



Celebrating Adar at Barkai Yeshivah

You can't help but smile when walking into Barkai Yeshivah during Adar. Happiness permeates the hallways as each day is celebrated with its own theme and everyone, children and staff alike, gets involved.

The festivities began with Pajama Day, when everyone came to school wearing colorful, comfortable and outrageous pajamas accessorized with robes and slippers. The days that followed had themes as well: Sunglasses Day, Hat Day, Mismatched Sock Day, Color Day, Animal Day and Tie and Scarf Day.

Each person is excited to celebrate and fulfill the mitzvah of *Mishenichnas Adar Marbim B'Simha* (When Adar arrives, we increase our joy.) On theme days, the children are especially joyous.

The fun-filled days were accompanied by two evening Purim parties for the Middle School girls and boys—each one with its own twist. After enjoying a delicious dinner, the girls tried their luck at trivia questions with the answers revealed in video format. They then acted as their teachers and performed a skit for the audience. In return, the





teachers pretended to be students as the girls laughed at "themselves." The boys enjoyed each other's company during dinner, and laughed through the night's activities which included trivia questions, a game of musical chairs and watching funny videos produced by the 7th and 8th graders.

To culminate the pre-Purim fun, a Purim carnival was organized by many staff members including Shoshi Abowitz, Batel Elitzur, Rav Achiya and Idit Eliyahu, Rav Amos and Inbal Hillel, Jake Sitt, Racheli Pariente-Cohen and student volun-

teers, for all grades to participate in and enjoy.

Purim decorations were hung everywhere and costumes were worn by everyone, as they got into the spirit of the holiday. Early Childhood children played games like bowling, fishing and bean bag toss, got decorative paint on their hands, searched for toys in the sand table and more. Elementary and Middle School students participated in eight challenges inspired by stories in the Tanach, including a potato sack and three-legged races with students paired with partners, like

the animals on Noah's Ark. David and Goliath inspired a tug-of-war challenge and using a water gun to put out a candle's flame signified lightness and darkness during the world's creation. The video, Raise Your Glass, was a special surprise for the students because it documented their Adar festivities.

It is truly a unique experience to celebrate Adar as a Barkai student or employee. To approach each day wholeheartedly wanting to be happy and make others happy, makes the enthusiasm infectious throughout the building. □