



JANUARY 2025



STAYING STRONG

Dearest Lashon Families,
As we reflect on the start of this year, we recognize that it has tested us in many ways. Yet, it is in the face of challenges and obstacles that we often discover the greatest opportunities for unity. These moments remind us to stay humble and to support one another with grace. Let us all embrace the power of peace and patience, not waiting for the storm to arrive or pass, but understanding that as a human race, together we are stronger. Wishing us all a year filled with growth, connection, and resilience.

THE SHINSHINIMS' ISRAELI STUDIES

Our Trip to Israel: As we prepare to return to Israel at the end of this month after six months in Los Angeles, we took the opportunity to share with our students some of our favorite places in Israel, as well as the locations we plan to visit upon our return. A particularly meaningful moment was collecting the students' notes for the Kotel (Western Wall), and we sincerely hope that all their wishes are fulfilled.

Hebrew Language Day: We also had the privilege of celebrating "Hebrew Language Day" on January 21st, commemorating the birthday of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda. During this celebration, we explored the significant contributions of Ben-Yehuda, who played a pivotal role in reviving the Hebrew language and coining many of the terms used in modern Hebrew today. Before his efforts, Hebrew was primarily a language of prayer, and thanks to his work, it is now an integral part of daily life.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP

Creative Programs Manager, Jessie Handler, from the Holocaust Museum LA, has extended a remarkable invitation to our middle school students, offering them a unique opportunity to deepen their understanding of an important moment in history. Share Our Stories at Holocaust Museum LA offers a transformative educational experience for students from Title I schools, connecting them with Holocaust survivors through conversation, learning, and artistic reflection. The program begins with customized museum tours, focusing on primary source artifacts and personal narratives. These tours provide a profound context for understanding the Holocaust. Following the tour, students have the unique opportunity to meet a Holocaust survivor and hear their firsthand testimony, fostering a deep and personal connection to history.

DRAW ME A CITY WINNERS

A **HUGE** round of applause to our incredible winners of the "Draw Me a City" competition! We are beyond thrilled to announce that in third place for grades 3rd to 5th, we have the exceptionally talented **Micaela Pascual**! And in second place for grades 6th to 8th, the brilliant **Joseph Guresky**! Both of you have shown tremendous creativity and skill, and we couldn't be more proud of your hard work and dedication. You are not only representing Lashon Academy, but also our wonderful school community and the values we stand for.

We are so proud and delighted to have you as part of our Lashon family. Keep shining, and continue to inspire all of us!

OPEN HOUSE SUCCESS

Our Open House for the Van Nuys, Valley Village, and City campuses was an incredible success! Prospective families had the chance to explore all the amazing opportunities Lashon Academy provides. We're deeply grateful to our current families for their unwavering support and for sharing their personal experiences with friends, family, and the community—showing just how impactful Lashon has been in their lives. Building our school is a collective effort, relying on the dedication of our staff, administration team, and supportive families like yours. Together, we make it all possible.

BASKETBALL NEWS: A NEW ERA BEGINS

Though our first game didn't go as we had hoped, with a tough loss of 18-26, it's just the beginning of an exciting new chapter. This is the start of a journey for these young men, and every step—win or lose—is part of their growth. Coach Lara is building the foundation of a winning culture—and that means more than just wins on the scoreboard. It's about teamwork, dedication, and pushing through the tough moments. You're not just learning how to play basketball; you're learning how to rise above obstacles, support each other, and grow stronger with every game.

LEOPARD NEWS

MATH FAMILY NIGHT

Math Family Night was a resounding success! It provided an excellent opportunity for families to engage with mathematics in a variety of creative ways, from art and literature to interactive games. Additionally, attendees had the chance to peruse the math curriculum and gain insight into the concepts their children are exploring in the classroom. We extend our sincere gratitude to all the families who participated, helping to make the evening truly memorable.

MS. BROWN'S 5TH GRADE CLASS

At Lashon Academy, we believe that children will achieve and become productive members of the world community. Ms. Brown has designed the interview process for her 5th grade class, providing a valuable opportunity for students to demonstrate responsibility and contribute to the smooth operation of the class. Positions will be awarded based on how well students meet the qualifications required. Just like in the real world, not everyone will be selected for a role, but there will be other chances to apply in the upcoming trimester. Students will fill out a job application and put together a basic resume showcasing their achievements, hobbies, interests, skills, and strengths. If chosen for a position, they'll finalize everything by signing and accepting the role. Each Friday, students will earn PBIS points as a reward (payment) for their job well done.

CITY CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT: MS.

KIM'S 2ND GRADE CLASS

Ms. Kim, a Fairfax, Virginia native, pursued her higher education at James Madison University, where she earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Education.

With a wealth of teaching experience, Ms. Kim brings invaluable expertise to Lashon. Her career has taken her across the globe, from Melbourne, Australia, to the Fairfax County Public School District, where she dedicated five years to fostering student growth and achievement.

Fun Fact: Beyond her passion for education, Ms. Kim is also a musician. In November, she released a song!

What she cherishes most about teaching is the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with her students and witness their intellectual and personal growth. "I love seeing those 'aha' moments when students grasp a new concept—it's incredibly rewarding," she shares.

Ms. Kim employs dynamic teaching strategies to captivate her students, particularly through whole-group reading, which she enhances with interactive, theatrical elements. "I invite student volunteers to act out scenes alongside the reading, making the experience more immersive and engaging," she explains.

This semester, she has set two ambitious yet essential goals for her students:

1. To cultivate confidence in reading, spelling, and writing.
2. To develop strong problem-solving and conflict-resolution skills, enabling them to navigate peer interactions independently and constructively.

When asked what she appreciates most about working at Lashon, Ms. Kim emphasizes the supportive and collaborative environment. "It's not just the students who make this work fulfilling—it's also my incredible colleagues. Their encouragement and teamwork make this challenging yet rewarding profession all the more enjoyable."

We extend our deepest gratitude to Ms. Kim for her dedication, enthusiasm, and unwavering commitment to her students' success!

100 DAYS OF SCHOOL!

We celebrated 100 Days of School with a fun-filled dress-up day! Students and teachers embraced their "old age" with backaches, shivers, and a few grumpy mood swings. Thankfully, no hips were broken, and everyone's "medication" kept the day lively! Thank you for making our first 100 days truly unforgettable!

UP COMING DATES

Minimum Days (1:30pm Dismissal):

- February 5th, 12th 19th & 26th

Parent Meeting with Admin.

- February 11th

Middle School Science Fair:

- February 11th @ 4:30pm-5:30pm

NO SCHOOL:

- February 14th (PD for Teachers)

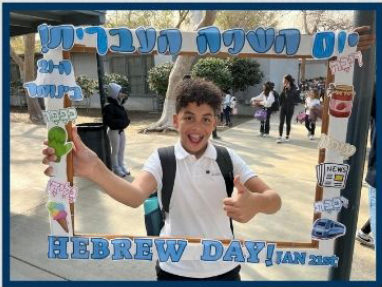
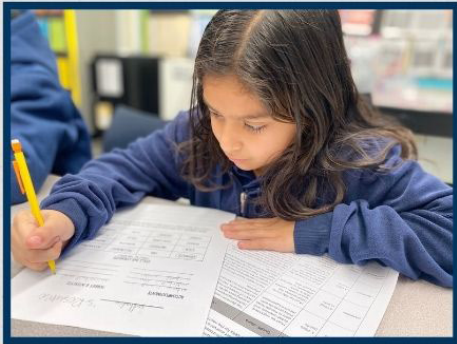
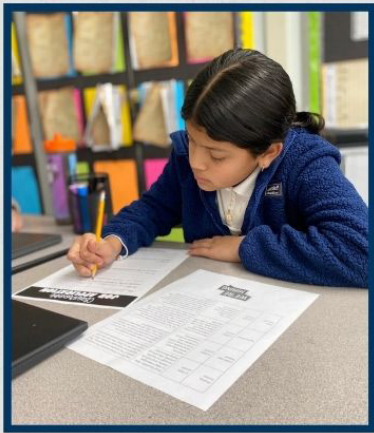
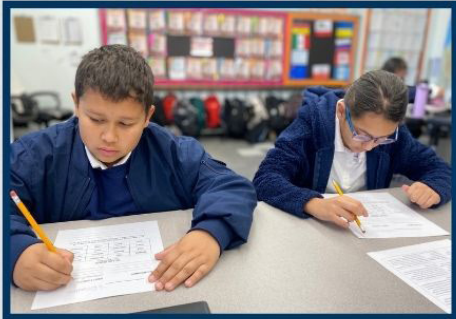
End of Trimester 2

- February 28th

Valley: Read Across America

- March 3rd to March 7th

CAPTURED MOMENTS



CAPTURED MOMENTS

