



UPDATE

October 8, 2010 Tishrei 30, 5771



The Shaloh House Jewish Day School Newsletter

Welcome to the 20th day of Shaloh House 5771!

What an amazing time we've had already, with even more in the months to come!

We've learned about and celebrated Rosh HaShana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot together. We're gearing up for student council Elections on November 2nd. We've gone to the Museum of Science on a wonderful field trip, gathered together on Back to School Night, and at the PTO Fruit Social, and come together as our new classrooms and as a school.

Coming together is without a doubt the most important achievement for us as a school and as a community. Learning is always important- but what we do, and what our students will do with their learning is the question that informs what we teach and how we teach through out the year. We know we have the leaders of tomorrow in our care, but just what kind of leaders will they be? Coming together to celebrate the rich tapestry of Jewish Tradition and building a strong, caring community insures that the future in not only in capable hands, but wonderful hands as well.

As the year progresses we'll continue to go both deeper and broader in all of the subjects we teach, helping our students move from their current understanding and ability in math, science, English, Hebrew, Judaic Studies, Chumash, music, and the rest to a stronger and richer comprehension. We'll also continue to gather as a school to celebrate achievements, important events, and holidays. Some of the events coming up are a visit from Councilor Ciommo on Oct. 15th, a presentation by NSTAR on energy on Nov. 1st, and our student council election on Nov.2.

Continued on page 5...



OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY, OCT 11
10 AM—12 NOON

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

NOVEMBER 2

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND - NO SCHOOL

NOV 25—26,
THURSDAY—FRIDAY

My household cleaning service is getting frustrated. A festival. And then another one. And following it, a semi-festival (Chol Hamoed), where only some activities are off-limits. And then again two days off all forms of work. "Can't you guys schedule your festivals in a more organized fashion?"

It isn't much easier for us either. Cooking, grating, cleaning, baking, cleaning. Peeling, peeling, and more peeling. And did I mention cleaning? So much work just to jam-pack the stomach with cholent, fish, meat, kugel, ice cream, salads and spirits (we're only mentioning necessities, okay?). Every day. Two or three times a day. And then next week all over again...

My wallet and credit cards are also starting to kvetch under the strain. Loads of lamb shoulder steak, outfitting the entire family with matching outfits from head to toe, and front-wall seats in the synagogue get the bills skyrocketing in no time.

Couldn't the Master Planner of these holidays space them out a bit more, giving us a bit of time to breathe and recuperate before the next one? Looks like time management is not high on the list of priorities there.

And then there is the concern of overdosing. Wouldn't a monthly conveniently-sized spirituality dispenser with a small dosage to boost our spiritual circulatory system be just fine? Here's the formal answer: The month of Tishrei is full of festivals, joy, and intensity; the following month, Cheshvan, does not even have one minor holiday. You need an extra super-duper dose of holiday spirituality to help get you through the dull, dry, festival-free month of Cheshvan.

Somehow, this answer doesn't satisfy me. That sounds like really poor planning. Cram up all the major festivals in the first month of the year and then follow it with a vacuum -- a month devoid of any parties, new outfits and stomachaches. Feels like a spiritual roller-coaster ride. Couldn't the descent "back to earth" be gradual,

avoiding unnecessary turbulence and a potential collision upon landing?

Clearly, this is part of a detailed, direct, and deliberate plan. Herein lies the paradox of life: The only way to survive and cope in the outback is by filling your suitcases to the brim prior to the journey. Yet, the only way to develop coping skills and experience true independent growth is by camping in a site devoid of any amenities, facilities and resources.

The packing and planning in Tishrei, the first month of the year, is crucial to the success of our journey later on. Tishrei can be seen as the "head" of the year (the Hebrew letters of the word Tishrei can also spell the word "reishit," beginning and head). The head contains the brain, mouth, nose, ears, eyes and face -- intelligence, speech, smell, hearing and sight. All that crammed in one section of the body, the head? Couldn't these vital senses be spread out over the entire body? But that just wouldn't work. In order for the head to conduct all the affairs of the body it requires those vital tools to work with. Each of Tishrei's special days is another section of the "head" -- a source of strength and inspiration for all the following days throughout the year.

Yet, the actual journey is done with the legs, or more correctly the heels (the least sensitive limb of the body), which takes its cue from the head. And it's only the heels that actually "goes places." Cheshvan is traveling time. To get the maximum experience out of our trip we need to stock up very well before we go, with food for the journey and some basic appliances -- i.e. acceptance of G-d's Sovereignty and awe of Heaven (Rosh Hashanah), teshuvah (Yom Kippur), joy and festivity (Sukkot), and dedication to Torah (Simchat Torah).

But, then it's time for "real life" in the jungle. Having a festival in Cheshvan would be akin to hitting concrete pavement while hiking in the countryside. It ruins the experience. This is the time to put to use all our coping and camping skills. So let's stuff those overweight suitcases, eat to our full and write out fat checks -- loaded with sanctity, joy, commitment, resolutions and aspirations. But, remember: at the end of the month the bills need to be paid. Come Cheshvan, make sure those checks don't bounce.

From www.Shaloh.org/Magazine

1.
Quiet descends upon our home as I light the Shabbat candles and usher in the Shabbat Queen. I finish the blessing on the Shabbat lights and the prayers that pour forth from my heart and then I turn to my children and cry out in an excited voice, "Good Shabbos!" This is their cue. One grabs my hand, the other tugs at my skirt and we begin to dance and sing as we welcome the Holy Shabbat.

"Lecha dodi li krat kalla, penai Shabbat nekabelah."

"Come, my beloved, to meet the bride, let us welcome the Shabbat."

"Likrat Shabbat, lechu v'nelcha, kee hee mekor hab-racha."

"To meet the Shabbat, come, let us go, for she is the source of blessing."

It's magical, the dance, the singing, the way we welcome in Shabbat. It's magical, the way only a moment before the day was like any other day with a million and one things to do and to get done, and now time is suddenly different. No more of the hustle and bustle of life's activities, now I have time to sing and dance with my children.

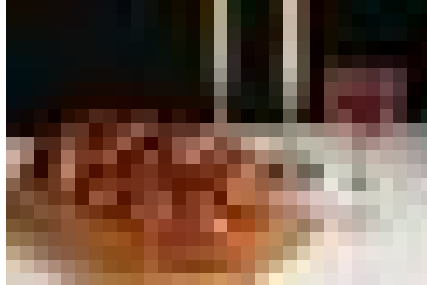
Now it's dinner time. We're all sitting at the table. My son to my right and my daughter to my left. My five-year-old son has a book in his hand. He's slowly reading out the words; he's reading us a story. I stare at my husband, smiling. We both can't believe it. Last week he still stumbled over certain vowel sounds and now he's reading us a story.

Look at what happened in a week!

"Mommy," my two-and-a-half-year-old daughter says to me. "Toilet!" I jump up, I grab her and off we go. I look to my husband, our eyes meet. Last Shabbat she was not yet toilet trained and had constant accidents and now she's telling us beforehand.

Look at what happened in a week!

When G-d gave the Torah, no bird squawked. No winged creature flew. No cow mooed. The ofanim didn't soar. The seraphim didn't say, "Holy, Holy." The sea didn't sway. People didn't speak. Rather the world was completely silent, and a voice rang out: "I am the L-rd, your G-d." (Midrash Rabbah, Exodus 29:9)



What can this be compared to? Rabbi Shimshon Dovid Pincus, of blessed memory, explains. Imagine a great and powerful king. One of his subjects goes to see him in the royal palace. On the way to the king the subject stops to hear musicians (who are playing for the king) playing beautiful

music. He can hardly pull himself away when his ear picks up a fascinating discourse given by one of the king's ministers. He becomes so caught up in the lecture, the music, the beautiful palace, that he almost forgets about the king. The king stands up and cries, "Quiet!". Suddenly silence fills the room and the beauty and splendor of the king fill the palace.

Six days a week I have an incredibly hectic schedule. There are so many things going on that six days of my week can pass and I won't even notice how much my children have grown. I won't have time to talk to my husband, not about my work or the grocery shopping, but about us, life, our dreams, our goals. Six days a week I have distraction after distraction and then... Shabbat! Shabbat Kodesh, the Holy Shabbat.

The world around me stops. Like a radar I am able to focus in on my family, on myself. I see things that I missed all week long. This is one of the things I love most about Shabbat and this, I imagine, must be one of the reasons why Shabbat is the source of blessing because Shabbat gives me the time, the attention that I need to see the blessing and that in itself is a blessing.

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From www.Shaloh.org/Magazine

My name is Rachel Saperstein. I am almost seventy years old. My husband and I have three children and twelve grandchildren. We lived in Jerusalem for close to thirty years and in Gush Katif for nearly nine years. Now we live in a plaster-board caravilla in the refugee camp of Nitzan between Ashdod and Ashkelon. During Operation Cast Lead we were bombed by missiles coming from Gaza. The missiles and rockets followed us from Gush Katif to Nitzan. There is no escape from enemy assault.

In the evenings I take power walks and observe life in our refugee slum. Most of the gardens are overgrown with weeds. People are slowly moving away. It doesn't make sense to keep a garden growing. After people leave for their permanent homes up the hill, flatbed trucks arrive. First, the red tiles on the roofs are removed. Then the caravilla is cut in half, loaded on to the trucks and taken somewhere; we don't know where. Perhaps to a new site being prepared for the next victims of expulsion. We do not know what plans Obama and Netanyahu have for the people of Judea and Samaria. What is certain is that these plasterboard structures will be used again.

I often visit the construction site of the new "permanent" homes, especially when we go to the "attaching the mezuzah" ceremony. We wish the new occupants well. We "ooh" and "aah" at the up-to-date shower stalls, the new kitchen, the lovely floor tiles. The occupants invariably admit that they have used all their funds on the house. Some have taken bank loans to finish the house. Many of our friends are in their late fifties and sixties. They worry about how they will live from week to week on their meager salaries (if they are lucky enough to be working) much less pay off the loans. There is a tragedy waiting to happen.



Some cannot build at all. They have been living on their compensation money, as they have had no livelihood since the expulsion. Some of our people were renters in the private market in Neve Dekalim, and though they lived there for fifteen or twenty years, they are not entitled to any compensation at all. Some have lost their money to swindlers; some have lost their money in bad investments. Others see building here as the final nail in the coffin of hope – the hope that they will return to Gush Katif.

In one community, families had built and moved into permanent homes. They breathed a sigh of relief. At long last each family had a proper home. But something strange happened. Their children, who as pre-teens had lived through the expulsion, went berserk. They began drinking, smoking, vandalizing public property. The professionals who were called in declared the children victims of post-traumatic stress disorder. The children felt betrayed by their parents. By building elsewhere, their parents had admitted they would never return to Gush Katif. The feeling of betrayal

had brought on the violent reaction.

On one of my power walks I met my friend Dina. I told her I would be speaking here tonight. "What shall I tell them, Dina?" I asked.

Dina is a mother of five. Two of her sons are married, and she now has grandchildren.

"I should be happy" Dina tells me, "but I'm not. Every night I see soldiers surrounding my home. I wake up shaking and sweating. Then I start to cry. I can't go back to work. I miss my home, the view of the sea, the Beit Knesset. Tell those good people that my heart is broken." I hug Dina as I've hugged so many others. I cry with them. I admit that I, too, suffer from flashbacks. We move forward, but the past returns at odd moments. There is so much hurt.

The poverty of our people, out of work, lining up for

As the director of Operation Dignity, a chesed non-profit organization, I raise and give financial assistance to some wonderful families – always with a smile and certainly with dignity.

Health issues have increased. Heart attacks, strokes, diabetes and hypertension have taken their toll on our people. But all is not black. Children have been born; marriages have taken place. Over five hundred brides and grooms have been showered by the wonderful volunteer bridal group that provides essential gifts to start our young couples off, even as they move into crumbling caravans near their parents' homes. Watching our young couples walking with their baby carriages brings us hope and joy.

These young couples fought for Gush Katif, and using the return of our people to Gush Etzion as their inspiration, they know that when the call to re-establish Gush Katif is made, they will be the first to answer it. The Almighty always performs miracles.

And as for us, my husband and myself, we are going to Lachish. South of Beit Shemesh, north of Kiryat Gat, Lachish is a wonderful place to establish the township of Bnai

Dekalim.

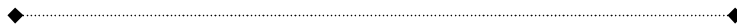
Lachish is a grape-growing region often compared to the Napa Valley in California, or Provence in France. Gentle hills, wild flowers and refreshing breezes make the Lachish area an ideal place to build our new home. This will be a truly Jewish town. Our field school will teach the halachah of grape growing and wine making. Our spa will teach healing of body and soul according to Rambam and other Jewish sources. Visiting rabbis will bring their families and enjoy the state-of-the-art Judaica library in the Yeshiva and Kollel.

Come and visit. Walk in the footsteps of Joshua and Bar Kochbah. Whenever we visit, and especially now that we actually own our own plot, I feel like dancing. Yes, almost seventy and I feel like dancing! I feel a lightness in my heart and begin to sway with the rhythm of the winds.

Soon I will have a home. What a privilege to be almost seventy and to be a pioneer in Eretz Yisrael.

But if the Almighty wills it, with joyful hearts and souls we will return to Gush Katif.

From www.Shaloh.org/Magazine

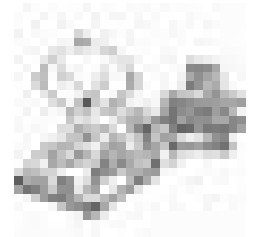


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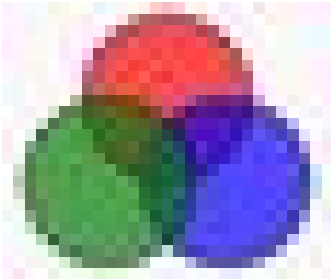
This newsletter is also a bit special, rather than our usual highlighting of the week, we're focusing on the year ahead- with introduction letters from our staff and their outlines for what the year will hold. For the parents who were able to make it Back to School night, I expect it will be a pleasant reminder, and for the parents who weren't able to attend, I'm sure you'll be as pleased and impressed with the amazing staff we have as I am.

Merlyn Carey

Year of playing and learning!



We had a busy week in the Toddler room.



This week we started learning about colors and shapes.
This week's color is Red and the shape of the week is Circle.

We painted and glued projects using red circles, for example, flowers and tomatoes .



This week's parsha is Noach. We chose the flood as the main theme. We told the kids about Noach. He "was righteous man and perfect in his time, and Noach walked with Hashem", and his family and about the ark that Hashem told him to build.

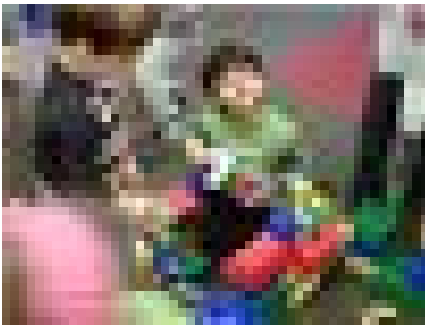
We had a good time playing and making projects, and we finished this week with a Shabbat party.

We wish you and your family Good Shabbos,
Mora Anna, Mora Sasha, Mora Elena and Morah Valiya



...cellent opportunity to discuss Parshas Noach.

The kids made paper tevas, read the story of Noach, and built a tevah out of oversized legos. They added plastic animals to the teva illustrate the story.



They had lots of fun in music class with Morah Irina. They sang and danced their hearts out. They learned how a piano, saxophone, and triangle are played. They also learned that there are only seven musical notes.

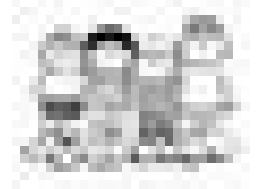
The children also davened beautifully!

They said Modeh Ani, Shema, Amar Rabbi Akiva, and sang several other songs.

They opted to make they tunes themselves, instead of following the CD.



Shabbat Shalom,
Morah Ruti, Morah Polina, and Morah Basya



hat only a few weeks have passed since the start of the school year.

We are learning Hebrew songs that teach the names of animals and colors and allow the children to learn through singing, puppets and hand movements. The songs are also sung in English. This is part of our circle time and I think the children enjoy the singing the most. During circle time the children have learned to sing in unison both the abc's and the aleph bais. On the first day of class not one child was able to sing the prayer Shema. Now, every child can sing it in unison.

Our children have experimented with puffy paints, glitter, crayons and feathers and have learned to cut out animal shapes from paper drawings that each child completed. The children also did art projects which corresponded with teachings of the Jewish holidays. The holidays become alive when children make apple and honey plates, miniature slippers for praying on Yom Kippur and decorate their own succah. We are also teaching them about the parsha (Torah Portion) of the week through story time and art projects. This week for parshas Noach the children decorated and cut out all types of animals and put them into a cut out arc. They also heard a story about the parsha and hopefully will walk away with at least one main point on this week's parsha.

Additionally, children learn morning brachot and the importance of tzedaka through an interactive CD entitled My First Siddur.

The pre k class is doing very well at identifying the numbers one and two and letters A and B. We are also learning new words for every letter that we learn. Weather, seasons and days of the week are also favorite activities that our children actively participate in. Each child is asked to partake in answering questions and pinning up the answers regarding the weather, the day of the week and what season we are now in.

The children learn about the art of music from morah Irina. They dance and clap and listen as the tones and notes of the instruments change. Tchaikovsky, as well as traditional children's songs, are just two examples of songs that are played. Last but not least, the children enthusiastically role play Shabbat with challah, wine, lighting the Shabbat candles, singing Shabbat prayers and enjoying a sweet Shabbat treat.

The school year has just begun and we're continually amazed as the Pre K class becomes more excited about learning. We enjoy seeing their maturity grow as they learn to say please and thank you, play with each other and share during play time. We look forward to seeing their growth throughout the upcoming months as we tackle science and math lessons.

Good Shabbos!

From Morah Ilana and Morah Marina



In the morning when we come to school, we encourage the parents to sign in with the children. This helps the children to practice their writing skills through writing their names. We're so happy to see progress in their writing skills since the beginning of the year. Our goal is for the children to write their names on their own and also to be able to write their name in Hebrew. We encourage the children to write their names on work sheets and projects with support from the teachers.

In the morning the teachers give individual attention to children helping with skills in writing and recognizing alef and bais, numbers 1-4 and letters A-F. We have a mitzvah tree in our classroom. We encourage parents to write something good their child did and we will read it aloud to the class and hang it on our tree.

We had a good-bye party for Michal Domankevitz. We are sad to see her go. For many years the Domankevitz family has been at Shaloh house and we wish them good luck and much hatzlacha in all their new beginnings with their move to Israel.

In English class we're working on the children's vocabulary. We are teaching words that begin with each letter of the alphabet. For example-A is for astronaut. We are doing silly dancing-we go through the alphabet, and each child gets to dance when we come to the letter that their name starts with. Right now we are learning letters A-F.

In math we are counting up to ten-forwards and backwards, also counting objects and visually recognizing and practicing writing numbers 1-4.

We've started learning the alef bais. We learnt alef before the holidays, and now we're learning bais and vais. We're practicing the sound of the letter and how to write it. We are also learning new words that start with the letter of the week.

We learnt about Noach and how he went into the taiva with his family and all the animals while it was pouring rain outside.

Condolences to Emmanuel Mamane and his family on the passing of his grandfather on his father's side. We hope to hear only simchos in the future.

Mazal tov to David Borokhov and his family on a new baby brother.

Good Shabbos!

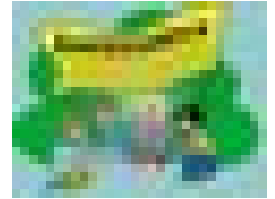
From Morah Tovah, Morah Esther and Morah Sarah



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Senior



We had a wonderful opening few weeks in our Kindergarten class. With Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Succos, Shmini Atzeres and Simchas Torah, we had so much new material to absorb and it was so exciting for us.

The holidays have concluded, and we are ready to plunge deeply into our academic studies in English, Math, Hebrew and Judaic studies. We have an outstanding collection of students this year, and we are eager to fill those young minds with the finest instruction.

Proper Behavior, 101

In Kindergarten, we feel one of our greatest objectives is to "create students." We want to foster their natural love for learning and teach them the behavior skills that will help them succeed both in and out of the classroom. To this end, we have three rules for our classroom: Be Safe, Be Nice, and Work Hard. Each day, we review different ways we can live up to these three essential goals.

English

We have two wonderful learning groups for English studies. Group One is working on sounding out the letters of the alphabet, and Group Two children reviewed the sounds of all the letters and have begun reading our first short-vowel book this year, "The Mutt and the Bug."

We want to remind parents that we offer intensive, one-on-one instruction in both reading and math from 8:15 to 9 a.m., so please bring your children on time to school so they can take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Math

We are counting from 1 to 10, forwards and backwards, and we are learning how to write these numbers as well. (Don't be alarmed if you notice your child writing numbers backwards on occasion. It's common at this age. Feel free to correct them and rest assured that they will grow out of this phase. We also practiced the extremely challenging skill of figuring out which numbers come "before" and "after" other numbers. We also counted out objects and matched groups of objects with numbers that describe how many objects are in the group. We also learned the concepts of "equal" and "plus" and we began adding small groups of objects together.

class last year retained almost all their Hebrew alphabet, and er learned the Aleph-Bais before are surprising and pleasing us by soaring ahead with this new skill. Some of our new students have already mastered almost half the Aleph-Bais! In vocabulary, we are each creating our own Hebrew dictionary, and this week we learned new Hebrew words beginning with the Hebrew letter "Bais."

Judaic Studies

This week we learned about Noach (Noah) and we learned how important it is not just for little children to follow the rules, but for adults as well. We learned that the vast majority of people in Noach's time were corrupt and scoffed at Noach for his goodness and for his ambitious project to build an ark. They had forgotten completely about G-d and the need to follow G-d's rules in order to have a sane, orderly world. Noach and his wife were different – they clung to the ways of G-d and managed to save their family and each species of animal-life from the flood.

Ironically, it took only 10 more generations after the flood for humanity to once again forget G-d and G-d's instructions for leading a sane life. In this corrupt environment, one boy was different. Using his logic and a pure heart, Abraham our ancestor figured out that the idols of the day were worthless, and that there must be a G-d Who not only designed the incredibly beautiful world, but Who runs it in every detail. As a class, we learned from both Noach and Abraham always to always do what's right, even if the rest of the world laughs at you and says you are wrong.

Mazal Tov to Joshua Einhorn who celebrated his 5th Birthday last week.

Note to Parents:

In the Kindergarten grade and beyond, toys from home are not allowed in school. Please help us with this.

With wishes for a wonderful Shabbos,
Morahs Esther, Shulamis Yehudis, Sara and Lilia

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SHALOH NEWS



MRS. ILLAN MEYERS
Prayer, Judaic Studies, Regular Chumash in first grade

I have been teaching Judaics in Kindergarten and first Grade for the past five years. My first Kindergarten class is actually the current fifth-grade class at Shaloh House today. In the interim, I have taught at schools in Manhattan, NY and in Sharon, Mass.

I spent one year abroad studying Torah and Education at Beit Chana Tzfat, Israel. I then studied Education and Psychology at Touro College, NY. I now live in Brighton with my husband, whom you know as Rabbi Meyers, and my kids who go to school at Shaloh House, too. So, you might say that Shaloh House is really our family's second home.

My first month teaching the first grade has been a truly been an inspiring and exciting experience. We start the morning with Tefila – Prayer, which is also an opportunity to practice Hebrew reading. Throughout the course of the year, we will consistently add new prayers as we build up to receiving our own siddurs.

In Chumash, we are reviewing the basic reading skills the kids learned in kindergarten. I have been very impressed with how much they remember from last year. We also started a workbook for learning how to write in Hebrew called Aviva K'siva. I plan on giving reading homework to each child according to his or her level. This will be done by sending home the Aleph Champ readers with paperclips to mark the pages to be read. Please send the readers back to school each day. Also, please bear with me as I continue to assess each child's level to assure they get the appropriate reader each day.

As the class begins to master Hebrew reading, we will move on to starting Chumash. This includes the stories of the Torah, learning grammar and root rules of the Hebrew language, and prefixes and suffixes.

In Judaics, we will spend the year learning about the Jewish holidays on a whole new level, along with the Parsha of the week, the reasons behind many of the mitzvot, and the meaning of the prayers. Teaching children about their beautiful heritage is my passion, and I look forward to a great year together. Please feel free to contact me anytime at (617) 562-5739 or ymeyers@shaloh.org.

RABBI ILAN MEYERS

Advanced Chumash grades 1-5 and Judaic Studies grade 5

From the age of twelve, I felt I knew my destiny: spreading Judaism and teaching Jewish children. Born in Southern California to a pair of loving and hard-working lawyers, I was raised in a family of six children with strong Jewish and academic values. After graduating from Yeshiva University High School of Los Angeles, where I was chosen for the Torah Award from among my entire graduating class, I deferred pursuit of a col-

udies in Brunoy, France. Besides learning Yiddish (and a little
the study of Torah and education.

the Oholei Torah Talmudic Seminary in Brooklyn, NY. I was
then asked to return to my alma mater seminary in France to serve as a teacher and mentor for younger stu-
dents. After my second year in France, I returned to Brooklyn to study in the Central Lubavitch Seminary of
770 to earn my rabbinic ordination.

I then came to Brighton for the first time to meet my wife, Yael, a former Shaloh House kindergarten
teacher. We lived in Brooklyn for a time before moving with our newborn son Menachen to Sharon, Mass. I
taught at the Chabad Day School of Sharon for two years before I began teaching at Shaloh House.

My experience with Jewish education over the years has helped me to realize the great value of teaching chil-
dren. I have spent nearly every summer since graduating seventh grade in day camps. I have been a junior
counselor, counselor, and head counselor and spent a summer at an overnight camp in upstate New York
that catered to Russian immigrant children. While studying in Brooklyn, I initiated a large network of study
coordination between the seminary in which I studied at the time and Yeshiva University in Manhattan. The
program started with only five study groups each week, and today the program boasts over two hundred stu-
dents involved in studying and mentorship each week. In addition, during the two years spent earning my
rabbinic ordination, I traveled weekly to public schools in Queens, NY to instruct Jewish children about their
heritage.

This year, I am very lucky to again be part of the Shaloh House family. After teaching such a variety of ages
and levels over the past 15 years, I've learned that my favorite and most successful student body is the one I
am teaching here at Shaloh House, a vibrant mix of children of all backgrounds.

Drawing on my own background of differentiating instruction in various settings, I look forward to integrating
each and every student into an engaging learning environment as I help them to enjoy every moment. My
goal is to offer the personal attention each child needs, along with a comfortable dose of challenge aimed at
developing the highest potential of each student.

Central to my personal teaching philosophy is that the lines of communication between teachers and parents
should always be open. Therefore, please feel free to contact me for any reason in the evenings at (617)
562-5739. I can also be reached via email at RabbiMeyers@Shaloh.org.

I'm looking forward to an exciting year with your children, a year full of projects and academic excellence in
Jewish studies.

DVORA GREEN

Prayer, Regular Chumash grade 2 and Judaic Studies grades 2-3/ 4

I will be teaching regular Chumash to Grade 2 and Judaics for Grades 2, 3 & 4. I am so happy to be joining
Shaloh House as your new Morah. So far my experience with your children has been great and I look for-

...a minor in education from the College of Staten Island. I gradu-
...n Australia. I spent many summers being a counselor for Jewish
children all over the world, including, Kharkov Ukraine and Vilna, Lithuania. I have taught different grades for
the last 20 years, from preschool to High School. I am also the co-director of Chabad of Westboro, where I
run many different programs for children from Holiday based programs, to craft clubs, to Bat Mitzvah Club
and others. I also run Chabad Hebrew School of Westborough. I have a passion for teaching and love to find
creative ways to educate and inspire learning. I find that hands-on learning and actually experiencing are the
two best ways to keep children engaged and have the learning make the greatest impact.

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions about your child or about the curriculum:
dgreen@shaloh.org

LILIYA GABELEV

Hebrew Language grades Kindergarten Jr. 5

I am so happy to begin my first year as a Hebrew teacher at the school and to become part of the Shaloh
House family. I'm also excited to have the opportunity to help your children maintain and improve their
achievements in the Hebrew language.

My goal is to teach and educate students through values such as respect, sensitivity to the needs of others,
and good habits. I plan to teach "Ivrit b'Ivrit," meaning the curriculum will be taught entirely in Hebrew.

My greatest hope is that with my skills, knowledge, and vision, I will motivate the students to read, write and
speak Hebrew. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at Hebrew@shaloh.org

MERLYN CAREY

Elementary school principal

Language Arts, Geography and History grades 1-5

During a neurodevelopment workshop I attended in Vermont this past summer, I realized that I have been in
the teaching field for over 25 years now, the past ten years of which have been in Massachusetts.

I moved to the Boston area ten years ago to attend Lesley University and never left. I've taught in the New-
ton Public Schools, mainly at Underwood Elementary, though I also spent time at Countryside and Pierce ele-
mentary schools. In addition, I taught in the Boston Public Schools, teaching advanced classes to students in
the 6th and 7th grades. And, most importantly, I've spent four years so far here at Shaloh House Jewish Day
School.

During my time here, my classes have experienced the wonders and (mainly) avoided the pitfalls of English,
explored the globe through geography, and uncovered what history is and why we should care about it.
We've also achieved a claim to fame rare in any classroom and unheard of for an entire school, except ours:

de level by the end of the last two years. It's hard to imagine

... this year, both in my role as a teacher, and as principal of the school. Throughout my "hundreds" of previous jobs, none have been remotely as rewarding or as meaningful as my time here. If I can be of any assistance over the course of the year, please feel free to email me at either school@shaloh.org . I can also be reached by phone at 617-787-2200 x25 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. My home phone is rarely available as that serves as the homework help hotline at night.

MICHAEL KAHN

Mathematics, Science, and Computers grades 1-5

I was born in Moscow, Russia and moved to Los Angeles when I was 7 years old, where I attended Kadima Hebrew Academy for my elementary school education. I have since gone on to graduate from Pacima Middle School, Brookline High School, and finally Brandeis University with a Masters degree in Chemistry and Bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Physics. I have been teaching for over 10 years at places such as the SMArt School in Newton, Mass Bay Community College, and Boston University. I am very excited to join the Shaloh House staff as the Mathematics, Science, and Computers teacher this year.

My teaching philosophy for Mathematics is to start from the basics and create a solid foundation based on several important axioms. In order to keep students engaged it is necessary for them to enjoy math, science, and computers as they advance their studies. I believe the best way to achieve this goal is to integrate science into the math classes and solve real-life problems.

The other half of this equation is to keep the students engaged by challenging the students at each of their own levels. I intend to get to know each student's strengths and weaknesses and work with him/her to both hone his/her strengths and fill in any gaps that I feel will be essential in his/her academic future. Good science is based entirely on observations and solid analysis of these observations. I intend to challenge the students to develop their understanding of the physical world through observations and to help develop their analytical skills in order to properly analyze what they observe. These observations will include data gathered by other scientists, which will be gathered from textbooks, libraries, and online databases, as well as their own data from lab experiments.

Finally, computer classes will be taught with the intention of having the students be able to effectively and efficiently use the programs which will be useful to them in their futures. A focus will be made on MS Word, Excel, and Powerpoint because those are the common programs I have found to be most useful in my scientific career. An integration of the computer programs with their science and math classes will show the children just how powerful computers can be.



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do more funding raising. After all compared to other schools we barely do any. We do monthly book orders from Scholastic Book clubs, and will have a school-wide book fair as well this year. However, that has been the bulk of our fundraising efforts.

The lies in part, we are committed to make sure that there is always wonderful value for every dollar spent here, and so many fundraisers just don't meet that goal, even though the end goal does. This year two programs offer a great return on every dollar spent, that thus are joining our limited fundraising efforts.

Stop and Shop offers as part of their reward card program- A+ School Rewards. If you enroll your card, (nearly) every purchase at Stop and Shop will earn Shaloh House a monthly reward check. This is a great deal, as it requires no additional purchase, merely flagging purchases that you'd be making anyway. Shaloh House is enrolled in the program if you go to https://www.stopandshop.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/designate_school.htm?execution=e1s1 You can register your card and name Shaloh House as your school of choice.

The second fundraiser we'll be adding is the sale of energy efficient light bulbs. With the help of our wonderful PTO, children will be selling these light bulbs at a reasonable price- especially when the energy savings of the bulb is considered, and Shaloh House receives 100% of the proceeds, thanks to NSTAR. In both of these cases, and in the case of our book clubs, items that may be on your "to buy" list anyway will be generating additional resources for our school. A good value for you, and a great cause - that's something worth doing.

Join Shaloh House School PTO

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to having another exciting school year! As you might know, last year we officially formed PTO and would like to continue this tradition during this year. The PTO offers numerous opportunities for parents to be involved in the life of our school. Room Parents are the hearts of our organization. This is a great chance to meet other parents and to participate in a personal way in your child's education and school experience. The time commitment is minimal: occasionally being a part of an e-mail chain or assisting at an event of your choice.

However, you do not have to be a Room Parent to be a PTO volunteer! Volunteers are needed for assisting with our family and school events, planning teachers appreciation breakfast and some other activities. We ask each family to pay PTO dues of \$36.00 annually which are used for teacher appreciation gifts, for school events and "wish list" items. This is a tax deductible contribution. You can pay with the check or cash and mail it or bring it back to Shaloh House front office. It will be our pleasure to discuss PTO and opportunities for involvement. Please contact Luba Aronchik, PTO Chair at 617-257-0677 or laronchik@verizon.net

Sincerely,
Luba Aronchik



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Name: _____

Telephone number/e-mail: _____

Child(s) name/room number(s): _____

Please check all committees that you would like to get involved with:

1. **Room Parent**: Assist in coordination of classroom communication, planning classroom get-together, and organization of teachers' gifts.

_____ Room Parent (Please insert room number here _____)

2. **NSTAR Fundraising: November 1,**

_____ tasks to be clarified

3. **Family Fun Night: January 9, 5:00-7:00 pm**

- _____ shop for food/supplies
- _____ set-up
- _____ clean-up

4. **Invention Convention: January 19, 6:00-7:00pm**

- _____ set-up
- _____ clean-up



on your Birthday

Birthdays this week
30 Tishrei 6 Cheshvan:

Students:

Rony Kravitz
Levi Mendelev
Liora Milch

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE

We would like to thank all the parents who took the time out of their busy schedule, and came to the Back To School Night on October 4.

We value you as a full partner in school success.

Shaloh House is always looking to expand its family, and this could not possibly be done without the support of our Shaloh House Parents. Please demonstrate your support by letting your friends and family know that Monday, Columbus Day, October 11th from 10 am -12 noon, will be our school's Open House.

We will likewise show our appreciation by applying a credit to your tuition amount for next year, of either \$500 for Elementary School (grades 1-6) Referrals or \$250 for Preschool Referrals.

Shabbat Shalom
Rabbi Dan Rodkin



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SHALOH HOUSE

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CHALLAH BAKING & TORAH CLASS FOR MOTHERS WITH DAUGHTERS

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DONATION \$5 TO COVER COST OF THE INGREDIENTS

