

# Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 25

פרשת תזריע - פרשת החודש

Week ending April 8, 2016

Candle lighting 7:12

## Parsha Points

“...and he must call out, “Unclean, unclean!” “ . . . וטמא, טמא יקרא.”

This phrase alludes to a well known dictum, *Kol haposel bemumo posel*. “He who condemns someone else will always accuse that person of the vices of which he himself is guilty.” Applying an unconventional translation to the present passgae, this meaning emerges. *Vetamei tamei yikra* (literally translated, “and he must call out, unclean, unclean!”) may also be understood as, *Vetamei*, it is the unclean person who *tamei yikra*, will call his neighbor, “unclean.”

*Shelah taken from Torah Treasurers*

## The Week in Review

Our boys in grades 5-8 were treated to a true taste of **לכבם הזה**, the concept of the **מולד**, what constitutes a new moon and a wide variety of facts and figures regarding the wondrous creations of the heavens that we often take for granted. “Avenues of the sky,” a visiting planetarium run by Rabbi Sheeya Hertz Ostreicher, displayed the breathtaking view of the approximate 2,000 stars in their proper formation and order as they appeared in the Edison sky this past Wednesday night. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade presentation emphasized the different concepts the boys learned earlier in the year in **מסכת ראש השנה** that relate to astronomy, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade received a beautiful introduction to constellations, which they are now starting to learn about in class. Pre-1A through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades were able to see, in a beautiful display on the planetarium walls and dome, how when the sun sets the stars come out. And all of the classes saw in a most magnificent fanfare the vastness of Jupiter and its many moons. This was a truly meaningful and inspiring presentation for all of our boys to behold on the eve of **פרשת החודש**.

After studying the life cycles of a variety of animals and insects in conjunction with the Changes unit they covered in their literacy curriculum, the 1<sup>st</sup> grade boys welcomed the opportunity to witness the life cycle of a chicken. Farmer Tom, of Quiver Farms, brought his hen and rooster, Max and Ruby, to meet the students, along with an incubator and the eggs Ruby had laid. The boys carefully tended the eggs, turning them as instructed. A week later, the children watched as a tiny bird pecked its way out of the shell and emerged a little wet and floppy. They saw it slowly gain its legs and its downy feathers fluffed out and changed into their ubiquitous yellow hue. Its cheerful chirping delighted the class. Soon thereafter, ten more chicks hatched and all were transferred to a bin equipped with soft bedding, fresh water and food pellets to meet their every need. We bid them a fond farewell last Friday when Farmer Tom returned to retrieve the newborn chicks. The class was acknowledged as Great Hatchers with an award that is proudly displayed on the classroom wall. Many thanks to Miss Komet for arranging this project, and to Rabbi Bhatia for his participation in this successful endeavor.

Busy, busy, busy! The girls Pre1A had such an enjoyable time going to an actual matzo bakery in Lakewood. Watching how quickly the matzo is made from start to finish was amazing, and the fiery ovens were awesome. Afterwards, the girls enjoyed a beautiful picnic in a nearby park. The trip inspired the girls to work extra hard on their hagados and to feel the excitement of learning about Pesach!

The halls of the girls school are abuzz with LINK! The new card game is all the rage and the girls are lining up each morning to collect the fresh available set. The complete game, which offers our girls the chance to research their personal family histories, also includes Moves, Minhagim, Foods, Fill-in-the-Blank, Special Events, Remember When? Inventions, Favorites and Ups & Downs. So far, the categories of Facts, Figures, Names and Sayings have been distributed. What better time is there to celebrate “Family” than the yomtov of **לבנך והגדרת לבנך**!!

## Preschool Jottings

**Why are these days in the preschool different than all the other school days of the year?**

On all the other days of the school year, the *Moros* and the children find some time to stop and take a breath! But on these pre-Pesach days, everyone is so busy coloring, cutting, painting and designing there is hardly time to stop and rest!

On all the other days of the school year, the children sing and dance. But on these pre-Pesach days, the hallways and classrooms are filled with the melodious Pesach songs, including **דיינו**, **מה נשתנה**, **אחד מי יודע** and **לשנה הבאה בירושלים**.

On all the other days of the school year, the children play in the dress up center using many props. But on these Pre-Pesach days, the children play Pesach *Seder* in the dress up center. The boys dress like fathers and wear hats and jackets, hold *Kiddush* cups and the mothers pretend to serve especially prepared Pesach foods.

On all the other days of the school year, the children make projects and are so proud of their work. But on these Pre-Pesach days, the children know that these projects are so superbly special. They work diligently to make everything so beautiful and they want everything to be special for this upcoming Pesach *Yom Tov*!

## FYI

**• Achievement Tests are coming up this week in the girls' school April 11 - 15 and May 4<sup>th</sup> in the boys school. Please make every effort to avoid having your children miss any of the testing sessions.** Make sure your child has had a good night's rest and comes equipped with plenty of sharpened pencils and some healthful snack.

• Want to make your life just a smidgen easier? **Pre-Pesach Lunches** are available for Monday, April 18 and Tuesday, April 19 in both the boys and girls schools. Please see the attached flier for details.

• **Please note: As of Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>** regular Friday dismissals will begin after the Pesach vacation. **Friday dismissals will be at 3:00 pm.** (1:35 p.m. for girls grades 6-8)

• YST Girls and Boys divisions are offering hot lunch on Mon., April 18 & Tues, April 19<sup>th</sup> for those who did not previously order for their child(ren). See attached flyer for details.

• **Girls After School Program Make-Up Dates:**

Mon: Edible Arts & Gymnastics - April 18

Tues: Fun in the Kitchen - April 19

• **No more YST uniform drop-offs will be accepted until after Pesach.**

• Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the Agudah. Mincha Minyan before Pirchei at 2:50.

• Bnos Malka this Shabbos at 2:15. Please bring a scarf that can be used as a blindfold.

• **The winners of the Kinder Fund Logo Contest - Grand Prize:** Ezra Goldfarb (8th grade YST-boys) and Rena Friedman (11th grade Reenas Bais Yaakov)

**Runner Ups:** Ariella Wallenstein (KDG - RPRY) and Eli Fisher (8th grade YST-boys)

• Introducing Night Camp with Sara & Yael for girls entering 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Register before Pesach and get an early bird discount. Contact Sara (Friedman) Feigenbaum: [sarafriedman415@gmail.com](mailto:sarafriedman415@gmail.com) or call 732-556-7025. A portion of the proceeds will benefit YST-PTA.

• **Annual AY clothing giveaway** - Sun, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 am - 2 pm.. Come get new to you clothing in excellent condition. All clothing is free. Donations are accepted. For more information or if you would like to donate clothing in excellent condition, please contact Ida Scheiner 917-439-6163 ([imscheiner@aol.com](mailto:imscheiner@aol.com)) or Rivka Jaffe 732-762-0490.

• **Children's ShoeShare:** Get a new-to-you pair of shoes for the upcoming yom tov! A large collection of beautiful, gently used kids shoes. Up to big kids' size 3.

**Toy Library:** A free lending library of boards games, train sets, puzzles, building blocks, and electronic toys available to borrow for one month at a time. Contact Elisheva Blumberg at [elishevablumberg@gmail.com](mailto:elishevablumberg@gmail.com). Or call 347- 416-3693.

• The Edison/Highland Park gown Gemach, L'iluy Nishmas R' Yitzchok Ben Binyomin, is open for business! The Gemach houses a wide selection of gowns for children, pre-teen, teens and adults. Please note the Gemach is still looking for donation of gowns in very good condition. Tax deduction is given and pick up of the gowns can also be arranged. For more information and/or to schedule an appointment please call Sara Scott at 516-526-0941.

• Rabbi Drucker's pre-Pesach shiur for women - Tuesday, April 12, 8:15 PM, at the Agudah Bais Medrash on the main floor.

• Rabbi Bassous' Women's class: Sundays at 10:00 AM at Etz Ahaim. Class will be based upon the book “100 Brachos, Counting your Blessings 100 Times a Day” by Rabbi Moshe Goldberger

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's, Mrs. Miri Cohen's & the SemPlus shiurim will resume after Pesach.

• Woman's Parsha discussion: Steinsaltz Ambassador, Betzalel Strauss, will be conducting discussion based on the essays of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, every Monday at 1:00PM in the Ahavas Achim Beit Midrash. All interested women are invited. Contact Cynthia at [cynthiaandlloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiaandlloyd@yahoo.com) with any questions.

• Women's beginning Israeli Dancing will resume after Lag B'Omer on Sunday, May 29.

• Please join the *Tehillim* hotline by calling 401-694-1602 at 8:45 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Follow the prompts and enter access 4625 followed by the pound key. The *Tehillim* is said as *z'chus for refuah shleima* for community members, who are ill. Following the *Tehillim*, we will be learning from the *sefer* Growing Each Day. If you would like to volunteer to lead a night of Tele - *Tehillim*, please contact Adina Pruzansky 732-339-0780.

## Mazel Tov!

• Rabbi & Mrs. Yitzchak Yaakov Blumenkrantz upon the birth of a granddaughter

• Rabbi & Mrs. Yimiyahu Lebowitz upon the engagement of their daughter Eliana to Shmully Reich of Lakewood

• Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Leiter & family upon the engagement of Moshe to Aliza Rosenberg of Los Angeles

## Library Additions

• *Stories From Our Sages* in honor of Jenna Zarny's 11<sup>th</sup> birthday

## The Writer's Corner

While reading *The Sign of the Beaver*, by Elizabeth George Speare, Mrs. Chait's 5<sup>th</sup> grade writers applied their understanding of perspective by writing diary entries from different characters' points of view. Please enjoy Peri Jaman's entry from the perspective of Matt, a twelve-year-old settler in Massachusetts in 1768.

Dear Diary,

Today was my first day teaching Attean how to read, and boy was it awful! I doubt I'll ever teach him how to read if he keeps this up. He is being very unresponsive and not cooperative.

We (as in me) tried to go letter by letter, but that did not work out as I planned. The savage boy thought that the book said arm all over it, but what could I have expected from an Indian? I feel like the world has brought all bad upon me.

I tried to be firm, as my mother was to me, but that brought no response. I'm pretty sure Attean doesn't want to learn to read. I think he hates whites, I don't know why, though. After the lesson, he heard that learning might take a year. He left the cabin in such a rush that I'm sure it's the end of the lessons. It's getting late, and I need to put out the fire.

Until next time,  
Matt

## BULLETIN BOARD

• **Sun, April 10 - 8:15 pm** - Video Presentation for women only, “Turning Tears into Triumph”, how Am Yisrael suffered together over the loss of the Sassoon family and BE”H, how we will rebuild together. Cong. Ohav Emeth 415 Raritan Ave. Entry donation is \$18 to benefit The Sassoon 7 Project.