



Upcoming Events

No School – Winter Break
Monday, December 23 –
Friday, January 3

Classes Resume
Monday, January 6

CJDS Special Sunday –
Location TBD
Sunday, January 12

Hag HaSiddur - Second
Grade
Thursday, January 16
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
CJDS Gym

All-School *Kabbalat Shabbat*
6th Grade Leads
Friday, January 17
1:40 p.m.
CJDS Gym

No School – Martin Luther
King Day
Monday, January 20

Wisdom of the Heart
Sunday, January 26
5-7 p.m.
CJDS Gym

Fifth Grade Biography Fair
Wednesday, January 29
8:30 *Tefillah* (Music Room)
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
presentations
Fifth Grade classrooms and
Computer Lab

SECOND GRADERS GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH REPTILIAN CREATURES

Second graders were paid a surprise visit this week by Peter Rushton, owner of P.T. Reptiles. Peter brought some of his special friends with him; students met a burmese python, an alligator, a milk snake, tortoises, skinks and frogs. They learned about the characteristics and behaviors of reptiles (they impressed Peter with what they already knew.) Most students were game to hold the fascinating creatures, and there was only a little bit of squirming and squealing!



Peter Rushton introduces Leah G. to a young burmese python



Rylan isn't too sure about the milk snake "bracelet"



Alon holds a baby alligator



Emilia finds that it tickles when a snake slithers up your neck!



Who looks more surprised - Annie or the frog?



Alon, Ian and Ethan get cozy with the python

It takes a class to hold a python, especially one that's ten feet long!



Judy's Journal



Judy Miller, M.S.
Head of School



Dear CJDS Friends and Family,

I got a call from our son, Rabbi Adam Miller two weeks ago. He said, "Mom, I've decided to shave my head." It was a bit of a surprise and not our typical "calling to touch base, your grandkids are great" call. Adam went on to explain that he was joining a group of 36 rabbis who had committed to shave their heads in March, in order to raise funds for an important cause.

This story begins in June of 2012, when seven year-old Sam Sommer was diagnosed with Leukemia. Sammy's mother, Rabbi Phyllis Sommer, with fellow Rabbi Rebecca Schorr helped to spearhead the **36 Rabbis Shave for the Brave** initiative through the St. Baldrick's Foundation. Even at that time, Rabbi Sommer knew the fundraising would not save her son's life, but wanted to try to save the lives of other children. The goal of the initiative is to raise \$180,000. Pediatric Cancer research is critical, because children's needs are vastly different from adults. There is still a great need for research and development in this area.

About one month ago, Sam Sommer's parents were informed there was nothing the doctors could do to save his life. Sadly, Sammy passed away peacefully last Saturday, surrounded by his loving family.

My heart goes out to the Sommer family and I will keep them in my prayers. More than that, I made a donation to my son Adam's effort to help find a cure for this terrible disease. I invite you to join me and donate at <http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/mypage/660579/2014> Together, we can help make a difference.

I wish you a healthy, restful break. We look forward to seeing you on January 6, when school resumes.

Shabbat Shalom,

Judy Miller
Head of School

NEWS & NOTES



Save the Date! The next CJDS Special Sunday is January 12. Details to follow.

The Fifth Grade Biography Fair is Wednesday, January 29 from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in the fifth grade classrooms. Students will present their research on a hero they've chosen to profile. Guests are invited to join the class for Tefillah at 8:30 in the Music Room prior to the Biography Fair.



You should have received your Wisdom of the Heart invitation on the mail. Don't forget to RSVP!



Jewish Women Throughout the Ages is a 10 week course of study for girls in 5th and 6th grade and their mothers, focusing on great women in Jewish history. The first two hour session is on Sunday, January 5th at 10:00 a.m. at Congregation Torat Emet. There is a \$180 fee for program expenses. For more information, please go to www.toratemet.org.



G & G Music will offer a Music Sampler Class on Tuesdays in the CJDS Music Room from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., January 14 – April 8. For more information contact CourtneyF@gngmusicinstruction.com.



Family Fun Day at the JCC is December 25. Activities start at 10:30 a.m. The family movie, "The Croods" starts at 1:00 pm. A Hot Dog lunch can be purchased for \$5.



Please come give the gift of life at a Blood Drive at the JCC College Ave. on Monday, December 30th between noon and 6:00 pm. You can arrange an appointment by calling the Red Cross at 1-800-Give Life or go to the Red Cross website at www.redcrossblood.org sponsor code: [tolifecolumbus](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

CJDS is now accepting applications for Kindergarten. Word-of-mouth is the most valuable form of recruiting. Share the love and tell your friends about CJDS!

INTEGRATION

SIXTH GRADE LOOKS AT THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE THROUGH DIFFERENT LENSES

Sixth grade has just completed an integrated unit on the immigrant experience during the early part of this century, looking at political, social and religious life in Eastern Europe during and immediately after WWI and the reasons that families chose to migrate. The unit was based around three books. *A Time of Angels*, by Karen Hesse, tells the story of a young Jewish girl living in a Boston tenement during the final year of WWI and the influenza pandemic of 1918. Hannah becomes ill and is sent to Vermont to recuperate. She embarks on a journey of self discovery as she struggles to regain her health and reunite with her family. .



Students mapped their ancestors travels to America

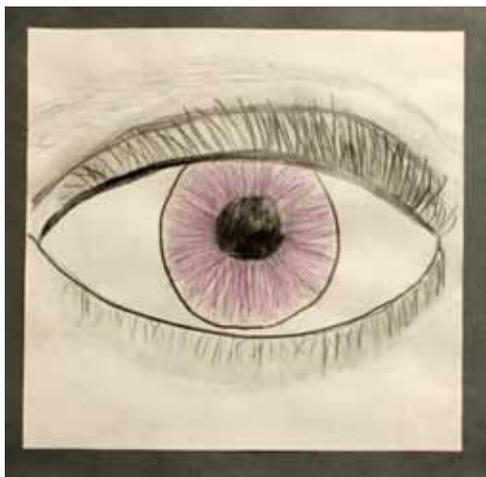
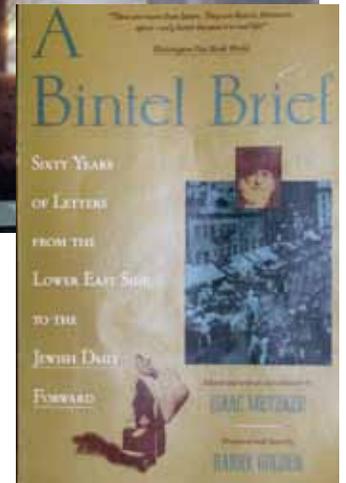
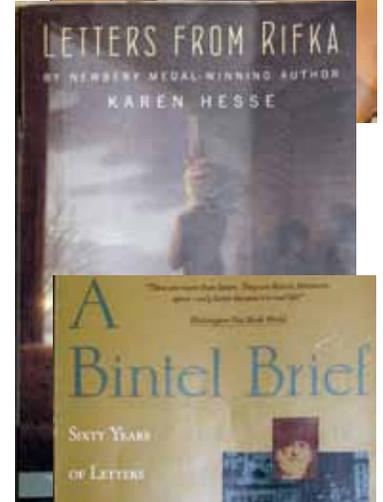
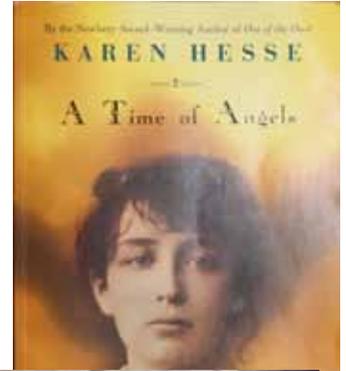
immigrant Jewish population. Students were challenged to write their own letters and replies, reflecting an understanding of the day to day challenges faced by that population. Students are working on a recreating of an entire issue of the *Jewish Daily Forward* from 1918, including letters, interviews, current events and political cartoons.

Finally, students read *Letters From Rifka*, which tells the story of a young girl, Rifka, who migrates with her family from Russia to America. The story is told entirely through letters that Rifka wrote to her cousin, who remained in Russia. Students had to write their own letters to Rifka from the perspective of her cousin Tovah, demonstrating an understanding of the challenges faced by the family members who remained in Russia. They also wrote "I Am" poems from the perspective of Rifka after she has settled in America.

Letters from Rifka was the springboard for students to share their own family histories, and they created a map that details their ancestors' journey to America. Students showed a lot of creativity in how they presented their family stories. Some of the stories were shared via technology (an ipad presentation) and others with actual historical documents from family archives. Old family recipes provided the basis for a cooking adventure as well.

In art class, students studied the work of Caldecott Award winning author and illustrator Brian Selznick, and used one of his techniques to illustrate a scene from the book. Each student created a series of drawings that invite the viewer to start extremely close in to a scene, then move further away to gain broader perspective.

Students read excerpts from *The Bintel Brief*, a collection of letters to the *Jewish Daily Forward*, a newspaper which circulated within the Jewish community on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. The letters and replies were a sort of "Dear Abby" for the



Arrie's series of drawings depict a scene from the book *A Time of Angels* from ever increasing distance, reminiscent of Brian Selznick's illustrations of the novel *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*,

FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE “LOOK BACK” WITH WHV RESIDENTS

“Looking Back: Paying Forward” was the theme of this week’s visit with our senior friends. Fifth and Sixth grade students joined residents of Creekside at the Village and Wexner Heritage Village for an interactive, Jeopardy-style game show. The game board was designed by the sixth graders, and featured questions focused on current events and pop culture from the 1920’s, 1930’s and 1940’s. Fifth grade students dressed as characters from The Wizard of Oz, a popular movie from the 1930’s, and sixth grade students dressed as the Marx Brothers.

A D’var Torah by Rabbi Kozberg was used to kick off the event. He spoke about why it is important to learn from the people who came before us. He challenged students and residents to think about how we can learn from the successes and mistakes of our ancestors.

The questions and answers of the Jeopardy game evoked many discussions between residents and students about memories and experiences. Music was played on CD players for some of the questions, which actually inspired some students and residents to dance and sing! CJDS left the game boards for residents to enjoy.

Programming between Wexner Heritage Village and Columbus Jewish Day School for the 2013 – 2014 school year is made possible by an anonymous donor. A significant portion of the funds raised for Wisdom of the Heart, in honor of Wexner Heritage Village, will support intergenerational programming for years to come.



Scout, dressed as Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, talks with a resident



Noga, dressed as Toto, plays a round of Jeopardy



Students brought in photos and artifacts from the 20’s, 30’s and 40’s for some historical ambiance



Lee dressed as the Tin Man



Gavi a.k.a. Groucho Marx



Leslie and Eva man the Jeopardy board

Gina with resident Herb in front of the Jeopardy board



Calling All Scientists!



Are you an Astronomer? Botanist? Chemist? Doctor? Entomologist? Forensic Scientist? Geneticist? Hydrologist? Ichthyologist? Java specialist? Kineticist? Lepidopterist? Microbiologist? Nutritionist? Ophthalmologist? Pharmacist? Quantitative Analyst? Radiologist? Seismologist? Toxicologist? Urologist? Veterinarian? Weatherman? Xylotomist? Zoologist? Do you use math, science or technology in your daily profession? Do you know anyone who works in a scientific field?

Come share your expertise with our budding scientists as part of our

4th-6th grade Career Symposium and Science Fair Tuesday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Planning for the Fair is underway, and we're looking for presenters.

Please contact Melissa Dunagan (mdunagan@cjds.org) by February 1st for additional details. Presentations will be brief and would require little preparation or planning. Help us turn on students to math and science and let them see where their hard work in these subjects could lead!

PICTURES OF THE WEEK

Fifth graders spent art class working on portraits of their heroes for the biography fair in January. They used the grid method to accurately scale photos to a larger format.



Scout with her drawing of Jonas Salk

Edward works on a drawing of the Dalai Lama