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# ***Ottawa Modern Jewish School Newsletter***

## ***Fall 2005***

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### ☺ **An Invitation** ☺

Attention all OMJS parents. You are invited to an all parent's meeting. This is your opportunity to discuss the year ahead and get answers to any questions that you may have as well as meeting other parents and the Board.

**What:** OMJS parents' meeting

**Where:** Teachers lounge, Room XX

**When:** October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:30-10:30 AM

Please remember to come by after you drop your child off at his or her class. You are also welcome to stay after the all parents' meeting for our regular monthly board meeting. Refreshments will be served. See you then!

## **Greetings from the OMJS 2005-2006 Board**

Welcome to all new and returning parents, from this years Board:

Marlene Rivier	(President)
Morrie Paul	(1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President and Treasurer)
Shelley Rivier	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President)
Ian Schwartz	(Registrar)
Eva Lazar	(Secretary)
Karen Beutel	(Director)
Alan Diener	(Director)
Sharon Ginsberg	(Director)
Lionel Moser	(Director)
Brenda Schwartz	(Director)
Janice Singer	(Director)

**Visit our website: [www.omjs.ca](http://www.omjs.ca)**

# What's Happening at OMJS

By Principal Miri

Shalom and Welcome to another fabulous year at OMJS!!

We are off to a running start with the high holidays (October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) around the corner. Thus far, the students are settling into their classes, and the teachers' enthusiasm is bubbling! We welcome a new teacher this year for our grade 4 class. Ms. Ella Mazor, a recent graduate of Ottawa University, has many years of second language teaching in Israel. As well, we welcome back our wonderful and dedicated teaching staff: Lisa, Janet, Miriam, Flo and Avi!

## Pathways to Ottawa

This year, we are challenging ourselves to positively heighten each child's experience at OMJS! Our theme for the year is "Pathways to Ottawa." This is an exploration by the students and their families of their Jewish roots, to fact-find information of their forbearer's heritage, and journey from *wherever* to Ottawa.

## Hana's Suitcase

After the holidays, we will be sending home some information regarding this project. Also after the holidays, **October 30** to be exact, I invite all those who might be interested to participate in a wonderful project that is being planned by several Jewish committees and services launching Holocaust Education Week. "**Hana's Suitcase**" is a well-known story and a program is being presented by its Author – Karen Levine; George Brady (Hana's brother) and Fumiko Ishioka, curator of the Tokyo Holocaust Centre. On that day, two programs being held: one in the afternoon; one in the evening and tickets are limited. If you are interested, please contact me *asap* so that I may help arrange tickets for you.

I personally wish to all of the OMJS families: Health and Best Wishes for the New Year 5766! – Principal Miri

## Tikkun Olam

The days leading up to the High Holidays are often times of reflection. In this spirit, there has been much discussion among the Board Members of the school to ask support for the various agencies that are in need. From the disaster of Hurricane Katrina ( and now Rita), to the need of children below the poverty level in Israel, to the local Kosher Food Bank; a common thread throughout all these discussions has been made clear: it is important that we, who are so fortunate and grateful for what we have, share our good fortune with others. "Tikkun Olam" –"Healing the World" is one of the basic tenets of Jewish faith and culture. At this time, we hope you will *either* take advantage of our box in the office for the Kosher Food Bank (it doesn't have to be food – utility and hygiene items are also accepted gratefully) or think about supporting any of the many agencies that are so in need of aid at this time of the year (including aid for Jewish families affected by Hurricane Katrina) and throughout the rest of the year.

Here are the web sites of some of the organizations that you might consider supporting:

[www.meirpanim.org](http://www.meirpanim.org)

[www.uja.org](http://www.uja.org)

[www.chabad.org](http://www.chabad.org)

In addition, the youth at Child & Youth Friendly Ottawa (CAYFO) will be collecting items to help out school kids in Louisiana, particularly those children living in shelters and others who are entering the public school system whose budgets are currently overtaxed and overwhelmed by the doubling, and sometimes tripling of enrolled students. Any school and art supplies, especially pencils, markers, watercolour sets, crayons, drawing pads, sketchbooks, charcoal, art tools, papers, rulers, t-squares, and anything else that is not toxic or dangerous will be accepted. On **Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005** from 7:00 am till 7:00 pm at four locations around the city, you can drop off any new school supplies and they will be collected and delivered to Louisiana within a ten day period. For more information on this endeavour go to [www.cayfo.org](http://www.cayfo.org).

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## Registration

If you have not yet done so, please submit your registration form and/or cheques for the 2005-2006 school year to the school office.

It's not too late to register for the 2005-2006 school year. If you know anybody who is interested in sending their children to OMJS please let them now that we are still accepting registrations and will be doing so throughout the year.

**Visit our website: [www.omjs.ca](http://www.omjs.ca)**