5 Towns Celebrates Israel at 67



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Aaron and Morah Naamat, decorated the bowling alley. The Yom HaAztmaut *Chagigah*, with live music and spirited dancing and singing, was preceded by a festive Israeli-style lunch sponsored by the SKA Parent Council. A group of students joined the Panim el Panim marathon with Amatzia Fensterheim in Brooklyn as well.

It was truly a powerful transition "me'afelah l'orah"—from darkness to light! ❖

At Shalhevet, A Daglanut For Atzmaut

Midreshet Shalhevet prides itself on being dedicated to Am Yisrael and Eretz Yisrael by incorporating classes and programs focusing on the centrality of Eretz Yisrael to us as Torah Jews. They recognize the significance of the State of Israel and instill in their students an attachment to the State of Israel and its people as well as a sense of responsibility for their welfare. Therefore, it came as no surprise when Midreshet Shalhevet prepared an inspiring dedication to the fallen soldiers of the Israeli Defense Force on Yom HaZikaron. The siren rang and each student stood in silence to honor those who perished protecting Israel. Pictures and biographies of soldiers adorned the walls in the hallway



Shalhevet Girls Celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut

so that each student could read about members of the IDF who gave up their lives protecting Israel. The Committee for Israel Activism club arranged a screening of Beyond the Helmet, a documentary that followed the lives of five Israeli soldiers. The film allowed the students to truly understand what being a part of the army really entails, and how much each soldier gives up in order to serve Israel. The footage was moving and uplifting, and gave an authentic feel to each soldier's sit-

uation. Following the movie, the Shalhevet choir, led by Mrs. Andrea Schulman, performed a beautiful rendition of *Hatikvah* and other songs. Each student walked away from the program feeling even more appreciative of the Israeli soldiers who risk their lives each day protecting Israel.

Yom HaAtzmaut allowed for the activities to continue celebrating Israel and all that it has to offer. After davening, the students initiated the celebration of Israel's 67th birthday with a dagla-



Color War at Shalhevet

nut, a traditional Israeli flag dance. After the incredible performance, the G.O. broke out color war! The school was divided into the white team (freshmen and seniors), and the blue team (sophomores and juniors). The white team represented Yerushalayim, while the blue team represented Chevron. All throughout the day, the girls planned, played, and prepared for the activities. There was a machanayim tournament, Apache race, See-Run-Build competition, blindfold puzzle tournament, scavenger hunt, obstacle course, and college-bowl trivia. The festivities continued on Friday where each team had to present an original song, stomp, banner, and everlasting gift. Although it was color war, both teams displayed a tremendous amount of achdus and spirit! Congratulations to the blue team on their win! 🌣