

**This year, the American Friends of NSWAS will sponsor the Primary School's unusually small but mighty incoming **FIFTH-GRADE CLASS!****



**HELP US MEET OUR  
\$20,000 FUNDRAISING GOAL  
AND SECURE A BRIGHT FUTURE  
FOR THESE STUDENTS.**

The NSWAS Primary School is the first school in Israel to institute a bilingual, binational curriculum for children aged kindergarten through sixth grade. Students learn together in Hebrew and Arabic, and 90 percent of enrollees travel more than 20 miles each day to attend.

“What makes a Primary School education so special is that Jewish and Palestinian children experience learning side-by-side and as a totally normal situation. They see how things can be when we find common ground.”

—Raida, fifth grade teacher

# ABOUT THE CLASS

For their theme, the 5th grade chose ● ● ● ● ●

10 girls  
and  
8 boys

9 from  
Jewish  
families

9 from  
Arab  
Families

5 from  
the  
Village

13 from  
surrounding  
areas

● ● ● ● ● Do Jewish and Arab Holy Days have anything in common? Roots? Foods? Rituals? Stories?

## MEET AHAVA

I was nervous to go to school at first, but when someone new comes, immediately everyone hugs them and treats them like family. My favorite thing so far is that we all get to learn each other's languages. I knew a little bit of Arabic before, but this was like opening a door. It's helped me make new friends in my class and in younger grades.

There are so many activities you can do in the fifth grade! I'm part of a theater group that is writing a play about what we've learned and done this year. It will be in two languages. I'm learning how to use a computer and make computer games, and I'm also learning how to felt in an art class. Trying so many new things has made me a lot more open to everyone and to new experiences. I also have a younger brother. He is in the first grade, and he is really having fun here, too!

“My wife and I are thankful for the education our children receive at Neve Shalom. We are thankful for the dedicated teachers, staff, and school for educating our children with the value that Palestinian and Jewish children deserve to learn and grow together.”

—Ahava's dad

## MEET IZHAR

I started at this school as a toddler, when I was in the kindergarten, and I have three sisters who graduated from the Primary School. I'm the youngest.

The things I enjoy learning the best are language and science. I love biology and studying animals—and I already know how to speak Hebrew, Arabic, English, a little Spanish, and a little bit of Russian. It's easier to learn English than Hebrew. But Hebrew is the second easiest language to learn!

I know that my school is the place with the most peace because we always take care of each other.



***A peaceful world is possible, and these fifth-graders are proof.  
BUT THEY NEED YOUR HELP!***

***Give these children the tools for success in the year to come.  
Help nurture a new generation of builders for the future.***

**\$2,000:** a year's tuition for a student who otherwise could not afford to attend

**\$500:** scholarship support for a student whose family is financially burdened

**\$250:** per-student supplemental materials for science, music, and art classes

“We live in Abu Gosh, but it was very important for us to send the kids to the Primary School. It is the only place in the area they can get such a good education and learn Hebrew on such a high level. The support we are getting has significantly eased the load, and it is a big relief for the family.”

—Fifth-grader's mom

Even the smallest gift makes a difference in the lives of these children. **Donate today and help us reach our goal!**

**The American Friends of Neve Shalom Wahat al-Salam [www.oasisofpeace.org](http://www.oasisofpeace.org)**

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