

Shutafim

PARTNERS:
CONNECTING
GENERATIONS AT
SAR

WINTER 2010



SAR ACADEMY
SAR HIGH SCHOOL



Please enjoy this issue of *Shutafim*: 'Partners' intended to update our grandparents on events and programs in and around SAR.



Each year at SAR, we select an overarching theme that will communicate

particular *midot*, or life lessons, that we would like to focus on with our students.

The theme at SAR Academy this year is **"Good Choices in Deeds and Voices."** Our students will be engaging in a series of programs exploring the importance of making thoughtful and positive choices.

At the same time, SAR High School is working on a year of **"Love the Building; Respect the Dress Code."**

In conjunction with serious learning, the students will focus on creating an environment of responsibility, maturity and unity.

Though the themes in the Academy and High School differ, they convey the same value. Both emphasize that the choices we make - large and small - effect the greater community we live in.

As we spend each successive day with your grandchildren, we are continually amazed by their creativity, talent, character and intelligence. We are honored and humbled to have this opportunity, and it's a great pleasure to share with you through this newsletter a

taste of what they have accomplished.

It is our hope that this *Shutafim* newsletter will continue to serve as a bridge between our school and the grandparents of our amazing students. In the following pages you will learn about up-coming events, news and highlights from the school, and opportunities for you to become more involved with the SAR Community.

Thank you,

Rabbi Binyamin Krauss

Principal, SAR Academy

Rabbi Tully Harcsztark

Principal SAR High School

grandparents@saracademy.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Grandparents are invited to join us for all of the programs listed here.



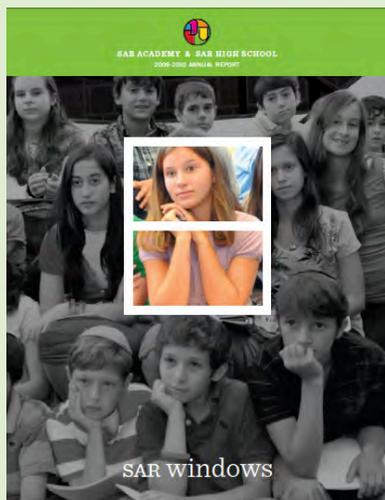
| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st Grade | 2nd Grade | 3rd Grade |
| Siddur Play January 26, 2011 Intergenerational Math Fair May 18, 2011 | Chumash Play February 9, 2011 | Wacky Wax Museum March 1, 2011 Rashi Breakfast June 2, 2011 |
| 4th Grade | 5th Grade | 6th Grade |
| Navi Play December 15, 2010 | Intergenerational Day June 13, 2011 | Grandparent Evening April 5, 2011 |
| 7th Grade | 8th Grade | High School |
| Grandparent Program March 15, 2011 | Share the Light Program December 6, 2010 | Grandparent's Day June 1, 2011 |



For more information about these events or a tour of our buildings, call 718-548-1717 x1202

SAR STUDENTS STUDY THE HISTORY OF JEWISH CALLIGRAPHY

Two groups of 11th grade students are studying calligraphy this year, and together they spent a day this semester at the Rare Books Collection of the Jewish Theological Seminary. The students are studying various typographical styles, and had the opportunity to observe a *Tanach* from pre-expulsion Spain, a *Chumash* with a super-commentary from the 13th century sage Nachmanides, a hand-written letter from Rabbi Yehuda HaLevi and other rare texts. The students found new meaning in familiar prayers through the illumination and illustration of ancient artisans.



2009-2010 SAR ANNUAL REPORT

In the spirit of last year's theme of **M'Dor L'Dor**, and thanks to the generous support from parents, friends and grandparents like yourselves, SAR proudly published its first ever Annual Report. The beautiful booklet portrays the educational achievements, programmatic highlights, and financial snapshots from the 2009-2010 academic year.

To download a digital copy, visit www.saracademy.org. To be mailed a hard copy, please contact us at: (718) 548-1717 x1230

SAR ALUMNI ARE ONLINE!

We are proud to announce that alumni and others in the SAR community can connect online through our new SAR Alumni Association Facebook Fan Page and Twitter Feed. You can find old photos, connect with classmates and teachers, and learn about reunions and events.

Check out the sites and join the conversation!

www.facebook.com/SARalumni
www.twitter.com/SARalumni



SAR HAPPENINGS:

Veteran's Day 2010

On Wednesday November 10th, SAR Academy students welcomed US Military Veterans for a heartwarming program of celebration and tribute. The SAR choir sang a wonderful rendition of 'America the Beautiful', Rear Admiral CHC USN Rabbi Aaron Landes spoke, and the poem "Because of You, Unknown Soldier" was recited. Many thanks to Beverly Nerenberg and the other volunteers that made this event possible.



New Crop of SAR Fellows

This year a group of 12 young men and women began working at SAR High School as Beit Midrash Fellows. Five of them are from the New York area, and seven are from Israel as delegates from Bnei Akiva and Kollel Torah Mitzion. These fellows will spend their days in the *beit midrash* learning with students, supporting classroom initiatives, and developing bonds with students throughout the school. This talented cohort will bring new vibrancy and energy to the high school building.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS TO ENRICH THE CLASSROOM

On a Wednesday morning this October, a group of SAR 12th grade students visited SAR Academy to build with blocks, draw pictures and play games. But this wasn't an afternoon of goofing around - it was a hands-on learning experience for the **AP Psychology** class. Along with their teachers Russell Hoffman and Ilana Mann, the seniors met with small groups of kindergarten and first grade students to explore Human Development - namely Piaget's theory of cognitive development. Through the interactions, the students saw for themselves the different stages of cognitive development that young children pass through as they mature.



Among the experiments they conducted were conservation exercises which included playing with play dough, and measuring different liquid amounts in different shaped containers. They also created a fun activity to informally assess the younger children's evolving theory of mind (i.e., their ability to intuit the perspective of another person). The unique opportunity of working with the younger children gave them the opportunity to see Piaget's theory of cognitive development come to life. It was also very entertaining to see the younger children interact and bond with the 12th graders. Some of the AP Psychology students reminisced about their own elementary school experiences, and even visited their old classrooms and reconnected with their past teachers.

The **Biology Challenge Option** is another innovative program to connect SAR High School students with a deeper appreciation of the sciences. Over the summer, a self-selected group of students read four biographies of renowned scientists. This semester the students reconvened to discuss the works and lives of Jane Goodall, Eric Kandel, E. O. Wilson, and Marie Curie. They pondered the impact of historical events on scientific discovery, the path pioneering scientists embark upon, and how the scientific mind operates.



SAR Photo & Video Gallery

Please visit our Web site gallery where you will find photos and videos of our students engaged in learning, celebrating and enjoying their days. Photos are updated every month. Note that a password is required. Please use the username [sargrandparent](#) with the password [sargrandparent](#).

The 2010 SAR Dinner Video is waiting for you -- enjoy the show!

www.saracademy.org/gallery



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

7:45 PM

@ SAR High School

Journal Dinner Ad Form

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yahalom Page: \$100,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Kesef Page: \$3,600* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shalsholet Page: \$50,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoresh Page: \$1,800* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keter Page: \$36,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Full Online Page: \$1,000* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yerushalmi Page: \$18,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Half Online Page: \$750* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boneh Page: \$10,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter Online Page: \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zahav Page: \$5,000* | <input type="checkbox"/> Name/Company Listing: \$200 |

Our full journal will be online on the SAR website. Additionally, an abridged printed journal will be distributed at the dinner.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Check Enclosed Send Me a Bill

Word Limit: •Full 60 words •Half 40 words •Quarter 20 words

*Half page ads or larger include two dinner reservations.

Please check here to indicate if you will attend the dinner:

- Yes No

The value of the dinner for one person is \$125. The remainder of your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. All proceeds go to the SAR Scholarship Fund.

*Please mail forms and checks to:

SAR Academy 655 West 254th Street, Riverdale, NY 10471

The **42nd Anniversary Dinner** will be a wonderful evening of celebration for the SAR Community, honoring the outstanding dedication of so many parents, grandparents, teachers, staff, alumni, students and more!

It is with great respect and admiration that we honor **Giti and Jack Bendheim**, as our **Guests of Honor**. Both Giti and Jack have served the SAR community for over 30 years, and remain as SAR leaders in the respective roles they have on our Board of Education and as President of the Board of Trustees. During their tenure, the school has become a crown jewel of the modern orthodox community in the New York area with full enrollment, solid financial footing and alumni that are successfully navigating the world. The Bendheims extend their kindness, guidance and generosity well beyond their friends, school and the greater Riverdale and New York community, towards a global vision of hope and peace. We express heartfelt *hakarot hatov* to Jack, President of Phibro Animal Health Corp, and Giti, a psychologist in private practice and at Riverdale's Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, and to their children, Yonina ('84) and Zev, Dani ('85) and Shifra, Shuli ('88) and Avi, Yonatan ('90) and Esther, Tamar ('95) and Reuven, Etan ('98) and Sarah, and Gilad ('02), a family who truly exemplify the spirit and vitality of SAR in every way.

Benay Meisels is the **Michael Schreck Memorial Community Service Award** recipient. Ever since her children began at SAR, Benay could be counted on to assume a leadership role. Benay has served with talent, creativity and innovation, from coordinating the beginning of the year kick-off events, to her four years as Co-President of the Parent Teacher Council (PTC) from fall 2005 to spring 2009. Using her unique combination of skills, she recently started her own event planning company, "P is for Party." Benay and her husband Dr. Ira Meisels are the proud parents of Samantha (11th) and Alexandra (7th).

Rabbi Jonathan Kroll, recipient of the **Audrey Schurgin Memorial Faculty Award**, is Associate Principal of SAR High School. A founding teacher there, Rabbi Kroll has been at its heart ever since. As a *Gemara* teacher, coordinator of student activities, and beloved mentor to hundreds of SAR students, he has helped define and shape every part of SAR's program with his boundless energy, creativity and dedication. Rabbi Kroll and his wife Jennifer are the parents of four children, Leora (6th), Avi (4th), Akiva (2nd), and Elie.



CHESSED WEEK 2010

Torah Study Inspires Social Activism

Open school, open tent, open hearts. For one week this October, the SAR Academy lobby was transformed into the open tent of Avraham and Sarah, renowned models of charity, loving-kindness and hospitality towards strangers.

Every student from the Early Learning Center through 8th grade had the opportunity to perform an act of *chessed* in the tent, or outside of the school. A short video was prepared for students to watch prior to doing their *chessed* work, enabling them to see projects other grades were participating in. The students were also given the chance to be involved in projects other than their own by bringing in items for various collections.

Some of the highlights included 1st and 2nd grade students making sandwiches for an

organization known as "The Sandwich Brigade," 5th grade students preparing care packages and letters for US soldiers currently overseas in Afghanistan, and 8th grade students decorating and filling backpacks with arts and crafts supplies for children in hospitals.

The culminating event for ELC students was a visit from Avraham and Sarah (school administrators in elaborate costume) who thanked the children for following in their paths, and performed their own act of hospitality by giving the students a sweet treat.

The week was a great example of how our students are able to transform their values into actions, and work together to make the world a better place.

To view a video recap of Chessed Week 2010, visit our online gallery at www.saracademy.org/gallery
Both the username and password are `sargrandparent`



For Chessed Week, 6th Grade Students visited Target to purchase gifts for newlywed couples in need of cooking utensils. The students used their own tzedakah money, and will be sending the items to Israel with Mazal Tov cards.



NEW SAR HIGH SCHOOL WING

This September, students at SAR High School returned to a wonderful new wing of the building featuring a *tefilah* room, six classrooms, a seminar room, a faculty work room and a conference room.

Aside from the speed with which the project was completed, the most impressive feat is a glass-enclosed bridge that allows students to access the new area from the 4th floor of the building.

To schedule a tour, please call the office: 718-548-1717



Rabbi Binyamin Krauss
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Rabbi Tully Harcsztark
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To register for Chadashot our
weekly Academy e-newsletter,
email
chadashot@saracademy.org

To register for Koleinu our bi-
weekly High School e-
newsletter, email
koleinu@sarhighschool.org

For information about
grandparent programs, email
grandparents@saracademy.org



Adult Education at SAR High School

Megillat Esther: A Story of Personal Discovery

Karen Goldscheider

Dragged beyond her will to the palace of the King of Persia, a young orphaned girl is suddenly in a powerful position that she did not seek. Esther must discover the role she will play in the future of both the world and Jewish history. Through a close reading of the text, we will study Esther's life and personal development. As Purim approaches we will gain a deeper understanding of *Megillat Esther* and the messages it offers for our lives today.

Wednesdays 1:00-2:00

Feb 23, Mar 2, Mar 9, Mar 16 (2011)

Women in Bereishit

Tammy Jacobowitz

In this series we will delve into the complicated lives that women led in the book of *Bereishit*. We will consider their specific struggles and triumphs, as well as the variety of strategies they employed to create change for their families and for the emerging nation of Israel.

Wednesdays 11:00-12:00

Jan 12, Jan 19, Jan 26, Feb 2 (2011)

Adult Ed classes take place at SAR High School in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Lisa Schlaff schlal@sarhighschool.org or 718-548-2727 x1516

Evening Book Club

Delve into a piece of fiction with our outstanding English teachers. Join other grandparents, parents and community members for a fascinating discussion of important works of literature. Classes meet on Mondays, 7:30-9:30 PM, in the High School Library. If you have questions, please email Ms. Daphne Eidman, daph613@aol.com

The History of Love by Nicole Krauss

Facilitator: Ora Meier
December 13, 2010

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

Facilitator: Simon Fleischer
January 10, 2011

In Our Time by Ernest Hemingway

Facilitator: Molly Pollak
February 28, 2011

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

Facilitator: Erik Huber
April 4, 2011

The Absolutely True Diary of a

Part-Time Indian by Sherman

Alexie

Facilitator: Simon Fleischer
May 9, 2011

Out in the Wilderness: Devarim Perakim 1-5

Lisa Schlaff

On the plains of Moav, Moshe gives his final speech to *Bnei Yisrael* before they enter the land which he can see, but not access. The first chapters of *Sefer Devarim* highlight the major themes of the speech of a leader wishing his people to succeed as they start a new life in a new land

Mondays 2:00-3:00

May 2, May 9, May 16, May 23 (2011)

Your Turn to Learn Series

Location: SAR Academy Shul
655 W. 254th Street, Bronx, NY 10471

Anti-Christian Polemics in Parshanut: Text and Subtext

R. Moshe Rosenberg
Monday, December 20, 9:30AM

Kriyat Yam Suf and the Emerging Jewish Nation

Sarah Richter
Monday, January 10, 9:30AM

Stem Cell Research: A Halachic Perspective

Dina Najman
Thursday, February 24, 9:30AM

DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

The SAR High School and SAR Academy buildings are the physical environments within which our students are enlightened, inspired and challenged to achieve their very best.

In order to fulfill our mission, and maintain our infrastructure to its full capacity, we need partners for our ongoing Capital Campaign



MATCHING GRANT

If you contribute to the Capital Campaign before August 2012, every \$2 of your gift will be matched with \$1 from a generous donor. For information about this match, dedication opportunities in either building, or to make a donation, please contact:

Heidi Greenbaum
Director of Development
(718) 548-1717 x1256

Your gift is deeply appreciated; each and every dollar makes a difference.