



Inside SCHECHTER

August 25, 2023 / 8 Elul 5783
Weekly Parshat : [Ki Tetzei](#)

Candle lighting: 7:16 PM
Shabbat ends: 8:17 PM

The first week of school: limitless potential awaits!

The first day of school finally arrived on Wednesday!

Our Northbrook campus buzzed with the anticipation of new beginnings as students reconnected with friends and stepped into their next adventures at the Sager School. The radiant energy was infectious, setting the stage for a year filled with growth, learning, and shared moments.



[See more first day photos](#)

Listening Conversations: Because relationships matter

Before the school year begins, all Sager School students and their parents are invited to Listening Conversations —

dedicated one-on-one time for children to get to know their teachers through informal conversation. Suzanne Mishkin, K-6 Principal, shares why this opportunity is so valuable and reflective of our mission.

"Listening Conversations create positive relationships and interactions," she said. "Giving students the chance to see their classrooms and teachers before school starts sets them up for a calm and smooth transition and plants the seeds for productive partnerships between students, parents, and teachers."



"At Schechter, we know relationships matter," she added. "We know children learn best from people they feel *connected* to. Listening Conversations are an opportunity to put relationships at the forefront."

Ginsburg ECC students welcome *morot* into their homes



To help ensure a seamless transition to the new school year, the *morot* met the *yeladim* where they are most comfortable — inside their homes. This gentle introduction sets the groundwork for building strong and trusting relationships.

"On the first day of school, the *yeladim* were already immersed in new explorations, routines, and friendships. Our dedicated *morot* tailor the environment to honor each child's unique developmental journey." — Zahava Berman, ECC Director

Acing the game: Unlocking the secrets of Canasta

On Thursday evening, long after students left for the day, the learning continued in the Library/Learning Commons! Fourteen women gathered for the first of three Canasta lessons to prepare for Game Night on September 12th.

Canasta is just one of the games you can play at Schechter's Game Night. Special thanks to co-chairs Kelley Deutsch and Jodi



Epstein and their committee!

There's still time to sign up to secure your spot!

Register for Game Night

Participants make a splash into an open face practice round to incorporate instructor guidance.

Originating in Uruguay, this rummy-like, partner-based card game became popular in the US in the 1950's, but has enjoyed a recent resurgence, particularly in the Jewish community.

Read Kveller article on Canasta

This class for preschoolers is music to our ears

Solomon Schechter Ginsburg Early Childhood Center Presents:



Music B'Yachad

Come sing with me, mishpachati! In this interactive class, caregivers & tots will learn **rhymes, games, action songs,** and **dances** to stimulate young children's natural response to music while developing listening and motor skills. We will enhance language development, improve sense of balance and timing, and make musical connections to our Jewish journey.

Wednesdays from 10:10-10:50 AM
Ginsburg ECC
4500 Dempster Street
Skokie, IL 60076

Session 1: 10/25/23-12/20/23 (no class 11/22)
Session 2: 1/17/24-3/6/24
Session 3: 3/20/24-5/22/24 (no class 4/24 & 5/1)
Fee: \$60 (1 child), \$90 (2 children)/session



For more information, contact Zahava Berman, ECC Director, at zahava.berman@schechter.org

Looking for an educational and interactive class for preschool-aged children?

Join Schechter's very own Music Specialist, Elizabeth Botnick, for one of this year's jBaby Music B'Yachad multi-week sessions! Classes held at the Ginsburg ECC.

Register below, and help us spread the word!

Register here

Kol Hakavod to Yotam!

Yotam Marom (SSDS '24) became a bar mitzvah at the Kotel in Israel this past Monday. He will also be reading parshat *Ki Teitzei* at Moriah Congregation on shabbat. Yotam enjoys coding, science, news, video games, and being with his family and friends. He also cares deeply about animals—click the link below to read his *d'var Torah* about the connection between God, animals, and the Torah. For his bar mitzvah project, Yotam volunteered at Orphans of the Storm and pet adoption events, performed pet-sitting duties, and bought and



packaged thermal and hygienic goods for Israeli soldiers from *Orev* unit, where his uncle served.

Mazal Tov

to Yotam's proud parents, Adi and Shimi Marom; to his loving siblings, **Zohar (SSDS '27)**, **Libby (SSDS '31)**, and Maya; to his beloved grandparents, Rachel and Robi Marom, Ayala Vizel and Israel Vizel; and to his aunts, uncle, and cousins who came all the way from Israel to celebrate.

Yotam's D'var Torah

Mazal Tov to the newly married couple!



Congratulations to **Rebecca Silverman (SSDS '06)** and Josh Dorfman on their recent wedding! Rebecca and Josh live in Los Angeles, where Rebecca works in Brand Partnerships at Canva, the online design platform, and Josh works in finance at tech startup, Deel Inc.

Mazal Tov

to their parents, Lauren and David Silverman, and Laurie Zoloth and Dan Dorfman (z"l); and siblings Adam and **Jessie Gindea (SSDS '01)**, **Matthew Silverman (SSDS '03)** and Kira Heller, **Joshua Silverman (SSDS '10)** and Hannah Shams, Natan and Saskia Levy,

Noah Levy and Margaux Shindler, Ben Dorfman, and Sarah and Josh Kohlenbrener.

The Schechter Raffle: Keep your eye on the Rizzo prize

Support Schechter AND secure your chance to win a...

FRAMED AUTOGRAPHED RIZZO JERSEY!

Follow the link below to browse additional prize categories and purchase your tickets.

Winners announced on September 12th.



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A partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

Solomon Schechter Day School | 3210 Dundee Road, Northbrook, IL 60062

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