



OHR CHADASH ACADEMY

Ohr Chadashot

NEWSLETTER

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10 Elul 5751

Message from our Principals

With much thanks to Hashem, Ohr Chadash Academy held its first day of classes on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. If you take a moment to step back and realize that Ohr Chadash did not exist even in concept a mere five months ago, you will appreciate the tremendous *Siyata d'Shmaya* that has brought us so far so quickly. All of us on the staff of Ohr Chadash appreciate the tremendous support that the entire OCA family has shown throughout the summer months. The successful start of the school year is a direct result of the many dedicated volunteers and helpers who have stepped up in every way imaginable to make our school a reality.

Both during our initial orientation last week and during the first day of school, it was gratifying to hear such positive feedback from our students. Although for many children the first day of school is always a mixture of excitement for the new year with a twinge of sadness at the departure of summer, the halls and classes at OCA were filled with rave reviews from our toughest critics. Here are a few noteworthy quotes from children on the first day:

"Everyone who helped make Ohr Chadash should get an award!"

"I love it - it's fantastic!"

"Mrs. Freidman is the coolest teacher ever!"

"My teachers are awesome!"

Indeed, that last quote had it exactly right - our teachers are awesome. We look forward to the days and weeks ahead as you get to know your child's/children's teachers better, because they are some of the best teachers around. Please find the opportunities to introduce yourself and get to know these fantastic professionals, because they are going to take your children to new heights.

Please know that we are here to work together, in a spirit of cooperation, mutual respect, and partnership. Ohr Chadash is a new school, and that means that we are doing things our own way, with a fresh perspective. We want to hear your feedback, share in celebrating your children's accomplishments, and help overcome the bumps that invariably come up along the way. And again, please accept our deepest and sincerest thanks for all that you have done, and continue to do, to make OCA a new and exciting *makom Torah and environment for learning*.

With best wishes,

Esti Ziffer
Janet Forsythe

Dvar Torah on This Week's Parsha

פרשת כי תצא

In this week's Parsha we find a cluster of mitzvot that seem to be unrelated. They are שלוח הקן (sending the mother bird away before taking her young), מעקה (building a protective fence on your roof), כלאים (do not plant certain plants next to your vineyard), שעטנד (do not wear wool and linen) and the list rounds off with the commandment to wear ציצית.

Rashi, who is obviously bothered with the placement of these mitzvot next to each other quotes the well known dictum "מצוה גוררת מצוה". One mitzvah leads to another.

The Maharal (1512-1609) who agrees with Rashi that this is an instance of מצוה גוררת מצוה comments that these mitzvot are actually in a very specific order. When one shows care and concern by allowing the mother bird to live and build more nests, one will merit his own "nest" that will need a house. He will merit building a fence for his house. Because he is protecting human beings, Hashem grants him material wealth and he then has the ability to acquire a field. Here the mitzvah of planting grapes separate from other plants will apply. He will, as reward for this mitzvah eventually be able to afford fine clothing and must remember not to mix wool and linen. He can put this mitzvah into practice with all his clothes including his four cornered garment, ציצית, which is also the final mitzvah in the cluster!

**Agudah Scrip to benefit Ohr Chadash
is available by calling**

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\$3.00, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$18.00 and \$25.00.**

**If you give tzedakah to meshulachim, this is a
way for OCA to benefit also!!**

The OCA Art Program

At Ohr Chadash Academy, our art students in grades one through six will embark on a journey of exploration about famous artists from classical times to modern days (our fantastic Kindergarten staff will be incorporating art into their regular program). Your children will begin by studying the unique self-portraits of thirteen different artists, starting with the first known self-portrait, to learn about the styles and interesting details that can be found in artist's work. The children will then create their own self-portraits based on their favorite masters.

In grades one and two, students will create a book about famous artists, which will contain a four line poem about each artist and the students' own creations based on what they have learned about that artist. At the end of the year, the students will take their books home.

In grades three and four, the students will study artists and will use art as an extension of topics covered in their social studies curricula, as much as possible. Students will learn to compare and contrast different pieces and will learn to appreciate the world around them in a new light. After studying each artist or artistic style, the children will make their own creations, putting their new skills to good use.

In grades five and six, we will begin our month-long units after the Tishrei *chagim* (holidays). The students will receive guided research projects that will be developed together with Mrs. Friedman and Mrs. Werdesheim that will connect with their social studies units as much as possible. As they learn about art history and the styles of famous artists, they will also hone their research skills while practicing time management for long-term projects. Once a month, we will have art class in which the students will present what they have learned with each other and will make their own creations based on their research projects.

I am very excited to be working with your children this year and look forward to updating you on their progress in our art program throughout the year in Ohr Chadashot. Watch for pictures of work made by our talented OCA students!

Shayna Levine-Hefetz
Ohr Chadash Academy Art Instructor

The Ohr Chadash "Baby Shower"

Thank you to all who came and contributed to the OCA Shower; it was a wonderful turnout and everyone had a great time! The teachers and staff are so appreciative of all the gifts and brachot that were 'showered' upon them—we all can tell that the children are the direct beneficiaries by their smiling faces during the first few days of school. We apologize for omitting anyone, but we would like to thank the following families who came and/or contributed:

Berman, Taragin (Ari and Esti and Tova and Alan), Shields, Carter (junior and senior), Carmel, Lazerow, Cohen, Krupp, Rosenbluth, Rosen, Hefetz, Kagan, Einbinder, Feinstein, Kidorf, Turniansky, Juni, Berry, Shiller, Braun, Gershman (junior and senior), Nagler, Ziffer, Davidovics, Fleisher, Zantz and London.

And to all the teachers who donated items to the shower and of course the principals: Mrs. Janet Forsythe and Mrs. Esti Ziffer.



We are so proud!!

This summer, 3 of our Ohr Chadash students decided to part with their beautiful long hair to help those less fortunate than them. Daniella Shields, Grade 3, Nili Hefetz and Shaindel Turniansky, Grade 4 all cut their long locks to donate them to children suffering with cancer. We applaud the great mitzvah done by these girls.



Parent Message Board

This column will be devoted to parent messages. They will only be posted if they are school related. No commercial ads, or personal ads of any sort will be printed. They will be included at the discretion of the editor.

Please email us at
ohrchdashot@ocabaltimore.org
We will be having paid commercial ads in next few weeks. Details to be coming!!

Looking to form an afternoon carpool. Cross Country area. Please contact Gail Feinstein at
[\(410\) 764-2532](tel:4107642532) or gailfeinstein@gmail.com.



Happy Birthday

To the following members of the Ohr Chadash family who have September birthdays:

Kindergarten

Tzipora Einbinder
Raphael Berman

First Grade:

Basya Gunzberg
Daniel Gunzberg
Yakov Weinreb

Second Grade:

Eden Gershman

Third Grade

Shlomo Perlstein
Daniella Shields
Aliza Taragin

Fourth Grade

Gila Gershman

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Thank you to

Amazing...

Did you know that Ohr Chadash Academy raised over \$2,000 from this summer's amusement park ticket sales. Thank you to LA Style and Presentations Gifts for taking care of these sales.

OCA-PTA NEWS

Thank you so much all the volunteers who have helped with the moving , cleaning and organizing of OCA—the setting up of the school so we could start on time - it is truly miraculous that we were able to accomplish so much in such a short period of time and we would never have been able to do so without all the dedicated volunteers. We profusely apologize if we inadvertently omitted anyone.

Aryeh Green
 Mr. M. Carter
 Donald and Ruth Berman
 Mily Evgey
 Elliot Einbinder
 Chavie, Ezri, Yoni, Esti and Yair Klein
 Andrea Scott
 Rena, Aaron, Hadassah and Ariella Juni
 Naomi, Sarit and Hadar Carmel
 Shayna, Dovev, Rena, Nili and Moshe Tzvi Hefetz
 Yehudit, Meyer and Eliana Shields
 Terri, Josh and Jonathan Rosen
 Chavy and Elly Goffin
 Dovid Krupp
 Ron and Ruth Nagler
 Michael, Yehudah and Yitzy Turniansky
 Gail Feinstein
 Aliza Feinstein
 Devorah Werdesheim
 Mrs. Naomi Lazerow
 Marc Rosenbluth and sons
 Moshe Rappaport and children
 David Massre
 Melanie, Adina Ilan and Daniel Fleisher

Ruth, Michal, Dovid,
 Nathan, Tori and Itai Klotzman
 Shaulie Weinreb and children
 Chaim Stein
 Aviva Kidorf
 Melissa Mako
 Ari Braun
 R' Dovid Meyer
 Sam Fogel
 Tanya Ruttenberg
 Josh Solomon
 Josh Friedman
 Hananya Cohen
 Ari, Eli, Aliza and Kobi Taragin
 Dovid Bickford
 Ezra Gershman
 Mordechai Samuels
 Gary Smith
 Mrs. F. Ziffer and Daphna, Doron and Yair Ziffer
 Noam Davidovics
 Ellie Kagan
 Leah Malka and Yisroel Pasch
 Sheera and Yussi Shar
 Tova Taragin

Important OCA Dates

September 19, 2011
 Deadline: OCA-PTA fish sale for Chagim

September 26, 2011
 Fish pick up at home of Fleishers 7506 Lisburne Road

The OCA-PTA will be having a bake sale, Challah Sale and a fish and more sale in the next few weeks. Order forms will be available online and attached to this email. They are due by September 19th in the office. Pickup on the 26th at the Fleisher home. Please contact the OCA-PTA with any questions, comments or suggestions. at ocapta@ohrchadashbaltimore.org. Thank you!

Me"ohr"aot Ohr Chadash-Happenings in our Ohr Chadash Family

This is the section of Ohr Chadashot which will contain all the news and happenings in the Ohr Chadash Family—good and bad..so if you have anything to share with us please email us at

Ohrchadashot@ohrchadashbaltimore.org.

Refuah Shlaimah to Moshe Hefetz, father of our parent, Dovev Hefetz,
 Please say tehillim for Moshe ben Sarina Sarah.

Our First Day at Ohr Chadash Academy





Picture Perfect - Photography by Yaffa Wygoda