child. We try to help him/her reach the strength that lies within. By encouraging all of the children to explore and reach their full potential, to have them not settle for being good, but to dream and work on becoming great, to become themselves is Ohr Chadash's mission.

Shabbat Shalom,
 Rabbi Moshe Margolese

Important OCA Dates

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Monday, January 19: | Martin Luther King Assembly 4/5 grades—1 PM |
| Tuesday, January 20: | Middle School Meeting for 2016-2017 — 8 PM |
| Wednesday, January 21: | Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat Hot cocoa sale: 75 cents/cup |
| Wednesday, January 28: | Wacky Wednesday: Crazy Hair Day! |
| Friday, February 20: | Grandparents Day and start of Scholastic Book Fair! |

Check out our **Book Fair homepage** - <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/ohrchadashacademy>



From the Desk of Mrs. Randi Orshan

Ohr Chadash Academy runs on three pillars: community, excellence, and individuality. We practice being a community every day by coming together for morning assembly. Excellence is shown throughout the day in both Judaics and General studies classes. To promote individuality, teachers use differentiated instruction and a number of other strategies, however, we decided to go beyond the classroom to showcase individuality by having a Talent Show.



Instead of making the show a competition by having auditions and one winner, everyone from grades K-5 who wanted was encouraged to participate. Whether it was a cartwheel performed by Nava A. in the kindergarten, a simple whirl of the hula hoop by Nava G. in the first grade, or a beautiful rendition of Hatikva sung by Lexi P. in the third grade, students felt empowered and brave to get up in front of the whole school, faculty, and parents.

Some of the other talents included a song by the Kindergarten, a magic show by Jonathan R. and Isaac R, storytelling by Grace L, individual dancing by Maayan K, piano by Noam B, hula hoop twirling by Ora B and Layla R, a dancing duet by Hadassah J and Ayala G, singing by Abbi B, guitar playing by Chaya S, a piano/violin duet by Ori P and Ariella J, a puppet show by Ziva P and Omer P, song by Ava C, Meital S, Tzipora E, Rachelli K, and Sarah Chaya M, and even shofar blowing by Yakir A! The audience cheered the kids on, and in a real-life way, the kids understood what it meant to be an individual. Ohr Chadash is looking forward to its Talent Show next year and in the years to come.



Check out our Photo Gallery

To see more photos of our school activities, please check out the Photo Gallery on our school website at website <http://www.ohrchadashbaltimore.org/school-life/gallery/>

Around the Halls of OCA



We were welcomed back after winter break with a great surprise—a moon bounce. The students jumped right into this challenge. The moon bounce was a great way to transition all of us back into school where we model each day to approach our challenges with excitement.



On December 23, the ECC had a wonderful Chanukah party! The children decorated cookies, played “pin the candle on the Chanukiah,” enjoyed face-painting by Morah Anne, made scratch-art dreidels, enjoyed yummy Sufganiyot and drinks, and estimated how many pieces of Chanukah gelt were in the jar. Congratulations to Caleb V. (3’s) and Josh F. (Shuli’s dad) for coming closest to the actual number of Chanukah gelt! Our students also put on a fabulous performance, singing two Chanukah songs, for their parents. Thank you to Rosendorff’s Bakery for donating the yummy cookies for our party! Thank you to all of the families who took time out of their busy Chanukah schedules to join us for the afternoon!



In Mrs. A’s **Kindergarten class**, they read a fabulous story called, “The Snow Globe Family”. At this point in the year, the children are able to identify fiction, non-fiction and fantasy fiction. The students realized that the story was fantasy fiction since snow globe people can’t really move or talk, etc. They did an extension writing piece where each child had to write about what they would do or feel if they lived in a snow globe. They did a wonderful job!

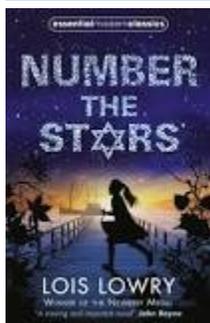


Kitah Alef performed beautifully as they received their first siddurim. Kol Hakavod Morah Ziffer and Morah Fixler. Thank you Morah Becky for your musical accompaniment.



Mrs. Rubenstein’s class (**2nd Grade General Studies**) were part of a special community Chesed project sponsored by the Jewish Community Services agency. In class, they created colorful paper dreidels which were delivered to the JCS. On Chanukah those decorations were placed on tables at a Chanukah party for a group of “special needs” adult members of the Baltimore community. We are very proud of our children, because they took this project so seriously.

Mrs. Mann’s Third Grade is working on sharpening their reading comprehension skills using the strategies taught in class. They are eager to begin their Reading Goals Program which was introduced this week. In their Judaics class, they welcomed Morah Debbie, who is their substitute teacher while Morah Avigail is on maternity leave. They were excited to meet Morah Avigail’s baby when he visited OCA this week.



In Mrs. Mann's **4th-5th grade**, the students were introduced to the novel that will comprise their new literature unit this week. They will be reading *Number the Stars*, a complex and moving tale about the escape of a Jewish family from Copenhagen during World War II. The students will be participating in many diverse and interactive activities and assignments throughout this novel study, including weekly literature circles. Their first task was to learn about the time period of the book. They covered a portion of WWII and the Holocaust, and analyzed how the two historical events intersected. They also took a look at war time rations and conditions, and identified countries of importance on a map of Europe. The students were riveted by every aspect of this lesson, and eager hands shot up continuously from students who wanted to share personal family stories and relay historical knowledge. Continuing the themes of persecution and a fight for tolerance and freedom, the students have begun preparing for their Martin Luther King, Jr. Day presentation. This will take place on January 19, at 1:00 PM in the multipurpose room. We'd love to see you there!

Rabbi Bennett's 4-5 grade boys are happy to announce that they have completed learning 2/3 of Masechet Brachot in Mishnayot. They finished learning Perek Vav also known as Keitzad m'varchim. This Perek dealt with the very practical halachot of Brachot which relates to food, mainly brachot rishonot and brachot acharonot. They also learned the distinction between Birkat Hamazon and Ma'ayn shalosh.



Mrs. Shulman's 4-5 girls are working on their tefillah unit. Last week they read about and discussed the structure of Shacharit: beginning small and personal when thanking Hashem for our bodies and then moving outward and thanking Hashem for the whole world. They discussed that we get to the

brachot before Shma, we are so far outward that we are talking about the luminaries in outer space! They discussed how they think they can make the Shacharit journey personal to themselves. A highlight of last week was going into the PreK4 class and "teaching" Parsha. Since they had already learned Parshat Shmot so well the 4-5 girls' class was able to write the script for the play completely on their own! They also had a great time helping the young ones with their project and reading to them. Kudos to Morahs Shulman, Anne, and Milka Baila for making this happen!



This past Wednesday, January 14, the fourth and fifth graders put on a beautiful Poetry festival! The parents, teachers, and students celebrated all of the hard work that the students have been doing (writing, editing, illustrating, proofreading) with a



lovely tea party. The tables looked lovely, the refreshments were delicious, and the students were so proud to present their original works of Hebrew poetry. The festival ended with a small competition. Each table worked together to write a poem as a team! There were some wonderful brand-new poems about snow, Ohr Chadash Academy, and the tea party itself. Thank you to all of the parents for coming and to Morah Avigail, Rabbi Bennett, and Mrs. Orshan!

Me'ohr'aot Ohr Chadash-Happenings in our Ohr Chadash Family

- Welcome to Mrs. Esther Reznick, our new morning permanent substitute.
- Welcome to Morah Devorah Katz, who is substituting for third grade during Morah Abby's maternity leave.
- Mazal tov to Morah Abby Barnoy (grade 3) and husband Yotam, and big sisters Eliana (PreK4) and Aviya(PreK3) and new big brother Elad on the birth of a baby boy.
- Mazal tov to OCA Board member Zack Pomerantz and his wife Kori on the birth of Akiva Binyomin.
- Condolences to Mr. Yaakov Sitrin (Moshe, grade 4 and Nava, grade 2) on the loss of his grandfather.



Eliana Barnoy—PreK 4	Sarah Chaya Mako—3
Shuli Friedman—PreK4	Lexi Polirer—3
Alina Rosen—1	Reem Jedwab—4
Chanan Finkelstein—2	Yair Reich—5

Happy January Birthdays



Days of Learning



12/12 ---Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Schwarzenberger (Oma and Opa) sponsored in honor of Koby's birthday.

12/17 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lazerow sponsored in honor of Sammy's birthday and also in honor of all of the dedication of the Carter family to OCA and Jewish education.

12/18 ---Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bench (grandparents) sponsored in honor of Eliyahu Levi receiving his Chumash.

Mr. and Mrs. Yossi Kelemer and Mr. and Mrs. Avigail Rosemore sponsored in honor of a refuah shelaima for Kobi Rosemore (Yaakov Dovid ben Avigayil).

12/24 --- Day of learning in honor of Shoshana bat Avraham, a friend of Leah Golfeyz.

1/22 --- Renee and George Koslowitz sponsored in honor of the yartzeit of Susan Israel - Randi Orshan's mother and grandmother of Leah, PreK4.

1/29 --- Faye Kaufman, grandmother of Shuli Friedman, sponsored in honor of Shuli's birthday.

OCA-PTA News

Lanie Carter and Rena Einbinder, Presidium

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all who participated in Chanukah Gifts for the Teachers. They were very appreciative and so grateful to everyone for their thoughtfulness.

We are looking for sponsors for Motzei Shabbat Family Learning. Please contact ocapta@ohrchadashbaltimore.org if you would like to be a sponsor. We look forward to seeing you this Motzei Shabbat at OCA at 7pm.

Remember we still have plenty of OCA T-shirts and sweatshirts available for purchase in the office. Stop in and pick one up for your child. T-shirts are \$10 and sweatshirts \$18.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns at ocapta@ohrchadashbaltimore.org As always, please remember the easy ways that you can support OCA PTA:

Target

Sign up your card for their Take Charge of Education Program:
<http://www.target.com/tcoe> (our school ID is 153097)

Giant

Sign up your card for their A+ Rewards Program:
<http://www.giantfood.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/?requestid=1228038>

Amazon

Bookmark this link and use it every time you shop:
<http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=ohrchadashbaltimore-20&camp=212361&creative=392013&linkCode=ws&>

Lovable Labels

Buy your personalized labels for all occasions here:
<http://www.ohrchadash.lovablelabels.ca/>

Box Tops

Please save us your Box Tops! Each Rosh Chodesh we will collect them and have a raffle for a free Pizza for all families that participate!

Shabbat Shalom,

Lanie and Rena



Maccabeats Concert



The Maccabeats are coming back to Baltimore! Ohr Chadash will be hosting the Maccabeats at our Annual Concert that will be held on March 8, 2015 at 3:00 PM in the Sagner Auditorium at Beth Tfiloh. Tickets are on sale now at www.ocaconcert.com. Amazing opening act by the Orthobox.

We will be honoring Amian and Yossi Kelemer. Amian is the Chair of the Education Committee on the OCA Board of Directors for the last three years and her leadership has been instrumental in the educational initiatives of the school. There will be a VIP reception in their honor prior to the concert for sponsorships of

\$360 and up. Additionally, you have the opportunity to place a tribute in their honor in a virtual journal.

Inclement Weather Alerts



First, we advise you to sign up and opt-in to our emergency text alert system. This will ensure that you receive emergency text alerts from Ohr Chadash on your cell phone. We encourage you to opt-in for text alerts in general, in the event that instant notification would be needed for an emergency.

If you did not already sign up last year, please do the following to opt-in to the system:

Subject Line: OCA, **Text to** 292929

If you already receive text alerts from the JCC, or any other Call-Em-All client, you will need to change the subject line to: **Subject Line:** JOIN OCA

You should receive a text back confirming that you are signed up for the service. If you do not get a text back saying that you are signed up, you may need to check with your cell carrier to make sure that you do not have a "short code block" on your phone.

Second, we will be sending an e:mail to everyone on this e:mail list.

Third, you may call the school office after 7:00 am to check if any late openings or closures have been posted. We will try and have the announcement posted even earlier, if possible

Fourth, on days when there may be weather-related delays for school openings, please check either WBAL-TV or radio (1090 AM) for announcements.

If you have any questions concerning the above, feel free to call or e:mail the school office.

Yom Hakdasha - a Day of Dedication

Ohr Chadash Academy proudly announces the creation of Yom Hakdasha, a Day of Dedication.

We believe in being our students' home away from home because we know that every child brings something of "home" with them when they enter the building. As an expression of being a school family, we are instituting a Dedicated Day of Learning program – a *Yom Hakdasha* – to provide you with the opportunity to dedicate a day of learning in honor of a student or in memory of a loved one.

Dedications can be made for yahrzeits, birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, academic achievement, receiving a first siddur or chumash, or any occasion. On the day of dedication, if a student is being honored, they are honored with holding the American and Israeli flags.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting opportunity, please contact the school office at office@ohrchadashbaltimore.org.

Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for volunteers to help with our upcoming concert in March. Right now we need people who can call businesses for sponsorships. While ticket sales are important, most of the money we raise comes from the generous businesses and individuals in the community who sponsor the event. Making just 10 calls will be a huge help to your school. Please contact Terri Rosen at trosen@ohrchadashbaltimore.org if you can be part of this mitzvah. Thank you!

Computer Calligraphy and Invitations by Tova

**Commercial invitations and party
supplies available**

**Custom Hebrew/English invitations, laminated benchers and tefillot also
available.**

Computer Calligraphy on envelopes, place cards, table cards.

**Mention OCA when you call and a
portion will be donated to our school.**

**Call now for personalized, custom Purim labels
Call Tova Taragin at 410-371-9194**



We will give all OCA families and referrals from OCA a 10% discount and we will donate 10% of the purchase price to OCA.

Contact : ruth@goldstarfurniture.com - [410-935-2063](tel:410-935-2063)

Have a Target Redcard? Sign up so OCA can receive a donation every time you shop!

Sign up at www.target.com/tcoe.
Our school ID is 153097



Don't Lose It, Label it!

Label Camp Clothes
and School Supplies
with Ease!

Support OCA by buying
Lovable Labels.



Don't lose it, label it!

[http://
www.ohrchadash.lovablelabels.ca/](http://www.ohrchadash.lovablelabels.ca/)

STAPLES



Please Help Ohr Chadash when shopping at Staples

When you shop at Staples or redeem toner cartridges please give our Staples Rewards number which is 2877957023

Ohr Chadash Tzedakah Scrip

If you are interested in ordering Agudah Scrip to benefit OCA, please send an email to ttaragin@ohrchadashbaltimore.org. or call 410-484-3931. If you give tzedakah to meshulachim (tzedakah collectors) at your door or in shul, using Agudah Scrip, a portion goes to our school. It is an easy way for OCA to get tzedakah too. It was conceived years ago, so that all our tzedakah money does not leave the city, but in addition, helps the local institutions (we receive the difference between the amount on the face of the scrip and the cost). The amounts available are:

50 cents scrip cost \$.75	\$4.00 scrip which costs \$5.00
\$1 scrip which costs \$1.25	\$8.00 scrip which costs \$10
\$2.50 scrip which costs \$3.00	\$20 scrip which costs \$25

Checks are to be made out to Agudah of Baltimore. Ordered scrip can be picked up in the school office or at the home of Tova and Alan Taragin. Arrangements can be made for delivery.

A Must See - Special Guest
THE AMAZING ORTHOBOX
Beatboxing Phenomenon
*Finalist in the 2011 and 2012 US Beatbox
Championships. Over 1 Million views on YouTube.*



OHRCHADASH

ישיבת אור חדש ACADEMY 4th Annual Concert Presenting

THE MACCABEATS

Featuring Songs from Their New Album "One Day More"

Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 3:00pm | Beth Tfiloh Sagner Auditorium



HONORING:
Yossi & Amian Kelemer

TICKETS
\$20/\$36
www.ocaconcert.com

Sponsorships are available

- Doors open 2:30pm
- VIP reception 1:30pm for sponsorships of \$360 and up- kids activities included

For further information, email concert@ohrchadashbaltimore.org
or call 410.602.2686

Beth Tfiloh Sagner Auditorium | 3300 Old Court Road | Pikesville, MD | 21208



Join OCA-PTA for Motzei Shabbat Family Learning!

Dates and times below. As always, there will be pizza, raffles, and fun!

Frequent attendees will receive a great prize at the end of the season!



November 8—At OCA 6:40 PM

November 15 -At OCA 6:40 PM

November 22 -At OCA 6:20 PM

November 29—No Family Learning

December 6—At Ner Tamid 6:45 PM

December 13—At OCA 6:40 PM

December 20— At OCA 6:40 PM

December 27—No Family Learning

January 3—At OCA 7:00 PM

January 10—At Ner Tamid 7:00 PM

January 17—At OCA 7:00 PM

January 24—At OCA 7:00 PM

January 31—At OCA 7:00 PM

February 7—at Ner Tamid 7:30 PM

February 14—at OCA 7:30 PM

February 21—at OCA 7:30 PM

February 28 —at OCA 7:45 PM

March 7 - at OCA 7:45 PM

Please contact ocapta@ohrchadashbaltimore.org with any questions or to sponsor a family learning session.

Our Book Fair

OHR CHADASH ACADEMY
7310 PARK HEIGHTS AVE
PIKESVILLE, MD 21208

Book Fair Chairperson:

 [Randi Orshan](#)

When & Where

Feb 20 - Feb 27

ECC Modular

Our Schedule

Fri, Feb 20 10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Grand Event: Bring your Grandparents and Special Friends!
Sat, Feb 21	Not Open -Good Shabbos
Sun, Feb 22	Be back tomorrow!
Mon, Feb 23 8:00 AM-3:30 PM	Teacher Preview: Special preview day for teachers and Preschool
Tues, Feb 24 5:30 PM-8:30 PM	Evening Family Event: Nacho Average Book Fair! Be a red hot reader!
Wed, Feb 25 3:30 PM-5:30 PM	After School Event: Come shop after you pick up at carpool!
Thurs, Feb 26 3:30 PM-5:30 PM	After School Event: Come shop after carpool!
Fri, Feb 27 8:30 AM-3:30 PM	Principal Activity: Watch Rabbi Margolese as he tangos with the books!

Our Book Fair is Coming!

The whole school is excited about our upcoming "Nacho Average" Book Fair. An amazing selection of books is headed our way!

At the Book Fair you will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents.

Mark your calendar for our Family Event where the whole family can join in the fun on February 24th. You can contribute books to your child's classroom library as well. Come dressed up and join our Mexican fiesta!

The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading. Here's a brief video that highlights the big dreams that can be realized through family reading:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/family>

See you at the Book Fair!

Mrs. Randi Orshan & Mrs. Nancy Feierstein

Shop Online

If you are out of town or can't make it to our Book Fair, you can also help support our school by shopping online.

- Send wish lists to family and friends
- All orders ship free to the school
- Browse an expanded book selection - all ages through adult

Come back on **02/23** to Shop.

[SHOP NOW](#)

What's at Our Fair

Check out some of the popular titles you may find at our Book Fair*.

[SEE A PREVIEW](#)

The previews include book descriptions and special features like author video clips and reading levels.

*Remember that not all books are available at all Fairs



Our Book Fair Goal

Thank you for helping us encourage kids to read!

200.0 Books

36000.0
Reading Minutes

\$1000.0
Book Fair Sales



All Book Fair Volunteers!

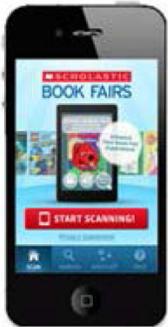
Love books? Volunteer to help at the Book Fair. You can decorate and set up, help kids select books, work on refreshments, give a book talk, or help pack up. There are lots of ways to participate.

[Let us know if you can volunteer.](#)

Published Homepage

We accept the following payment methods at our fair:

- Cash
- Checks (Payable to the school)
- Credit Cards



**Free
Book Fair
App!**

Download to
your device
before the Fair
to find right-fit
books!

[Learn more!](#)