

**Happy Secular New Year!** May 2022 bring us renewed hope and resilience as we look forward to everyone finally receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and having our day-to-day happenings continue to return to normal. We hope everyone had a restful holiday break.

Looking back just a few weeks, we are reminded of the wonderful ways in which we were able to celebrate Chanukah together. Thanks to the Ruth Brody Fund, Drum Tales visited our school and took our students (and staff) on a journey back in time to learn how the miracle of Chanukah began. **Thank you to all the staff and faculty assistants who helped make our TERS Chanukah Celebration successful.** The children had a Sunday filled with dreidel games, Chanukah crafts, sufganiyot and togetherness.

We loved seeing many of our religious school students, families and staff join in person and virtually for Share Shabbat. Everyone enjoyed singing Chanukah songs and lighting candles on their Chanukiah with Rabbi Marc and Hazzan Sherry. **We hope to see you all again at our next First Friday Family Share Shabbat on Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M.**

**Thank you to everyone who participated in our Chanukah Mitzvah Project.** With help from the Thames Valley Council for Community Action TERS was able to “adopt” a family in need of assistance in providing their 3 girls a special holiday season. I am so proud to say that all our TERS families stepped up and donated toys, clothes, boots, coats and much more. Thank you for all your generosity, and believe me when I say we truly made a difference in this family’s life. It was a wonderful mitzvah project that was shared with all so that each one of our students could experience the joy of giving.

### **Looking ahead...**

Please **be on the lookout for your child’s religious school reports.** This year teachers will provide parents details on what their children have been learning in class thus far and what you can expect them to work on during the second half of the year. It is important to us that your child’s time with us is meaningful and productive. Where needed, we can facilitate any meetings, if you have any specific questions.

**Our Tu B’Shvat School Wide Program “Honey & More” will be on January 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:30 A.M.** We are really excited to have Armelde Pitre, a beekeeper, who completed her Master’s program in beekeeping at Cornell University, joining us to help educate our students on the importance of bees and what makes them so special. This is a great way to celebrate the beauty in nature that is all around us.

Our **next Sunday Funday will be on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:40 P.M.,** Ice Skating at RoseGarden Ice Arena in Norwich. Trust me when I tell you we are going to have FUN! R.S.V.P. to Rachel O’Brien and please mark your calendars. Building our school community is so important and that means connecting in AND outside of the classroom.

### **Inclement Weather Closing Reminders**

TERS follows the Waterford School District inclement weather closings schedule. Stay tuned to WFSB-TV Channel 3, WTNH-TV Channel 8 or WVIT-TV Channel 4 or 30 for Waterford Public School closing updates. We will once again be using the Remind app to alert parents of any religious school closings due to snow, other inclement weather or emergency issues. Please be on the lookout for e-mail instructions that we will send on how to opt into the Remind app. **Please remember it is cold and flu season. If your child is sick, please play it safe and keep them home from religious school.**

Wishing You All a Happy & Healthy!  
Rachel