



jewish community
day school of rhode island

The Jewish Community Day School
of Rhode Island
85 Taft Avenue
Providence, Rhode Island 02906
401-751-2470
info@jcdsri.org

A Feinstein Leadership School
Good Deeds Program

Helping to better the lives of others
is the greatest of all achievements!

As a Feinstein Leadership School, we are committed to
teaching our students to be caring of others.

Head of School: Dani Steiner
Feinstein Coordinator: Susan L. Adler

“The world rests on three things: Torah, Service, and Acts of
Lovingkindness.” (Ethics of Our Fathers 1:2)



Alan Shawn Feinstein is founder of the Feinstein Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to hunger relief and empowering students of all ages to help better their communities. The Feinstein annual campaign against hunger has become the most successful grass roots effort to fight hunger of all times. 85,000 Rhode Island Jr. Scholars and their teachers spearhead this campaign each spring.



What are our Feinsein Junior Scholars up to?



Eighth Graders Perform a Mitzvah

Under the direction of Steven Jablow, the Middle School Coordinator, eighth

graders helped out at the Golden Agers Luncheon at Temple Emanu-El. They helped to set the tables and serve the people who were in attendance. Everyone who attended had a great time. This has become a tradition not only for Temple Emanu-El, but middle schoolers as well.



Alyssa Brenner is a Jr. Feinsein Scholar

Alyssa has been making and selling bracelets in an effort to raise \$100.00 for the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer association. As the face and voice of the global breast cancer movement, this organization has local Affiliates in 125 cities and communities, and advocates at the local, state and federal level. To date, she has raised approximately \$25.00.



Purim Bags – A Delicious Mitzvah

This year, families at JCDS had a wonderful opportunity to perform a delicious Mitzvah, a good deed. One of the four Mitzvot associated with the holiday of Purim is to give gifts of food to at least two people. As a fundraiser, members of the school community sent Mishloach Manot to families of the school. Bags were handed out to every family in the school and almost \$3,000 was raised. This year, 42 families, staff and board members participated. This money will be used for cultural events and field trips at the school. This event has become an annual tradition at our school. Thanks to Lori Lowinger, mother of Nicholas (4), Guy Bermel, father of Joshua (1) and Jeremiah (3), Audrey Weinreich, mother of Bari (4), Karen Hammarstrom, mother of Jacob (2) and Minna (K), Jennifer Poirier, mother of Eddie (2), Donna Goldin, mother of Sam (6) and Molly (3), Galit Raz, mother of Noam (K), Sue Mamber, mother of Sam (4), Laura Mernoff, mother of Rachel (6) and Gabe (2) and Marisa Garber, mother of Sandy (2) and Joey (K) for all of their time and effort. Thank you also to the Middle School students who helped out. Even adults can be Feinsein Scholars!



1st Graders are Feinsein Jr. Scholars

The first graders, have donated money to Meir Panim Soup Kitchens in Israel that provide quality food in an exclusive dining setting, free of charge, to those in need. The soup kitchens are designed to look just like high-class, prestigious restaurants. Meals are planned by a nutritionist and tastefully prepared by a professional chef. The menu is varied and consists of four courses per meal. They have also sent money to Ozer Dalim to help with food and medical expenses. Needy people, especially those with a short-term cash flow problem due to medical or other emergency situations are able to borrow money interest-free from these funds and pay the loan back over time.



Judy's Kitchen

Barry Bessler, father of Talia (5) is the director of Judy's Kindness Kitchen. It is named for Judy Mandlebaum, mother of Dr. David Mandlebaum. Several members of Congregation Beth Shalom founded the soup kitchen 4 years ago. Currently they prepare soup and sandwiches for 250 people every Sunday throughout the year. The soup and sandwiches are prepared at Beth Shalom on Sunday morning by a very long list of volunteers from all over the area and of every faith and denomination. We particularly welcome the participation of children to age 12 from 8:30 A.M to 10:15 A.M to help prepare sandwiches and soup and package cookies. People ages 12+ are encouraged to serve at Crossroads RI to help serve the soup and sandwiches and cookies. Even our parents are Feinsein Scholars! Kol Hakavod!



Wendy's Smiles Across the Miles

This program named in memory of Wendy B. Adler, has been a Schechter tradition for many years and we are glad that we have included it in the Jewish Community Day School curriculum. Wendy would send pictures to friends who weren't feeling well. Susan L. Adler began to do the same thing and have her students participate. When Wendy passed away, Susan decided to name the program after her beloved sister-in-law. Each week, "Morah Adler's" Jr. Feinstein Scholars send pictures to sick people and shut-ins of the community and beyond. A letter is sent with each packet wishing the person a quick and full recovery. We have also been sending letters of condolence. When the class receives a letter in return, these letters are taped to a bulletin board by the door of the classroom. Every time the students enter or leave the room, they are reminded of their good deeds and it gives them a smile. It also gives them a positive attitude for the day. One gentleman wrote, "I cannot tell you how beautiful your artworks are and how much it meant to me to have them hanging in my hospital room, brightening my spirits and helping me heal. I will cherish these special gifts always." Our goal is to help students feel a sense of connectedness to others and an obligation to help those who are not well. In addition to this, packets of "smiles" are sent each month to different nursing homes in the state. If you know of someone who would benefit from a package of smiles, please let Morah Adler know. You can reach her at 751-2470, mailbox 51.



Steve Subotnick is a Feinstein Scholar

Steve Subotnick, parent of Naomi, grade seven, is participating in a marathon to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Steve is training to participate in the Cox Rhode Race 1/2 marathon as a member of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training. All of his team members are raising funds to help stop leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma and myeloma from taking more lives. He is completing this event in honor of all individuals who are battling blood cancers. These people are the real heroes on our team, and we need your support to cross the ultimate finish line - a cure! To date, he has raised over \$2,200. Kol Hakavod Steve! If you would like to make a donation, please go to www.active.com/donate/tntri/tntriSSubotn.



Pre-K Feinstein Jr. Scholars

The PK class has been doing a great job at helping members of the community. They collected winter clothing for clients at Gateway Healthcare. Gateway Healthcare works with many families who are unable to buy warm clothes for the winter. When the students received a thank you letter, they were very excited and couldn't wait to help others. The PreK class received the following message from Susan Hamin at Gateway Healthcare, Inc. "Thank you very much for all the winter clothing that you and your families donated. When people like you share what you no longer use or need with others, the thoughtfulness is as warming as the coats, and inspires others to do the same." PreK collected over 50 coats! For Purim, the class made colorful and thoughtful Mishloach Manot bags that were given to the homebound elderly. We are proud of our youngest Feinstein Jr. scholars.



The Fourth Graders are all Feinstein Jr. Scholars

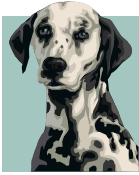
The fourth graders have been busy with many Tzedakah projects. For Tu-Bishvat, they donated money to buy two trees in Israel. They also made a contribution toward water resource development in Israel. For Purim, they sent Mishloach Manot to S'derot in Israel as well as soldiers in the Israeli Defense Force. For Pesach, they raised money to help free a slave in Sudan. This was done through I Abolish. I Abolish is a nonprofit organization that works with former victims of human trafficking to abolish modern-day slavery, focusing primarily on systems of chattel slavery in Sudan and Mauritania. They also made a donation to help some eighth grade students be able to go to Israel with their class. We are proud of all of you!



The New Chaver Program

Jewish Eldercare of RI, a program of Jewish Seniors Agency of RI, has partnered with the JCDS to provide middle-school students with an opportunity to visit and interact with local Jewish seniors. This year, the fifth graders were invited to participate in electives to give them a taste of middle school. JERI's program, CHAVER, which invites adults to become spiritual visitors to Jewish elderly, is the framework for the JCDS activity. Facilitated by Ayelet Koren Steiner, of the JCDS, and Ethan Adler, of JERI, 6 fifth grade girls meet weekly with Jewish seniors at Epoch on the East Side. These meetings provide students with an occasion to ask questions, interview, share ideas and listen to stories. Ayelet also meets with the students at a separate time to review their experiences and plan for the next visit. At this point, it is difficult to determine who has more fun, the students or the seniors. They also delivered Mishloach Manot to their partners. Lillie Gutoff and Rebecca Silberfarb wrote the following: "Both of us chose this program because we enjoy making people happy, and putting a smile on their face. It's very special to us, to make the elderly enjoy the fact that kids are willing to make their day a special one too. When we look at our partners face in the Epoch Residence we see a smile, which couldn't make our day any better."

What? No Birthday Gifts?



On January 20th, Josh Sholes, Nicholas Lowinger and Matthew Warshay, shared a birthday party. The guests were asked not to bring presents but rather to bring either a pet item to bring to an animal shelter or food to bring to a food pantry. For guests who brought money, it was brought to school & given to the class Tzedakah project to plant trees & get water in Israel. We are very proud of you. Kol Hakavod!



Anonymous Gardeners

There are anonymous Feinstein Scholars at our school. There is a mom and daughter who secretly garden for Soujourner House. Each year they clean up the garden, pick up the trash and plant new flowers. Sojourner House offers a comprehensive network of support that helps victims of domestic violence rebuild their lives, piece by piece.
Kol Hakavod!



Ariela and Elie Katzman-Jacobson Adopt Pets

Ariela and Elie's parents bought their daughters 2 special gifts. Ariela and Elie will get to choose an animal from Heifer International Foundation (HIF). Their motto is *Ending Hunger, Caring for the Earth*. Providing families with livestock and training dedicate HIF, permanently so that they "could be spared the indignity of depending on others to feed their children." Kol Hakavod to the Katzman-Jacobson Family!



Nuriya Coke is a Feinstein Jr. Scholar

Nuriya Coke, a seventh grader, is collecting peanut butter for the Rhode Island Food Bank. As stated on her flyer, which can be seen around school, "peanut butter is a high protein staple in most houses, but due to the economy, many people cannot buy even the most basic foods. Since I love peanut butter myself, I figure I could use one of my favorite foods to help others." Nuriya hopes to collect at least 180 by Pesach vacation. We all hope you make it! Kol Hakavod!

Mensches in Action



There's a new squad in town. Since this past fall, students at the Harry Elkin Midrasha have been on the move. Many of them are alumni of ASDS/JCDS. MIA, Mensches in Action, is a group of teenagers committed to illuminating the community one home at a time. They are on a mission to make your life easier through odd jobs and simple tasks that are beyond your physical reach. Need a light bulb changed? Can't get that heavy box out of your living room? Give them a call! If this sounds like something beneficial to you, please don't hesitate to contact them! Call the Temple Emanu-El office at 331-1616 to put in your request today! Forms will also be available in the main office.