



Inside SCHECHTER

September 1, 2023 / 15 Elul 5783
Weekly Parashat : Ki Tavo

Candle lighting: 7:04 PM
Shabbat ends: 8:05 PM

A new school year, a new chance to give back

Last Friday, our 7th and 8th graders took a field trip to the Maot Chitim warehouse in Highland Park to jump start the new school year in a meaningful way. As a *kehillah*, (community) they explored our core values of *Achrayut* (responsibility) and *B'tzelem Elohim* (in the image of God) by packaging Rosh Hashanah meal boxes for community members facing food insecurity.



Field Trip: 7th & 8th Grade Maot Chitim

August 25, 2023



"At Schechter, values are more than just words on a website—they come alive every day," said Noreen Ohcana, Sager School 5-8 Math Teacher, and Ron Schrag, Sager School 7-8 Judaic Studies Teacher.

"It's important that as 7th and 8th graders, our students see that they not only have the responsibility to help others, they are capable of giving back in this way."

Calling all Schechter parents!

Inspired by these students to volunteer? Join current families to pick-up meal boxes at our Northbrook Campus and deliver them to families in need: **September 10th | 9-11 AM**

[Maot Chitim Website](#)

[Register to Volunteer](#)

We're fired up about the art room's new kiln!

The newly renovated art room was already a dream for Hallie Redman, Sager School art teacher. "The comfortable space is accessible for every K-8 and Keshet student," she said. **"With natural light, ample storage for supplies, a double sink, and modern technology, the art room is a beautiful, happy place where kids get to come in every day with a smile on their face."**

This week, installation was completed on a kiln, and Mrs. Redman said she is thrilled to now have the option to fire clay and integrate clay work into the curriculum.

"When I heard that a family generously donated a state-of-the-art kiln to the art department, I thought this was absolutely the most amazing thing," she added. "Clay work provides such a different sensory opportunity for students. Hand-building 3D pieces with clay is a tactile artistic experience that allows creativity to soar, and this imaginative thinking spills over into other subjects."



Guided discovery at the Ginsburg ECC: Free play's hidden value



Walking into a classroom at the ECC this week, you'll observe children engaged in free play. Our *morot* (teachers) will tell you there's actually much more behind the collaborative design of *Guided Discovery*—an approach embraced at the ECC.

"Guided Discovery is a dynamic process where the *yeladim* explore, brainstorm, and engage in play in an intentional way," said Zahava Berman, ECC Director. "By encouraging them to think critically, plan effectively, and

solve challenges creatively, the *yeladim* are empowered to become resilient learners. It also fosters an environment where children learn from our educators and each other!"

Alum Gabe Derman launches personal training platform

SCHECHTER ALUMNI

Spotlights

“Schechter helped teach me hard work, diligence, and a passion for learning. The positive experiences I had with the Schechter faculty not only prepared me for high school and college, but for life, as well.”

Gabe Derman (SSDS '07)



Helping our 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball teams win the League Championships in 2006 and 2007 was only the beginning for **Gabe Derman (SSDS '07)**. At Evanston Township High School, Gabe was involved in the Israeli Club and served as the Captain of the Varsity Baseball Team. He then earned a B.S. in Kinesiology from the University of Michigan and an M.Ed. in Sport Science from the University of Texas, before carving out a unique professional path centering around his passion for human performance.

After seven years of coaching in college athletics, Gabe joined Keiser Fitness as a human performance and education specialist, consulting with professional, collegiate, and Olympic athletic organizations, as well as tactical, older adult, and medical professionals on best practices related to fitness and performance.

Passionate about connecting with people and helping individuals lead a stronger, healthier, and better life, Gabe founded Derman Performance, an online fitness and personal training platform. Derman Performance is dedicated to matching individuals with certified, elite-level coaches to deliver customized, app-based training programs to support people on their respective health and fitness journeys.



[Read More About Gabe](#)

[Derman Performance Website](#)

Kol Hakavod to Orly

Orly Brown (SSDS '25) will become a bat mitzvah



this Shabbat at Skokie Valley Agudath Jacob Synagogue. Orly has been studying parashat *Ki Tavo* which she will read at school, and share a *d'var Torah* on Shabbat. Orly enjoys karate and recently earned her green belt. She also loves baking, outdoor activities, spending time with her friends, and snuggling her cat.

Mazal Tov

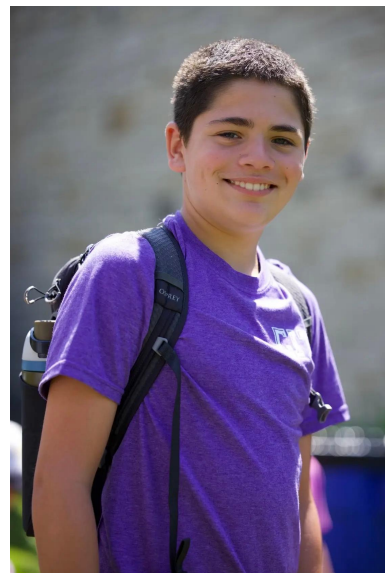
to her proud parents Eric Brown and Mira Shiloach, as well as to her siblings Naomi (SSDS '23) and Gabriel (SSDS '27).

Kol Hakavod to Jonah

Jonah Bornstein (SSDS '24) will become a bar mitzvah at Beth Hillel Bnai Emunah on Monday, September 4th, where he will read parshat *Nitzavim*. Jonah enjoys spending time with his friends and family—especially his dog, Maggie. He is a gamer at heart and loves all things gaming from coding to playing. When Jonah isn't gaming, he likes to learn about aeronautics, military history, and animal conservation. For Jonah's mitzvah project, he is raising funds to cover the full veterinary costs of ten dogs and cats for ten days at Community Animal Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.) in Skokie. Learn more at the **website** Jonah created.

Mazal Tov

to Jonah's proud parents, Rick and Karen Bornstein; to his loving sister, **Reva (SSDS '27)**; and to his beloved grandparents, Adrienne Bornstein and Carl and Shirley Cohen.



Mazal Tov to the newly engaged couple



Congratulations to **Sarah Shanes (SSDS '11)** and Zachary Cohen on their recent engagement.

Sarah and Zach both work as teachers—Sarah teaches 3rd grade in Highland Park, and Zach teaches middle school in Crystal Lake.

Mazal Tov

to their parents, Diane and **Daniel Shanes (SSDS '81)**, and Anita and Steve (z"l) Cohen; and siblings **Shoshanah Shanes (SSDS '09)** and Rachel, **Hannah Shanes (SSDS '13)**, **Noah Shanes (SSDS '15)**, Lauren and Alan Goldberg, Danny Cohen, and Heather Cohen.

Thank you to this week's Day of Learning Sponsor!



DAY OF LEARNING SPONSOR

September 1, 2023

**In honor of
Melissa & Marc Spellman
for all you do for the Schechter
community and beyond!**

**With love,
Missy & Allan Malmed**



Learn More

Every day at Schechter, students receive the gift of an outstanding education.

You can help support a day of learning with a \$250 sponsorship to celebrate a child, honor a friend, mark a special occasion, or remember a loved one.

Space is filling up fast for Game Night!

Join us for an evening of dinner and games! Your support of this event helps provide flexible tuition to Schechter students and families.

Secure your spot below.

Register for Game Night



Jbaby and the ECC team up to fill the year with music

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



jBabyChicago

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](#)

Health goals for 5784? Enter our raffle to win wellness!

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

Private Yoga Class for up to 10 People with Debbie Marks Wellness! Provided by current Schechter parent and alum, Debbie Marks (SSDS '95).

Winners will be drawn on September 12th.

Browse additional prize categories and purchase your tickets.

[View Prizes & Buy Tickets](#)

[Debbie Marks Wellness](#)



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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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