

Second Grade

Dear LBSY,

Hi, let me introduce myself since I am new to the staff this year. I am Jessica also work at the preschool at AJ and I am also the president of the Hillel chapter at the University of Louisville. I am pursuing a degree in music therapy from the school of music. I am originally from Chicago but I plan to spend the holidays in Louisville this year.

Today in class, we worked on getting acquainted with one another. We discussed classroom rules and routines. We also worked on reviewing Hebrew, I am just trying to get a sense of where the class and individuals are in letter recognition, penmanship and vocabulary.

A great way to follow up at home is to review the letters Tet and Tav.

Shanah Tovah,
Jessica Heinz

Third Grade

Dear LBSY Parents,

We studied the major themes of Yom Kippur today. We spent a lot of time talking about ways to improve for the New Year. We set goals for the upcoming year and talked about ways to hold ourselves accountable. We also set class goals and ways to measure our success.

The major themes we focused on today were goals for the New Year, how to promote reflection and world creation.

Some things to discuss at home is the story of world creation in the Jewish tradition and how to stay focused on your goals throughout the year.

Shanah Tovah,

Jodi Halpern

Fourth Grade

Dear LBSY Parents,

Today, we reviewed class rules and expectation and discussed biblical events. We used a timeline to show the special relations and relevance to biblical events. This activity was utilized to show how certain events built up from previous as well as defined societal belief at that time.

Our main activity was collaborative of the sixth and seventh grade. As a group we placed our sins of the past year on paper and then glued them to a scapegoat to symbolize hoe we use to perform Tashlich in ancient times.

Some great ways to expand at home is to discuss how Yom Kippur can be viewed as a solemn holiday but also uplifting in that we are awarded a clean slate and fresh start.

Shanah Tovah,
Rachel Goldman

Fifth Grade

Dear LBSY Parents,

In fifth grade we are tackling Lo L'Vayeish, to not embarrass. We began class with journaling and sharing about our most embarrassing moments and how we felt about them. We also read some passages from Jewish Scholars in regards to this value and then broke into groups to tackle the different passages to share with fellow classmates. Some of these topics were comparing embarrassing someone to physically hurting someone in reference to the potential pain caused. Another passage dealt with ways of preventing embarrassment by using solidarity. We ended the midot by conducting a debate on whether picking teams in gym class can lead to embarrassment and a sense of inadequacy. We concluded by discussing ways to improve on this value in the New Year.

We also discussed the parshat, Vayeilech where G-d tells Moses he is passing and asks him to speak to the Jews. We talked about how we might go about things differently if we knew that today was our last. We tied this concept into Yom Kippur and improving for the New Year

Some things to discuss at home includes the idea of self-improvement for the New Year and how to incorporate midot, Jewish Values, into the New Year as we repair our relationships with one another and with G-d.

Shanah Tovah,

Elana Levitz

Sixth and Seventh Grade

B"H

Week of Parshat Vayeilech – September 12, 2018

Dear Parents,

On Wednesday, we learned about the 7 steps towards true repentance and forgiveness. The students broke into groups and read about each step, and then choose a representative who debated about the most difficult step in the process.

We then broke into smaller groups, reading the book of Jonah, which is read on Yom Kippur. We spent a lot of time discussing and thinking about this somewhat impossible tale. The running from G-D, the boat, the whale, the people repenting and even Jonah's attempt to fight G-D to his last breath. The reason for its importance to read on Yom Kippur and message for us is a good discussion point with your child. (Hint: it has to do with giving second chances to make things right and not punishing someone to serve as an example).

On Sunday we dealt with the most pressing question, how to handle synagogue boredom and other Yom Kippur lessons, including how Yom Kippur is the happiest day of the year.

I hope you enjoyed Rosh Hashanah!

Gmar Chatima Tova,

Rabbi Shmully

Eighth Grade

Dear LBSY Parents,

Today we learned about resistance within the Holocaust. We met with Fred Whitaker, a renowned Holocaust educator, and began an in depth look at both the Nazi party and those who resisted.

Some key ideas were that the Holocaust did not begin as mass genocide of the Jews. Rather, it was a gradual progression starting with political opponents. We also discussed those that resisted and those who survived

Some great follow up at home would be discussing family members who endured and survived. Another discussion is to discuss the environment in Europe that lead up to the Holocaust. I am looking forward to hearing about your discussions.

Shanah Tovah,

Mrs. Danino