



THE UHI BULLETIN

The Weekly Newsletter of United Hebrew Institute, Kingston, PA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents,

As I write my article, I am reflecting on the vice presidential debate. No, I will not add my opinion as to who won the debate for two reasons. First, I am firmly committed that this school not be partisan. Second, I believe that different people have different criteria for declaring a winner.

One aspect of watching the debate is listening to the pundits (political commentators, talk show hosts, and anyone with an opinion) review the debate that I had myself just heard. One aspect of the conversation absolutely fascinated me. There was a major discussion as to who seemed more genuine. At first I was intrigued as to how the talking heads became experts in who was genuine. They talked about body language, looking past the moderator, and speaking with conviction. As I heard more and more, I asked myself if I thought either candidate seemed more genuine to me.

There was one point that moved me on an emotional level. When Senator Biden spoke of losing his wife in a fatal car accident and his seriously injured children, I felt for him. Although I have never suffered a loss of that magnitude, I could relate to what he was saying. More than that, it did seem real to me. But why? Not surprisingly, the Talmud (compilation of the oral law edited and completed approximately 450 C.E.) states that words that emanate from the speaker's listener's heart enter the heart. Somehow, G-d gave us a certain sixth sense to detect when someone really means something.

How appropriate this is for the period we are now in that is called The Ten Days of Repentance, which culminates with Yom Kippur, The Day of Atonement. We are told that if we wronged someone, we must seek forgiveness from that person before we will be forgiven by G-d. Many people use these days to seek out friends, family members and neighbors whom they might have wronged and apologize for any offense committed.

As hard as it is to apologize, it is even harder to apologize correctly. To apologize correctly may be difficult and require a great deal of intestinal fortitude! Probably the hardest part is for one to acknowledge that he/she was wrong, regardless of what the other person did (or did not do).

Second, it requires speaking to the wronged person and admitting as much. Third, it requires a level of empathy, which means to feel the other person's pain.

Admitting to G-d that one has sinned, by contrast, does not involve the same challenges. G-d is very discreet; He will not tell anyone of your confession. He is very forgiving – if you are sincere. He will forgive you even though you apologize every year for the same offense. Yet it is still difficult to say (and I do mean say and not just think) the words, "I am sorry for doing X sin." If you disagree, go into a room where no one can hear you and say in plain English loud enough so that you can actually hear yourself, "I did such and such sin, and I am sorry." It is very difficult but very effective. That difficulty is what makes it so meaningful and genuine. See how you feel after admitting out loud to G-d that which you wish no person to hear. If it feels real, then the words that have emanated from your heart can return to penetrate on make an impression on yourself.

*I wish everyone an easy but meaningful fast this
Yom Kippur!*

Shabbat Shalom,
Rabbi Raphael Nemetsky

A NOTE FROM TALY

The first PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, ongoing PTA/school matters. Thank you and see you October 7, at 7:30 P.M. at UHI. Please bring your ideas with you as this will be a brainstorming session to find new ways to raise money that will directly benefit our children. Also, you will be updated on new and ongoing school matters at the meeting!

Taly Kornfeld, PTA President



CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ October 7 - first PTA meeting
- ◆ October 16, PTA Sukkot Dinner at UHI, @ 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ October 17, Sukkah Hop
- ◆ October 24 - Field trip to the Kingston firehouse for Fire Safety Week, Grades 2 and 3, 10:15 - 11:00 a.m. UHI will provide transportation.

Mazel tov to:

Arnold Goldman on the birth of a new grandson

Beth Sirota on her special birthday

Meir Nemetsky milestone 24th birthday

In Memory to:

The Goldman Family in memory of Betsy

Hershey Park

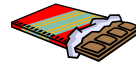
Although listed on our calendar, the students will not be going to Hershey Park on October 16. The park is already closed for the season. We are currently exploring other alternatives and will notify the parents when a new destination has been chosen.

JCC COMMUNITY NOTES

- ◆ Sundays-R-Fun at the JCC. October 5, 12, 19, 25. 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Dance, Gymnastics, Drama, Swim, Science, Art, Karate, Lacrosse, Bowling. Age Groups 3 & 4, 5 - 7, 8 - 10 year olds. \$20 day/\$75 per month. Call Gina Malsky, Youth Director, 824-4646, to register.
- ◆ Monday, October 13, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. "When School's Out, The Center is In!" at JCC. Swim-Gym-Lunch/Snack-Activities included. Ages 4 - 11, full day \$20, half day \$10, (children with 1/2 day of school, program will run 12-3 p.m.) Transportation will be available from UHI with pre-registration. Also, a half day program offered on Monday, October 20. Call Gina Malsky, JCC Youth Director, 824-4646.

PTA NEWS

- ◆ The first PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 p.m. at UHI. Please make every effort to attend.
- ◆ Please support the PTA Gertrude Chocolate Candy Fundraiser! All of the proceeds go directly to our children.
- ◆ Sukkot Dinner will be held on Thursday, October 16, at 5:30. *Volunteers are needed* for set up, serving and cleanup. Please contact Sara Pizarz at 357-4650. Make your reservations as soon as possible.



UHI PTA CANDY SALE

UHI if off to a sweet New Year with the kick-off of the *PTA Gertrude Hawk Candy Fundraiser*. Each family has been asked to sell the entire variety pack of 48 candy bars at \$1.00 each. The proceeds will be collected on or before Friday, October 30, at the UHI office. Please sell the candy bars to your family, friends and/or co-workers, With your help and participation, we will continue to do great things together for UHI and our children. Contact UHI for additional candy. *Thank You for your help and support!*



2008-2009 PA SCHOOL HEALTH MANDATES

Several students have not met all of the requirements for admission into Kindergarten, and this is a matter of concern. Therefore, please insure that your children have met all of the State health and immunization requirements. Your cooperation is expected and will be reflected in your child's health report to the State. Should you have any questions, please contact UHI at 287-9600 and I will get back to you.

Also, I recently sent home (with the students) the 2009/2010 state mandated vaccination requirements for children in all grades. If you did not receive your copy, please contact UHI at 287-9600 or stop at the school for additional copies.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Donna Martin, School Nurse

ANNUAL PTA SUKKOT DINNER

Chairperson, Sara Pizarz

October 16, 2008 at 5:30 at UHI

Come and eat in the UHI Sukkah with the UHI Family

Delicious baked chicken and chicken nuggets

Make a delicious edible Sukkah with Malka Seewald

RSVP by October 7 to UHI Office 287,9600,

Reservations must be made and paid in advance,

\$8.00 per adult, \$5.00 per child (max family \$36.)

In case of inclement weather, it will be held in the Max Roth Auditorium. PTA Installation will take place in the Auditorium at 5:00 p.m.

GERTRUDE HAWK CHOCOLATE

- ◆ We are now in the midst of the Gertrude Hawk fundraising drive for the P.T.A. I am pleased to see such a high level of participation and was particularly impressed when one parent told me she could not sell the chocolates and offered instead to donate directly to the P.T.A. I am confident that we can have 100% participation in this fundraiser. The chocolate is under the supervision of Star-K, although the label does not indicate this. *R.N.*



HELP OUR SCHOOL GET FREE EQUIPMENT

Please remember to register your Price Chopper Advantage Card for UHI school code 17362. Our school will automatically earn credit every time you use your card. If you signed up last year, you do not need to re-register. Call UHI 287-9600 with any questions.

DIGGING DEEPER AND GROWING STRONGER: SECOND GRADE SCIENCE

Teacher: Tim Showalter

What do I learn every year as a teacher? Its simple, students are constantly exceeding my expectations. This is evident especially when it comes to Science class.

I was very fortunate last year to co-teach science with Mrs. Baylor. It allowed me to get to know my current class.



Jonathan Rutta, Oriel Bruce, Sara Seewald and Brooke Lieberman observing science experiment

From the first time we had Science, I knew that I had students who are hungry for knowledge.

We are starting our year off with Biology. The first topic is plants. Mrs. Baylor's first grade works with us every Thurs-

day. So far we have already finished a few experiments. The students have really enjoyed learning about different types of trees and how to indentify them.

The second grade also read a great book about the life of a plant. It is called, "From Seed to Plant," by Gail Gibbons. This book helped us learn about more advanced plant biology. We learned how plants pollinate in many diverse and interesting ways.



Sara Seewald and Samson Tillman are enjoying the book "From Seed to Plant"

This week's experiment is focused on teaching the students that plants are alive. The students are able to witness hands-on that plants are just as active as we are. Last week, Mrs. Baylor tied a plastic bag around a group of leaves on the tree in front of the school. After one full week, the students were surprised to see that the plants created water inside the bags. This experiment continues the theme of, "Science in

I am really looking forward to another great year with my second grade. This is a class full of students who enjoy learning and that is all a teacher can ask for.



A special thanks to the Berley Family for giving the school such a nice gift!

Both the students of UHI and the birds of Kingston will appreciate the bird-feeder all year long.

Eric Berely and Mrs. Baylor getting the bird feeder ready for its guests!



SCHOLASTIC BONUS

The Kindergarten and first grade children would like to thank all the parents who ordered Scholastic books for the month of September. Because of your orders, big and small, the UHI Kindergarten and first grade earned 6000 Bonus Points and were able to add all of these books to their classroom library.



**Thank You, Moms and Dads!
Kindergarten & First Grade Classes and Ms. Baylor**

THE 'WRITE' STUFF

Teacher: Barbara Welch

The fifth through seventh grade students began this academic year learning the process for writing an essay. This first writing assignment required that the students examine and then write to the prompt "Why Should We Be Proud of Our Veterans?" First, our students needed to determine the audience for which the essay will be written – judges for an annual essay contest. Next, they had to brainstorm for ideas that would serve as important points that they might want to develop in their writing. They learned that one way to start an essay is to write as if the reader has little or no background in the subject the author is writing about. By doing so, the writer provides the necessary general information and can then move to more specific points. Arriving at a comprehensive thesis statement and segue sentences that would link together their paragraphs can be challenging, but our students quickly realized that these statements would give them the structure as they moved to a point-by-point discussion of their thoughts and ideas.

As the students proceeded to develop their essays, they had to be constantly on the look-out for what we call "bird walking." When a writer strays from the points that he/she is trying to make or prove, the reader can lose sight of what the author is trying to say. This is perhaps the most difficult part of writing for our young authors. Also, the temptation to meet a required word amount by adding extra information is sometimes so great that filling one's essay in this manner seems to be the easiest thing to do, but our goal is to help our students to become exact, focused writers that will serve them well not only in completing assignments at UHI but also any writing they may need to do in the future. English statesman and philosopher Francis Bacon said, "Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." It is our goal to help each and every student at UHI realize success in his/her writing efforts becoming an "exact man" (or woman) as Francis Bacon indicates.

EZER MITZION

Attached to this UHI Bulletin is a small brochure for an Israeli charity called Ezer Mitzion. Based in Israel, this organization runs its International Jewish Bone Marrow Registry that has saved many lives. Even though the registry has over 350,000 potential donors, there is still a critical need to enlist and test even more people, since the donor and recipient must match genetically.

At this time when we ask Hashem to grant us all our wishes for the new year, which includes our very lives, please help bring life to others in critical condition. Although not mentioned in the brief pamphlet, I am sure the dollar's devaluation has further strained this organization's resources.

DAY TO DAY IN PRE-SCHOOL DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Judaic Teacher: Morah Jenny Rizel

The year has gotten off to such a great start as the children are getting along wonderfully and are experiencing so many new things and having tons of fun. The morning starts with *Tefillah – davening*. The children have been practicing adorable songs to help them *daven*; for example, "Raise up your right hand really, really high. Let's say together, you and I; Hashem is One, Hashem is King, Hashem created everything." *Shema Yisroel Hashem Elokeinu Hashem Echad* If only you could see how enthusiastically they sing!



3Y - Cole Cranson



3Y - Lia Stone

apple dipped in honey. Next, we did a project based on our discussion. 3Y made beautiful Rosh Hashanah books and bee honey jars; and 4Y made Rosh Hashanah prayer books and honey dishes.

This week we have started to discuss Yom Kippur; and how contrary to popular opinion, Yom Kippur is really a very happy day because we know that Hashem will always forgive us if we do *Teshuva*-which means saying we are sorry and trying not to do it again. We also learned that on Yom-Kippur we read the book of Yonah (Jonah), and next week we will be working on a few exciting Yonah projects.



4Y - Anthony Elkin

Day to day in pre-school is a joyous experience!

May everyone have a very sweet New Year!