

Solon Chabad Hebrew School

-WANTED-

FOR EATING TOO MUCH MATZAH

2018-2019

Solon Chabad Hebrew School

2018-2019 Report

At Solon Chabad Hebrew School, creative and hands on experiences are the norm rather than the exception.

In addition to any games, art, cooking that the teachers do in their regular classes, the Family Educator and staff prepare school-wide activities around twice a month to enhance the learning, foster an excitement and love of Judaism and most of all, create positive memories of Hebrew School.

Enjoy this enclosed report on the activities from this school year. There are many more photos on our Hebrew School Facebook page where we post pictures after every Sunday and Wednesday. Feel free to check out our Facebook group for more:
Solon Chabad Hebrew School.

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Shofar Factory & Edible Honey Bowl

Grades included: 3–7

Date: September 5, 2018

Description: On our very first day, we wanted to start Hebrew School with an exciting activity, so we made the Rosh Hashana lessons come alive. Every student helped drill & shellac their own Shofar to keep, and made an edible honey jar. This kind of holiday lesson is fun and not forgotten—especially when the loud sounds of the shofar are blowing all around you!



Jonah's Whale on Facebook

Grades included: K—4

Date: September 17, 2018

Description: Each class learned the story of Jonah before Yom Kippur and then chose a "Jonah" to dress up as they visited the Whale in our lobby. When the photos were later posted on Facebook, many students were proud to tell their parents the whole story, thus helping to educate the whole family.

Mini Sukkah

Grades included: K—6

Date: September 23, 2018

Description: In trying to teach our students the origins of the Sukkah, we had each student build their own mini Sukkah, and then all classes "camped" in the format of the 12 tribes and had to march in the correct format. They set up their sukkah each time they "camped" just like the Jews in the desert.



Decorating Montefiore Sukkah

Grades included: 7

Date: September 23, 2018

Description: 7th grade took a mitzvah trip to help decorate the sukkah in Montefiore nursing home. This began their yearly theme of Living Jewish with trips twice a month to various places in the Cleveland Jewish community.



Lulav & Etrog blindfolded

Grades included: K-6

Date: September 23, 2018

Description: Presentation by Living Legacy Rabbi Friedman on the Lulav & Etrog. Students learned the differences between the Four Kinds and even had to guess which is the Etrog- while blindfolded

In the Mayor's Sukkah

Grades included: K-7

Date: September 30, 2018

Description: The whole school went Sukkah hopping to 3 sukkahs in our neighborhood including the sukkah of Solon Mayor Ed Kraus who was there to greet each child. Each Sukkah had a different activity or treat including making a balloon Lulav, learning a Simchat Torah dance, and answering Sukkah trivia questions. More than the fun, the children learned that even when you are Mayor, you can proudly and publicly celebrate your Jewish heritage.



Edible Torahs

Grades included: 3-7

Date: September 26, 2018

Description: Food always helps kids focus! So in teaching about Simchat Torah, we had the older classes make edible Torahs, and then when they learned a song naming the Five books of the Torah and discussed the holiday, they were so into it. Each class had their turn in the kitchen with the cooking instructor.



Hologram Live

Grades included: 7

Date: October 18, 2019

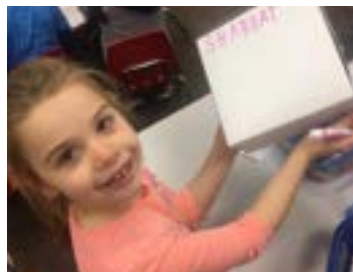
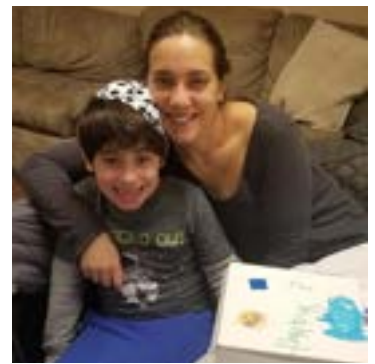
Description: The 7th graders had the privilege of meeting Holocaust Survivor Stanley Bernath as he showed them his Hologram at the Maltz Museum. He passed away a little bit later, so this was truly a once in a lifetime experience.

Shabbat Kit

Grades included: 1

Date: November 18, 2018

Description: First grade culminated their Shabbat curriculum by creating a Shabbat box to take home. They had their own candlestick, kiddush cup, challah and blessings so that they could lead Shabbat dinner in their own home. Parents were invited to the unveiling of the Shabbat boxes. Bringing parents into the conversation as much as possible is important since it extends the learning to the entire family. It takes more work to organize, invite and then run a program for them, but it's totally worth it!

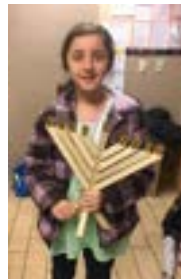


Parent-Child Chanukah Trivia

Grades included: Kindergarten

Date: December 2, 2018

Description: Kindergarten parents were invited to join their children in making Potato latkes, singing Chanukah songs and playing dreidel. The program included a trivia game teaching the Chanukah facts to the parents. Each child went home with their own Chanukah kit to celebrate the holiday.



Olive Oil Production

Grades included: 3—7

Date: December 5, 2018

Description: Living Legacy programs help bring holidays to children in a clear and hands on way. We try to schedule a few each year for the students. Here Rabbi Shmuli Friedman led a workshop on how real Olive Oil is made and the significance to the Chanukah Story.

Build a Menorah

Grades included: K-6

Date: December, 2018

Description: Every year, we make sure each class builds a different Menorah to take home and use for Chanukah. The Menorahs are different and creative each year and it brings a renewed excitement for the holiday. They also receive a page of blessings and the students practice leading the lighting of their new Menorahs so they can lead the family with this mitzvah.



Personalized Havdala Kit

Grades included: K—7

Date: December 16, 2018

Description: More than half the children in our school have never experienced a Havdala ceremony and while we periodically offer Havdala parties or Shabbatons, we still don't get full attendance after hours. This year we made an in school Havdala party where the students participated in the Havdalah ceremony. All classes then created their own spice box, Havdala candle and learned the blessings. Each child took home their havdala kit complete with a link to a You Tube Havdala song which we also previewed together.



Lego Mezuzah Covers

Grades included: K—7

Date: January 27, 2018

Description: In addition to our creative curriculum for every class, we try to make sure that basic Jewish topics are covered school wide. January 27 was Mezuzah Day. Every class learned about Mezuzas and created their own Mezuzah cover. Students chose between a painted mezuzah and a lego mezuzah kit. Scrolls were sold to families and they were given the option of having a Rabbi come to their home to help affix it.

Late Night Shabbat

Grades included: 4

Date: January 18, 2019

Description: The 4th graders were invited to a Late Night Shabbat at their teacher's home. Program included attending Kabbalat Shabbat services, enjoying a fancy four course Shabbat dinner and a game. Parents were invited to join for Kiddush and dessert and hear an inspiring Shabbat story.



Food Drive

Grades included: K-7 **Date:** January , 2019

Description: Our classes continuously talk about doing good for the world, and the classes voted on what kind of Chesed project they would like to do. The result was a school wide food drive for the Kosher Food bank.



Hidden Child Holocaust Speaker

Grades included: 6, 7 & parents **Date:** October 28, 2019

Description: Holocaust Survivor Ingrid Kennedy spoke to the older classes and parents about her experiences as a Hidden Child. We invited adults to join because their interest makes a strong impression on the students.

Chocolate in Shul!??

Grades included: K- 7

Date: February 8, 2019

Description: It's important to connect the Hebrew School families with the congregation especially since in our school you do not need to be a member in order to attend Hebrew School and there are many families that are not used to attending Shabbat and holiday services. To help bridge the gap, we made an enticing "Chocolate Shabbat" theme. The excited children begged their parents to come to Shabbat services—and once they came for the kids program, 90 % of the families joined Kiddush luncheon with the Synagogue families and made nice connections.





Shabbaton Sleepover

Grades included: 5-7

Date: February 1-2

Description: Our oldest classes enjoy a Shabbat sleepover that includes lots of food, games, discussions, Shabbat services and our famous KGB game that has them reenacting secret Jewish life under Soviet rule and ends with children ready to stand strong and proud as they identify with their Jewish heritage.

Shabbat on Sunday

Grades included: K-7

Date: February 3, 2018

Description: For families that don't observe Shabbat on a regular basis, learning about it once or twice will not suffice to make Shabbat an indelible part of their Jewish experience.

In addition to the real Shabbat options that we offer, we also reenact the Shabbat experience during Sunday class time. Each class had a prep job (making Matzah ball soup, baking challah, setting the table, etc) then we went from Candle lighting, to mini services and enjoyed a mini Shabbat meal with dramatic Shabbat story and ended with a vote on our favorite Shalom Aleichem Tune. Strong positive Shabbat memories were created!



Siddur Party

Grades included: 3

Date: February 10, 2019

Description: The 3rd grade spent a lot of time learning songs and prayer and then invited the parents to join a morning service where the students fluently led the entire service. Each child received their own brand new prayer book, made bookmarks, looked up the meanings of their Jewish names and Hebrew birthday, and enjoyed Alef Bet cookies that they worked hard to prepare.



March Madness Shabbat

Grades included: K-3

Date: March 1, 2019

Description: We do an annual Family Shabbat dinner each year and March Madness was our theme. The families were having so much fun meeting each other that no one wanted to leave when it was over. The children were proud of their prep efforts - cooking, baking and preparing the songs to lead at our family Shabbat dinner.



Megillah Hunt

Grades included: K—4

Date: March 10, 2019

Description: The Purim holiday was introduced with a Megillah hunt. They knew that there is a real Megillah somewhere in our building and once they found it, they got to explore it with the Rabbi and then went on to learn the Purim story in their classes.



Hamantash Baking

Grades included: K-7

Date: March 14, 2019

Description: The experience of cooking and baking Holiday food has a much bigger impression than just hearing about it or tasting, so we made sure that every class had the opportunity to make their own Hamantashen in honor of Purim. Chocolate was definitely the most popular filling.



Purim Carnival run by students

Grades included: K- 7

Date: March 17, 2019

Description: Purim carnivals can be more than just fun. The 5th, 6th and 7th grades worked hard to prepare a Purim carnival for the younger students. Each booth had to connect to the Purim story so that it was a fun learning experience for all ages. The older students realized that when you teach others you actually learn much more than sitting passively in a classroom.



Mishloach Manot Packing

Grades included: 3-7

Date: March 17, 2019

Description: Our students experienced the Mitzvah of Mishloach Manot first hand by helping to pack 400 bags and then dividing into carpools on Purim eve to help deliver many of them. They were excited to see that every single Hebrew School family received a personalized Purim gift bag.

Our Own Music Video

Grades included: ALL

Date: March, 2019

Description: Our school learned the song TODA by Benny Friedman, and created our own Music Video. The students are dancing their thanks and appreciation to G-d for all the blessings the He has given us. A peek into each class was also included—check it out: <https://tinyurl.com/SCmusicvideo>

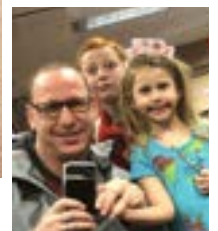


Seder Selfies

Grades included: K-7

Date: March 31, & April 14, 2019

Description: The 15 steps of the Seder were introduced with a hide and seek game where each team of students had to find all 15 steps and clue together their meaning. Then began a few weeks of Passover studies which culminated with a Grand Passover Experience where 200 people came to our walk thru Seder and left with lots of great selfies and most of all, very prepared and inspired to lead their own Passover Seders.





The Omer Treasure Hunt

Grades included: 3-7

Date: April 24, 2019

Description: The counting of the Omer was introduced with a treasure hunt complete with maps and a treasure representing the 7 weeks that the Jews had to wait before they received the greatest treasure of all—the Torah.



Jews Around The World

Grades included: 5-7

Date: May, 2019

Description: The 5th, 6th and 7th grades learned about Jewish communities all around the world and enjoyed hearing firsthand stories from visitors Danny Shafiyani from Iran who baked a Sephardi treat and Devorah Alevsky who told stories about Judaism under communism.



Tallis Factory

Grades included: 6 & 7

Date: May 12, 2019

Description: Living Legacy program by Rabbi Shmuli Friedman taught students the origin and meaning of the Tallit, and how to tie on their own Tzitzit.



Torah Drama

Grades included: 2

Date: May, 2019

Description: 2nd graders learned the Book of Exodus and ended their curriculum by creating a little performance for their parents. Under the supervision of a drama and art specialist, they drew props, performed a “slavery dance,” acted and sang the story of Exodus.



Jewish Cleveland

Grades included: 7

Date: May, 2019

Description: 7th graders visited and volunteered all around Jewish Cleveland in an effort to Live Jewish. This included Cemetery Clean up, a visit to a Kosher Butcher, watching a Scribe write a Mezuzah, volunteering at Friendship Circle, enjoying Hands on Pottery to make a real Elijahs’ cup, visiting 3 synagogues, exploring Kosher restaurants and shopping in a local grocery for Kosher food.



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Course

Grades included: 6th graders with a parent. **Date:** Feb–April, Sunday evenings

Description: A parent child Discovery course was taught to all 6th graders covering real life topics like Life Cycles, including Bris, Marriage, Shiva, Afterlife, as well as a Mikvah Tour. These conversations made becoming a Bar/bat mitzvah meaningful and real. Parents loved the opportunity to learn alongside their children, and many begin coming to adult education or Family classes as a result.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parent-Child Discovery Course	
Join your child as we learn together why we celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah and what being Jewish really means.	
All classes take place at Solon Clubed from 4:00 – 5:00 pm	
3/4	Class 1: Introduction - "The real Bar/Bat Mitzvah/birth of a Jewish Child"
3/11	Class 2: Life Cycles - Part 1 Birth/Bris/baby naming/Brisei Mitzvah/Tefillin
3/18	Class 3: Life Cycles - Part 2 Jewish Marriage/Chupah/ "Get"
3/25	Class 4: Life Cycles - Part 3 Jewish beliefs in death, mourning and afterlife
3/29	Class 5: Mikvah Tour
3/31	Class 6: Living Jewishly/Jewish Calendar/Challah baking

Kahoot or Cooking

Grades included: 3-7

Date: Every Wednesday

Description: Our older division gets to choose how to learn the weekly Torah Portion; either edible arrangements or with a computer Kahoot game. The students learn more and enjoy more when making an edible breast plate, Joseph's coat and Noah's ark etc.—all while looking in the text to figure out the correct information.



Aleph Champ One on One

Grades included: 3-6 **Date:** Every Sunday

Description: In addition to regular classroom learning, as well as the special activities detailed above, the 3rd—6th grade classes visit the Aleph Champ room each week where a whole separate program takes place. A team of tutors, the Aleph Champ director and teachers do one on one reading with each student, as well as small group activities using the special Aleph Champion system that excites children and inspires them to move up levels in their Hebrew Reading.

Goal—get the coveted Aleph Champ Trophy!



Shavuot Ice Cream Social

Grades included: K-7

Date: May 20, 2019

Description: In honor of the upcoming holiday of Shavuot, we had an entertainer do an Ice Cream show, and every child got their own ice cream to celebrate.

Every family received a paper invitation as well as a personal invite to attend the real Shavuot celebration on June 9th that will be complete with Ten Commandments Torah reading, and an Ice Cream/Cheese Blintz dairy buffet. Ten students will be presenting the Ten Commandments in Hebrew and English and our younger students will lead the Torah song in front of the congregation. This also helps Hebrew School families mix and meet families in the congregation and make them more comfortable in the Synagogue setting.

