

Migdal Ohr at a Glance

A Quarterly Update

Winter 2015-2016 ~ Shevat 5776

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On Campus: Chanukah at Migdal Ohr



This year, the first night of Chanukah fell on Sunday, December 6th and the school day was filled with Chanukah celebrations throughout the different Migdal Ohr schools! Rabbi Grossman stopped by each of the schools to speak to the students, light the menorah, and give out "gelt."

The Machshava Elementary School celebrated Chanukah with a school play. In the weeks leading up to the first night of Chanukah, students learned various songs, dances, and scenes that they performed for their peers. Among the performances was a group of girls dressed up as chefs who danced to a song about baking *sufganiyot* (doughnuts) and another group of

students dressed as candles who sang about lighting the menorah.

The Pninat Ohr Girls' Elementary School enjoyed an assembly with interactive Chanukah games. A highlight of the assembly was the adorable dance performance by the girls in the Pirchey Ohra special needs class. Additionally, the crowd was excited when students performed their favorite Chanukah tunes on guitar, keyboard, percussion, and various other instruments! The first night of Chanukah culminated with Rabbi Grossman lighting the menorah at the Kotel with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other honored guests in attendance.



The Metivta Boys' Middle School had their big Chanukah celebration on the third night, December 8th. The Boys Ohr Choir sang and danced for their fellow students, teachers, and families! Rabbi Grossman led candle lighting and everyone sang and danced together.

The Ohr Yisraeli Youth Clubs each celebrated Chanukah at their branches across the country. Of special note, the Haifa branches chose to spend the last night of Chanukah visiting children at the Rambam Hospital. They walked through the halls singing songs and distributing trays and trays of sufganiyot to patients and their families.

Thank you SO much to all of the supporters who contributed to this year's Chanukah Campaign and made it possible for Migdal Ohr's students to enjoy a happy Chanukah!



New Program: Keshar Rav Dori

"Keshar Rav Dori" is a new program that has been implemented at the Girls' Elementary School. It was created by the Ministry of Education in order to connect different generations. Once a week, elderly women from Migdal Ha'Emek meet with the students. During these visits, the women share stories of their lives with the girls and the students teach the elderly women how to use computers and share stories with them as well. Some of the women in the program are actually grandmothers of the students!

One week, they played a special game of dreidel in advance of Chanukah.

These were the rules:

Land on Nun - Tell a story of a miracle that you have experienced.

Land on Gimel - Share a meaningful event that you witnessed or participated in.

Land on Hei - Share a favorite Chanukah memory.

Land on Peh "Here" - When did you come to Israel? Who was here? What was it like?

The game was a big hit! The students and the women all look forward to this program and wonderful friendships have been forming week after week.



American Friends of Migdal Ohr News: Generosity NYC 5K Run

On November 8, 2015, the American Friends of Migdal Ohr (AFMO) was thrilled to be one of the participating organizations in an annual 5K race in Riverside Park! Each year, a company called Generosity Series brings together various charities from the NYC area for a fun and inspirational day where giving meets fitness.

Co-chaired by AFMO Board Member Laurie Scherzer and Lauren Stark, Team Migdal Ohr set an overall fundraising goal of \$10,000 to benefit the children in Israel. Thanks to the outreach of the runners and the generosity of their family and friends, nearly \$12,000 was raised in this first ever effort!

Laurie and Lauren also created Team Run4Kids, which consisted of themselves along with Todd Scherzer, Dahlia Bellows, and Emily Prawda Weiss. This team raised nearly \$4,000 and it was the group's second time using fitness to support a charity. They were also joined by some of their own children who cheered them on and jumped in to cross the finish line with them! Other runners included AFMO Executive Vice President Norman B. Gildin and his wife Barbara Gildin, AFMO Board Members Gary Miller and Sharon Haberman, as well as Philip Berkowitz, Michael Levine, Donna Sexton, Andrea Offner, and Viviana Norden.

Please visit our Facebook page to see an album with photos from the race. Everyone had a great time and we are already looking forward to next year's race!



American Friends of Migdal Ohr

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