

Oh Chadashot

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 Issue 5
 November 26, 2014

4 Kislev 5775
 Parashat Vayetze

From the Principal's Desk



We have been developing and building our middot together as a school. We began with the Middah of *l'hakdeem lo shalom* - Extending a greeting. This was a strong way to start off the school year as we all got to meet each other. This Middah has continued into our daily life at OCA. Every morning, we greet a staff member or a student and learn something about them. This is shared with the whole school. While we are learning something about our friends and teachers, our students are practicing active listening. Their eyes are on the speaker, their ears open, and their mouths quiet.

The second Middah we focused on was *Dan Lichaf Zichut* - giving others the benefit of the doubt. This was helpful in bringing our awareness to the power of Yom Kippur. Watching students interact with each other in the classroom and during recess is always wonderful. There are opportunities that arise that give our students a time, place, and tool to work through disagreements. Learning these social skills is foundational for all of us. The students were able to approach this with a positive attitude as the whole school was working together to realize where they needed to give others the benefit of the doubt and find ways to work together. As the year continues and relationships continue to develop, knowing this Middah has helped our students grow.

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Important OCA Dates

Thursday, November 27-Friday, November 28: No School: Thanksgiving Break

December 1 - 18: Chanukah toy drive - Collecting toys for JCN

December 8: last day to sign up for conferences

Wednesday, December 10: 2:20 Dismissal; Parent-Teacher Conferences 6:30-9:00

Friday, December 12: Israeli Pride day

Monday, December 15: Kabbalat HaSiddur

Friday, December 19: Chanukah Break: No School

Thursday, December 25 - Friday, January 2: Winter Break (school resumes Monday, January 4)

From our Principal continued from page 1

The third Middah that we focused on is *Hakarat Hatov* - Showing/expressing appreciation for what we have. Every morning the students are asked what they are thankful for. We have an array of answers from food and family to G-d, grandparents, toys, Israel, being Jewish, our country, friends, teachers, and so on.

As we enter the month of Kislev, Hashem's light shines into even the smallest of places. The light will shine on OCA as we focus on the *yesh koach b'm'at* --there is strength in the few. We see this by the number of Chashmonaim who stood up to fight for Hashem and the Beit Hamikdash. We see this in our hallways by students helping each other and by students standing up for one another. Each small act that we do for ourselves or others makes a life long lasting impression.

When the school and home work together to strengthen our own middot and the middot of our children, this small act of working together, will make a lasting impression for us all.

We will again this year be running our "spread the light campaign". This campaign is driven by the parents. The class whose parents send in the most compliments/positive feedback/ nice emails over the month will win a special field trip for their child's class! This is something that I am encouraging you to do daily. Some examples include responding to an email, telling the teacher what your child said they learned, expressing that you really like how the newsletters look every Friday, or telling the teachers how happy your child is at school. Say thank you for dedicating their time, effort, and resources to the Jewish people, to the next generation. It can take you a few short seconds....but it will go a long way. The power of light is very strong. One small jug of oil can illuminate the holiest place, for 8 days! One comment to the teacher will make your teacher shine.

Looking forward to continuing to spread the Ohr Chadash in our school.

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.

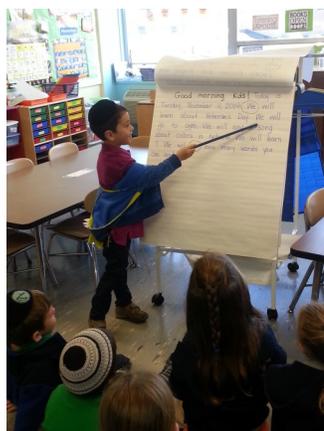
Third, you may call the school office after 7:00 am to check if any late openings or closures have been posted. We will try and have the announcement posted even earlier, if possible

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

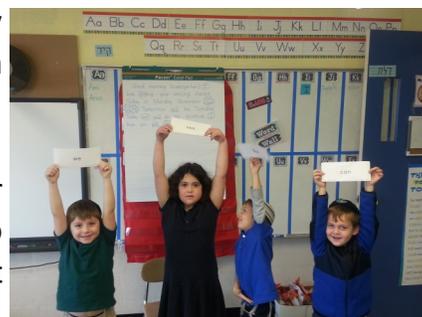
If you have any questions concerning the above, feel free to call or e:mail the school office.

Around the Halls of OCA

In our **Early Childhood Center**, the 3's and 4's have been very busy getting ready for Thanksgiving! They discussed all the things for which we are thankful. They also made delicious soup, remembering the lentil stew that Yaakov gave to Esav, in Parshat Toldos. They all took turns measuring the ingredients, pouring them into the crockpot, and stirring it! We also made Yaakov and Esav puppets and had a lot of fun acting out the Parsha with them! After seeing the kab-balat Chumash in Grade 2, the ECC students were excited to see the Chumash which Morah Yael received in 2nd Grade. They also enjoyed the visit from Mrs. Rubenstein's 2nd Grade. They came on Monday, read to them, and gave them special presents which they made just for them!



Mrs. A's class, **Kindergarten**, has been honing their reading skills. They have been doing a fabulous job reading decodables and recognizing sight words. They practice reading on the SmartBoard. They also finished learning the alphabet, and they had a major ABC party on Monday. In Hebrew reading, they learned the patach. Knowing the vowel patach, together with the letters they learned helps them to figure out words on their own. For Parsha, Kindergarten also made lentil soup, with Kitah Bet.



Kitah Alef, Morah Ziffer's class have completed their first book in Ariot. We wish them mazal tov on this accomplishment. They are also busy preparing to receive their very first Siddur on December 15.



Mazel tov to Morah Yaffa's **Kitah Bet** on receiving their first Chumash. They lit up the stage in their beautiful costumes, and the smiles on your faces truly surpassed everything! They sang and performed so nicely, making their parents, grandparents and entire OCA family so proud! Kitah Bet will always remember what Rabbi Marwick told them when he spoke, that this same Chumash that they just received is the same Chumash that our parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents (etc. etc.) learn. The Chumash (Torah) has something that is relevant and applicable to EVERYONE!



In Mrs. Rubenstein's class, (**2nd Grade General Studies**), the students were very, very excited to read to Pre-K4 in honor of Thanksgiving. The students provided the 4's with a special treat that they made, Thanksgiving place mats. The second grade children did a wonderful job reading and the 4 year old's were such good listeners. Morah Anne and Mrs. Rubenstein plan to have other joint activities this year.



Morah Avigail Barnoy's **Kitah Gimel** was chosen to present the middah for the month of Kislev. The middah that was chosen for the upcoming month is "Yesh

Koach Bim'at" (there is strength in the few). They represented the Mida through a play about Chanukah.

Chanukah is a perfect example of the strength of few against many.



There is always so much excitement during centers in Mrs. Mann's **3rd Grade**. In centers this week the students began working on many different skills. Some of these include grammar skills, or how to use a table of contents and using sequence words to order a list.



Morah Shulman's **Senior Girls (4th and 5th Grades)** are busy preparing for an exciting Tea party. In Ivrit class they are learning poetry and song. They are planning to celebrate this unit by putting on a Mesibat Meshorer (a Poet's Party) on January 14, b'ezrat Hashem. They are planning a classic English tea party to be shared with parents.

In Mrs. Mann's **4-5 general studies class**, the students are working collaboratively on their explorer projects. The students have many opportunities to work together during the day. From social studies projects to center activities, the students are constantly engaging with each other and learning how to interact respectfully. These pictures demonstrate the teamwork and partnership that is apparent between the students in every small group activity they complete.





Mazel Tov Kitah Bet!



November 17, 2014



Kabbalat Chumash



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

- Mazal tov to Kitah Bet on receiving your chumashim
- Mazal tov to the following students who received Middah awards at the assembly last week. They were the students who exemplified the middah of hakarat hatov during chodesh Cheshvan, according to their teachers:

Pre-k3: Kyra Milner

Pre-k4: Elan Levi

Kindergarten: Judah Milner, Leora Juni

First Grade: Yehoshua Gunzburg, Alina Rosen

Second Grade: Maayan Krupp, Eliyahu Levi

Third Grade: Eli Feinstein, Meital Shiller

Fourth-Fifth Grade: Dani Carter, Aryeh Pasch, Grace Larsen, Ayala Goffin

Happy November Birthdays

Ephraim Margolese
Pre- K4

Noam Brandriss 3

Rachelli Reich K

Itzik Bluestein 4



Thank you to all who contributed so generously to our "Let's Do Lunch," on November 25.

OCA-PTA News

Lanie Carter and Rena Einbinder, Presidium

Dear Parents,

We are still on a high from the OCA PTA Parents Melvah Malka this past Motzei Shabbat! It was a wonderful time that truly highlighted the special nature of the OCA community. A tremendous thank you to Matt and Susie Schoenfeld for opening their home and providing such a wonderful ambiance for this Melvah Malka as well as for sponsoring the wine. Thanks to Becca and Josh Friedman for their inspiring dvar torah, to Aaron Shiller for his assistance and for his specially mixed drinks, and to the Rosen and Gonsher families for sponsoring the event. The Hot Lunch ordering system for December and January will open next week. Look for an e-mail from OCA PTA with a link to order.

If you have not placed your Hot Lunch orders for December and January please do so ASAP as orders will close Thursday. You can place your order by clicking on this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ni6BIPFdNPvoM_KydvjYxqkBJz9u1nAw6KYZZRc9J0U/viewform. Remember hot lunch must be paid for in advance to ensure your child will receive their order. Stay tuned for information about participating in Chanukah gifts for the OCA Faculty.

Reminder - there is **NO Motzei Shabbat Learning** this week. We will resume the schedule on December 6th at 6:45 at Ner Tamid. (6214 Pimlico Road)

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

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=sws&>

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!

Looking forward to seeing you on the 22nd.

Lanie and Rena

Accessing ParentsWeb on Renweb



If you are having trouble accessing ParentsWeb on RenWeb, please follow these directions:

RenWeb School Management Software gives you, the busy parent, an opportunity to get more involved in your child's academic progress and future success – all via the Internet!

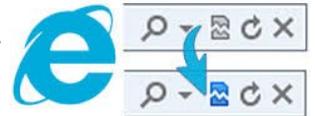
RenWeb's ParentsWeb is a private and secure parents' portal that will allow parents to view academic information specific to their children, while protecting their children's information from others.

RenWeb's ParentsWeb is the way to access your child's homework assignments, report cards, when they are issued and an easy way to communicate with your child's teachers.

Here's how to access our easy-to-use **RenWeb ParentsWeb**:

- Make sure that the school has your email address in RenWeb.

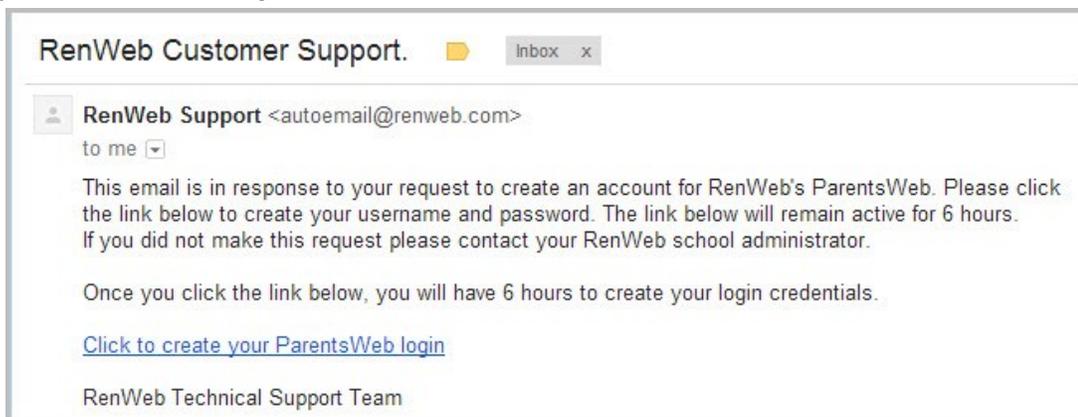
In Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari, go to www.renweb.com and click **Logins**. On IE, if it does not load, and there is something that looks like this (torn piece of paper) in address bar, click on it and it will fix the compatibility problem and you will have no trouble loading RW.



- Type the school's **District Code** **OH-MD**

Existing parents who have logged in before and are having trouble: Make sure you use the same email address you used when applying or reenrolling on RW last year. If you are unsure what email you have registered with RW, please email office@ohrchadashbaltimore.org and they will let you know.

- To **Create New ParentsWeb Account**:
- Click **Create New ParentsWeb Account**.
- Type your email address and click **Create Account**. An email will be sent which includes a link to create your ParentsWeb login. The link is active for 6 hours.



- Select the **Click to Create your ParentsWeb login** link.
- A web browser displays your **Name** and **RenWeb Person ID**. (continued on next page)

- Select the **Click to Create your ParentsWeb login link**.
- A web browser displays your **Name** and RenWeb **Person ID**.

Type a **User Name**, **Password**, and **Confirm** the password.

Change/Create Password					
Name	Person ID	User Name	Password	Confirm	
Callie Johnston	11519	<input type="text" value="cjohnston"/>	<input type="password" value="*****"/>	<input type="password" value="*****"/>	<input type="button" value="Save User Name and/or Password"/>

- Click **Save User Name and/or Password**. A message displays at the top of the browser, "**User Name/Password successfully updated.**"

User Name/Password successfully updated.					
Change/Create Password					
Name	Person ID	User Name	Password	Confirm	
Callie Johnston	11519	<input type="text" value="cjohnston"/>	<input type="password" value="*****"/>	<input type="password"/>	<input type="button" value="Save User Name and/or Password"/>

You may now log in to ParentsWeb using your new User Name and Password.

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 Tova Taragin at 410-371-9194

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.



Got Talent?

Sign up for Ohr Chadash's Talent Show!

On December 24, we are having a **Talent Show** to showcase our students' talents from grades K-5. We'd love to see you dance, mime or perform any other amazing talent that you have!

Important dates to remember:

November 14 – sign up during lunch¹

November 25 – performance approval

December 12 – 1st practice

December 24 – Talent Show!



¹ Students may work with students in other grades. All rehearsals will take place during school hours. Students are also encouraged to practice on their own at home.

Thanks 21st Century Storage
for taking care of OCA's storage needs.

Located on Park Heights Avenue, about 3 blocks from
OCA, 21st Century Storage will donate \$20 to OCA for
every family that mentions our name when renting a
storage unit.

For more information, e-mail
ocapta@ocabaltimore.org.



**21st Century
STORAGE**

Totally FREE Move-In

5301 Park Heights Ave. Baltimore MD 21215
(410)466-5252 www.21css.com

**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/)



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.



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.

Help Your Children with their Social Skills

Join us at a special SHEMESH event

5 People Skills Every Child Needs to Learn

Monday December 8, 2014

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Edward A. Myerberg Center
3101 Fallstaff Road, Baltimore

- Does your child have difficulty making or keeping friends?
- Does your child feel isolated or rejected?
- Is your child too bossy?

This presentation will give you the tools you need to nurture your child's social well-being.

Dr. Kennedy-Moore's books will be available for purchase.



Dr. Eileen Kennedy-Moore is a Princeton NJ, psychologist whose work focuses on parenting and children's social and emotional development. She is the author of five books, including *The Unwritten Rules of Friendship* and the award-winning children's book, *What About Me? 12 Ways to Get Your Parents' Attention Without Hitting Your Sister*. She combines research and real life experience as a mother of four.

Registration accepted through December 5, 2014 – Walk-ins welcome

RSVP@shemeshbaltimore.org - 410-843-7588

Visit our new website: shemeshbaltimore.org



A PROGRAM OF
The Associated
Inspiring Jewish Community

Kid Chefs



Students ages 6—12

Cooking classes for children in a safe learning environment that encourages discovery and creativity

\$20 for 4 classes
\$7.50 for individual classes

Sunday mornings 9:30—11 am

Sunday, November 09, 2014 Three Layer Cake

Sunday, December 07, 2014 Tuna and Salmon Pâtés

Sunday, January 11, 2015 Rolled Lasagna

Sunday, February 01, 2015 Dips & Sauces (Guacamole, Salsa etc.)



Ner Tamid Youth

6214 Pimlico Road

Register by November 5 for the 1st class

Register at nertamid.net

For info: youth@nertamid.net or 410-764-6241

