



## The Cow Class / Ha Par-ot

**Week of January 22-January 27, 2012**

This week was full of fun and learning. Our week began with Havdalah, we said goodbye to last week and welcomed in our new week. Everyone is always happy to see their friends after the weekend. Magic circle begins each classroom day. We take attendance, check the weather, update the calendar, say the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the Hatikvah. In reviewing the calendar each morning, it gives the children the opportunity to improve number recognition, counting and verbal skills. After a weekend we have to catch up with our days of the week and the numbers for the date. New "Job Helper" jobs were chosen for the week.

Line leader- Joshua      Door holder- Drew      Calendar- Katriel

Weather- Jacob      Flag Holder- Zachary      Napkins- Ariana

Cups- Anika      Name collector- Gracyn      Caboose- Mason

Lunch box helpers- Cole and Elizabeth



Katriel.... our "Calendar Girl"

We continued to discuss 'Jewish Life Cycles.' Last week was the Baby Naming for our class baby "Princess Heart." This week we learned about Bar/Bat Mitzvah's and Weddings. Bar/Bat Mitzvah translated is "son/daughter of the commandments." You celebrate this occasion when you turn 13, it is the first time one is called to the Bimah to read Torah and marks your welcome into your synagogue and all the responsibility and obligations of a young man/woman in the Jewish community. It takes many months of studying and practice to learn your Haftorah portion. The Torah is made up of the 5

Books of Moses and The Haftorah comes from The Prophets and The Book of Psalms. The part of the Haftorah that is chosen by the Rabbi will correspond to the lessons in the Torah and is based on your Hebrew birthday. Morah Jacki brought in her husbands Bar Mitzvah album which everyone enjoyed looking through. The children already knew that boys/men wear a 'Kippah' on their heads; they also learned that a 'Talit' is a covering worn on the shoulders also called a "prayer shawl" and is worn during Morning Prayer.

Mr. Elliott Fagan director of the Ritual Committee met with all the 3's classes in the Sanctuary. He opened the ark and showed us the Torahs, he explained the different dressings on the Torahs and how they are chosen for a specific occasion. One of the Torahs had a breast plate hanging on it which showed the 12 Tribes. Mason thought it looked like a "calendar." Great observation Mason!!!!



Since the number 13 is important to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ritual it was our number of the week. Thank you parents for sending in 13 of an item, the children enjoyed counting them out and sharing anything that was edible with their friends.



Gracyn counts pom poms



Drew counts Q-tips

Morah Jacki also brought in her wedding album and her son's wedding album. We talked about different customs and traditions of a Jewish Wedding. A 'Ketubah' is a marriage contract that is signed by the bride, groom and Rabbi they are usually very pretty, colorful designs/pictures. A 'Chupah' is a canopy that the bride and groom stand under during the ceremony. Chupah's can be made out of all types of materials. Morah Jacki's wedding Chupah was made with beautiful flowers, her son's was made with draped material and Morah Alison used her father's Talit as her Chupah. All Chupah's have to be open on all 4 sides representing the home the bride and groom will build together.

The breaking of the glass happens at the end of the ceremony. The Groom steps on a glass and breaks it to bits. Everyone yells "Mazel Tov" and the ceremony is over. The children LOVED yelling Mazel Tov (congratulations).

Thank you Morah Jacki for bringing in all your wonderful family albums. We enjoyed going down memory lane with you and having pictures to show the children of the things we were talking about made it more real and easier for them to understand!

The Cows had fun in Gym with Miss Alisa. We started out doing alphabet Yoga stretches ... A for alligator, B for butterfly, C for cat, E for Eagle. We then played Pillow Polo, the children passed the ball back and forth to one another and then in groups. They had a "BALL!!"



Fun for ALL!!

A few weeks ago the 3's classes tried out their green thumbs. Lima beans were wrapped in wet paper towels and placed in the sun to sprout. We unwrapped ours this week to see if there were any changes. Some of them did sprout quite a bit, and some not at all!?? ☹ Our little gardeners took the results like gardening pro's!! Next week we'll be planting in the school garden, hopefully our green beans will be plentiful!!!!



Wow!

Everyone ALWAYS enjoys Music with Miss Beth!! We sang, danced, played instruments. We rowed our boats with a new, colorful, stretchy band and sang a song about growing like a tree in anticipation of Tu B' Shevat.

### **Fine Motor**

- Coloring, cutting, painting, computer
- Writing their names several times a week
- The children enjoy playing with puzzles, cars, blocks, and legos

### **Gross Motor**

- Rode bicycles and cars on the on the playground
- Running, jumping, climbing on the rock wall,

kicking, catching and throwing ball

-Music and movement in class

### **Social/Self Help**

-Washed hands after entering the classroom, before snack and lunch and after going to the potty

-Unzip/zip & unpack backpacks, snacks in the snack basket.

- Lunch bags packed and put back into backpacks at the end of the day along with folders

-The children choose a new classroom job each week

-Taking Turns, Sharing

-Toys cleaned up and put away...everyone helps their friends

-Be **KIND** to our friends, remember to use our **WORDS** and not our **HANDS!!**

### **Shabbat**

-Our Malacheem this week were Ariana and Zachary

Thank you both for the yummy snacks!

Mason will bring home the Shabbat bag...we can't wait to hear all about Shabbat at the Zions.

### **Judaic**

-Havdalah and Shabbat services

-Hatikvah, the national anthem of Israel sung daily

-Counting 1-10 in Hebrew

-Blessings before snack and lunch

-Music with Cantor Zach

-Tzedakah

Have a wonderful weekend!

Shabbat Shalom

Morah Jacki and Morah Alison