



**CHANUKAH
EDITION!**

פרשת מקץ

December 27, 2024

Trip to SKA High School...



When we announced the latest development, cheers erupted. The participants anticipate this trip all year and Thursday could not have come fast enough. The sun was glistening, matching our enthusiastic mood! We loaded the buses in no time and trekked out to the SKA Girls School in Long Island for a Chanukah extravaganza. The girls greeted us with radiant faces and were just as excited as we were. **Francine** received a grand welcome back as the students recognized her from last year. **Bracha** was seen conversing with one of the girls. We sat in a big room and started off with a Chanukah Bingo game. Chocolate coins anyone?

All were thrilled when someone shouted, "BINGO". Just wait and see, there's more excitement coming! After the table game, the young ladies with the head teacher led us to the dance floor. **Danny** was spotlighted in the center of the circle. **Gita's** smile stretched from one ear to the other. We sure danced up a storm and could feel the energy coursing through our veins! We then ate a scrumptious lunch. The participants were overjoyed to receive soda cans. We were sad to leave but we know that we'll be seeing our friends again real soon. We thanked



our hosts with tremendous gratitude for this memorable day.

A special shout out to our devoted staff for this unforgettable afternoon!!

Custom Menorahs..

Sophisticated crafts have become the new norm here at Otsar. This week, the participants created Menorahs using a block of wood and bolts. Day Hab was transformed into a factory of sorts and the participants got straight to work. We each received a sanded piece of wood, the surface taped to form a color block design. With acrylic paint, the participants painted the wood in magnificent shades of green, blue and gold. Once the paint dried, we removed the tape and out came a stunning color block pattern. **Miriam** envisioned herself standing in front of the glowing Chanukah candles. **Mordy** was looking forward to put these Menorahs to good use. We then glued on silver bolts which will hold up the candles. The final product was quite impressive. We all know that the participants beaming smiles are what “lights up” our day!

Gifts Galore..

If you thought we had enough fun for the week, then you were mistaken! Tuesday brought along a day filled with gift giving, cheering and dancing. Muriel entered our Day Hab with a bright smile, excited to be back. She treated the participants with a fabulous



gift. The excitement started to mount as Muriel went over to each participant personally and handed over the gift. **Lila** peeked inside and was delighted to see Chanukah velvet art. Festive music was heard over the speakers. We took the cue and started dancing, hand in hand, joined by Muriel. We were then blown off our feet when we received yet another gift: donuts! The participants felt like a million dollars, hearts warmed by this kind woman. In gratitude to Muriel, we presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The grins on our faces lasted throughout the day and accompanied us home!!

Spotlight on Yossi..

On Wednesday, the lucky participant featured was none other than **Yossi**. We learnt all about his likes and interests. Yossi's favorite lunch served at Otsar is baked ziti, a favorite among the participants. We learnt that his favorite day of the week is Monday. Yossi's most-liked season is winter. His chosen holiday is Chanukah as he loves the festivities that come along with it. During his spare time, Yossi enjoys going on walks. We then went around the room and offered the participants an opportunity to ask questions. **Yaakov** wanted to know what Yossi's father does for a living. The participants admire Yossi's contagious positive energy. Can you guess who's on for spotlight next week?! His name starts with an R!