

Lubavitch of N.C.

Lubavitch Day School Students Think About Freedom

Freedom is a concept that is on everyone's mind — whether referring to the people who live in Kuwait or the practice of religion in the Soviet Union. Lubavitch Day School students are also learning and thinking about freedom. The following comments are from some of the students.

Once I lived in Russia without freedom. You cannot do anything. You cannot go on a trip. Trust me. We have been in that situation a hundred times.

— Gregory Klibanov
Grade 3

Freedom means I can have fun and do what I want. In other places, they can't do what they want. They ask the government to change the laws but it doesn't. If they don't get their freedom, they have to try again.

— Jeffrey Simon
Grade 3

If you have freedom, you can make your own choices. If you have freedom, no one tells you you have to do this or you can't do that.

— Gali Beeri
Grade 2

I like freedom. Without it, we couldn't vote for what we want or say what we want. Many countries don't have freedom. I wish we could all have freedom.

— Jonathon Melenson
Grade 3

Freedom is doing what you want to do. Freedom is very important. Some people don't have freedom and they are sad.

— Geoffrey Wexler
Grade 3

Day School Has Two New Teachers

Mary Macdonald is teaching music to Lubavitch Day School students. Mary is chairperson of the Orff Music Program at the Community School of the Arts. She has a Master of Music degree in Musicology from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

Orff music is a success-oriented program based on the belief that children can discover music through play, speech, song, movement and interests. Through a variety of age-appropriate activities, children develop pitch awareness, beat competency, awareness of rhymes and rhythms, and appreciation of form. Each music class utilizes

speaking, singing, playing instruments, and movements.

Jillian Goldberg will teach art to all primary grade students. Jillian is director of the Gifted and Talented Development Center. She has been involved in the educational process for twenty years. She has a degree in art education from the University of Capetown and has also studied at the University of London.

Jillian plans to base each of her weekly lessons on a renowned artist and his or her work. Students will then make their own art, inspired by the works of that artist.

Day School Enriches Students' Shabbat

As the school seeks to give its students a total experience in Judaica and in general topics, the staff at the school constantly develops programs geared to the enrichment of the child.

One such program was experienced recently by the students of the second and third grades in the form of a Shabbaton weekend. On a Friday afternoon in early February the children packed into the home of Rabbi Binyomin and Chanie Weiss and together they went to the Chabad House to welcome in the Shabbat. The girls lit the Shabbat candles about 18 minutes prior to sunset and then joined the adults for the Shabbat Service.

The Services were enhanced by the children with their delightful Shabbat melodies and prayers which they have been learning at school. Chanie Gansburg and Chavie Getz, Judaica teachers at the school, helped at the Services and the entire Shabbaton.

After Services the children walked to the Weiss home and enjoyed a delicious home-cooked Shabbat dinner. It began with the recitation of Kiddush; each child had the opportunity to recite the Kiddush over grape juice and also make the blessing over their own Challah. During the meal they sang Jewish songs and listened to the wonderful stories told by Rabbi Weiss.

Shabbat morning the children made their way once again to the Chabad House with their teachers and again joined the adults at Services. They attended the Torah reading which was extra special as it was the week when the Ten Commandments



Jonathon Melenson with his parents and Gali Beeri at the Shabbaton.



Gali Beeri (L) and Sarah Spangenthal share the holding of the Havdalah candle.

were read. A special Kiddush party was held at the Chabad House in their honor with an assortment of kosher refreshments.

All during the Shabbat the children earned Mitzvah coupons for participation and good behavior. When a certain number of coupons were earned it resulted in a special privilege to be experienced at the end of Shabbat.

Many parents were astonished

by the enthusiasm the children displayed before, during and after the Shabbaton. It reflected the impact the weekend made on the youngsters and it greatly reinforced their Jewish identity.

Shabbat came to a close with a "Sholosh Se'udos" meal at the Chabad House followed by Havdalah. Many of the parents participated and "kveld" with "nachas" (pride) watching their children absorb the beauty of the Shabbat Queen.

Education is Priority At Lubavitch

Lubavitch of North Carolina has constantly introduced programs and activities which enhance the education of adults and children. These programs which include learning sessions, Model Matzah bakery, Shofar factory have been very well received by the Charlotte Jewish community.

Currently Lubavitch conducts a series of classes and lectures on Judaica which are open to the public. Lessons in Talmud on Tuesday nights and the Code of Jewish Law revisited on Thursday nights are recent new additions to the slate of Jewish courses at Lubavitch.

There are new programs

which began this winter for couples, and also for Jewish women. If you want to learn more about the educational programs at Lubavitch please call Rabbi Binyomin Weiss, 366-3984.

In other new developments, Mariashi Groner, administrator at Lubavitch, and Chanie Weiss, Judaica teacher, attended the International Lubavitch Woman's convention in New York. Over 1,000 women from all over the world participated, shared information and sought ways to enhance the educational programs back home.

The convention, which lasted five days, was addressed by the

Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, who encouraged the proliferation of new programs with the theme of joy. Noting that the convention was being held two weeks before Purim, a holiday when extra giving and sharing is done with extreme joy, the Rebbe emphasized the importance of incorporating that message into the daily work of Lubavitch.

Mariashi Groner reports that the conference provided many presentations which were both inspirational and practical. In addition to the general presentations, the women attended workshops which catered to every unique aspect in education. Both Mariashi and Chanie have returned with baggage containing new ideas and innovations to be implemented in the Charlotte educational system at Lubavitch.

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