

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 11

Elementary School Family Learning , Brener Building lunch room, 9:45-11 a.m. , presented by Rabbi Avi and Shira Heller, sponsored by Galit Konstantine in memory of her beloved brother, Shlomo Shitrit, z"l.

Varsity baseball doubleheader vs. Francis Parker Charter School, Cabot Field, Newtonville, noon and 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 11-Wednesday, May 14

Grade 8 trip to Washington, DC.

Monday, May 12

Varsity baseball at South Shore Christian Academy, 3:30 p.m.

Erev Tarbut, a bilingual experience in good nutrition, sponsored by the *Ivrit* Department, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 13

Junior varsity baseball at Gann Academy, Waltham, 4 p.m.
Parent-School Forum on Middle School plans, S. Joseph Solomont Synagogue, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 14

"Year in Review" coffee for Elementary School parents, sponsored by Admissions Office and PTA, Steg Library, Brener Lower Elementary Building, 8-9 a.m.

Varsity baseball at East Boston, Logan Airport Field, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 16

Varsity baseball vs. Trinity Catholic High School, Cabot Field, Newtonville, 3:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 17

Varsity-alumni men's basketball, Fox Gymnasium, 9:45 p.m.

Sunday, May 18

Tribute to 30 years of Interscholastic Sports, a 70th Anniversary program, Saval Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.

Varsity baseball vs. Matignon High School, Cabot Field, Newtonville, 2:30 p.m.

Softball at St. Clement High School, Somerville, 3:30 p.m.

Junior varsity baseball at Winthrop High School, 4 p.m.

MAZAL TOV TO...

Oriel Fink Kamsler, Ariel Kamsler and Shoval, Elchanan and Gilad on the birth of their daughter and sister.

"ALTERNATE DAY" OFFERED MAY 27

Tuesday, May 27, is a professional day, and there is no school for Elementary School children. The After School Program is offering an "alternate day". Registration closes Wednesday, May 21. Details are available from Dr. Deborah Mehl, program director (617-232-4452, ext. 352).

MONDAY DEADLINE FOR MAIN ADBOOK

Monday is the final day for submitting ads to be published in the 2008 Scholarship Adbook. The Annual Campaign will accept additional ads throughout the month for publication in the Adbook Supplement. Reservations deadline for the June 1 Maimonides Gala at the JFK Library is May 21. Call 617-232-4452, ext. 105 or write info@maimonides.org for answers to questions or details.

SPORTS MEMORABILIA AUCTION MAY 18

Reservations are due by Wednesday for the May 18 Tribute to Interscholastic Sports, a 70th Anniversary free breakfast and program beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Saval Auditorium. (contact 617-232-4452, ext. 105 or info@maimonides.org).

Among the highlights of the Sunday event will be a live auction of Red Sox tickets and sports memorabilia donated to the school by Saul Selby. They include baseballs signed by Ken Griffey Jr., Red Sox heroes (Dwight Evans, Dick Radatz, Pokey Reese), Jewish Major Leaguers (Shawn Green, Gabe Kapler, Jason Marquis) and Hall of Famers (Stan Musial, Jim Palmer, Duke Snider), as well as a football signed by former Patriots quarterback Steve Grogan.

Also on the agenda are the induction of six graduates as charter members of the Maimonides School Athletics Hall of Fame, and remarks by some of the school's top student-athletes past and present. At the varsity-alumni game May 17, Saturday night, beginning at 9:45, a half-time three-point shooting contest will feature a prize of a pair of choice Patriots tickets with a full pre-game tailgate.

48 STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR FITNESS

Seventeen students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 qualified for the Presidential Award based on their results in the recent President's Physical Fitness Tests, administered by teacher Ernie D'Agnelli in physical education class. The winners are sixth-graders Michal Alge, Annika Gompers, Yael Green, Aaron Marks, Liorah Rubinstein, Aron Unger, Rena Walker and Goldie Wolfson; fifth graders Yehudit Fox, Ariel Kahan, Lexi Scheer and Hannah Stanhill, and fourth graders Jonathon Cohen, Ayelet Ehrenkranz, Shoshana Ehrenkranz, Noah Frisch and Yedidyah Samuels.

National Fitness Award winners were Hadar Altshuler, Doron Cheses, Rave Cohen, Rachaeli Hirsch, Yoni Klausner, Jonathan Koralnik, Daniel Schwartz, Ben Snow, Joseph Solomont and David Solooki, Grade 6; Adi Atar, Machol Benmelech , Shachar Ben Shoham, Nathan Glazer, Emily Jaffe, Atarah McCoy, Ilana Michaelson, Sarah Pomeranz, Becca Salganik, Kayla Shatz, and Jared Shein, Grade 5; and Shoham Benmelech, Sasha Boroda, Yaakov Brody, Jordan Cohen, Zoe Gompers, Renen Melul, Miriam Naggat, Marc Nechmad, Esther Solooki and Rebecca Wiener, Grade 4.

ISRAEL PART OF MAIMONIDES LANDSCAPE

This week's celebration of *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* and observance of *Yom HaZikaron* are major manifestations of an increased awareness of Israel in Maimonides School students' day-to-day lives.

Yom Hazikaron Wednesday was marked by a somber, dignified ceremony for Grades 4-12, highlighted by students' individual presentations on the lives of six fallen heroes, all with relatives in the school or the region. Students and teachers were especially moved by the sounding of the long siren, which in Israel marks the memorial occasion.

Thursday the Elementary School celebrated Israel's 60th birthday with a performance by the Grade 6 *Daglanim* precision flag team and special activities for each grade in the Brener Building gymnasium. The Middle and Upper Schools held their annual *Maccabiah*, with the Negev and Golan teams competing in areas ranging from soccer and softball to *chesed*, songs and cheers. Prospective students made Israeli flags, heard about "Sammy the Spider's Trip to Israel," enjoyed Israeli refreshments and watched the flag parade around the Brener Building at an Admissions Office *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* celebration.

Rabbi Yair Altshuler, Middle and Upper School principal, said the school's daily Zionist consciousness is being raised in a variety of ways:

- Supporting Sderot: The Negev city has endured random rocket fire from Gaza for some seven years. Over the next month, whenever the community alarm sounds in Sderot, Maimonides will receive a text message and the school will announce the *tseva adom* (code red) on the speaker system. "In every class, we'll pause for a minute to say *perek t'hilim* (a Psalm chapter) for the welfare of the people of Sderot," Rabbi Altshuler said, adding, "Our hope is that this activity will stay a virtual idea."
- Auditorium reminders. The dual clocks in Saval Auditorium compare the times in Brookline and Yerushalayim. A large map identifies with colored push pins the residences of more than 180 Maimonides alumni in Israel. Bilingual room identification signs are now installed throughout the school.
- Work is nearly complete on a large tubular display that will indicate the daily level of the Kinneret, so the school community is always conscious of the state of Israel's water resources.

Rabbi David Saltzman reports that in the Elementary School grades, classes begin the week by singing *Hatikvah* every Monday after *tefillah*. "At my fifth and sixth grade *mincha dvar Torah*, once a week the topic is Israel news," he noted. *Shulchan Ivrit* for the younger grades and *Tzionut* classes for the older grades enhance the weekly schedule. Recently, "We had an Israel *chidon* coordinated by *Mibereshit* for all fourth, fifth and sixth graders," he added.

BILINGUAL NUTRITION EVENING MONDAY

Maimonides School's *Ivrit* Department is sponsoring a free bilingual *Erev Tarbut* (evening of culture) Monday starting at 7:30 for all parents, teachers and members of the Class of 2008. Theme of the program will be healthy food (see attached flyer), featuring nutritionist Sharon Tamir and chef Yotam Givol. RSVP to Galit Grutman, *rakezet*, Director of Hebrew Language, at ggrutman@maimonides.org.

GRANDPARENTS, FRIENDS DAY MAY 23

Maimonides School's 12th annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day will be celebrated on Lag B'Omer – Friday, May 23. Upwards of 150 visitors are expected, and they will follow their children's morning academic schedules. A luncheon and program, featuring the Maimonides Jazz Bands and Elementary School performance ensembles, is planned for 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Brener Building Gymnasium.

SENIORS SPEND SHABBAT WITH TEACHER

On Friday night, May 2, 23 seniors joined Mrs. Aliza Baronofsky, Middle and Upper School Tanach teacher, for a Shabbat meal at her home on their final Shabbat of the school year. Students enjoyed matza balls, sang *zmirot*, and discussed how *Parshat Kedoshim* can apply to their lives after they leave Maimonides.

PTA CORNER

-- The PTA is selling copies of several cookbooks in Susie Fishbein's "Kosher by Design" series. Please e-mail Allison Mael at emael@comcast.net if you are interested in purchasing *Kosher by Design - the Original* (\$30), *Kosher by Design Entertains* (\$30) or *Kosher by Design - Kids in the Kitchen* (\$20).

-- Maimonides PTA continues to raise funds for its programs through the sale of supermarket scrip gift cards, receipt redemption from participating merchants, and on-line purchases from retailers via Schoolpop.com. Details are available via the following link on the school's website: <http://www.maimonides.org/parents/ptaFundraisers.php>.