

Dear 2nd Grade Parents,

"משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה. From the moment Adar is in, we increase happiness."
As we started the month of Adar in the Jewish calendar we are happily telling the story of Purim from the Megillah. Please see below for a summary of our learning, suggested follow-up questions to ask your child, questions for your Shabbat table, and some great pictures!

Sincerely,

ADAT's 2nd Grade Team

Ms. Graham, Morah Mali, Mr. Kaufman , Mr. Abelson, Miss Mimi, Daniel, Adi, Jeffrey, Vahan and Hillary

This week's Parsha (Terumah Exodus 25:1 - 27:19)

This week's Parsha entitled *Terumah* (offerings) provides a detailed guide on how to build the *Mishkan* (the dwelling for God). Moses is given instruction on how to build it, disassemble it and rebuild it so that it could serve as a portable dwelling place. This instruction is troubling as the natural question is "can God be contained"? If God is everywhere how can we build something which contains God? The answer I believe, is in the first line of the Parsha...

וידבר יהוה אל־מֹשֶׁה לאמר
דבר אל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל ויקחו־לי תְּרוּמָה מֵאֵת כָּל־אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִדְבְּנוּ לִבּוֹ תִּקְחוּ
אֶת־תְּרוּמָתִי

And God spoke to Moses saying, speak to the children of Israel, and have them take for Me an offering; from every person whose heart inspires him to generosity, you shall take My offering - Exodus 25:1-2

The Parsha continues on to describe the things that God is requesting for the Mishkan, gold, silver, copper, beautiful yarns and jewels. God is not asking of Moses to make all of the Israelites bring expensive offerings. It's not even a house that God wants. Instead, God requests that "all whose heart inspires him" bring offerings. The request that God is making is that the Israelite people have the intention of making something beautiful and worthy of God. God doesn't need the *Mishkan*, God needs the people to want to build the Mishkan.

After the list of things required to make the *Mishkan* God says the following to Moses..." וַעֲשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְּתוֹכָם, And they shall make Me a sanctuary and I will dwell in their midst" (Exodus 25:8). This week's Parsha is less about directing the people in building the *Mishkan* and more about directing them on how to find God wherever they are. When people are able to invest themselves in something that does not directly affect their well being, when they are able to come together

as community for the greater good, when people are able to let God in then God will “dwell in their midst”.

Shabbat Shalom,
Eric

Questions for your Shabbat table:

1. The text describes the place where Moses meets God. Where do you meet God?
2. The Israelite people were asked to bring offerings of value, how do you think they felt about giving these things?
3. The instructions given on building the *Mishkan* were very precise, why do you think it had to be built to such precise specifications?

Important Upcoming Dates:

- Thursday, February 14 – IGD
- Friday, February 15 – No School
- Monday, February 18 – Presidents’ Day – No School
- Wednesday, February 27 – PA Meeting at 8:15 am & 7:30 pm

Questions for Your Shabbat Table:

- What characteristics make Ester an heroine ?

Week of: 2/4-2/8

Subject	What We Did in Class	Questions You Might Ask Your Child
Language Arts Ms. Graham	Writing: We practiced opinion writing this week. We reviewed that opinion writing tells the reader how you feel about something. Students wrote a paragraph about why they feel fidgets should be allowed in class.	Give one reason you feel that fidgets should be allowed in second.

	<p>Reading: Our question of the week was "How do you express yourself?" Our stories this week were about real people who express themselves through music. We used these stories to focus on main idea and details.</p>	<p>What is a main idea of a story?</p>
<p>Social Studies Ms. Graham</p>	<p>We used vocabulary words, problem and solution, when we shared problems our families have with their current mode of transportation.</p>	<p>What is a problem? What is a solution?</p>
<p>Math Ms. Graham</p>	<p>In math we solved multiplication and division word problems. We talked about the importance of showing your work. We can show our work in a few different ways: making a picture, including and solving an equation or number sentence.</p>	<p>There were 15 bagels, the baker put them in bags in groups of 5. How many bags did the baker have?</p> <p>(15 is the total and there are 5 in each group)</p>
<p>Judaic Studies Morah Mali</p>	<p>The Purim story is a work in progress in class. Our studies include reading, writing, and understanding the role of each character.</p> <p>In Bible time we are studying this week parashat Bo-בּוֹ God is telling Moses to go again to Pharaoh and ask to let the people go. 3 more plagues are coming upon the Egyptians. The death of the first born child finally made Pharaoh change his mind. The first "Seder" was celebrated in the desert. We are free people!</p> <p>Following the story of the angel of death passing over the Hebrews homes, we study and</p>	

	<p>illustrated a Mezuzah, the sign of a Jewish home.</p> <p>The students are getting ready for their Havdalah evening on March 9.</p>	Take a look at the variety of Mezuzot at home and at school.
Hebrew Morah Mali	<p>The new verb, to dance, רוקד-רוקדת was presented and practiced this week. The students wrote beautiful sentences in Hebrew using the idea of dancing in the IGD show and during Purim celebrations.</p> <p>In social studies we started our research for the unit of "Transportation during Bible time," Students watched a presentation in the ZDL -facts about the 5 Transportation elements and then started their own writings.</p>	<p>Who is the main character who is dancing in Purim celebrations? (A clown-ליצן קטן-please sing the song.</p> <p>Why is "Bible Transportation" (camels, ark, chariots) not useful today?</p>
Science Mr. Abelson	<p>Second graders started testing their alternative fuel vehicles. Students measured their distance and time to determine their speed.</p>	How did your vehicle perform?
Art Miss Mimi	<p>This week second grade completed their radial designs done in various color schemes. Once they finished their radial designs, students began to explore how to create different colors with a limited palette. This experience is a simple exercise that allows students to explore what happens when they mix colors, and how they can create different tint and shades of the same hue.</p>	How many different colors did you create this week?

Technology Daniel	This week in tech class, second graders began with Keyboarding Without Tears. Students then continued to work on their pixel art drawings, and we made time to share them with the rest of the class. Additionally, students met upstairs on Monday, along with with Mora Mali, to learn about researching online for their Biblical Transportation Unit. Also, students met in Room 1 of the ZDL to begin working on developing their features for the Transportation Unit in the lab.	What kinds of useful information did you find online about Biblical Transportation?
Music	Students continued to work hard on their songs for IGD. We also practiced both the beginning and the ending medleys.	What is your favorite song to sing?
Dance Adi Licht	Students are shining on stage in their last week of IGD rehearsals.	Please use the IGD mix and encourage the students to practice their dance daily at home.
Yoga Hillary Oberstein	No class this week.	

Photos From This Week:















looking for information in ZDL lab computers for the Transportation unit.









