



Hampstead Garden Suburb Hebrew Classes

Shabbat Workshop

The children enjoyed a fun packed Sunday morning learning all about Shabbat. There were 5 stations, each teaching another aspect of Shabbat. Many thanks to the parents who volunteered to learn about Shabbat in detail, and look after the different activities for the duration of the morning.

STATION 1

Grape juice and Wax candles



Thank you for the opportunity of presenting the wine-making and candle-making workshop to the children at the Cheder. It was a lovely experience for



both Amanda and I, and we hope for the children, also. In preparing for the event, we researched the halachik laws pertaining to wine-making and candle-making, along with the rites and practices of drinking wine and lighting candles. We aimed to include both aspects in each of the presentations.

With the wonderful props provided by Rabbi Simon, Amanda and I were able to provide interactive reinforcement to the children's learning, with greater emphasis to the activity placed with the little ones, and more detailed information delivered to the older children. All the children had a go at making a candle; most crushed some grapes and, a few brave ones crushing the grapes with their hands; with their bare feet. Additionally, when and why we daven with wine and candles was delivered in a



question & answer session, followed by having the children actually reciting the blessing over wine, with a glass of grape juice. The children frequently asked about how wine derives its colour. They were interested in the puzzle of how grape juice can be made halachikally, given the requirement of keeping the grape must together with the skins –which would lead to natural fermentation. Answer: by heating the grape must beyond the temperature at which yeasts and enzymes denature.



Jason and Amanda Leighton

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IN THIS ISSUE.....

1. Shabbat Workshop
2. Chanukah at HGS
3. Reading champs
4. End of Year performances
5. GIFT



STATION 2

Challah Covers



used at home. The older children traced their



Not nice to were out - is was to see



faces this very interactive way of learning.
David Grossman and Melinda Shaw

In one group, the children were given the chance to make a challah cover. We used cloth napkins and fabric pens which meant each child was able to take a home a quality challah cover that could actually be used at home. The older children traced their own pictures and Hebrew letters and the younger ones coloured in a pre-drawn version.



While the children were working on their creations, we talked to them about some of the reasons for having a challah cloth. Hopefully they took away a bit of the learning alongside their personal masterpiece! From a parent's perspective, this was a great way to spend a morning.

only was it feel we helping but there hugely rewarding so many children's delight at

STATION 3

CHALLAH WORKSHOP

Jonathan did research on check we stuff, but more was the what to cover so that we over or under



some google challah to knew our what proved important check list of with timings neither ran



it home! We also discovered how exhausted we were after running 5 sessions back to back, and have a new

you have to complete activities within a minute or two of the other groups.

On the day itself, we helped to set up the hall and then the challah chaos began....

The funniest answers were when we asked if anyone was allergic to anything - we had children telling us: "raw dough", "ham", "prawns", and "tomatoes". We also had to tell several kids that the challah they had made was kosher and they could take



found respect for the Cheder teachers as we were shattered afterwards!

It was a lot of fun and we will do it

again, though it is hard to juggle the kids pre and post cheder with both of us helping. There were also a lot of parents volunteering on the day - please sign up in advance as it would have been great to plan in more help in advance.

Jonathan and Jane Dimson



STATION 4

Wheat Harvesting



Rabbi Yossi Simons, demonstrated a very interesting and informative session on Wheat harvesting. He went through the process with the children, showing how we get the



flour, which our Challot are made from. They started with a ...of wheat, blew off the kernels, and sifted through, till they were left with the fine flour, which we are familiar with.



STATION 5

Shabbat Brainstorming

"Daniel Shaw (father of Louis and Zak) and I (father of Amanda) conducted the Shabbat brainstorming. Our session consisted of almost half of an hour of discussing Shabbat with the children. This had to be repeated five times, as there were five different groups, and required some adjustments for the different age groups. We began with the preparations for Shabbat and finished with Havdallah. This



included lots of themes such as how two angels accompany Daddy home from shul on Friday evenings, the lighting of the candles, challah, of the week Vayetzee) morning, on Shabbat



which we showed the children a Havdallah candle). It was a real pleasure teaching the children and we were impressed by how much they already knew about Shabbat - for example one boy in year 4 knew that Shabbat began 18 minutes before sunset without being told by us!"

Daniel Shaw and Gary Mond

CHANUKAH AT HGS



Reception made a Sand Art picture of a Menorah



Year 1 made Traditional Menorahs



Year 2 made beautiful 'Chanukah' Menorahs



Year 3 made Dreidel Menorahs



Year 4 made Train Menorahs

Year 5 made Truck Menorahs, unfortunately we do not have a picture to represent their class Menorah. But they looked AMAZING!!!



Year 6 made Helicopter Menorahs

End of Year Performance

Years Reception to Year 3 at HGS Cheder, put on Beautiful Chanukah shows for the Parents to come and watch. The teachers outdid themselves and the children were BRILLIANT!! The shows were enjoyed by all the parents and children in the Cheder.





GIFT IT FORWARD
A PROJECT OF
GIFT
IN CONJUNCTION WITH HGSS

HGSS, together with the charity GIFT, are delighted to launch a new initiative in our community. We are offering the opportunity for children of all ages to donate one or more of their birthday presents to a good cause.

There will be boxes situated, during the week, in the hall foyer and at Kerem House. Children who would like to donate a birthday present will have the opportunity to deposit it into one of these boxes.

The presents will then be distributed to children's charities every month by a delegation of 12 children.

It is our hope that this project helps us in our goal to promote the value of chesed in our community.

If you would like any more information, please contact Dara on team@donatemypresent.com .



jews making a difference