

# Bina hosts first annual Shabbaton

The weekend of Feb. 23, Bina Chana Brooke and another by Bais Yaakov's High School hosted its first annual Shabbaton by welcoming nine 11th and 12th graders from Bais Yaakov of Baltimore. A Shabbaton is a fun-filled weekend of activities with a group from another community that culminates in a spiritual Shabbos.



Girls at Walmart Scavenger Hunt

Friday morning's rainy weather did not dampen the girls' spirits as they headed to Wal-mart for a scavenger hunt. Two hours flew by as groups of girls located items on a list, presented them to judges, and returned them to their proper place. One customer observing the scene commented, "I want to send my girls to this school!"

Shabbos was ushered in with Kabbalos Shabbos at the Brooke home, where the girls davened, sang songs, and heard an inspiring story. After dinner at various homes, the girls gathered for an Oneg Shabbos at B'nai Israel for desserts and continued conversation with their new friends.

Following Saturday morning services, Chana Werther, the menaheles (principal) of Bina, hosted all the girls for a delicious lunch at her house. The girls sang Zemiros, Shabbos songs, and listened to two Torah thoughts, one by Bina's own

Aidel Horowitz.

When Shabbos was over, the girls dressed in black and gathered their guns—not real ones but the ones used for a rousing session of Laser Tag. The deadliest shot went to Bina's Tova Seligson, who credits her success with being the youngest of three brothers. The weekend ended with a Melave Malka, an after-Shabbos meal to "escort" the Shabbos queen away.

Finally, Bina girls bid a sad farewell as their guests headed home. Promises were made to cement newly-formed friendships. As Shira Shapiro described her hosts, "What a group of really warm, accepting, sweet girls... I can't wait to come back soon!" It was a whirlwind of a weekend that will keep smiles on many faces for a long time to come.



Bina & Bais Yaakov of Baltimore girls at Laser Quest