

The Fourth Grade Free Press
Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor
September 10, 2004
Morah Eileen

"You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give."-
Winston Churchill (quoted in Neal Elyakin's article in this month's Washtenaw Jewish News)

תודה רבה *Todah Rabah* to the **fourth graders**, who make my *living*
as a teacher such a rewarding part of my *life*!

כל הכבוד *Kol HaKavod* Good job, **fourth graders** on your hard work
and efforts in establishing routines, making the most of class time,
and completing homework in a timely and careful way.

תודה רבה *Todah Rabah* to **Mickie**, who is this week's **Student of the
Week**.

תודה רבה *Todah Rabah* to **Liad, Gabby Z., and her Ganster
brother, Danny**, who came in before school started and helped set
up the classroom. My apologies for inadvertently omitting your
names last week.

We remember all those whose lives were changed forever, three years
ago on September 11th, and honor all those who gave the ultimate
sacrifice to help save others.

שנה טובה *Shanah Tovah* Happy New Year! May we be inscribed
for a good and sweet new year!

Wanted! (Please): one or two parents to volunteer to be the fourth
grade's Room Parent(s). Please let **Mickie's or Gabby's mothers**
(co-leaders of the PTO) know if you are interested or if you would like
more information.

רפואה שלמה *Refuah Shlemah* (A complete recovery) to **Menashe
Ben Rachel, and all others** in need.

What's up?

- The fourth graders are becoming very interested and knowledgeable about different aspects of the American election process. A clear sign that they are understanding the complicated ideas that they are reading is that several students were able to illustrate very clearly in front of the class the difference between electoral and popular vote and the advantages and disadvantages of each. We also examined a method of conveying political opinion - an *editorial cartoon*. The students wrote about the message conveyed about swing states.
- In math, we continued our review/introduction of skills such as problem-solving techniques, terms and symbols including *ascending, descending, sum, square numbers, < , > ,* and briefly, the symbols \leq and \geq . Students solved 'mystery numbers'. Each mystery number had four clues to define it. As well as understanding the terms, (*e.g., consecutive ascending digits, the sum of the digits equals X,*) they needed to proceed in a logical and methodical manner. The students seemed to particularly enjoy solving these mysteries.
- Life in fourth grade is good here in the troposphere. The fourth graders read text passages dealing with the *Ocean of Air*. They have been learning steps on how to read and summarize informational texts and to take good notes.
- Well, grownups, it seems that a lot of fourth graders think that a child might be able to do a better job as president than grownups can. Discussions of *The Kid Who Ran for President* brought a lot of good ideas to the surface. This writer believes that there may be a future candidate or two from the fourth grade class. (*Fourth graders, you can acknowledge your fourth grade teacher in your acceptance speeches!☺*)
- Remember, fourth graders, to read *at least* twenty minutes a day, and, with all of the holidays coming up, don't forget to *read, read, read!*
- Friday Folder: Parents, please look over your children's work and their blue Friday Folder sheets. Please sign the bottom of the blue sheet. Fourth graders, please correct and/or finish any

work that needs it, return it to the Friday Folder, and hand in the folder on Monday. Put some of the work back into your binder once your parents have seen it. (Examples of this might be notes to help you study for a test.) Other papers should be left at home.

- Parents, please remind your children to show you their finished homework and please sign the homework booklet daily to show that you have done so. Most fourth graders are getting into the swing of things and are ready right away after lunch with their homework booklet and homework out on their desks.

Coming up:

- No school - Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- Parent Orientation night - Wednesday, September 22nd.

Shabbat Shalom! שבת שלום

Shanah Tovah! שנה טובה