National Defense Preparedness Drill in Educational Institutions

February 15th, 2016  6 Adar a 5776

Message to Parents:

Once a year the National Educational System and the Home Front Command conduct a nation-wide Defense Preparedness Drill in all educational institutions in Israel. The exercise is a high point in the preparation of the educational institutions for various emergency situations.

The exercise will be conducted this year on Monday, February 15th, 2016 (6 Adar a 5776) from 10:00-12:00, **in all schools and kindergartens throughout the country.**

This year, the educational institutions drill will be for fired missiles during school hours, during recess. The drill is part of the National Preparedness Plan and the Program for Application of Conclusions drawn by the educational institutions from past experience for new emergency situations. A high level of preparedness in the educational system for emergency situations is of major importance in preparing the general population and strengthening the country in anticipation of these events.

Conducting the drill in accordance with the instructions issued by the highest security division of the Ministry of Education and adhering to the general instructions for behavior in emergency situations issued by the Home Front Command will increase your security and that of your children. This will also ensure that they function with the greatest possible efficiency and do what is required of them in such situations.

The success of the drill is directly dependent on the full cooperation of your children and the support you give them. Please discuss the drill with them so that they understand the importance of preparedness as a necessary routine for emergency situations. We will do everything possible to ensure that the drill reinforces the children’s sense of security. **It is important to promote a sense of calm, and to clarify that this is a drill, especially in light of recent events.**

The ability to cope with emergency situations is dependent on preparedness, and the readiness of educational institutions, as well as individual families, is of the greatest importance. **When the public is prepared in advance it functions more effectively in emergency situations.**

**Routine preparedness drills – the key to appropriate action under emergency conditions.** The Home Front Command is at your service 365 days a year.

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