

Nachas Club's Third Annual Film Event was Space-Tastic!

On Sunday November 22, the Leo Baeck community including students, grandparents, special relatives, parents and staff, gathered together at the Empress Walk Theatre for a Family Film Event hosted by the Nachas Club. We screened the brand-new animated Hollywood release, "Planet 51", a hilarious sci-fi adventure for kids and families alike. There were fantastic raffle prizes, great movie snacks and family portraits, which everyone enjoyed taking home as memories of the event.

A special thank you to our Siddur Chai Sponsors and Film Sponsors as well as to the Nachas Event committee: Adrienne Cohen, Elaine Davis, Esther Fairbloom, Sally Golan, Nancy Gold, Sylvia Kelvin, Marilyn Nagel & Evelyn Nefsky. It was a huge success and we raised important funds in support of the development of the Junior Edition Siddur for Grades 1-4.



Head of School Eric Petersiel welcomes attendees to the event.



The Sigesmund Family enjoys a nice family outing to the movies. From L-R: Stewart, Adam, Eunice, Ellen, Shane, Danny and Jory Sigesmund.



Sally Golan (L) sells raffle tickets with her granddaughter, Leo Baeck alumna Sydny Shoychet (R) and fellow Nachas Committee Member Esther Fairbloom.

SMARTBoards Bring Bubbie Into the Classroom

Mrs. Chaim's South Campus SK class recently had a very special "weather girl" in their classroom: Nathan Cass's "nana", Marilynne Cass, who "reported" from Florida via Skype!

This is just one of the many ways that SMARTBoards enhance the learning experience for Leo Baeck students at both campuses - made possible by the \$72,000 raised by this year's annual campaign, GetSMART. To find out more, or to contribute online, go to leobaeck.ca/schooldev/annual_giving.asp.



Still want to get involved in supporting the Leo Baeck Siddur Junior Edition? It's not too late! Siddur Chai sponsorships are still available. Choose one of three levels of giving: \$1800, \$3600 or \$5400. Please see the attached form. For more information, contact Elysa Greisman, Director of Development, at 905-709-3636 x 241 or egreisman@leobaeck.ca.

Leo Baeck Grandparent Rita Feingold Gets Crafty with SK “Purim Puppets”



Rita Feingold and her grandson Dylan Gremont.

For Rita Feingold, the opportunity to spend time in her grandson Dylan Gremont’s class was a real privilege, one that she has been lucky to have with all 6 of her Leo Baeck grandchildren. Having watched his grandmother - or “MopMop” as her 13 grandchildren know her - participate in class projects of his siblings and cousins, Dylan anxiously anticipated her visit to his classroom. Feingold, whose artistic background includes a father who was a designer, enjoys using her skills to help with Kabbalat Shabbat centerpieces and other Jewish holiday-oriented crafts, including the Purim puppets that she made for each SK1 student this year. Feingold brought her materials and met with each child individually: students handpicked their materials while Feingold assembled them. While most students chose traditional Purim characters like King Ahaseurus, Queen Esther, Mordecai or Haman, others created their own unique characters.

Unlike past years when Feingold came for a short period of time, this year, she stayed for an entire day with Mrs. Schlanger’s SK1 class, which enabled her to spend close to 15 minutes with each student. She was thrilled to get to know the students individually. Feingold admits that when she first started working with children it used to bother her when they picked colours and fabrics that did not work together. “I understand now that there is nothing ever wrong with a child’s own vision. That’s what art should be. It’s their own sense of creativity,” she said. Feingold has always been involved in artistic endeavours whether teaching after-school art classes to children or as a volunteer with various organizations including the Anti-Defamation League. In her family, however, art activities are especially centered on Jewish holidays and school projects. “We always decorate our Passover table with symbols from the story including the ten plagues. It is significant for the children and they enjoy helping to set up but the adults enjoy it just as much,” she explains.

What was the most rewarding aspect of the Purim puppets? “If you are 74 and want to feel young and alive again, working with children will make you feel this way!”

What’s been happening at Leo Baeck?

NORTH CAMPUS:

Accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Mike Levinsky, Middle School Coordinator, Grade 7 students at North Campus volunteered at the National Women’s Council, packaging kosher for Passover food for families in need in Toronto. This will help all Jewish families celebrate Passover with plenty of food. “Let all who are hungry come and eat!”



From the North Campus eNews, April 2010

SOUTH CAMPUS:



The South Campus Grade 1 students proudly showed off their Hebrew knowledge and skills to their families at the Aleph Bet ceremony. They successfully learned the Aleph Bet, and they led a beautiful performance that was both artistic and meaningful. Afterwards, the students and their guests gathered for some delicious treats and to view the students’ “Hebrew Name Projects”. Mazel tov, Grade 1!

From the South Campus eNews, February 26, 2010

Wishing a very happy and healthy Pesach to all our Nachas Club members and their families!