

R.A.S.G. HEBREW ACADEMY

SABBATH LIGHTS

B"H



L' Shanah Tovah
Have a sweet year!



נרות שבת

פשת נצבים-וילק

September 15, 2006 - 22 Elul, 5766

Shabbat Begins: 7:07 p.m. - Shabbat Ends: 8:07 p.m.



School Reminder

- FIRST PTA MEETING**
Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006
8:30 a.m.
- No School**
Erev Rosh Hashana
Friday, Sept. 22, 2006
- 12:30 pm. Dismissal**
Fast of Gedaliah
Monday, Sept. 25, 2006
- No School-Yom Kippur**
Monday, Oct. 2, 2006
- Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2006**
School Begins at 9:00 a.m.
- No School-Sukkot**
Oct. 6th - Oct. 16th
- School Resumes**
Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2006
- High School PSAT**
Wed., Oct. 18, 2006



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ברוכים הבאים - WELCOME

With ruach and excellence, we have completed our first few weeks of school at the Hebrew Academy. Our corridors – on both sides of Pine Tree Drive – have echoed with spirited Judaic, academic, athletic and community service programs. Clearly, the 2006-2007/5766-5767 school year is off to a great start.

During the first few holiday and weather-shortened weeks of school, we have offered a wide menu of programs, including Back to School nights, High School Penny Wars (a community service program), special assemblies and the launch of the Million Mitzvah campaign. On behalf of the entire administrative team and Hebrew Academy staff, I thank parents and students for making our events a success. And on a personal note, I thank you for welcoming my family and me into the extended Hebrew Academy family.

As we approach the month of Tishrei and the New Year of 5767, I look forward to working with the administrators, teachers, parents and students as the Hebrew Academy continues its growth and pursuit of excellence.

I find the school to be committed to providing your children with a solid foundation that is so vital to their development as individuals, yet at the same time, critical in shaping them into bnai and bnot Torah who are part of the greater Jewish community. I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and am eager to see things “in action” as the school year unfolds.

I look forward to meeting each of you at some point during the year. Please feel free to contact me if there is any way I can be of assistance to you.

Dr. Roni Raab
Head of School



RASG HEBREW ACADEMY JOINS JUMPSTART'S READ FOR THE RECORD

Young students join national campaign to promote reading and education

Rabbi Alexander S. Gross Hebrew Academy of Miami Beach celebrated Jumpstart's Read for the Record, a national campaign to engage adults and children all across America in setting the world record for the largest shared reading experience ever. In partnership with Jumpstart, Hebrew Academy joined the August 24 campaign with a mini read-a-thon of the Little Engine That Could, a classic book that represents the central theme of the Jumpstart program. The campaign was successful in setting a world record.

The powerful "I Think I Can" message of the Little Engine That Could -- the campaign's official book -- was emphasized for Hebrew Academy students as Laurie Mitrani, media specialist/librarian, hosted a special reading circle for 80 kindergarten and elementary school students at Hebrew Academy.

"Early learning experiences are crucial to the growth and development of young children," Mrs. Mitrani said. "Jumpstart's Read for the Record provides opportunities for everyone in the United States to support quality early education and to engage in the powerful learning experiences that Jumpstart models in its classrooms every day."

Jumpstart, a national nonprofit organization, is currently working with 10,000 preschool children throughout the United States to help each child build language, literacy and social skills that are critical for their success upon entering kindergarten. Since 1993, Jumpstart has been working towards the day every child enters school prepared to succeed.

Jumpstart encourages parents to:

- Volunteer your time to work with children and teachers at a school, community center, Head Start or child care program;
- Support the creation of high quality preschool experiences in your local community, state, and across the country
- Thank early childhood educators and others who play a vital role in preparing young children to succeed in school and beyond.
- Consider donating a book to one of the many at-risk children who have no books in their homes. You can do this at www.readfortherecord.org

Caption: Laurie Mitrani, media specialist/librarian at RASG Hebrew Academy, participates in a national record-setting shared reading event.



NEWS FROM THE NURSE:
WELCOME BACK!

School is back in full swing and headaches, stomachaches and coughs are, as always, keeping me quite busy. Please make sure to have your emergency cards and medication authorization policy on file. If your child requires any medication during school hours, you will need to fill out a separate med authorization policy which can be obtained in the main office. Please make sure to bring to my attention any medical condition or medication your child may take. It is important to know the side effects of any medications that children take. All medications taken during school hours must be administered by the nurse. If you have received a letter about health forms, please follow up as soon as possible. Students may not be in school without proper HRS health forms. Let's all look forward to a safe and healthy year!

Lynn Friedman, R.N.
School Nurse

Mitzvah Mensches
Tzedakah
September 8, 2006

Cori Dennis
Matt Levine
Penelope Tebele
Eli Litwin
Ariella Wolfson
Yeli Kordich
Gil Lipkin



Mitzvah Mensches
Tzedakah
September 8, 2006

Jonah Wachtel
Johnathan Sher
Tal Lipkin
Ariella Glick
Avi Stein
Sharon Sedighim
David Roth
Stephanie Suster



UPCOMING
BAR/BAT MITZVAH DATES

Michele Freund
October 21, 2006

Leora Litwin
November 11, 2006

Josh Cohen
November 18 & 19, 2006



• If you would like us to post your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date, please call Diana or
• Norma at ext. 114/115.

HEBREW ACADEMY STUDENT WINS MERCEDES-BENZ SCHOLARSHIP

Mor Shoshana, a 2006 graduate of Rabbi Alexander S. Gross Hebrew Academy has been awarded a 2006 DRIVE YOUR FUTURE Scholarship from Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA). The program aims to help first generation college-bound students achieve their academic goals and become part of the next generation of business, community and global leaders.

Mercedes-Benz with support from its dealers nationwide will provide \$1.5 million in scholarship funding to 150 students. Each student will receive a \$10,000 award -- \$2,500 per year for four years. Selected from an applicant pool of over 8,000 students, this year's award recipients were chosen for their exceptional achievement in the areas of academic performance, leadership and school and community activities. All of the award recipients are the first generation in their families to pursue a college education. Born in Israel and raised in South Florida, Mor Shoshana is delighted to win the award.

"I came from Israel and my parents didn't know English. For me to grow up and master the English language, earn good grades and win this award is unbelievable," said Shoshana. [note to editor: Shoshana is the last name] "I'm in shock."

She expresses gratitude to the Hebrew Academy, her parents and Mercedes-Benz USA. Mor Shoshana will attend New York-based Stern College, a division of Yeshiva University. As part of that program, she will attend a one-year study abroad Yeshiva program in Israel this fall.

"The Hebrew Academy is very proud of Mor. She exemplifies what our school represents - the ideals of hard work, creativity, leadership and a striving toward excellence," said Dr. Roni Raab, Head of School at RASG Hebrew Academy

Scholarship recipients are asked to serve as "ambassadors of Mercedes-Benz USA philanthropy" by giving back to their communities through activities such as mentoring/tutoring younger students, working with Boys and Girls Clubs or Big Brothers Big Sisters, among other activities. To date, over 800 students will benefit from DRIVE YOUR FUTURE and will, in turn, give back in some way to help someone else achieve his/her dreams.

"DRIVE YOUR FUTURE celebrates the successes of these students who will one day become leaders in business, engineering, technology and the arts," said Paul Halata, president and CEO of Mercedes-Benz USA. "Their dedication to excellence, hard work and an anything-is-possible mindset is truly impressive. Going to college is an extraordinary achievement for any young person, but rising tuition costs have made higher education more and more difficult to afford. Mercedes-Benz congratulates the 150 students that were selected for the 2006 DRIVE YOUR FUTURE scholarship and we salute their accomplishment as the first generation in their families to attend college."

HEBREW ACADEMY PARTICIPATES IN MILLION MITZVAH CAMPAIGN
STUDENTS OFFER PRAYERS, GOOD DEEDS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR THE NEW YEAR

A unique program to increase awareness of the power of prayer and good deeds kicked off with a special assembly at RASG Hebrew Academy on Miami Beach. As part of the program, elementary students at Hebrew Academy are participating in the global Million Mitzvah Campaign, which was recently launched to increase the level of observance and acceptance of extra mitzvot (commandments) every day.

In participating in the Million Mitzvah program, Hebrew Academy is joining forces with other schools and Torah institutions in the Greater Miami area and the international community. At Hebrew Academy, administrators and teachers are encouraging students to accept and carry out additional biblical commandments. With enthusiasm, Hebrew Academy students have agreed to say additional daily Tehillim (psalms), participate in afternoon and evening prayers services, give extra daily charity and visit the sick. Additionally, many children have made a special commitment to honor their parents (and elders) by helping around the house and assisting with weekly Shabbat (Sabbath) preparations.

“The students are taking on extra mitzvot every day. The students are excited to be part of a world-wide project and to march in a parade when we reach the goal of a million mitzvot,” said Judy Neufeld, Special Activities Director for Early Childhood/Elementary.

The Hebrew Academy campaign was launched with a special assembly featuring Rabbi Mendy Levy and Sholom Moshe Sheridan, from The Shul in Bal Harbour. Both representatives spoke to the children about the importance of mitzvot and promised tee-shirts to the class that performed the most mitzvot during the first month of the year-long campaign. What’s more, each child who participates will receive a “Certificate of Partnership,” from the program organizers for “changing the world one mitzvah at a time.”



Photo Caption: Sholom Moshe Sheridan, Past President of The Shul in Bal Harbour, talks about the Million Mitzvah Campaign with elementary school students at RASG Hebrew Academy.

PLEASE COME...

**To the first 2006/ 2007
RASG Hebrew Academy**



PTA MEETING

Tuesday September 19, 2006

8:30 AM

Elementary School Cafeteria

**The RASG Hebrew Academy PTA invites
ALL parents and teachers to the 1st PTA
meeting of the 2006/2007 school year.**



GET INVOLVED!



**If you can't come to the meeting but
would like to get involved with PTA, or if
you have any questions, please contact
Rachel Reinberg at AnthroRN@yahoo.com
or (305) 935-6304.**

It's your school!

GET INVOLVED!