

September/October 2025 • Elul 5785/Tishrei/Cheshvan 5786 • אלול תשפ"ה , תשרי/חשון תשפ"ו

כיתה ד'

Shalom 4th Grade Parents.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work." Plato

Our class has been off to a great start.

Hebrew:

This year we will implement a new program called Niflaot.

Niflaot is a Hebrew-language curriculum created by MaTaCh, specifically designed for English-speaking students in early elementary grades. It focuses on developing modern, conversational Hebrew skills and cultural knowledge.

Niflaot includes:

- Emphasis on: reading, listening, speaking, writing, grammar.
- Integration of Israeli culture and holidays, using online videos, interactive activities, games, songs, and colorful classroom materials.

Niflaot is used as a foundation to prepare students to transition into the more advanced Bishvil Halvrit curriculum (also from MaTaCh), typically beginning in 5th grade.

The Niflaot program cultivates comfort and proficiency in Hebrew among young, English-speaking learners, with an engaging and culturally rich approach.

The students are learning about the characters in Niflaot, their families, and their friends. They will acquire new vocabulary related to the topic: "New Home" ("בית חדש").

Grammar:

Numbers from 1-10, male and female

Question words: Where? (מאיפה), From where? (מאיפה), And the answer using Mi... or Be... Verbes: Speak (מבקש), cook (מבקש), organize (מסייל), travel (מטייל), play (משחק), ask (מבקש)

Belonging words: I have, you have, he/she has, we have...

(יש לי, יש לך, יש לו/לה,יש לנו)

Holidays:

We are learning about the Tishrei holidays: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah. We are learning historical facts, Jewish customs, stories, prayers, and songs. We are doing many activities to help enhance the experiences of the Jewish holidays in the month of Tishrei such as the Shofar Factory before blowing the shofar, sitting in the sukkah, and shaking the lulav and etrog. On each of the Tishrei holidays, after establishing the students' previous knowledge, we will explore new topics such as what the Mishnah (Oral Law) says about the observances surrounding the holidays. We discussed personal reflections on how each of us can do Teshuvah (repentance) according to Ramban, or improve ourselves for the coming year.

Torah:

After reviewing the stories of Avraham, we have since immersed ourselves in the Torah stories of Parashat Toldot in the book of Genesis (Beresheet in Hebrew). The Toldot portion tells the stories of Isaac and Rebecca and their sons Jacob and Esau. We use the Matok curriculum and its workbook as a base, but fill our lessons with exploration of important family issues such as sibling rivalry, feelings of jealousy, parental loyalty, faith in the future, and trust in G-d. Students will be challenged in both Hebrew and English to sharpen their skills in Hebrew vocabulary as well as in the emotional lessons and important values of the Torah stories. They will use language skills, literary tools, games and rabbinic midrash to deepen this experience.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns. We look forward to a great and productive school year.

Thank you for your support,

Morah Mali, Morah Mika, Morah Tiki, Morah Shushan