

This Week...

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OTRS Fifth Grade News

2/21/10

Dear Families,

After an incredibly long break, we're back, and we're off to a great start. We're learning Ashrei, and continuing with our Torah studies. We'll pick up with history after Purim. We're looking forward to a great Purim celebration next weekend, too. Make sure you see the flyer students brought home, providing details about both Saturday night and Sunday morning.

As always, recordings of the blessings and other parts of the Torah service are on the OT website's [prayers page](#).

Check out the [5th grade web page](#) for more information and even some pictures! Parents, if your children miss a class, please check to see if any new worksheets have been uploaded.

Shalom,

[*Andrea Gross*](#) and [*Shula Friedman*](#)

[5th Grade Page](#)

Email the Teachers

[Andrea Gross](#)

[Shula Friedman](#)

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Over the Last Week....

We began learning Ashrei. Students are getting very good at the first four sets of lines (Siddur, page 151). We learned about the prayer, finding the four Psalms that comprise it in the Tanakh, and reading the JPS Tanakh translation, which is closer to the original Hebrew than the Siddur's English. We learned about the meaning and the structure of the prayer with Mrs. Friedman and Mrs. Gross. We looked at words and phrases that are repeated, both in English and in studying the Hebrew root words. We used key words from Ashrei to make word pictures. We made our own individual pictures and one big one as a group. You can stop in our classroom to see them (in Pod 2).

We continue to review the rest of the Torah service.

We also learned about Abraham sending his servant to find a wife for Isaac. We talked about important qualities that we would look for in a person. We also analyzed the "who-what-when- why-and-how" of this part of Bereishit, making a chart to track what was happening.

We had another trop lesson with Cantor Ackerman. We're learning several notes and practicing with sections from actual Torah readings.

Over the Next Few Weeks We Will....

- Celebrate Purim.
- Work on mastering Ashrei.

[Worksheets](#)

[School Handbook](#)

- Continue learning about Isaac and Rebekah.
- Pick up with our history studies again.

Homework

- Practice your Hebrew reading at least three times a week!
- Review past prayers as well as practicing new ones.
- Re-read chapter 7 in the history textbook for Tuesday, March 2.

Things to Remember

Purim Sameach! See you next weekend.

Bring tzedakah!

The prayers for the Torah Service, including Ashrei, are on the OT Web site at <http://www.olamtikvah.org/prayer.html>.