

March 14, 2016

Dear Parents and Students:

Purim is a festive and joyous holiday filled with celebration of the Jewish victory over the threat of tragedy to the entire Jewish community who lived in Persia about 2,000 years ago. Over the centuries, we have developed wonderful customs to enhance the joy of this holiday. One of these customs is Purim masquerading.

**We'll be celebrating Purim on Thursday, March 24, 2016.** The activities for the lower school will include a parade which will start at 8:10 am through the main street of the Richard and Carole Siemens Jewish campus.

We encourage all of our students to come in a costume. Purim costumes need not be limited to the Purim figures; they can be homemade and very creative. Please have your child wear comfortable shoes. The children will take part in other fun Purim activities. Roller blades, skateboards, and any like sporting gear will not be permitted for safety reasons.

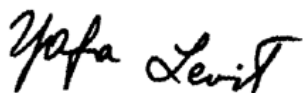
An important mitzvah of Purim is **giving ready-to-eat gifts called Mishloach Manot** to our friends and also to people who need them. The students will be making their own baskets of Mishloach Manot in the classrooms.

Please send in with your child/children one treat that will be enough for each child in the classroom, by Tuesday, March 22nd. These packages must be marked with an OU, Triangle K, or Circle K in its original package. Fruits, fruit roll-ups, chocolates, pretzels are all acceptable. **NO ITEMS SHOULD CONTAIN NUTS.**

The students will be preparing the Mishloach Manot in their classrooms and will deliver them to their friends in other classrooms.

Thank you for your cooperation. **We are looking forward to seeing you on Thursday morning, March 24th at 8:10 am at Dedication Plaza cheering for our students at the parade. Please note that Purim day is a half day 12:30 pm dismissal.**

Sincerely,



Yafa Levit  
Principal of Lower School Judaic Studies