



Hillel Highlights

November 28, 2011

THANKSGIVING ... IN THE REAR-VIEW MIRROR – Like many of you last Wednesday, we rushed home after school, poured our travelin’ stuff into the car, and headed out of town to visit family and celebrate Thanksgiving. We blinked and found ourselves greeting children this morning here at Hillel! In between, as we enjoyed the quiet ride to Detroit, or catching up on all the news while messing about in mom’s teeny kitchen, or finding out the juiciest family gossip from our nephews and nieces, we did what we often do – we thought and talked about you. We found ourselves telling



stories about how much the children have learned and grown in the first 60 days of school. We talked about funny things they’ve said, interesting insights they’ve made in their work, and how they’ve developed a greater sense of community. We proudly told stories about our dedicated and talented staff and directed family to our web site ... just in case they might want to see for themselves. We talked about how much we’ve learned from the parents and members of the greater Dayton Jewish community and how a thriving Hillel is such an important part of the Dayton community. Then, like you, we blinked and found ourselves back at school and looking forward to the work ahead. We’ve lots to do, but we are pleased with the direction we’re headed, and glad to be along for the ride.

SECOND BLESSING LIVE ON YOUTUBE - We’re proud to announce that our students successfully recorded the second blessing of the Birkat HaMazon and that it is live and being shared on YouTube. You can view the video simply by going to our home page and clicking on the YouTube link at the bottom of the page. There are many recordings of the first blessing, but few of the second, so we’re proud that our students have made their recording. The second blessing begins with the words Nodeh Licha, “We thank you”. It was introduced by Yehoshua expressing our thanks to G-d for those things that are unique to the Jewish nation. We give thanks for having given us the land of Israel, and for freeing us from Egyptian slavery, and for the Torah and Mitzvot that He has taught us. Our gratitude to G-d is also for sustaining us “every day, at all times, and every hour.”



SAVE THE DECEMBER & JANUARY DATES – Again, we want to remind you that our staff is eager for you to join us at Hillel, Tuesday December 13, for a first-hand look at our Tal Am and Judaic programs. Integral to the revision of the program we offer our children, Tal Am is a nationally recognized curriculum that integrates language through an immersion program. What better way to understand what’s going on than by sitting in on your children’s classes? Here are the times for you to put on your calendars.

- 2:00 – 3:00 1st & 2nd
- 2:00 – 3:00 3rd
- 2:20 – 3:00 4th
- 2:40 – 3:00 Kindergarten

Be sure to replace your old calendars with the one we sent home recently. It indicates that we will return to school on Tuesday, January 3rd – not January 2nd. As always, when in doubt check the web site calendar... or, just give Sandy a call ☺

WEB BEING WOVEN AT HILLEL - Hillel Academy is hosting rehearsals for the DJCC production of Charlotte's Web. Tuesdays and Thursdays about 30 area children (including 9 Hillel students) rehearse from 4:00 - 6:00 in preparation for performances which will be held at The Engineer's Club, 110 E. Monument Avenue on January 28 at 8:00 p.m. and January 29 at 3:30 p.m.. Charlotte's Web is being produced by Yale Gliner and directed by Michael Wadham. From the sounds and sights of rehearsal, you will not want to miss this charming musical featuring such promising and enthusiastic thespians. Save the dates!

DANCE RETURNS TO HILLEL – Students at our morning meeting today responded with an enthusiastic “yesssssss!” when they heard that Christie Bealer would be back this afternoon to teach them some more dances. We're fortunate to have Christie with us through the New Year, teaching children dances with a festive, Chanukah twist.

SHARING AND SINGING FOR OTHERS – A December mitzvah is in the works as our Hillel students prepare to share a few songs with the residents of Lincoln Park Manor on Wednesday, December 14th. The student will sing the nature songs they've composed as well as some traditional favorites, including Chanukah tunes and dances. We are looking forward to making music ... and new friends.

How many seeds are in a pumpkin?.



We sequenced Thanksgiving history facts with turkey feathers



Singing our school song

