



JOSEPH KUSHNER HEBREW ACADEMY RAE KUSHNER YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE-WIDE CELEBRATIONS IN FIRST AND SECOND GRADES PROVIDED THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF LEARNING AND FUN FOR CHANUKAH

First and second grades joined all their classes together to enjoy grade-wide celebrations for Chanukah. The activities were the perfect blend of fun for Chanukah with an enlightening interdisciplinary educational component. The second Grade students came together this week to share in an amazing, integrated, grade wide Chanukah celebration. Students made connections from their Judaic to their General Studies classes, deepening their understanding of the learning that occurs in each curriculum area. Students had the opportunity to compare and contrast the story of the Maccabim with the story of the Pilgrims, finding many similarities and differences between the stories. Additionally, students fried up delicious latkes, played a Chanukah game on the Smartboard, and built bar and picture graphs based on the results of a dreidel spin-off. Finally, students examined how the Chanukah candles changed from a solid to a liquid as they melted, connecting this physical change to the changes we have been exploring in our science unit on changes in matter. Their learning has really come to life through our celebration of Chanukah and the Mitzvot that are part of this wonderful Chag.

Kitah Alef students were excited to participate in the annual Chanukah Extravaganza. The children of both first grade classes were divided into small groups which rotated round-robin style through a multitude of activities led by the first grade teachers. The activities included Chanukah math, playing sevivon, matching singular and plural Chanukah words as well as opposites, and viewing a Hebrew video about a sevivon searching for a friend. In addition to enjoying the various activities, the children were excited to socialize with their friends from the other class. We were delighted to have Rabbi Rubin and Mrs. Finkelstein join the festivities!

