

## The Dogs / Ha Klaveem Week of December 5-9, 2011

This week we started to get ready for Hanukkah. Every day during circle time we have been discussing the reasons why we celebrate Hanukkah. The children showed interest in knowing more about Judah, the Maccabeus and the miracle of the oil. \*Do not be surprised if you hear your child singing songs about Moses and King Pharaoh. We are practicing for our Tots Mitzvah in January!

### **Math-**

- Counted the number of boys and girls in our class.
- Counted the days of the week and the months of the year.
- Every day we added a number to our 100 days of school board.
- Played games about shapes, adding and subtracting numbers.

### **Literacy:**

- We read "Happy Hanukkah" by Margery Gold, "Hanukkah Lights, Hanukkah Nights" by Leslie Kimmelman and "The Ziz and the Hanukkah Miracle" by Jacqueline Jules, the PJ Library book for this month. I hope that everyone is signed up to get their free books each month from PJ library.
- Played interactive reading games on the computer.
- As a group activity we are spelling words from signs and playing memory games.

### **Science:**

- Discussed facts about weather and temperature.
- Discussed the importance of eating, food is fuel for our bodies.

### **Gross Motor-**

- We are encouraging team games and cooperative play at the block center and playground.
- Children are being motivated to enjoy their time in open spaces like the playground and indoor gym. This is an excellent opportunity to foster their large muscle development.
- Ms. Alisa is showing us how to play racquetball by holding the racquet and hitting the ball properly. Also this week we learned the yoga pose: "D for dog".

### **Fine Motor:**

- Worked on making our own special Hanukkah Menorah
- Designed a big book about our miracles that soon will be in your child's backpack.
- Cut, pasted and decorated dreidels using a mosaic art pattern.

### **Social/Self Help:**

- Recited Pledge Allegiance every morning.

- Practicing unpacking lunchboxes, pouring drinks, passing out cups, napkins and paper towels.
- Encouraging happy choices and how to apologize.
- Reviewed classroom rules, especially rule # 7 “Keep inside voices when we are in the classroom”.

**Judaic:**

- Sang Hatikvah every morning at Shalom Time.
- Recited the blessings before and after every meal.
- Attended Havdalah on Monday and Shabbat on Friday.
- Observed different kinds of Hanukkah Menorahs at the temple’s gift shop.

**Reminders:**

- ✓ Please send your child in with a labeled *kosher snack* every day.
- ✓ Do not forget to recycle all your empty ink cartridges and old cell phones. We will collect them for our Funding Factory fundraiser. We are also participants of the Campbell Labels fundraiser program, save them and bring them over!
- ✓ Please help us collect new pajamas for infants, children and adolescents. This is a PJ Library program. And if you have not sign up for the PJ Library program yet, it is not too late!
- ✓ Parent/Teacher Conferences are next Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Torah Tots PTO will be glad to have you as a volunteer for the upcoming events.

If you have aluminum foil rolls that you can donate to the class for art projects please bring it in. We will appreciate it!

Shabbat Shalom!

Morah Debbie & Morah Carolina