



Your Weekly "Connection" from
Paul Penna Downtown Jewish Day School.

Friday, April 1, 2011
26th of Adar II 5771

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I wonder how well we talk about the difficult things.

In the past few weeks, we have experienced an extraordinary concentration of honest, open communication among various school stakeholders. Parent/Teacher conferences, the Board president's and principal's Annual Meeting reports (delivered live and in Keshar), a frank discourse among the school's Board president, chair of the Human Resources Committee, principal, and faculty/staff; Grade 5 and 6 parent meetings; Coffee and a discussion of academic improvement; Grade 6 lunches with the principal. Next week, we add to that list an adult conversation about Israel as both a Jewish and democratic state.

Board committees are meeting intensely to answer the question: What is our specific mandate in light of the school's strategy? The faculty is discussing best practices for meeting our school's educational priorities. The Parents' Association is talking about succession planning and its structural and fiscal relationships with the school. Student Council is meeting around plans to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Japan in a local, meaningful way, as well as to make plans for fun spring events. Junior journalists and editors are talking about what they have to say about Freedom for the third edition of Life Style, the 2010-2011 school

newspaper.

It seems that the more we talk with each other, the more we realize how much more we want to - and should - be communicating. Let's keep at it together. As it turns out, we're pretty good at talking about the difficult things.

Shabbat shalom!

Best, Rhonda

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents,

Subsidy Packages will be sent out next week. Only parents who have submitted their re-enrollment forms and have requested a subsidy packet will receive one. Parents who have not submitted re-enrollment forms will not be able to apply for a subsidy for next year.

Any parent who has not yet returned their re-enrollment package to the office, I ask that you do so right away.

Please feel free to call or e-mail with any questions.

Thanks,
Edit

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

1. You can now view and download the Paul Penna DJDS Student Newspaper, "Life Style", on our website at <http://djds.ca/news/studentnewspaper>. The most recent edition of the Report Card will also be available shortly.
2. **Paul Penna DJDS is now on Facebook.** Join our group to be the first to know about what's going on in the school! [Click here](#) to join.

BLUE JAYS OPENING WEEKEND

The weekend has finally arrived and Paul Penna DJDS will be at the Blue Jays game this weekend against the Minnesota Twins!

Where: Rogers Centre

When: Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 1:00pm

The response from everyone this year has been **amazing** and there will be **over 100 Paul Penna DJDS students, parents friends & family** at the game. Be sure to wear your Paul Penna DJDS shirts (t-shirts or hockey shirts) and bring your cheering voice to the game.

Sunday at the Rogers Centre is "Bautista Bobblehead" Day in honour of Jose Bautista's 54 home runs last season and the first 10,000 to arrive at the park will receive a free Bautista Bobblehead.

LAST WEEK FOR 2011 PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE

**Paul Penna DJDS is once again participating in the
2011 Passover Food Drive
sponsored by the
National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section**

Boxes have been set up outside the office
to collect your donations.

The final day to bring in your donation is April 6, 2011.

Non-perishable items such as matzah, matzah meal, matzah ball mix,
jars of gefilte fish, cans of soup and tuna are needed and
must all have the Kosher for Passover symbol.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH YEAR EVENT - ROOTS WALK

SAVE THE DATE!! Wednesday, May 25th 1-5pm

Please mark your calendars to join us for a fun filled afternoon celebrating our school's place in the history of Jewish Downtown Toronto.

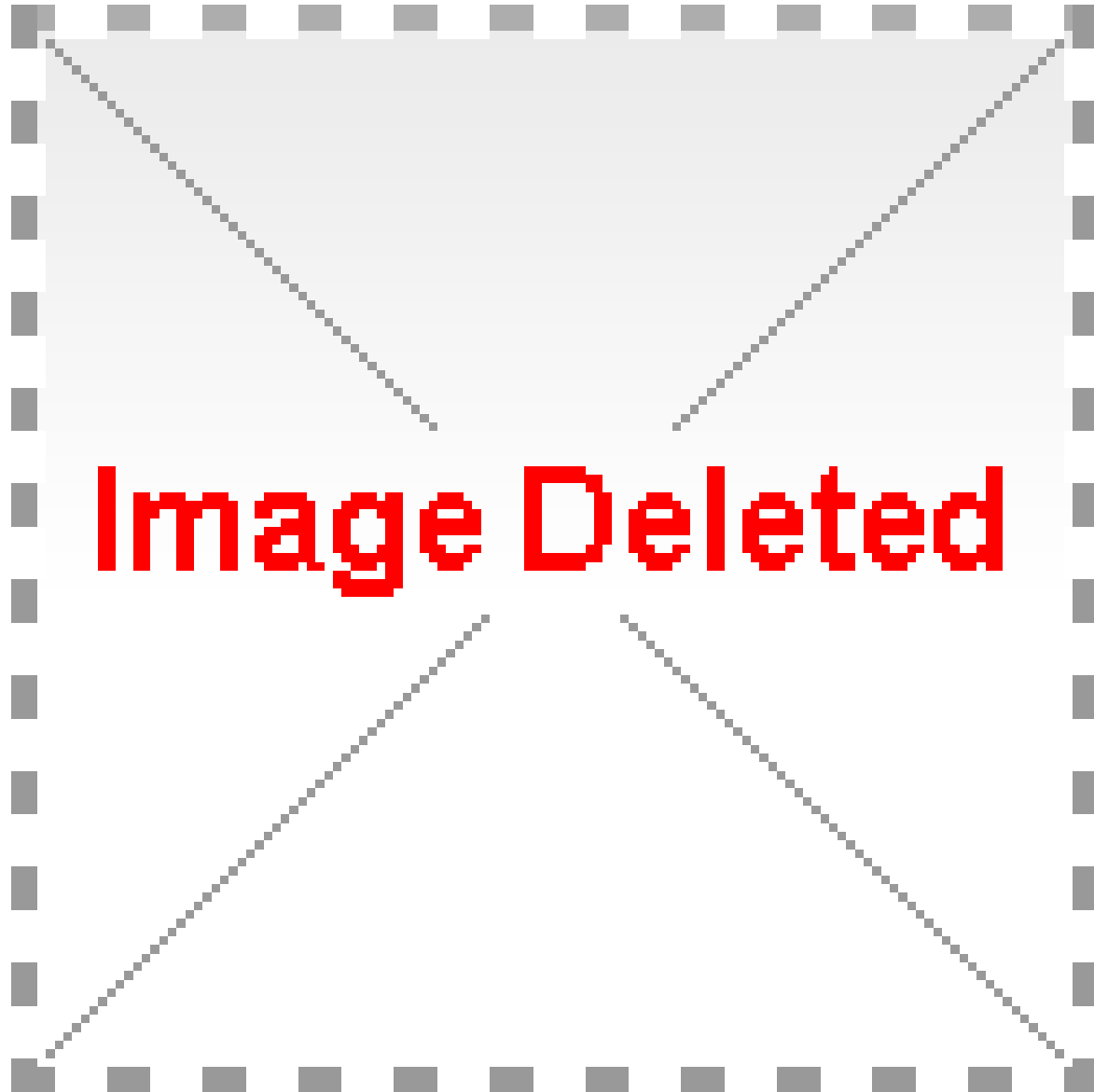
You are invited to join your children on a beautiful Walking Tour of downtown Toronto's Jewish Heritage followed by a "picnic style" dinner at the JCC.

Our event will be the culmination of "Roots Week" at school, where our children will be exploring their own roots and the roots of Toronto's downtown Jewish community. All of this is part of our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Year: honouring our past to build our future.

More details will follow over the next few weeks, so PLEASE plan to join us on Wednesday, May 25th from 1-5pm.

Looking forward to seeing you at our event.
The Roots Team
Danielle Adler: danielle@memotext.com
Scott Greene: rafibess@gmail.com

FROM THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



SAY 'CHAG SAMEACH' WITH A PAUL PENNA DJDS TRIBUTE CARD

**FINAL WEEK TO ORDER CARDS TO
GUARANTEE DELIVERY FOR PESACH**

For a minimum donation of \$6.00 (per card), you can honour a loved one with a Paul Penna DJDS Passover Tribute Card.

IMPORTANT

The following information is required to process your order:

- Your full name, phone number and e-mail
- Full name and complete address of card recipient(s)
- How you want your name to appear on the card(s)
- Attach a special message, if you wish
- Your cheque, Visa or MasterCard credit card number, expiry date and name on the card

The deadline for ordering Passover Tribute Cards to guarantee delivery before Passover is April 6, 2011.

If you have any questions please contact Cheryl at officeadmin@dids.ca.

STUDENT COUNCIL'S USED BOOK SALE

Student Council Book Sale in Jacob's Lounge on Thursday, April 7th.

Thank you to all of you that have taken the time to contribute books for the student council book sale on **Thursday, April 7th**.

Remember to stop by **Jacob's Lounge, between the hours of 8:30 and 4:00** to purchase books at bargain prices.

Hardcover books will cost \$1.00 each and paperbacks will cost just \$.50 cents.

Thanks to your generosity we have a wide range of books available in the following genres:

- Children's Fiction
- Adult Fiction
- Information Books
- Children's Picture Books
- Judaica

Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Japanese Relief Fund

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2011

SK Trip to The Matzah Factory
Chabad Midtown

10:45-11:45am

Grade 7/8 - JF&C Family Life

9:00-9:45am

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011

Rosh Chodesh Nisan

Chapel

9:00-10:30am

SWIM: SK - 9:45-10:45am

Gr 2 - 1:30-2:30pm

Gr 3 - 2:00-3:00pm

Gr 5 - 2:30-3:30pm

SUSHI LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2011

PASTA LUNCH

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2011

SWIM: Gr 1 - 9:45-10:45am

Gr 7/8 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Gr 6 - 1:45-2:45pm

Gr 4 - 2:15-3:15pm

PIZZA LUNCH

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2011

Grade 1 - Artist in Residence

10:45-11:45am

In the classroom

Grade 2 - Artist in Residence

1:00-2:00pm

In the classroom

Grade 3 - Artist in Residence

2:30-3:30pm

Room 318

The 40th Annual Rikudiyah will take place on **Sunday, April 10, 2011** at the TanenbaumChat Wallenberg Campus at 200 Wilmington Avenue. **Paul Penna DJDS will be perform at 11:00am.** Tickets are available for \$10 each through the CJE website at cjetoronto.com. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the Prosserman JCC reception (4588 Bathurst Street). **Tickets will not be available for sale at the door on the day of Rikudiyah.** (Remember: Zimriyah sold out, so don't delay!)

PARENTS' CORNER

You are invited to attend a reception for an exhibition of **Jason Schwartz's (father of Lili, Grade 2)** photographs on **Thursday April 14, 2011 from 6-8 p.m.** The exhibit features selected images from "Written On Our Faces" (Florida, 2001) & "The Human Cost of Terrorism" (Israel, 2006).

Location: Beth Tzedec Synagogue 1700 Bathurst St.- main floor gallery & 2nd floor mezzanine

The exhibit is up through April and open to the public from 9-5, Monday-Friday. Parking is available at rear of the building.

MATZAH BAKE AT DUFFERIN GROVE PARK

Please join us at Dufferin Grove Park on Sunday, April 17, 2011 from noon till 3:00 p.m. to bake Matzot in a wood burning outdoor oven. See if you can mix, knead, roll, and bake in 18 minutes or less.

Materials and instructions provided (bring your own timer if you want to aim for 18 minutes).

Coffee will be provided by Ezra's Pound Cafe.

Everyone is welcome; bring the kids.

Questions? Email mitchdavis@rogers.com.

Look for "Dufferin Grove Park Matzah Bake" on Facebook.

Dufferin Grove Park is located near Bloor and Dufferin, across from the Dufferin Mall, one block south of Bloor on the east side of Dufferin. Meet at the South side of the rink house, which is near the north end of the park. If it rains, we will work indoors.

Cost: By donation to cover expenses. Suggested donation: \$5 per family.

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