



jewish community
day school of rhode island

First Grade Classroom News

October 2, 2007
Rivka Eskovitz

KITTA ALEPH

We had two very short weeks but we managed to learn a lot.

We had a nice transition from the serious high holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to the joyous holidays of Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

We learned in our new Talam program Hebrew songs about the holidays where the students can actually point to the words as we sing them. We learned the reasons why we build a Sukkah and the two Mitzvot we perform during Sukkot: 1. Being in the sukkah 2. The blessing over the four plant species which are: Lulav (palm branch), Etrog (citron), Arava (willow) and hadas (myrtle). We learned different interpretations of what they mean and illustrated them in an art project.

We learned about Simchat Torah the last holiday in the Jewish month of Tishrei. We know the meaning of the holiday (the joy of Torah) and made an art project to illustrate the different parts of the Torah and its dressings.

We had a school wide assembly where the children saw an opened Torah scroll from the beginning to its end. (It was really very very long). We also had to find the letters Aleph and Shin in the word "Beresheet" which is the first word of the Torah.

We had to find these two letters since they are the first two Hebrew letters we are learning in our Lashon class which brings me to write about it.

Our first letter was Aleph which our guest Ariot introduced. Ariot is a name of the lion who teaches the students how to read and write in Hebrew throughout the year (We really had a person dressed in a lion costume surprise the students, introduce the Alephbet song and the letter Aleph. We learned how to write the letter and words that have the letter Aleph, like Abba (father), Sabba (grand father), Ani (I), Aron (closet), and Adom (red). I introduced the letter Shin (ש). Next week we will learn words that have Shin and the formation of the letter.

**Chag Sukkot Sameach and
Happy Simchat Torah.**