

LAUDER JAVNE JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL,
KINDERGARTEN AND MUSIC SCHOOL
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
2016-2017
December

HANUKAH MIRACLES

Our “Hanukah Miracles” mitzvah is slowly becoming a tradition.

In cooperation with the members of the Hungarian rabbi council, the Mazs Foundation and Mazsihisz (Federation of Jewish Communities in Hungary), we organized a Hanukah donation drive for poor Jewish families and elderly people. This year we lit up the holiday season for 66 families thanks the donations of our students and their parents. We received many grateful letters, and we were grateful that we could help.

One of these letters:

The Hunyadi Synagoge district would like to thank for this great donation to the parents and the teachers of the Lauder school. This initiative shows the educational excellence, which aims to sensitize students and parents to practice Tzedaka. Thank you again for this great donation,

*Gabor Finali
Rabbi of Hunyadi District”*



SUCCESS STORIES

DR. LÁSZLÓ PALKOVICS VISITED LAUDER SCHOOL

On 13 December, Lauder received a visit from Dr. László Palkovics, secretary of state for education.



Dr. László Palkovics and Gábor Horányi, Principal of Lauder Javne School discussed several topics as they talked about the e-learning program and the future of the education. Dr. Palkovics, the Secretary of State for Education gave a one-hour presentation about autonomous vehicles to our students.

Imagine that our sixth graders will grow up in a world where they don't have to learn how to drive because cars will be self-driving! In his presentation on autonomous Vehicles, Dr. László Palkovics talked about intelligent machines that, in the not-to-distant future, will make it possible for vehicles to be

driverless and handle all traffic situations successfully. The talk was voluntary to attend, and so many were curious that our assembly hall filled to the brim with students. At the end of the presentation, students asked a lot of questions.

E-LEARNING CONVENTION IN BUDAPEST

It's year 2, semester 1, and the class-bell rings in Lauder



Our e-learning program, designed to engage families living outside the capitol, has entered its second year, and we held our first in-person gathering on the first Sunday of December in Lauder. Most of the students taking part in the program as well as their families visited us. The day started with playful tasks, followed by a Hebrew lesson in a real classroom, face-to-face with the teachers. This year's new students were shown around our school, from the animal house to the library.



Since it was December, Hanukkah preparations were also part of their visit. The students used shrink foil to make presents for themselves or their parents, while the adults reviewed the modern interpretations of Hanukkah with historian and Lauder history teacher András Zima.



After having lunch together, out came the tablets that the students usually use for their Hebrew and Jewish Studies online lessons. Parents and children took part in the quizlet game together, looking for the answers to Hanukkah related questions. The afternoon ended with the lighting of the Hanukkah candles together, and, of course, with Hanukkah donuts. The day ended at the ice-rink at Széna square, where both experienced and novice skaters took to the ice.

The lessons will, of course, continue, and the next in-person meeting with families will be held in Spring 2017.

Deputy Under-Secretary of State Education Imre Sipos visited our school to discuss the topics of introducing e-learning to state education with our Principal. Other members of the meeting were András Heisler President of Mazsihisz, Head of Department József Lebanov, Erika Pálfi, Director of the Hungarian Institute for Educational Research.



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JEWISH HOLIDAY

HANUKAH PREPARATIONS IN THE LAUDER KINDERGARTEN

As this year's Hanukah overlapped with the winter break, preparations were our focus in the kindergarten. We held a family Hanukah light party after sunset. We danced the Horah, listened to Rabbi Zsolt Markovics's greeting speech and his teachings, ate delicious oil-fried morsels, navigated an obstacle course in the dark and hunted for treasure.

The children created their own Hanukiah, and gave the gift of special Hanukah candles to families, courtesy of Mazsihisz (Federation of Jewish Communities in Hungary).

Some of the school students came over to play a game of dreidel, winning a lot of sweets.

The Balint House brought us its special "LivELY" (ÉLd át) interactive program.

We also made a Hanukah video for our Israeli partner, Efrat Srebron.



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JEWISH HOLIDAY

HANUKAH FAIR

The illustrated chronicles of this year's Hanukah Fair.

Every year, our junior elementary school students hold a Hanukah Fair. For a busy afternoon, all of their classrooms transform into market places, with two floors packed with wonderful Hanukah presents for sale, each unique and hand-made. You can even haggle with our little students, although they tend to drive a hard bargain:

“I'll give you 200 forints.”

“Make it 400,” they'll say.

This year's Hanukah Fair also had special surprises which the students prepared with the teachers: you could get a massage, buy orange jam they made, upcycled earrings made from coffee capsules, and many other beautiful, nice and even funny things.



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EDUCATION

CHESS NEWS - OUR GILDED GIRLS

The Budapest amateur youth championships ended on 10 December, where we faced off with five all school teams against club entrants.

Led by Anna Koltai, our “Lauder I” senior girl team came in 11th out of 34 overall, thus finishing first place among schools. Our V. team pushed it in the final stretch, and, with the Csikos-siblings on their side, faced off against our own team IV., landing on a podium spot in the end. In fact, it was our MTK club player led team I. that was held most likely for the spot, but the last round saw a series of bad moves for some, and thus for the whole team.

Lauder I: Anna Koltai, Flóra Balogh, Panni Horányi, Szonja Ruszkai, Gabriella Csikós

Lauder V: Csaba Csikós, Gabriella Csikós, Daniel Bíró, Flóra Dudás

The MTK teams will continue in the professional league as well (with I from 1st place) in the spring, with the following players on board: Dóra Koltai, Boldizsár Varga, János Wallis, Anna Dán, Dávid Radó



FLÓDNI 2016

On 13 December 2016, we held our 11th annual Flódni creative thinking challenge for 10 teams of students.

This year saw the traditional flódni (cake) baking, language quizzes, Micro Robots, pretzel-wars, Origami, Who’s that?, Estimation-Kahoot and Rio2016-games. As always, it was a lot of fun, for both teachers and students.



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EDUCATION

DAWN FEVER (HAJNALI LÁZ) Filmclub screening before the Book Festival



On 2 December 2016, film director and author Péter Gárdos was our guest in the Lauder library. The conversation was held after the screening of the movie Dawn Fever (Hajnali Láz), which was inspired by the story of how the director's parents met. The library was crowded: parents, teachers and students were all interested in the movie, which many watched after already having read the book.

The conversation with the creator was open and light-hearted. He was happy to answer any and all questions. It was wonderful to see Péter Gárdos not only tell colorful stories, but show his humor as well in a topic that isn't always easy.

17TH ANNUAL BOOK FESTIVAL

A long-running tradition, we held our annual book festival on 8 December 2016.

This time, it was the seventeenth. .

Colorful, exciting, fun and nourishing. These are the best words to describe the 17th Book Festival. Students could take part in a wide variety of programs.

Having breakfast with books, book-surfing, storytelling to kindergarteners, listening to principal Gábor Horányi's stories, listening to talking books with the E+ kids, take part in quizzes and even attend their regularly scheduled classes which were focused around literature in some way.

Several guests also honored us on this day: the Soul Bird production, Pál Nényei, György Dragomán, Dani Varró and Éva Kalapos. Steven Koltay presented his book about the creative enterprises of the future.

The day was rounded off with a big book quiz. Have a look at the gallery of the day!



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MICVAH

A PRESENT TO THE TENANTS OF THE SZTEHLO FOSTER HOME

A family from our school donated an Xbox One gaming console as a holiday gift, which was presented to the overjoyed children of our neighboring Sztehlo Home for Children. We hope it will be useful and fun for them during the winter break and beyond.

