



Shabbat times
C.L.: 6:06 in: 6:24 out: 7:03

Weekly Window

Classroom News

2s got to meet a real firefighter this week and even got to try on a firefighter helmet!

3s got to meet real policemen this week and even got to see a real police car!

Pre-K's letter of the week was R; we came up with 30 words all by ourselves!

Kindergarten made a raashan/gragger and masks of all the Megillah characters in preparation for Purim!

1st Grade began the translation of the second paragraph of Shema, which describes reward and consequence!

2nd Grade is excited about their siyum to ZOYO!

3rd Grade picked countries for their Country Report and got to virtually walk the streets of those foreign lands!

4th Grade finished decimals! Go Fourth!

5th Grade is ending their unit on European Exploration and trade from 1400 to the 1600s!

6th Grade Boys finished the 12 step Gemara of Yee-ush Shelo Middat, and are very busy putting together a presentation of each step!

6th Grade Girls learned about how the stock market works and were able to research current prices for companies whose products they use everyday!

7th & 8th Grade Boys have finished a large section of Gemara which taught that a *change of place* = a *change of mindset* = *change of bracha*!

7th Grade Girls are working on Ancient Roman history. The girls are very interested in the art of the time, so we will be weaving next week!

8th Grade Girls are discovering the interesting world of the supreme court and landmark cases that help shape our laws!



From the desk of the Principal

Dear Parents,

This week, I would like to write to you about a very important, yet until recently often overlooked topic in Jewish education: Kriah/Hebrew Reading. Study after study has shown that this most basic skill, far too often forgotten in the scheme of highly developed curricula replete with advanced skills-building expectations, stands out as one of the most important factors in determining whether or not a child will remain in the fold of religious Judaism as they mature to adulthood. Not only general knowledge of the concepts and history recorded in the Torah, nor the stability of the home in which the child is raised, nor even personal experience is always enough. All of these factors and more are very important to be sure, but it is the ability to read Hebrew with fluency and accuracy that often must accompany them. Jewish schools across the world have taken note of this and acted accordingly, and we are no exception. I would like to focus on two developments which our school has undertaken in this vital area of Jewish education. One is our Advanced Kriah curriculum, developed by Mrs. Rachel Wajsbort MS Ed. Hebrew Reading was always an intense focus in our school's younger grades, with much time and effort placed on developing the skill, both in class, and as a part of homework as well. However, as the children grew and their minds developed, a greater focus was, and still is, rightfully placed on higher-thinking skills. The trouble was that those newly introduced skills tended to largely replace any focus on kriah. The Advanced Kriah curriculum addressed that. It is developed specifically for the older elementary and middle school aged student who already knows how to read Hebrew, and sharpens and refines those skills in a goal-oriented way which motivates the students to push forward and continuously improve. As a result, our teachers have reported huge improvements in comparison to previous years. The second is a similar initiative introduced by Rabbi Goldenberg and used by his students called The Crazy Kriah Kraving, which focuses on points of particular difficulty in

Hebrew reading. Students master one skill at a time, ultimately earning a well-deserved reward at the completion of the entire unit. These, and further initiatives which we will undertake, will help to ensure that we at PHA stay true to our mission to produce the Jewish leaders of tomorrow.

Shabbat Shalom,
Yisroel Weiner

Upcoming birthdays

3/2- Akiva Gross

3/7- Yosef Rafael

Happy birthday!

Dates to Remember

3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27-
PHA Open House- 9:00-
11:00 AM

3/6- End of second tri-
mester

3/19- Parent/teacher
conferences- 4:00-6:00
PM

3/21- Purim- no school

3/22- Shushan Purim-
9:00 AM start



The Pre- school Press:

Our month long theme of "community helpers" came to an end this week with a bang! Our pre-school was visited by both the Phoenix Fire Department and the Phoenix Police Department!! We learned all about fire safety from a real firefighter and our own Morah Gaby even got all dressed up as a firefighter herself! The next day we were visited by the police department. We even got to sit in a squad car and see and hear the sirens!! The police officers spoke to us about safely crossing the street and stranger danger. They were so much fun to be around and the kids had an absolute blast. In addition, the sounds of Purim are beginning to radiate through our classrooms! You can hear the Purim story being told and songs being sung as we prepare for this fun and exciting holiday. There will be more fun information coming your way as the week of Purim quickly approaches. Have a wonderful weekend and Shabbat Shalom!



Mrs. Shaffer's Message:

Sheila Shaffer
Independent Facilitator
Parenting the Love and Logic Way™

A six-session parenting program designed by the Love and Logic Institute.

Learn how to:

- Avoid un-winnable power-struggles and arguments
 - Stay calm when their kids do incredibly upsetting things
 - Set enforceable limits
 - Avoid enabling and begin empowering
 - Help their kids learn from mistakes rather than repeating them
 - Raise kids who are family members rather than dictators
- And much more!

This parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately!

Dates: March 11, 18, 25 April 1, 8, 15
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Phoenix Hebrew Academy, 515 E. Bethany Home Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012

Cost: \$25.00 per session or \$125.00 if paid in advance

Please see attached flier for registration information

Facilitators of the Parenting the Love and Logic Way™ curriculum are independent and are not employees of the Love and Logic Institute.

Picture Page

