

## This Week...

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## OTRS Fifth Grade News

12/6/09

Dear Families,

We are concluding our study of the Greek and Roman periods in Jewish history. **We'll have a quiz** on these chapters **on Tuesday** (open book).

We've begun talking about Abram and the idea of "Lech Lecha"-go forth. What was it that Abram was leaving behind?

In Hebrew, students continue to work on both reading and chanting skills as they work their way through the Torah Service. **Please listen to your child chant; they should know the prayers up to the blessings before and after the Torah readings (aliyah).** Recordings of the blessings and other parts of the Torah service are on the OT website's [prayers page](#). We are grateful for the help of our two aides, Aryeh and Marnie, who join us every Sunday.

We continue to learn Torah trop with Cantor Adina Ackerman, who worked with us today.

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.

**We look forward to seeing you at our back-to-school meeting next Sunday, December 13, at 11:00am. Both of us will be at the meeting to talk with you.**

Shalom,

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

[5th Grade Page](#)

**Email the Teachers**

## Over the Last Week....

- In Hebrew we work at our own pace. Both Mrs. Friedman and Mrs. Gross have listened to all of the students as a group and individually. Some students are learning the blessings before and after

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

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the haftorah reading.

- Today we played "stomp" with Aryeh and Marnie. They called out the Hebrew words from the Torah service, and the first student to recognize the word on the floor and stomp on it got a point.
- We divided into two groups, and one practiced the blessings before/after the haftorah with Aryeh while the other worked with Marnie on the Torah blessings.

In History, we worked in small groups to learn about important people or communities during the Roman period. We presented what we learned to the rest of the class.

- In Trop, we have learned two more trop notes, bringing the total to four. We used these notes to chant "Torah tzivulanu Moshe," the way it would sound when the sentence is read from the weekly parasha, and it sounded different than when we sing it in synagogue.
- We've talked about Chanukah from the context of History as part of our Greek unit. We also talked about why we have religious school and go to work and secular school during the days of Chanukah.

**Over the Next Few Weeks We Will....**

- Work on mastering more of the Torah service.
- Delve into Abram and Sarai, and their relationship with God.
- Have a quiz in History about the Greeks and Romans (chapters 2 and 3) on Tuesday, 12/8.
- Celebrate Chanukah on Sunday, 12/13, with dreidel games during class time, and with songs and the rest of the school at 11:30am.

## Homework

- **Come prepared** with paper, pen/pencil, textbooks.
- Practice your Hebrew reading at least three times a week! The goal is for students to be able to read and chant prayers through page 30. Do not move ahead until you master the previous prayer!
- Review History Chapters 2 & 3 for the open book quiz.
- If you are absent on Tuesday, look for the quiz online and bring in a completed answer sheet on Sunday, 12/13.

## Things to Remember

- Bring your ReligiousSchool backpack/bag to every class. Come prepared with paper, pen/pencil, text books. Please bring tzedakah, too, to every class. We will have a surprise supplies check soon!
- On Sunday, 12/13, bring your dreidels, and a chanukiah if you want to display it in our class "museum" for the morning. (Parents: other students will not be allowed to touch anything delicate, which will be displayed on a teacher's desk for the morning.) We'll spend about 30 minutes of class time playing dreidel, redeeming stickers for prizes, and admiring any special dreidels and chanukiot students bring in to show the class. Please send in a snack and bottled water for your child. As a reminder, we do not share due to both allergy and kashrut concerns.
- Prayers: [www.olamtikvah.org/prayer.html](http://www.olamtikvah.org/prayer.html)
- Class notes, worksheets photos: [www.olamtikvah.org/relschoo-5.html](http://www.olamtikvah.org/relschoo-5.html)