



ב"ה

Dateline CTA

September 2018
Elul 5778

Columbus Torah Academy
181 Noe Bixby Road
Columbus, OH 43213
(614) 864-0299
info@torahacademy.org
www.torahacademy.org

Rabbi Avrohom Drandoff
Head of School
Ext. 228

Nicole Miller
Lower School Principal
Ext. 215

Eliza Delman
Upper School Principal
Ext. 220

Shirly Benatar
Hebrew Dept. Chair
Ext. 229

Accredited by:
ISACS
Independent Schools
Association of the
Central States

Member of:
Torah Umesorah
Association of Modern
Orthodox Day School &
Yeshiva High Schools
(AMODS)

Columbus Torah Academy
is proud to be a beneficiary
agency of The Columbus
Jewish Federation. We
are an Equal Opportunity
Provider and Employer.

THE STARTING LINE

I have always been fascinated by the concurrence of the timing of each new school year and the oncoming of the High Holiday season. In truth, the beginning of the school year and the holiday season share similar qualities, which makes it appropriate that they share a similar time frame on the calendar.

Even as a child and even more so now, as a parent and an educator, the start of the school year is an opportunity to reimagine one's aspirations for growth. With new notebooks and freshly sharpened pencils, the beginning of school is a time when every student is offered a fresh start - a chance to either build on previous successes or forge a new path. It is a time to reflect and develop new hopes and dreams for the upcoming school year (again, both as a student and an educator).



Rosh Hashanah also offers the opportunity for a fresh start. It represents a point in the year where we are encouraged to pause and reflect and consider who we want to become. We are told by our Sages, that on Rosh Hashanah we are not necessarily judged on who we are now, but rather who we want to be.

In a series of writings and articles based on research, Jeff Howard and his team from The Efficacy Institute at Harvard University, concluded that students will perform in accordance with how they perceive themselves. If they believe they are capable of achieving great academic success, they are likely to do so. If however, a student does not see him or herself in high esteem, then unfortunately, they are likely to struggle to fulfill their potential. It is critical as educators and parents to support and encourage our children. We must remind them that they are capable of taking the action to achieve - with davening and hard work, anything is possible.

The 2018-19 school year should be a year filled with tremendous success and accomplishments for all of our students and our entire school community.

MAZAL TOV

Rabbi Avrohom and Hope Drandoff on the birth of a baby girl

Zachary Stern (Class of 2006) on the birth of a baby boy and to grandparents, Linda and Barry Starr

Michelle (Szames) O' Donnell (8th grade class of 1997) on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents Linda and Steve Szames, great grandparents Francine and Irv Szames and Miriam and Maynard Goldmeier

Philip Hackman (Class of 2007) on his engagement to Allegra Lewison of Coral Springs, Fl and to parents, Dr. Mark & Sandy Hackman

Lindsey (Chaya) Glazer (Class of 2000) on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents Cathy and David Schwartz

Jonah Stavsky (Class of 2014) on his graduation from Yeshiva University and to parents, Lisa and Seth Stavsky and grandmother, Ruth Stavsky

Max Herszage (Class of 2013) on his graduation from Yeshiva University and to parents, Shari and Dotan Herszage and grandmother, Cheryl Miller

Ellie Chase (Class of 2014) on her graduation from Yeshiva University and to parents, Drs. Leslie and Dan Chase

Alec Salutsky (Class of 2013) on his graduation from Yeshiva University and to parents, Shelly and Fred Salutsky

Max Kaley (8th grade Class of 2010) on his graduation from Columbia College Chicago

Zachary Stern (Class of 2006) on his graduation from Widener University with a PsyD and MBA

Marvin Blank (8th grade class of 1966) on the birth of a granddaughter and to parents, Maxx and Liraz Blank

Keshet (Shenkar) Starr (Class of 1999) on being named the new Interim Executive Director of The Organization for the Resolution of Agunot (ORA)

Garret Sobol (Class of 2006) on the birth of a son and to grandparents, Warren and Marlene Sobol

David Grinblatt (8th grade class of 1973) on the engagement of his daughter, Estee to Eliezer Dusowitz

Rabbi Avrohom and Miriam Goldstein on the birth of a son

Rabbi Zecharia and Leah Weitz on the birth of a daughter

Ari Weisfogel (Class of 2002) on the birth of a son and to grandparents, David and Rochell (8th grade class of 1969) Weisfogel

Cheri and Tod Friedman on the engagement of their son, Ross to Ari Scheier of Cincinnati

Danny (Class of 2011) and Valery (Galakachieva) (Class of 2010) Lebowitz on the birth of a son and to grandparents Dr. Al and Shelly Dembe and Timur and Natasha Galakchiev

Marc Romanoff (8th grade Class of 1986) on the birth of a grandson and to great grandparents, Ellen and Sonny Romanoff

Jonathan (8th grade Class of 1996) and Nicole Schottenstein on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents, Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein

David Schmelzer (Class of 2008) on his marriage to Jordana Pachter and to parents, Dr. Victor and Susan Schmelzer

Kyla Ciranni (Class of 2009) on her engagement to Jacob Kronman of The Wilds, Texas and to parents, Marge and Nick Ciranni

Jennifer (Cassell) Atkin (Class of 2004) on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents, Jonathan Cassell and Michele Cassell

Meir Hauser (Class of 2007) on his engagement to Elisheva Grob and to parents, Rabbi Yosef and Tovah Hauser

Dena (Handler) (Class of 2012) and Jake Mendel (8th grade class of 2007) on their marriage and to parents, Trina Handler, Aaron Handler, and Dr. Ehud and Sandra Mendel

Rod Chay (8th grade class of 1996) on his marriage to Jackie Steinbach and to parents, David and Sara Chay

Chaya (Kaltmann) (8th grade class of 2008) and Danny Gniwisch on the birth of a son and to grandparents, Esther and Rabbi Areyah Kaltmann

Dovid and Ayala Kohn on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Eliezer

Rabbi Daniel and Devorah Steinberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Avigdor

Rabbi Levi and Aviva Andrusier on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Bassie

Meira Zack (Class of 2007) on her marriage to Dr. Ben Gorbaty of Baltimore, MD and to parents, Rabbi Howard and Linda Zack

Chanan Siegel (Class of 2001) and Giselle Siegel on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents, Cantor Jeff and Tobi Siegel

Dr. Phillip Goldmeier (8th grade class of 1974) on the marriage of his daughter Molly to Jay Cohen of Dunwoody, Georgia and to grandparents, Dr. Maynard and Miriam Goldmeier

Leah Weintraub and Gregg Adams on the marriage of their daughter Dorit to Brandon Mittman

CONDOLENCES TO:

Sharon Eisenberg and Adam Eisenberg (8th grade class of 1987) on the loss of husband and father, Edward Eisenberg

Laura (Sussman) Faiella on the loss of her father, Isadore Sussman

Dora and Chuck Kopp and family on the loss of her brother, Eddie Feldman

Eugene Gakh, Faina (Gakh) Libicki (8th grade class of 1991) and Daniel Libicki (Class of 1995) on the loss of mother and grandmother, Sonya Gakh

Michael Katz (8th grade class of 1978), Arlene and Ami Sapir and Jennifer Schuman (Class of 1997) on the loss

of step-father and step grandfather, Leo Zelmanovich

Fran and Ron Golden, Eric Golden (8th grade class of 1986) and Steve Golden (8th grade class of 1988) on the loss of mother and grandmother, Celia Feldman

Lawrence Needleman, William Needleman (8th grade class of 2009) and Joshua Needleman (8th grade class of 2014) on the loss of wife and mother, Edith Needleman

Frayda (Rosenberg) Stone (8th grade class of 1976), Rabbi Jonathan Rosenberg (8th grade class of 1979), Aharon Rosenberg (8th grade class of 2004), Aliza (Rosenberg) Leither (8th grade class of 2003), Daniel Rosenberg (8th grade class of 2007) and families on the loss of mother and grandmother, Sylvia Rosenberg

Anne Bonowitz, Alan Bonowitz (8th grade class of 1976), David Bonowitz (8th grade class of 1977), Susan Bonowitz, and Spencer Epstein (Class of 2010) on the loss of husband, father and grandfather, Marvin Bonowitz

THANK YOU TO:

The following volunteers for helping to prepare Rosh Hashanah treats from the PTO for students: Shulamit Ginsburg, Sara Libby Epstein, Elaine Shindel, Esther Wilhelm, and Susie Wilhelm.

PTO for the delicious ice cream treats that were put in the staff lounges on the first Friday of school. It was a welcome snack and a fun way to celebrate the end of an amazing first week of school!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FACULTY

We are proud to welcome the new faculty and staff that have joined us this year. Their expertise in their field and enthusiasm for working at CTA is inspiring to all of us. Here is a little background information about each of them. We look forward to getting to know them more! New teachers are participating in a year-long induction program which includes mentorship.



Dr. Marla Arnold, School Psychologist. Dr. Arnold is a Licensed School Psychologist with Columbus City Schools; Master of Arts degree in Community Counseling from Loyola University, Chicago; Doctor of Philosophy degree from The Ohio State University in School Psychology.

Rabbi Chaim Davies, Upper School Judaic Studies Teacher. Rabbi Davies is from Toronto, Canada and studied in Israel for two years before moving to Miami, FL; earned a bachelor's degree in Talmudic Law and master's degree in Religious Education from Talmudic University of Florida; earned rabbinic ordination (s'micha) from Rabbi Zalman Nechemya Goldberg in Jerusalem; spent the past 5 years working in Jewish education and learning in South Florida.

Rabbi Yehoshua Greenspan, Upper School Judaic Studies Teacher. Rabbi Greenspan studied in Israel at Yeshivas Toras Moshe and then continued at Beth Medresh Govoha in Lakewood, NJ where he earned a Bachelor's in Talmudic Studies and received Semicha from the Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Malkiel Kutler. He completed the two-year Ner L' Elef training course in Jewish community leadership and education. He moved to Columbus to teach and study at the Columbus Community Kollel.

Amber Gibson, Fifth Grade General Studies Teacher. Mrs. Gibson has a Bachelor of Science with honors from Ohio University in Middle Childhood Education emphasizing English Language Arts & Reading and Science; graduate studies in Reading Education at San Diego State University and Ohio University; taught middle childhood level English, science, photojournalism, and photography since 2003 in Ohio and California; received 2014-2015 Teacher Leadership Award from Albert Einstein Academy in San Diego.

Emily Hulihan, NPSS Reading Tutor. Ms. Hulihan received her undergraduate degree from Xavier University in Communications; master's degree in Early Childhood Education from The Ohio State University; worked as an on-air news reporter and producer for WHSV in Harrisonburg, Virginia; held positions in education at C. Ray Williams Childhood Center, Bostic Head Start, Cedarwood Elementary, FCI Academy and Saint James the Less Elementary.

Yonit Kirschbaum, First Grade Judaic Studies Teacher. Morah Yonit attended Darchei Binah's Women's College for Jewish studies in Israel; worked as student counselor; undergraduate degree in Social Work and teaching certification from Bar Ilan University; Hebrew proficiency certified by Hebrew University; taught high level Jewish courses in two Jewish studies colleges in Jerusalem; most recently worked at Austin Jewish Academy teaching Grades K-3 Hebrew and Jewish Studies; trained in conscious discipline and project based learning.

Ayala Kohn, Fifth Grade Judaic Studies Teacher. Mrs. Kohn holds a BA in Journalism from Brooklyn College; she taught at Yeshivas Darchei Torah, Bais Yaakov of Detroit, consulted for Akiva Hebrew Day School (now Farber), Beth Shalom Religious school, and founded Aish in the Woods Sunday School and Family Learning Center; her teaching experience includes teaching fourth grade Judaic studies and fourth and fifth grade General Studies; she moved to Columbus in search of the right school for her children and found Columbus Torah Academy to be a good fit.

Chen Li Levy, Hebrew Language Teacher. Mrs. Levy is a native Hebrew speaker born in Israel; studied at The Ohio State University and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Hebrew language and a Master of Arts in FSLED (Foreign and Second Language Education); taught for past 15 years as a Hebrew lecturer and teacher at OSU.

Paige McKenzie, Kindergarten General Studies Teacher. Ms. McKenzie holds an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University in Early and Middle Childhood Studies; master's degree from The Ohio State University in Early Childhood Education; worked as preschool teacher at Hilltop Preschool; substitute teacher for Columbus City Schools; most recently as Data Coach at John Burroughs Elementary.

Donna Onesto, NPSS Reading Tutor. Ms. Onesto has an Elementary Administration Certificate from Ashland University; Master of Education in School Counseling from Kent State University; Bachelor of Science in Education from Kent State University; Licensed Professional Counselor from the state of Ohio; recognized as a Jennings Scholar - Martha Holden Jennings Foundation; worked as an elementary classroom teacher, elementary and middle school counselor, elementary principal, and part-time elementary and middle school reading tutor using Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) and Scholastic READ 180 reading programs in Columbus City Schools.

Michal Perlmutter, Upper School Judaic Studies Teacher. Mrs. Perlmutter studied at Michlala Jerusalem College; studied at Touro College for Women; earned bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from Excelsior College.

Joe Spurlock, Upper School Technology Integration Coordinator. Mr. Spurlock holds a Bachelor's Degree in Percussion Performance from The Ohio State University; completed teaching licensure at Capital University; worked in educational positions including presenter/educator at COSI, Literacy Interventionist for Columbus City Schools, and youth services for the Columbus Metropolitan Library; worked as a substitute teacher throughout Columbus and as a teacher/camp counselor for the Jewish Community Center; Mr. Spurlock will be working with Upper School students through experiential learning employing Micro:Bit and Arduino Microprocessors, Digital Audio Workstations (Logic Pro X), circuit building/soldering skills, 3D modeling and animation using Autodesk software, and various other exciting technology that will help to create a Maker culture at CTA.

Jennifer Swetnam, Speech and Language Pathologist. Ms. Swetnam holds a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and master's degree from the University of Akron; working as a Speech/Language Pathologist for 6 years; previously worked at Bridgeway Academy with students on the autism spectrum.

Rabbi Pinchas Weinreich, Second Grade Judaic Studies Teacher. Rabbi Weinreich studied in Israel at Mevaseret Tzion in Israel; earned bachelor's degree in Talmudic Law from Shor Yoshuv Institute in New York; studied at Ner Israel Rabbinical College; earned master's degree in Education from Johns Hopkins University; taught at the Columbus Community Kollel; played sports as a youth for the HAFTR Hawks.

Sarah Weinstein, Fourth Grade Judaic Studies Teacher. Mrs. Weinstein holds a bachelor's degree in Judaic Studies and Music from Stern College for Women; completed master's degree in Education from the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration; taught General and Judaic Studies in grades 2-4 in New Jersey and New York areas; played soccer at Stern College.

Dror Ziner and Ronit Ziner, Hebrew Language Teachers. The Ziner Family are spending a three-year Shlachut at CTA on behalf of the World Zionist Organization. Ronit is a Math teacher in Israel and has a B.A in Education & Math. Dror Ziner is an English teacher in Israel and has a B.A in Education & English Language and Literature, and is currently enrolled in Masters studies for a Master in Educational Technologies.

Naomi Zwelling, Learning Center. Mrs. Zwelling holds a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Buffalo State College; master's degree in Literacy Education; previously taught 1st and 4th grade in New York City.

CTA FIRST OHIO SCHOOL DESIGNATED PROJECT ADAM HEART SAFE SCHOOL (PHOTO)



Columbus Torah Academy has been designated to be the first Project ADAM Heart Safe School in Ohio. A Heart Safe School designation is attained by schools upon successful implementation of a quality sudden cardiac arrest program of awareness, training and effective emergency response to promote a Heart Safe environment for students, visitors and staff as outlined within the Heart Safe School Checklist.

The goal of Project ADAM is to prevent sudden cardiac death in children and adolescents through education and implementation of life-saving programs. A first responder team has been identified within the school, they are receiving training and have held their first emergency medical response drill.

Pictured is Dr. Naomi Kertesz, Project ADAM Medical Director with her staff assistant plus some of the CTA Emergency Medical Response Team following their drill.

KEEP IN TOUCH: OPT-IN WEEKLY COMMUNICATOR AND MONTHLY DATELINE

Electronic communications from CTA are set up to keep our school community informed about a variety of happenings, events and activities. We want to make sure you are on our mailing list.

If you want to receive the **CTA Weekly Communicator** which includes community events, lunch calendar, upcoming week's activities and a Shabbat Shalom Dvar Torah, opt in at:



Important events and news published weekly.

<https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=gixmuocab&p=oi&m=1102150262022&sit=ksq4zpldb&f=ed1d2cbf-e7a8-4c9d-af55-bacc718fe670>



Monthly CTA Dateline which includes calendar, upcoming events and articles about school activities, opt in at:
<https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=gixmuocab&p=oi&m=1102150262022&sit=ksq4zpldb&f=314c485b-2209-4a5b-8998-6f4ef82d1289>

If you have any questions, contact sherszage@torahacademy.org

FROM THE DESK OF ELIZA DELMAN, UPPER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



"Prepare your child for the road and not the road for your child."

At our Upper School Meet the Teachers/Curriculum Night, Mrs. Delman articulated the overarching educational philosophy for grades 7-12. Preparing our children for the unknown roads ahead of them involves having a growth mindset, nurturing grit and coaching students to develop the skills of speaking & listening. During Faculty In-Service, teachers discussed the video you can see here: <https://youtu.be/m51Qf8fc4UA>. It was designed for parents but very relevant for all of us. I encourage you to watch it.

Mrs. Delman also discussed two Upper School programs in 2018-19, both supported by grants. The Better Together program now in its 2nd and final year, allows our 9th and 10th graders to work with and develop relationships with the residents in Wexner Heritage Village. For the second program, all students in grades 7-12, will be the beneficiaries of our Experiential Learning Initiative grant from Community Grants and Jewish Education & Literacy Funds of the Columbus Jewish Foundation. With the introduction of a new staff position, Technology Integration Coordinator, Mr. Joe Spurlock is helping us establish a Makers' culture. This fall, each grade will have a day-long field trip to the Idea Foundry where they will experience both new and old technologies. Mrs. Delman talked about these two grants as being part of the overall goal of helping nurture students' self-esteem. Helping others and creating things are both valuable experiences that provide one with a sense of worth.

For information from Mrs. Delman, go to: <http://ekdelman.blogspot.com/>

Pictured are 7th grade students at their Idea Foundry workshop.



NEWS FROM UPPER SCHOOL JUDAIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT

By Rabbi Zecharia Weitz, Upper School Judaic Studies Coordinator

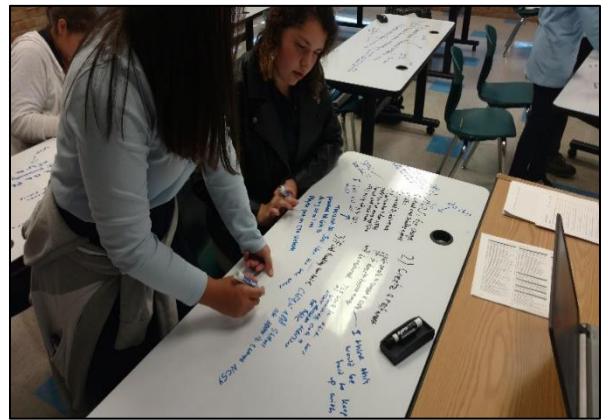


All New for 5778-9!

The most significant update to Upper School Judaic Studies is the fantastic new members who joined our staff. Does it stop there? Oh no siree! Here are a few of the improved features to look for this school year:

2 Classrooms Receive New Furniture -

Thanks to generation anonymous donations, 2 more Upper School classrooms have been updated with new furniture. The new dry-erase tables will better serve the needs of Judaic Studies learning environment.



Speed-Sharing Parsha -

Based on the [Speed Sharing presentation model](#), parsha in our US Chumash classes offer students the opportunity to learn a variety of insights in the weekly parsha from their own research and from their peers while sharpening their speaking and listening skills. Speaking and listening is one of the core skills used to support students.

Genius Hour - Back again, adapted from the [20% Time](#) initiative made famous by companies like Google, FedEx and 3M, [Genius Hour](#) is all about passion driven learning. Our 9th grade Navi class is taking Fridays to invest in interests under the umbrella of Judaism that may not be covered in the standard classroom. Every Friday will be devoted to exploring, learning, creating and discovering new turf in our Torah life. We have seen some remarkable Genius Hour endeavors in the past and we eagerly await what this year's stupendous Freshmen will create! Coming soon - IronMench 5779, Middot Lab and more...

FROM THE DESK OF NICOLE MILLER, LOWER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



PBIS: In the lower school, we have updated our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports system to include a 5th Middot - showing Hard Work. Every month, we will have short lessons within Judaic Studies to talk about our 5 middot: Respect, Friendship, Patience, Honesty, and Hard Work. Morah Savage will begin these lessons in September discussing what Respect looks like and sounds like within our school community. She will read the book, *"Have you filled a bucket today?"* by Carol McCloud to encourage discussion. We encourage you to partner with us as we work on

RESPECT - what does it look like and sound like at school, at home, and in your community. Please take the time to talk to your children of ways they can demonstrate this.

On Friday, August 31, we had a PBIS meeting with our 5th and 6th graders to talk about how PBIS looks different for older students. Fifth and 6th graders are now saving their lion notes and can turn them in every 6 weeks to cash in for a prize at our Lion Den store. We made these changes based on student input last year from Student Council members. Another exciting addition is that 6th graders will be applying for leadership positions inside the school such as school ambassador, hall monitor, and door greeter to name a few opportunities. The students who are hired for leadership positions will earn a CTA pin. The pin comes with privileges and freedoms like transitioning from period to period independently. We are excited to see our 6th graders grow as school leaders.

English Language Arts: This year we are growing our English Language Arts instruction into a balanced reading approach. Our guiding principles are the following:

Students MUST read high interest, accessible books.

Students MUST have time to read.

Student MUST have time to respond to text.

Students MUST receive explicit instruction in the process and skills of being a proficient reader.

Over the summer, our K-2nd grade teachers participated in Fundations training where they learned how to explicitly teach phonics and handwriting. Angela Ullum, Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School Principal, will coach our teachers during the school year in this instruction. Teachers already met with her on August 22 to discuss lesson planning.

3-6th grade teachers are using Columbia's Units of Study in Reading. This requires students to read at their independent reading level for longer periods of time. Research shows that the best way for students to grow as readers is to have time to read. As students read independently, teachers will confer one on one or in small groups to meet students' needs. Mrs. Miller will be coaching teachers in this process as well as providing ample time to plan.

To kick off our English Language Arts initiative, we have purchased classroom libraries so students have more books to read at their reading level in addition to our robust library! Stay tuned for more reading incentives that we will be taking this place to encourage the LOVE of Reading.

Parent Cafe: Please join Mrs. Miller for the first Parent Cafe on Friday, September 14, at 8:30 am to discuss our new reading programs.



Photo captions (L-R):

Kindergarten Families join together at Meet & Greet hosted by the Lefkovitz Family

Teachers act out PBIS skit about showing respect.

Mr. Bailey talks about PBIS in the front hallway

NEWS FROM LOWER SCHOOL JUDAIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT



By Rabbi Avrohom Drandoff, Lower School Judaic Studies Coordinator

The start of school brings the start of the Jewish new year and so many wonderful teaching and learning opportunities for our Lower School students to experience through all of their senses. This past week was full force ahead as classrooms were fully engrossed in learning about the laws and traditions of Rosh Hashanah. In many of the classrooms, we have also discussed the importance of teamwork, integrating the 5 middot into our learning and started to delve into Chumash curriculum. Please enjoy pictures from around the Lower School Judaic classrooms!





Sound: Each morning, during the month of Elul, during morning tefilla, the students hear the shofar being blown. They stop, stand and listen to the sounds in preparation for Rosh Hashanah.

Taste: 5th grade started the baking season by making honey cake which will taste delicious when they bring it home to their families,, but definitely stimulated our taste buds through the amazing aroma in the building.

the importance of the Hebrew month of Elul leading up to Rosh Hashanah. Pictured are students with their Song of Songs drawings. In Hebrew, the phrase from that passage "I am my beloved and my beloved is to me" is the acronym E.L.U.L.



Touch: Kindergartners and Seniors made their annual trip to the apple orchard to pick the traditional fruit of Rosh Hashanah. While they cut their trip short because of the super-hot and humid weather, they had a great time picking and tasting.

4th graders headed outside to our beautiful wooded area and creek to practice Tashlich – a meaningful tradition that is usually observed on the 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah until Yom Kippur.



Enjoy a few other pictures:



1st graders enjoying a team building balloon exercise (1)

Nothing like a spontaneous Hatikvah on the playground during recess! (2)

Check out our benching stars! (3)

3rd graders creating a skit about the 4 steps of teshuva (4)

NEWS FROM HEBREW LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT



By Shirly Benatar, Hebrew Language Department Chair

New Year, New Energy

The new school year has started with renewed energy and a renewed Hebrew Department!

We excitedly welcome new faculty members Chen Li Levy (MA in FSLED), and our new Morim Shlichim from Israel Ronit Ziner (BA in Ed. & Math) and Dror Ziner (BA in Ed & English). They join CTA veteran teachers. Malca Makias, Eva Chaykin, and Diana D'Angelo-Wolff. It is my pleasure to work with this entire team!

In August, our new team traveled to Hebrew College in Boston for a five-day conference focused on best-practice for Hebrew language instruction in general, and the implementation of our new Upper School Curriculum "Bishvil Ha'Ivrit". This cutting-edge Hebrew curriculum was developed especially for Upper School students by language specialists from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and The Center for Educational Technology (CET) in Israel. It is a dynamic curriculum which brings Hebrew alive with print and digital media and cultivates all aspects of modern Hebrew language learning - grammar and content, conversations and literature, topics for lively discussion, poetry and daily life in Israel, current events and Biblical texts, history and more. In Boston, our team learned a lot, interacted with leaders in the field from all over the world, and we bonded as a collaborative teaching team (see pictures). "This is the most comprehensive Hebrew curriculum I have ever seen in my career" said teacher Chen-Li Levy.

Following this week-long intensive and enriching professional development we dedicated an entire day for Hebrew Department orientation, to plan and collaborate for the coming weeks.

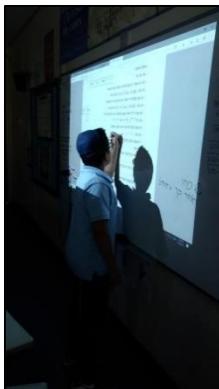
For the first week of school, our team coordinated "Our Summer מלחמת שולחן", a school wide project that integrated introductions and familiarity with the map of the State of Israel. Students spent the first days of classes with introductions to each other, to class rules and learning skills, to new books, and to their new teachers. We used smart boards, cards, games, Israel map puzzles, and more to reflect on summer vacations and to share while exploring Israel's map (see pictures). Our students used their listening and writing skills; they wrote Hebrew cards describing their friend's (not their own...) likes and dislikes and summer experiences. Those reflections-cards are displayed on cards and decorate our hallway bulletin boards.

Many of our Upper School students traveled to Israel and some visited familiar faces. The Bar Asher family hosted several families and students (see pictures), and they sent good wishes to everyone in Columbus.

As I wrote above, the Hebrew Department is renewed, with fresh eyes, experiences, curriculum, and ideas. We are dedicated to continuing the work that was done the past two years to build a strong Hebrew language program which teaches useful, usable language emphasizing basic grammatical concept at a deeper level. Our goal is to teach narrow and deep rather than shallow and wide, using a variety of instructional tools.

Good curricular materials will support us in the classroom. In Upper School we are piloting the new innovative curriculum "Bishvil Halvrit", as described above. In Lower School, we continue to use Ivrit MiBereshit as the anchor of our curriculum and other sources to create units as well as the Ivrit B'Click, an online teaching resource for elementary grades, also published by the Center for Educational Technology (CET) in Israel, to enhance our instruction. We look forward to an exciting and productive year ahead!

The entire Hebrew Department, Morah Malca, Morah Eva, Morah Chen-Li, Moreh Dror, Morah Dina, Morah Ronit and I, wish you and your family שנה טובה ומתוקה Shanah Tovah U'metukah, a sweet and wonderful year.



Drew Samuelson visited with the Bar Asher family this summer. (1)

Second grade students in Hebrew class. (2 and 3)

Third Grade with Morah Chen-Li: assembling a Hebrew puzzle of the State of Israel (4)

Sixth Grade Advanced Hebrew students answering questions on the board, in Morah Ronit's class. (5)

Upper school students in different classes are exploring their knowledge of the State of Israel's map (6)

The Hebrew team spent a week-long Professional Development seminar about Hebrew instruction and the new "Bishvil Halvrit" curriculum, at Hebrew College in Boston (7)

LUNCHTIME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mrs. Tanenbaum is seeking volunteers to fill slots to help serve lunch. These are highly coveted volunteer jobs where you have the joy of seeing each student as they come through the lunch line. Volunteers need to commit to one day per month from 10:45 am until 12:30 pm. Give & Get hours will be earned. To volunteer, email to kstanenbaum@torahacademy.org

CTA LION APPAREL ONLINE STORE

The Columbus Torah Academy Lion Apparel store is now open! You can purchase CTA Lion logo items at <https://columbustorahacademy.itemorder.com/sale>. Sales are ONLY available online. The store will close on September 17.

Please remember, not all items in the store meet CTA Uniform and Dress Code Policy for daily wear to school. Most outerwear is acceptable. Consult the CTA website for the uniform and dress code policy at <http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/uniform-policy/>.

Items purchased through the online store will be delivered to CTA in early October and distributed to students or available for parent pickup.



CTA LUNCH MENU & SCHOOL EVENTS (<http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/calendar/>)

Check this for after school activities, sports events and more.

School Links for Parents (<http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-page/>)

Sept. 10-11: Rosh Hashanah, NO SCHOOL
Sept. 14: Lower School Parent Cafe with Mrs. Miller, 8:30 am, CTA
Sept. 17: Scholarship Dinner Kickoff Meeting, 7:00 pm, Lessnick Home
Sept. 18-19: Yom Kippur, NO SCHOOL
Sept. 24-25: Sukkot, NO SCHOOL
Sept. 30: Hebrew Story Time at Israeli Sukkah, 12-2 pm, Livneh-Dill Home
Oct. 1-3: Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah, Travel Day, NO SCHOOL
Oct. 10: PSAT/NMSQT for 10th and 11th grade students
Oct. 16: School Picture Retake Day
Oct. 16: Kindergarten Prospective Parent Open House, 7 pm
Oct. 17: Kindergarten Prospective Parent Open House, 9 am
Oct. 25: Shabbat Project 614 Challah Bake, 7 pm, CTA

Go Lions! Keep up with the CTA sports schedule at <https://columbustorahacademy.teamapp.com/>

SHABBAT and HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHTING TIMES FOR SEPT. and early OCT.

Sept. 7: 7:35 pm
Sept. 9: 7:31 pm
Sept. 10: 8:38 pm
Sept. 14: 7:23 pm
Sept. 18: 7:16 pm
Sept. 21: 7:11 pm

Sept. 23: 7:08 pm
Sept. 24: 8:15 pm
Sept. 28: 7:00 pm
Sept. 30: 6:57 pm
Oct. 1: 8:03 pm
Oct. 5: 6:49 pm



JOIN PTO AND GET A FAMILY DIRECTORY

Wondering where to get a list of CTA families? Planning a birthday party or b'nai mitzvah? Searching for the name of a high school student to babysit? Look no further than the CTA PTO Directory. You don't have one? Make sure to sign up for PTO if you haven't already done so as it is a perk of membership. PTO Dues are

\$25 yearly, \$210 Lifetime Member (that's forever!). Stay connected. You will still get a directory even after the kids graduate! Pay directly via Paypal to pto@torahacademy.org or on the CTA website using this link: www.torahacademy.org/pto

PTO SELLING GRATITUDE GRAMS

PTO continues to sell "Gratitude Grams" giving parents and students the opportunity to thank CTA teachers and staff.

For \$1 you can purchase a sheet with 4 Gratitude Grams. They can be purchased by emailing PTO at pto@torahacademy.org or going to <http://www.torahacademy.org/pto-gratitude-grams/>. Orders will be delivered to your child to take home. PTO will also be selling them near the front desk and will do so every two weeks or so.



Parents or students should fill them out and deliver them to the front desk. Student Council will then deliver the grams to their recipients.

It is important to note that these are different from Lion Notes. Lion Notes are given to students from teachers or from teacher to teacher. Gratitude Grams are given from parents to CTA staff (not just teachers). For instance, has a teacher gone out of their way for your student recently? Has a staff member helped facilitate something special that has enhanced your student's education? It's the little acts of kindness that happen every day that are nice to have recognized.

If you have any questions, contact Beth Binsky at beth@2828design.com

TZEDAKAH BOX TURN IN



If you have a CTA Tzedakah Box, don't forget to fill it and empty it often. **THE NEXT SCHEDULED DROP OFF DATE IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018.** You can choose to send in a check with the amount of the contents or put the change and cash into an envelope or baggie and send in with your child. Amounts are counted towards your Give and Get and are a great addition to the donations the school receives. If you need a new or more Tzedakah boxes, contact Shari.

GIVE & GET

More info can be found at www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/give-and-get/

Tribute Donation: Contact Lesa, Shari or submit donation on line at www.torahacademy.org for all in honor, in memory or milestone tributes to family and friends.

Kroger Rewards Card: Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards and register your rewards card. Kroger will donate up to 1% of your purchases from Kroger or Turkey Hill stores.

OFFICE MAX: Max Perks card number is: 207285005

Target RED Card: Go to <https://rcam.target.com/> to manage your red card and enroll your card in the Take Charge of Education program to choose CTA. Target will donate up to 1% of your REDcard purchases at Target stores in the U.S and at Target.com.

Amazon Smile: Go to www.smile.amazon.com and register to benefit CTA. When you make a purchase, CTA will receive 1% of that purchase as a donation to our school.

iGive: Register with iGive at www.igive.com and your Amazon purchases and online purchases at close to 1500 retailers will give a kickback to CTA. To date we have raised over \$1200.

Apples for Students at Giant Eagle: Go to www.GiantEagle.com/AFTS to register for their donation program. You will need your Giant Eagle Advantage Card number and the CTA School Code which is #4389.

Magazine Sales Help the 8th graders year-round when you purchase magazines at www.gaschoolstore.com using their code # 2522449



Shoparoo Download the app to your smartphone and start earning points by snapping pictures of your receipts. Do you use a smartphone? Do you ever go to the store and buy anything? These are the two things you need in order to help CTA earn money through Shoparoo. There is no cost to you. Snap a photo of a receipt from a store you made a purchase at and CTA earns points that are converted to \$++. Best fun is that your points are posted and you can see who the leaders helping CTA earn money are. To date, there are 38 supporters and some are very active. Imagine how much money we could earn if you participated? For more information or to help out, contact Shari and she can walk you through it. **FOR LAST SCHOOL YEAR WE RAISED \$210.**

TZEDAKAH

It has been a time-honored Jewish tradition to give tzedakah in recognition of important events. Todah Rabah to the following for their donation:

To the Annual Fund:

- Bob and Marcia Hershfield in memory of Evsey Neymotin
- Jackie and Cheryl Jacobs in honor of Ely Zofan
- Josh and Amy Greenberg to David and Gayle Rosen in honor of Ben's Bar Mitzvah and in memory of Nicole and Jonathan Schottenstein's grandfather, Rabbi Simeon Schreiber
- Tod and Cheri Friedman to Rob and Elaine Joseph in honor of Dick and Gabby's engagement

- Rabbi Ilan and Rebecca Schwartz in honor of Rabbi Avrohom and Hope Drandoff
- The CTA Class of 2003 in memory of Evsey Neymotin
- Yitzchak Gold in memory of sister, Sonia G. Fesman, A'H
- Norman and Suzanne Schneiderman in honor of Rachel Wolf's graduation from CTA High School
- Bob, Patti, Josh and Rachel Wolf in honor of Helen Miller's retirement
- Bob, Patti, Josh and Rachel Wolf in celebration of Rabbi and Hope Drandoff's new daughter
- Rabbi Avrohom and Hope Drandoff in honor of the birth of their new daughter
- Ami and Arlene Sapir in honor of their grandsons, Jacob and Noah Schuman
- Fred Magaziner in memory of Maya Shnaider
- Chad Silverstein in honor of the leadership team at CTA
- Dr. Joel and Lynn Fisher in memory of Bob Lane
- Dr. Joel and Lynn Fisher in memory of Lana Covel

Sponsor a Day of Learning:

- Henry and Candis Schwarz in honor of the birthday of Irving "Buddy" Adler, CTA board member, alumni parent and supporter on his special birthday.
- David and Ayala Kohn and Family in honor of Upper School Principal Eliza Delman
- Sara Pfaff and family in memory of beloved husband and father, Frank Pfaff

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Give your child a Jewish day school education.

EXPLORE CTA



Now Accepting Applications for Fall 2019

At Columbus Torah Academy, we lay a foundation for a successful academic future for your child that is strong in General and Judaic Studies with the warmth, security and love of a Jewish home. Come visit. Take the tour. See for yourself.

Prospective Parent Open House
October 16 at 7 pm and October 17 at 9:00 am

Columbus Torah Academy
181 Noe Bixby Road
www.torahacademy.org

To schedule a private tour and find out more about our curriculum, contact Shari Herszage at sherszage@torahacademy.org or 614-864-0299

Inspire. Learn. Achieve.



THE GREAT BIG CHALLAH BAKE.

OCTOBER 25, 2018
Columbus Torah Academy
7 pm

REGISTER NOW!
shabbatproject614.org
 Shabbat Project 614

Havdalah Concert
Oct. 27
Tifereth Israel

Shabbat Project 614
KEEPING IT TOGETHER

Chai Risers

Loaves of Love

Challah Mavens



Annual Scholarship Dinner
Save the Date
Sunday, December 2, 2018

Celebrating Sixty Years through the lens of Presidential Leadership and Generations of CTA Families



PHOTOS AROUND CAMPUS



Teacher In-Service: Teachers compete in rousing game of Rock, Paper, Scissors as they prepare for working together as a team.

Faculty- Student Softball game: Fourth annual tradition at CTA in the fall.



First Days of School Slide Show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wa2rXTX5cd8&feature=youtu.be>

Alumni as CTA Faculty and Staff: Pictured are graduates from CTA who now work here. Not pictured: Joel Greff



Fall Sports are underway. Come check out the Middle School and Varsity Volleyball and Soccer teams. Their schedules can be found at <http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/calendar/> (not pictured is Varsity Soccer – some players missing from other teams)