

Dear Friends.

Like all of the Jewish people worldwide, our hearts and minds are with our brothers and sisters in Israel. It is hard to think about or focus on anything else right now. However, due to non-negotiable deadlines and the pressing issue of families in our community needing tuition assistance, we have no choice but to also use our time and resources now to run our annual STC campaign.

In 2017, Agudas Israel played a critical role in the passage of the Invest in Kids Act, otherwise known as "STC" (Scholarship Tax Credit program). The STC program provides up to \$100,000,000 in private school K-12 scholarships to children from low-income and working-class families. Scholarships are funded through private donations from individuals and corporations to scholarship granting organizations, like Big Shoulders Fund and Empower Illinois, which administer the program.

Since the program launched in 2018, over \$40 million has been donated to fund students attending Orthodox Jewish schools funding nearly 4,000 scholarships.

The Scholarship Tax Credit program serves as a financial lifeline for families struggling to pay tuition. As a relatively new and smaller school we have limited sources of funding, and the STC program has provided tuition assistance that we on our own would not be able to sustain. The amazing thing about STC is that you can channel your tax dollars to Jewish education, as you will get 75% of the donation back as a tax credit! Additionally, the other 25% will count towards your give/get obligation!

This year Shaarei Chinuch has a goal of raising \$70,000 to fund the scholarships on our waitlist, and we have a little over a month to make it happen. We are asking for your support in the form of generously redirecting your IL taxes into STC donations. If you are not yet familiar with this program, please reach out to Mushky for more information!

\*Please note: When making your donation through Empower Illinois or Big Shoulders Fund, we are listed as "Dr Chaim Cember Shaarei Chinuch Day School."

May our collective generosity and support of Jewish education bring blessings to all of the Jewish people!

Sincerely,

Mushky Kulek and Daniella Adar, co-directors

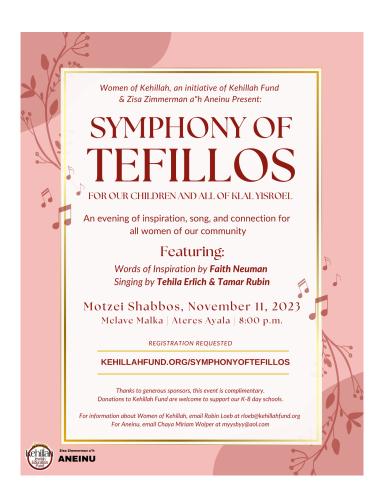
#### Announcements:

 We are starting a sign in/out system for students who arrive late (after 9am) or leave early (before 1pm/3:40pm). Please make sure to stop by the office to sign in/out before you leave. Thank you.

#### Thank You To ....

- Avigail and Menucha Bakaleynik for beautifully organizing our storage room.
- The Elementary parents for attending our parent's night.
- Hannah Pham and Danielle Nathanson for keeping our break room stocked.

# Please consider registering for this free Melava Malka for Women!



# Letters From Our Specialty Teachers:

#### Musical Notes By: Morah Talia Zisook

We are exploring some big ideas, like our belief in the one and only Hashem.

Here's an excerpt from a song we are learning about the Rambam's 13 Priciples of Faith. It's called "I Believe" by Rabbi Mordechai Dubin:

I believe that Hashem made this world Every plant and every squirrel Every boy and every girl.

I believe that Hashem is in control 0Of every action that unfolds And every story ever told.

And I believe Hashem is One He's everywhere and in everyone I believe b'Emunah sheleima

He's in the water and in the air There's no place that He's not there Ani ma'amin b'Emunah sheleima.

To hear the full song, check out Rabbi Dubin's video on YouTube!

(\*Include link?)

We also learned this song about family:

I want you to meet my family
In Hebrew we call them mishpacha (mishpacha!)
We all live in a bayit (bayit!)
Me, my Ma and Pa.

There's my daddy, he's Abba, say Abba (Abba!)
My mommy, she's Eema, say Eema (Eema!)
And these are the members of my family, my family, my family.

I want you to meet my family
In Hebrew we call them mishpacha (mishpacha!)
We all live in a bayit (bayit!)
The kids of my Ma and Pa.

There's my brother, he's ach, say ach (ach!)
My sister, achot, say achot (achot!)
My father, he's Abba, say Abba (Abba!)
My mother, she's Eema, say Eema (Eema!)
And these are the members of my family, my family, my family.

I want you to meet my family
In Hebrew we can them mishpacha (mishpacha!)
We all live in a bayit (bayit!)
The pets of my Ma and Pa.

There's my dog, he's kelev, say kelev (kelev!)

My cat, chatul, say chatul (chatul!)

My brother, he's ach, say ach (ach!)

My sister, achot, say achot (achot!)

My father, he's Abba, say Abba (abba!)

My mother, she's Eema, say Eema (Eema!)

And these are the members of my family, my family.

Stay TUNED for more! Morah Talia

### Navi Notes

In Navi this week, we continued to learn about Hashem's instructions to Yehoshua as he stepped into his role as leader. "Chazak V'ematz! Be strong, and be brave!" Hashem tells Yehoshua to be strong as he faces the challenges ahead and to stay true to the Torah no matter what. The girls are stepping into the mindset of Yehoshua as they work on their first-person journals recounting the events we learn. We imagined him feeling lots of emotions at once: scared, excited, brave, hopeful, worried, anxious, overwhelmed - oh, my! Looking forward to seeing what will happen next!

~Aliza Rosenbaum

## Violin Ventures

Hi everyone, I'm Aviva Chertok Li, the new violin teacher at Shaarei Chinuch! This month, we started violin class and I am thrilled that my five students, Devorah Leah, Minya, Abby, Tali, and Chana are so excited to embark on this musical journey with me. Everyone got beautiful instrument rentals from Seman Violins in Skokie, and came prepared to learn with their music stands and music books, and other fun violin supplies. We played a version of the Simon Says game (we called it 'Violin Says') to learn how to hold our violins in 'rest position' and 'play position.' We also learned how to pluck our four strings: E, A, D, and G, and even started reading music notes in our new books. We're off to a great start!

~Aviva Chertok

# Pictures!





















