



what's new bi@lik



DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, February 8 th	Ice Cream at lunch
Tuesday, February 9 th	Chicken Fingers Lunch
Wednesday, February 10 th	P.D. Day – School Closed
Thursday, February 11 th – Friday, February 12 th	Mid Winter Break – School Closed
Monday, February 15 th	Family Day – School Closed
Wednesday, February 17 th	Hot Dog Lunch
Thursday, February 18 th	Senior Division Cafeteria



SAFE ARRIVAL

Please remember that it is very important to call Safe Arrival if your child will be late, absent, or out of town at any time. Even if the teacher is aware of the absence, Safe Arrival must also be told. It's easy to reach Safe Arrival...just call 416-783-3346 ext. 5 or email safe@bialik.on.ca.

FROM THE PTA



CALL SAFE ARRIVAL FOR FEBRUARY BREAK

Please remember to call the Safe Arrival line, or email it at safe@bialik.on.ca, if your children will be away prior to or after the February mid-winter break.

Gradeparents – if you are going to be away prior to or after the break, please notify your contact gradeparent/gradeparent coordinator and please make arrangements for your portion of the class list to be covered by another person.



HOCKEY TOURNAMENT - FEBRUARY 19TH

Please note that in last week's newsletter, the date listed for the annual Inter-Jewish Day School Hockey League's Yizhak Rabin Tournament was incorrect. The all-day tournament, in which our Junior and Senior Hockey teams will be playing, is taking place on Friday, February 19th. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



ADULT HEBREW

Registration is ongoing for our Adult Hebrew classes: Hebrew 101 (introduction); and Hebrew 201 (conversation). Please drop all registration forms off in the office.



AFTER 4 ANNOUNCEMENT

A reminder that there are no After 4 classes on Wednesday, February 10th or Thursday, February 11th. Classes will resume on Tuesday, February 16th. Registration is ongoing for Session III. Session II classes end on March 4th (not February 4th as is noted in the school calendar).



FAMILY BINGO NIGHT (FEBRUARY 22nd)

Correction to last week's form – once again, Kosherland will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs, and falafel at Bingo Night (there will not be chicken fingers available). Please indicate your preference on the [form](#) so that we can make sure there is enough food for everyone. Drinks and snacks will also be available for sale.

In support of the Na'amat Canada/Pride of Israel Food Bank, we ask that each family bring one non-perishable kosher food item with them to Family Bingo Night.



LOST & FOUND NEWS

Is your child missing gloves, hats, jackets, sweatshirts, running shoes, or UGG boots? If so, please check the Lost and Found. There are a huge number of unclaimed items waiting to be returned to their owners. And please remember to LABEL EVERYTHING that comes into the school.

Speaking of lost items, there is a special request from a child in 1D who is missing half of a box of GoGos, which fell on the floor when he brought them to school. He couldn't retrieve them all quickly enough before a number went missing. He would be very grateful if anyone who might have picked some of them up would kindly return them to Jacob. Parents, if you notice these small, colorful plastic figures coming home with your child, please send them back. Thank you.



GET INVOLVED

The Calendar Committee is looking for people who can make a few phone calls to advertisers to confirm contact information. Please email bialikcalendar@gmail.com if you are able to help out.



TU B'SHVAT SEDER THANK YOU

Thank you to Tony and his team for helping the Tu B'shvat celebrations run so smoothly. Bialik's events couldn't run without your help, which we appreciate very much.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION



GREEN LINK

Continuing with our 12 tips to a greener home:

Green Home Step #45: Go to Las Vegas.

Las Vegas is becoming the Ultimate Destination for a Green Education. Yet another reason for a Las Vegas vacation. YIPPEE!!

Las Vegas experiences scorching summer heat up to 115-120 degrees fahrenheit, plunges to below freezing on winter nights, and suffers from a chronic shortage of water. Designers incorporated innovative measures into every phase of the Desert Living Center to achieve Platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification, (the toughest standard set by the U.S. Green Building Council).

In 2005, the Nevada Legislature passed a tax-rebate program to encourage developers to build new projects in accordance with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building standards established by the U.S. Green Building Council. Local casinos, among others, responded by launching huge projects that promised to redefine downtown Las Vegas. The new projects build 'up' rather than 'out.' And concentrate gaming, hotel rooms, condos, shopping, recreation, etc. around more densely populated urban centers.

Visit Vegas to learn about these greening initiatives and what you might be able to incorporate into your own greener home. Who knew the desert could be so green?!



CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS

All Bialik grandparents and special friends are invited to join us for the Student Council Kabbalat Shabbat assemblies dedicated in their honour. Please see the [invitation](#) for more details.



YOM HA'ZIKARON & YOM HA'ATZMAUT REMINDER

With only two-and-a-half months to go, we wanted to remind you once again that the State of Israel is changing the 2010 (5770) dates of Yom Ha'Zikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut. Yom Ha'Zikaron (Memorial Day) will now be commemorated on Sunday night, April 18th and Monday, April 19th (5th of Iyyar). Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Independence Day) will be celebrated on Monday night, April 19th and Tuesday, April 20th (6th of Iyyar). In order to observe these holidays concurrently with Israel, we at Bialik will mark them on the new dates, and school will end at noon on Tuesday, April 20th. Please ensure you have made these changes in your calendars.

Grades

1-5

NEWS FROM THE ELEMENTARY DIVISION

Reading Month / MS Read-A-Thon

There are a number of highlights still to come, as Reading Month reaches its 3/4 mark this week. Next week, grades 1, 2 and 3 are in for a surprise from a mystery guest. On Monday morning, February 8th, author Karen Fisman will speak to our grade 4 and 5 students about being an author, the creative writing process, and publishing a book. She will also read from her children's storybook about Chanukah, as well as from a children's historical fiction manuscript that she is presently writing.

Please continue to encourage your children to read "for the love of it", as well as for finding a cure for Multiple Sclerosis. Many classrooms have made book quilts and have posted growing "caterpillars" of interesting book titles shared by students. Next week, bring a book for a friend, and discover a new world. The excitement of sitting down with a good book is palpable.

Character Counts

February is Kindness month. Kindness is showing you care – doing some good to make life better for others. It is being thoughtful about the needs of others. It is showing compassion, and treating yourself and others gently. It is also caring about the earth and all living things. Let's all emphasize and practise acts of kindness at home, in class, and in the schoolyard at recess. Watch to see what remarkable things will happen!

Grades

6-8

NEWS FROM THE SENIOR DIVISION

World Affairs Conference

Again this year, on Monday, February 8th and Tuesday, February 9th, grade 8 delegates will be attending the World Affairs Conference at UCC. During the conference, they will participate in plenary sessions and workshops that address issues of leadership as they relate to the big question: *Our Brave New World: Globalization or Neo-Colonialism?* We wish them a successful conference and know that they will represent Bialik with pride.

Yes WE CAN

106 senior division students and staff filled four boxes to overflowing with cans of food that will be sent to the North York Harvest Food Bank. Sharing our bounty is one way we can practice tikun olam and make a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

Talent Show Auditions

Auditions begin soon for our annual Purim Talent Show. We look forward to a shining line up of Bialik rising stars. This event is always a highlight and all who audition are eligible to earn points for their houses.

Read-A-Thon

Our Read-A-Thon for Chai Lifeline Canada continues through February 18th. Students are reminded to keep reading as they contribute toward raising money to make a difference in the lives of children who struggle with health challenges that make daily life difficult and unpredictable. They are counting on our support!



NEWS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Alumni Relations Committee Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities are available now! We are actively seeking to fill open positions on the Alumni Relations Committee, currently led by Shirley Slavens. There are many ways to get involved and you do not need to be Bialik alumni to join in the fun – become a class champion, help plan an upcoming event, or use your tech savvy to get our online community connected. Please click [here](#) to see the available positions. Contact alumni@bialik.on.ca by February 10th if you are interested in joining the committee to help shape our Alumni program at Bialik.

Smart Board Facts

Research findings from Canada, the U.S., the UK, and Australia indicate that interactive whiteboards benefit student engagement, learner motivation, and knowledge retention. The technology has also been successful in reaching students with a variety of learning styles, including those with special needs. SMART Board interactive whiteboards are installed in schools in every Canadian province, every U.S. state and every Education Authority in the UK.

Click on the following [link](#) to read an article about how the Toronto District School Board won the National Technology Innovation Award for Elementary Education (NTIA) for incorporating SMART Boards into math lessons.



ATHLETICS

Please send your children with their own water bottle, clearly marked with their first and last name, to ALL practices, games and tournaments.

Senior Girls Basketball

Coaches: Mark Tweyman and Billy Farbstein

***UPDATED* Practice Schedule:** Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:45 a.m. in the Lower Gym

Season Schedule: TBA

Senior Girls Volleyball

Coaches: Jaimie Kudlats, Dani Ross, Becky Fraser

Parent Volunteer: Natalia Wilner

Practice Schedule: Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Upper Gym

TanenbaumCHAT Invitation Tournament: Thursday, March 11th

Senior Boys Volleyball

Coach: Marcus Dickler and Jeff Lieberman

Parent Volunteer: Mike Wilner

Practice Schedule: Mondays at 7:45 a.m. in the Upper Gym

TanenbaumCHAT Invitation Tournament: Wednesday, March 10th

4/5 Co-ed Basketball

Coaches: Jeff Lieberman and Yasmin Shalev

Practice Schedule: Wednesdays and Fridays at 7:45 a.m. in the Lower Gym

Season Schedule: TBA

Junior and Senior Cross Country

Coaches: Robyn Rosen-Codas and Poppie Butler

Parent Volunteer: Mark Cohen

Winter Training: Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Lower Gym (meet your coaches in the lobby)

***UPDATED* Next Practice:** Tuesday, February 23rd

Junior and Senior Hockey

Coaches: Larry Tobin (Senior), Allan Corber and Matt Cockburn (Junior)

JUNIOR TEAM (Grades 3-5): [Schedule Online](#)

SENIOR TEAM (Grades 6-8): [Schedule Online](#)

House Leagues

Facilitators:

Grade 5: Jeff Lieberman and Tybie Trossman

Grade 6: Daniella Ross and Stefanie Rakowski

Grade 7/8: Shawn Stevens and Marcus Dickler

Schedule:

Grade 5 students: Thursdays at 12:25 p.m. in the Upper Gym

Grade 6 students: Mondays at 12:25 p.m. in the Upper Gym

Grade 7/8 students: Wednesdays at 12:25 p.m. in the Upper Gym

House Leagues run until March 25th.

Thank you to all coaches for volunteering their time for the Bialik Athletics program.



BULLETIN BOARD

We are looking for a full-time, live-in, English-speaking nanny for a 1.5-year old in the Bathurst & Eglinton area. Position to start immediately. Light housework will be required. Experience and references required. Please call Rochelle at (416) 783-3346 x220.

If you are interested in posting to the Bulletin Board, please send an email to pta@bialik.on.ca with the subject line "Bulletin Board". Thank you.