



**SYRACUSE
Hebrew Day School**

Educating the whole child - mind, heart & soul.

Looking Ahead



**SYRACUSE
Hebrew Day School**
Educating the whole child - mind, heart & soul.

VIA **zoom**

**JOIN US FOR
A VIRTUAL
CONVERSATION**

Featuring current SHDS parent Rebecca Raphael
and future SHDS parent Ashira Zehavi

HOST:

Current Kindergarten Mother:
Shira Boschan

Learn about the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, a bilingual, independent school of unparalleled education for grades K-6.



THURSDAY MAY 21ST | 8PM

Email mrsklempere@shds.org for the meeting link.

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Messages from Ms. Lavine

Monday, May 4

Hi, Everyone,
Welcome to Week 8. I hope that you enjoyed a happy and healthy weekend.

iReady: I'm aware that the instructional levels set by iReady for online use are too low for some students. That's because the levels are based on the January administration of the diagnostic assessments. It means that our students have learned so much that we need adjust their instructional levels. Great problem to have.

I've been in contact with the company and we will have a solution shortly. The likely choices are to administer the third and final diagnostic assessment which we'd be doing around now anyway in school which would prompt a resetting of the instructional levels, and/or to individually manually create more rigorous levels for each student. I'll get back to you as soon as we know more.

Personal belongings: We're creating a schedule whereby each employee and family may visit school to retrieve personal belongings. It will likely start in a couple of weeks and be stretched out over a period of time. Schedule forthcoming for you to choose your own time slot. Please wear a mask.

Culminating events: We're looking at trying to modify some of our end-of-year events for online participation. Will keep you posted.

Tuesday, May 5

Hi, Everyone,

Emails: Some families feel that there are still too many school emails and that school communication is coming from too many sources so we devoted more time to that discussion at today's faculty meeting. It appears that in addition to the emails that are generated by Google Classroom, some of our teachers also send email the "old-fashioned" way making it too much to manage. Tomorrow, Stacy is leading a webinar for our other teachers to make sure everyone knows how to do things like embed Meetings in the Google calendar. If we can streamline that and get the students into the habit of looking at their calendars, they can click on links in their calendars that will take them to their online classes/Meets. That could cut down on Google emails. We're also looking at all of the emails that Google generates when assignments are sent. Whatever we end up doing, there will likely be continued distinctions between expectations for the younger versus the older students. Thank you for your patience as we work through this.

Belongings: A parent wrote that retrieving students' belongings from school is a sad reminder that we won't be together again this school year. Completely true, so please know that you are **not required** to retrieve anything. You're welcome to leave whatever your child won't need in the next few months. Do only what works for your family but you probably **SHOULD** pick up your child's prescription medications.

Facebook ads: Several of our parents have been working hard on marketing. This includes posting ads for SHDS on Facebook. You've signed forms about allowing your child's photograph and name in our newsletter and other places but, to be doubly sure where Facebook ads are concerned, please **email Mel by Thursday afternoon if you do NOT** want your child's photograph, first name, or written pieces such as poems to appear in our ads.

Nurse's Day: Happy Nurse's Day to Mrs. McCombie. I don't know where we'd be without her!

Wednesday, May 6

Hi, Everyone,

Talent show: Thanks to Rose Scheer for getting the talent show ball rolling. For those who want to participate, please **video record your child performing some type of talent. Send the video to Stacy Seidman** who will then edit a movie for all to see. Please send it to her **by end of day on Tuesday**. Maybe we'll see some instrumental music performances??

Belongings: Mel is ready to slot people into times to go to school. **Email Mel two things by Friday:** Do you want to retrieve anything? If so, are you picking up your child's medication?

iReady testing: Student Council President Ben Resig agreed to serve as a trial run for our remote iReady testing. The students have already done this online, but not remotely. Jackie Kassel will serve as the "proctor" via videoconferencing. Once that's finished and we iron out the wrinkles, we'll inform you about testing the rest of our students. Thanks, Ben.

Inviting guests: Do you know any young students who would like to "visit" SHDS while we're online schooling to get an idea of who we are? Please think through your list of contacts and make an effort to reach out. If someone is interested, let me know and we'll take it from there.

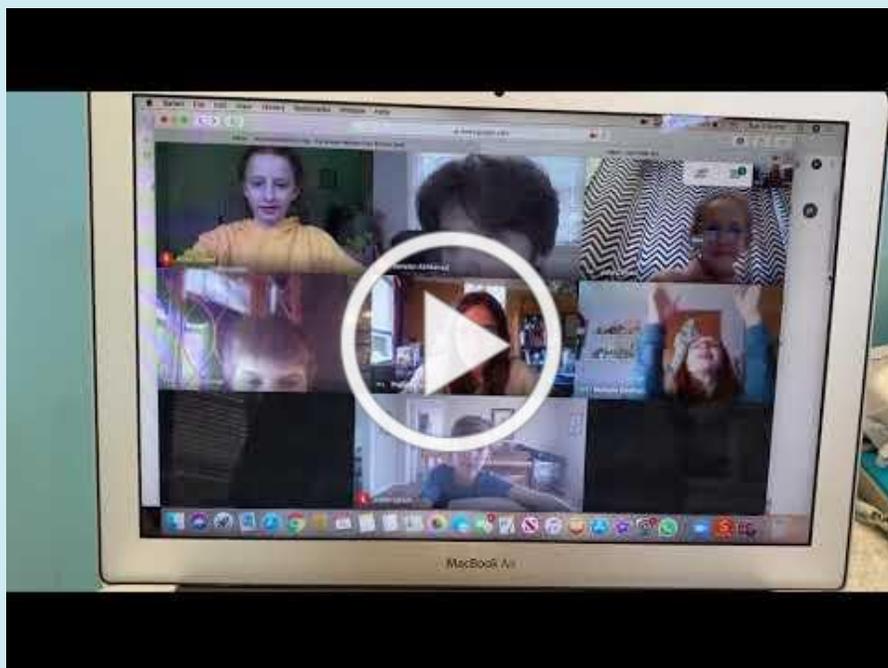


SHDS Teachers Reflect on On-line Learning

As we have made the switch from in-person to online learning, I have been amazed at the parents' willingness to support their children and juggle all of their other additional responsibilities. We SHDS teachers are always concerned about the growth of our students not only academically, but socially and spiritually as well, and throughout this difficult period, we teachers don't have the access to your kids that we love to have! Thank you to our wonderful, loving parents, who are communicating with us about their students, sending us photos of their work, and supporting the teachers by checking with the students about their assignments. It's a huge challenge, but you are DOING it!

Personally, I find online instruction exciting because I love to learn, and I have learned so much these past few weeks! I am amazed at humanity on a daily basis, every time the WiFi doesn't cut out, every time I watch a student sing to me on Flipgrid, every time I assign a personalized iReady lesson. But I am also sad, because I miss seeing my students together, as a community, singing and playing and laughing, and I am frustrated because of the technological glitches that we simply wouldn't have if we were in a classroom together ("Are you frozen? Can you hear me? Try leaving and coming back again!"). I am thankful for my students for their sense of humor and their dedication to our SHDS community--thank you for being in our Google Meetings!--and I am proud of the students' progress, in spite of the challenges.

-Phyllis Zames, First and Second Grade Hebrew, Fourth and Fifth ELA





The LOVELY Kita Alef and Kita Bet made hearts on their screens as we discussed the upcoming holiday of Yom Yerushalayim. We talked about the metaphor "Jerusalem is the heart of the nation of Israel."

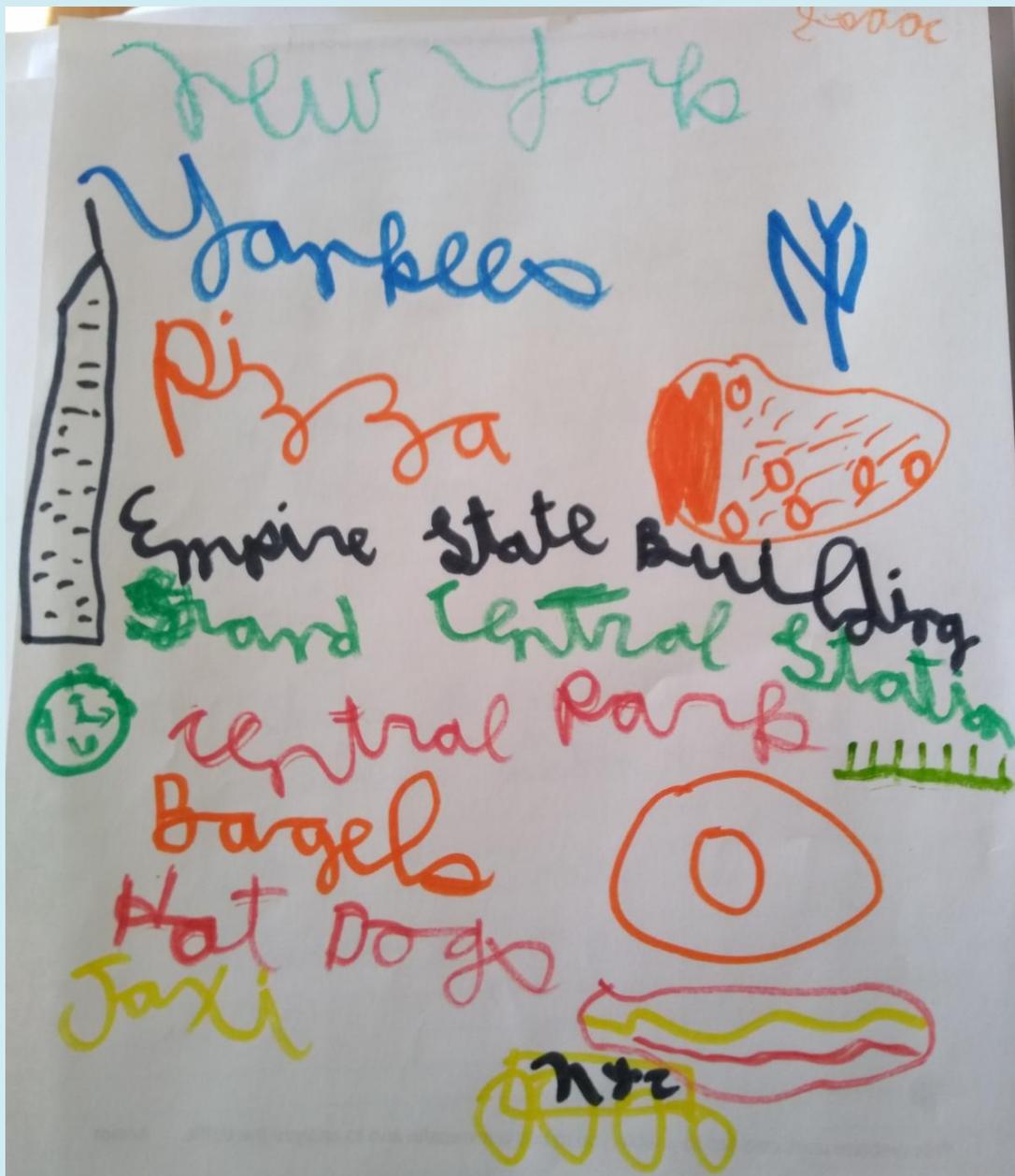
The Week in Review

Virtual Kabbalat Hasidur Ceremony



Creative Poetry Project by the 3rd and 4th graders

Israel hot pretty southern peace sweet
land milk and honey country kind nice
72 years old blue white warm safe
awesome Jewish homeland kosher
nice Hechshered Jewish Holidays
Yom Ha'atzmaut Yom Hazikaron
amazing cool desert animals plants





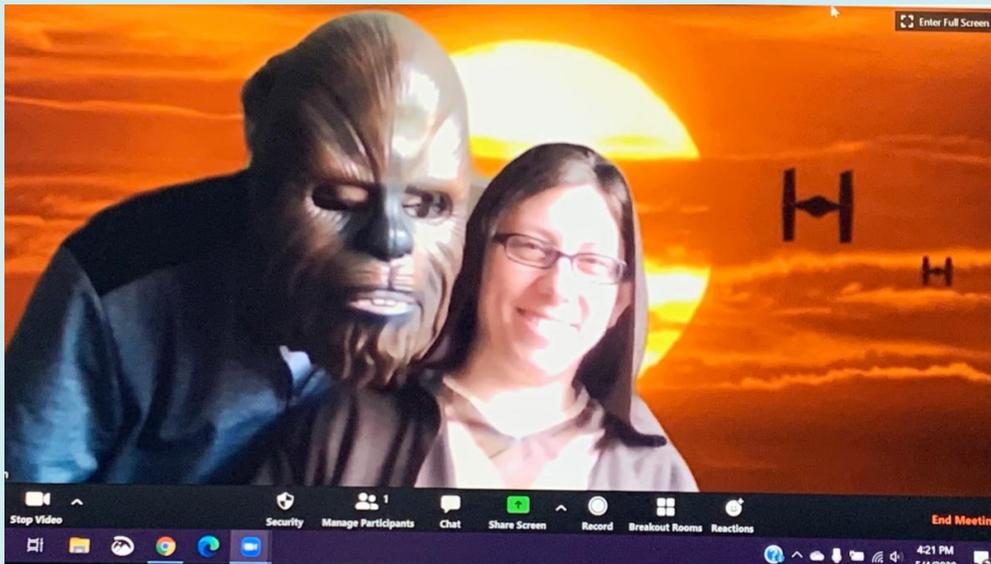
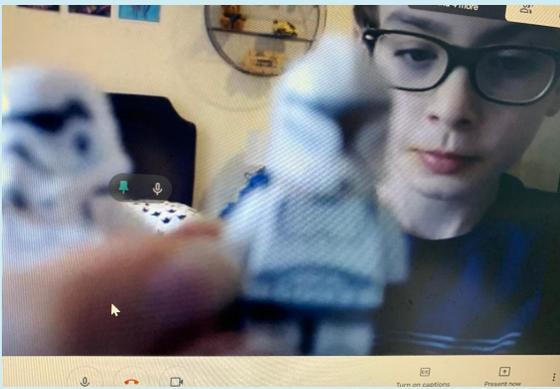
Words ending in -ing Poem

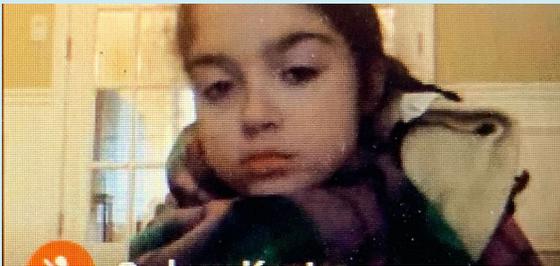
Quarantine

Boring
Home staying
TV watching
Immediate family gathering
Online schooling
Writing
Drawing
Typing
Running
Note taking
Contacting
Texting
Calling
Waiting
Reading
Missing friends
Letter sending
Learning



Third and fourth grade celebrated Star Wars Day: May the 4th Be With You!!!
They showed off their Star Wars looks, some toys and were able to watch Star Wars Episode 4: A New Hope in a Virtual Movie Party!!!





The Bloom boys are missing the SRO's and sent them a huge card that they made. Monday morning, Isaac ran into the laundry room to tell his mom, "The police are here!!". Needless to say, she was wondering, "Is there an escaped convict in the area?" Well, no, it was an SHDS SRO who came by to thank Isaac and Benj for the card they sent to all of the SRO's. It made their day to see him!



Alumni News

A poem by SHDS Graduate, Zach Fellman

Love others and be loved.

Stay home

Don't go out

Do your part

Take care of others

Thank the medical personnel.

Don't put yourself at risk

Don't forget to stay home

Be smart about social distancing.

6 feet means **6 Feet!!**

Don't put others at risk

Flatten the CURVE!!

Wear a Mask

Help others by not going out

Wear Gloves

Keep calm and carry on!

This too shall pass.

Listen to the doctors, nurses, and

scientists; not the politicians.

Thank you to all the medical staff who are risking their lives so that WE can live, so that we can laugh more, play more, love more, and live more.

Tributes

“Grandpas’ Grand Legacies” Fundraiser for Parkinson's Foundation by Henia Zames

"I am participating in Moving Day Central NY, benefiting the Parkinson's Foundation in memory of both my grandfathers, Dr. Leslie Davis and Ira Zames.

The event will be a fun-filled, family-friendly event for all ages and abilities. We will be able to enjoy a variety of movement activities like yoga, dance, Pilates, Tai Chi, boxing, stretching and much more and celebrate the importance of movement in our lives.

Please consider being a part of my team or sponsoring me, and I encourage you to get your friends, family and coworkers involved.

Thank you for helping me reach my fundraising goal to support the vital work of the Parkinson's Foundation.

Why Move for Moving Day?

Did you know that someone is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease every 9 minutes in the United States? No one should have to face Parkinson's alone. That is why the Parkinson's Foundation provides a community of support to give people the resources and help they need to live well with Parkinson's.

Support our mission to help every person diagnosed with Parkinson's live their best possible life now. Your gift will help us fund better research, better treatment and better lives. Thank you!"

[Donate Here](#)

Community News

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER SERVICE

Syracuse Jewish Community
Covid-19 Prayer Service

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 @ 6 pm

The Syracuse Area Rabbis and Cantors
will lead the community in a ZOOM service.

Psalms and Prayers will be recited for those affected by the virus. A special prayer will be recited for the physicians and healthcare workers who are on the frontlines in the battle.

Please send the names (Hebrew or English) of those ill with the virus to ravsyr@gmail.com to be included in the prayers.

Thank you for registering: [CLICK HERE](#)

Sponsored by the Syracuse Rabbinical Counsel

"In honor of Alethea Shirilan-Howlett's birthday (Tuesday), I wanted to share with you more details about our virtual performance next month. We're really excited about this one!!

SAVE THE DATE: "No Exodus" Virtual Performance and Fundraiser on Sunday, June 7

"No Exodus, the J-D Drama Show, written and directed by senior Alethea Shirilan-Howlett, has scheduled their virtual performance for June 7, 2020. It will be a multimedia performance, harnessing the talents of the entire J-DHS art community. The show will be linked to a fundraiser (in place of ticket sales). All profits from that fundraiser will go to CNYArts to provide scholarships for children in the area who want to attend art, music, and drama camps.

The show will be live-streamed on Sunday, June 7th at 7:00 P.M. You can get to know the cast and crew on the No Exodus Instagram (@noexodusplay) and the No Exodus Facebook (@noexodus).

Synopsis: *"The year is 1995, there's a horrible thunderstorm outside and Wendy Symmonds and her daughter Ruth are having a dysfunctional Passover seder at their home in Syracuse, New York. As the story consistently flashes back to the past, we learn that Wendy was a member of a one-hit wonder 70s band and encountered her own personal struggle in trying to make a living off of what she loved. As the order of the seder progresses, tensions increase between Ruth and her*

mother as Ruth reveals that her passion is doing art and Wendy's flashbacks become more and more difficult to differ from reality. When the storm reaches its peak, it brings a sudden power outage before leaving a guest from Wendy's past in the doorway. No Exodus examines the personal and cultural stakes of holding onto and letting go of the past and the stories we tell about it."

Jordan Berger
Jamesville DeWitt High School
Social Studies Teacher
JDHS Musical Producer
JDHS Drama Show Director

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO DO AN ACT OF KINDNESS

MATAN B'SETER - GIVING IN SECRET



"One who gives charity in secret is greater than Moshe Rabbeinu."

As our community continues to battle the current public health crisis, we cannot forget the continued sacrifice, strength and courage of frontline healthcare workers. We are especially grateful to the staff of Menorah Park, who are caring for our seniors and other vulnerable persons. They are working very long hours and displaying true devotion to the isolated and lonely residents.

To help them out, Federation set up a *Matan b'Seter* - Giving in Secret - food cabinet. It is based on an ancient Jewish tradition: the room in the courtyard of the Temple, where donors would deposit gifts and others would take what they needed, all in secret. Federation's *Matan b'Seter* cabinet will provide Menorah Park staff with basic food items.

We hope that the Jewish community will join Federation in stocking it with food in cans and plastic jars (no glass, to prevent breakage), and packaged non-perishables and treats (no chocolate, to prevent melting) for the Menorah Park staff and their families, the seniors in the Ahavath Achim apartments and anyone suffering food insufficiency.

So many in our Jewish community have asked how they can help. This is a way to show compassion and concern for those who are in the front lines in this difficult time. ***The cabinet is located near the mikvah at Menorah Park on the right-hand side as you pull up the driveway.*** Anyone may donate to the cabinet and anyone may take from it. (Please wear masks and gloves.) If you would like to help alleviate food insufficiency during this crisis, please feel free to donate at any time or take, if you need it.



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