

Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 9

פרשת וישב

Week ending December 4, 2015

Happy Chanukah!

Candle lighting 4:13

Parsha Points

“And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers. . .” “ויקנף פרעה על שני סריסיו. . .”

The Gemara in Megillah 13b comments that Hashem caused the master to grow angry with his servants in order to do the will of the righteous one, namely Yosef. It was through Hashem's intervention that both the butler and the baker offended Pharaoh, which ultimately brought about Yosef's elevation to the high office of viceroy. The question arises: Since only the butler was directly instrumental in Yosef's release from prison, why was it also necessary for the baker to commit an offense? Let us reflect upon the butler's reasoning. Without the interpretation of the baker's dream, the butler would have doubted the interpretation of his own dream, and, concomitantly, Yosef's ability to interpret dreams. Indeed, upon hearing only the good portents of his own dream, the butler would have concluded that Yosef had nothing to lose with this interpretation. If it came true, all was well. If it did not, who would hold him responsible?

However, the fact that Yosef foretold the baker's eventual execution convinced the butler of the divinely inspired character of the interpretations. It stood to reason that if Yosef's interpretations were spurious, he would not have dared predict the baker's death on the gallows. For if events proved him wrong, he would have to suffer the bakers' terrible vengeance for having caused him so much anxiety. It followed, therefore, that Yosef spoke the truth. The butler's certainty that Yosef's interpretations were genuine prompted him to recommend Yosef to Pharaoh, which led to his release and elevation.

Meshech Chochmah taken from Torah Treasures

The Week in Review

Rabbi Eidelman's 3rd grade תלמידים have just completed a special חזרה program. Each Friday the boys review at least 20 פסוקים in פרשת השבוע in the חומש. This program was designed in order to enable the boys to review פסוקים that they learned in 1st and 2nd grade and master them at a 3rd grade level. A special kugel treat for the boys' accomplishments was provided by the rebbe after the 7th week of the program (פרשת ויצא), and we look forward to more mastery of chumash as the year continues, בס"ד.

It's December already, and the first term has come to a close! Our 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys have certainly been busy in literacy, putting the Writing Process to good use! While the two older grades already knew how to apply this skill to help them with their essays, the 6th grade had to learn this new concept. They additionally learned that writing could be really fun and creative when using their journals. All grade levels also completed a grammar and mechanics unit – certainly necessary for all the essays and reports this year!

By the way, when you walk down the hall of the Boys School, look up and you will see the wonderful book vests the 6th graders did for their first term book reports. These reports revealed not only the students' innovative sides but also allowed them to demonstrate their writing skills. Not to be outdone, the 7th grade boys did outstanding work on their **Mystery Box** book reports and written mystery book reports that can be found in their classroom! Each type of report allowed the students to show how their skills are being finely tuned as the year progresses. Don't think the 8th graders aren't busy also. They have been given the very important task of researching the Holocaust. At this time they are in the final phase of their work, which promises to be well researched and written. Whew! Look at what the students have already accomplished! With their hard work and dedication, imagine the rest of the year!

In conjunction with their Pre-Revolutionary War Unit, Mrs. Gross' 7th grader girls began their diary project. Each student had to create a fictitious character who was either a Patriot or Loyalist and will portray their characters' views, challenges and life experiences in their entries on important incidents like the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party. This will definitely bring history to life for the 7th graders and will help them internalize what the dilemma's the colonists faced during that time period.

Dr. Orani came to the girls' school to do a fascinating presentation about the ear for Mrs. Brotsky's 8th grade science class. In particular, she focused on the dangers of loud music and its impact on hearing. She helped them experience what a mild hearing loss is and she brought a special "guest" who was able to measure the decibel level of the girls' Ipods and tell them if it is safe. Thank you Dr. Orani for this special activity.

Preschool Jottings

We are preparing for our Chanukah breakfast – SPARKLING LIGHTS! We extend a warm invitation to all parents and grandparents to join us for a morning of nachas and joy! Program will begin at 9:15 AM on Wed., Dec. 9th in the Preschool basement.

The Young Investigators took a very special trip to visit with Rabbi Kaufman, the Rav of Ohav Emeth. They have been studying what a *shul* looks like, what happens in a *shul*, and the important objects that can be found in every *shul*. And so, they came prepared with a list of questions for Rabbi Kaufman. He answered many of the questions and the session lasted longer than you could imagine, as the children listened carefully to every word. Special thank you to Rabbi Kaufman for giving of his time for our children. The beautiful Aron Kodesh that the children have made has become a home for the *Sifrei Torah* of YST Preschool. The lock on the outside will prevent anyone from taking the

precious items without permission...but we can arrange a visit for anyone who would like to come take a peek at the amazing work that the children have done. Upcoming event – a *Hachnasas Sefer Torah*.

The children are de"light"ed to bring home their own special *Menoros*. The children in Morah Mimi's class designed their *menorah* on their own, using wood pieces and tiles. Each one is different than the next and is very telling of all the creativity and talent that lies within the children. Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's class focused on detailing their *menoros* with mosaic tile pieces. Each design is colorful and particular to the child's liking. Morah Yaffa and Morah Rochel designed a *menorah* where the new candle, on each night of Chanukah, clips on to the *menorah*. When you peek into the windows around town, you will see just how precious their candles are!

FYI

• **Please Note the following corrections in the school calendar:**

- Shabbos, Dec. 5 is Parshas Vayeshev
- Shabbos, Dec. 12 is Parshas Mikeitz
- Shabbos, Dec. 19 is Parshas Vayigash
- Shabbos, Dec. 26 is Parshas Vayeichi

• **CALENDAR CHANGES:** YST Preschool and Girls School Staff Members will have a Professional Development Day on Friday, January 1. There will be no sessions for children in either the Preschool or Girls School

• Boys School - 3:30PM Dismissal on Thursday, January 7 for all grades.

• PTA Chanukah gifts to the teachers is being extended to Tuesday, Dec. 8th. See attached flyer.

• **During the week of Chanukah** all classes in both the girls' and boys' divisions will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. and there will be **no After-School Programs**.

• **IMPORTANT:** There will be **no busing** on Friday, Dec 25th for both the boys and the girls schools and dismissal will be 12:30 p.m. In addition, there is **no busing** on Fri, January 1st for the boys school and dismissal will be at 12:30 p.m.

• **Attn. Pre-school Parents: All children in the pre-school must have flu immunizations by Dec. 31, 2015. According to NJ state law, any child who has not had a flu vaccine will not be allowed in school on Jan. 1st.**

• Girls' After School Program make-up dates:

Mon:- Edible Arts, Cake Decorating - Jan 4

Tues: - Coding - Jan 5

Wed & Thurs: -Miss Benny's art classes will not be meeting on Dec.23, 24, 30 & 31. The make-up dates are Jan 6, 7, 20 & 21

• YST PTA "Women's Only" swim continues at the JCC on Oak Tree Road in Edison, from 7:30 - 9:00 pm on Dec 5 and 19. Cost is \$10 per session, \$8 per second in family. Mothers who chaperone may swim for free. Call Lisa Silvey at 732-993-3720 for more information.

• **Chai Lifeline's** Toy collection is in full swing. Please send in a gift for a sick child, any price range, and remember: Toys must be brand new and should not be gift wrapped. Gifts for children ages 13+ are especially appreciated. Collection areas are available in all three Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion buildings through Wednesday Dec 14th.

• Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:05 to 4:05 at the Agudah. There will be a minyan for Mincha before Pirchei at 2:45.

• Bnos Malka this Shabbos at 2:15. UPCOMING BNOS EVENT. Roller skating at Kendall Park Roller Rink on Sunday, December 20 from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM. Bnos membership dues \$40.00 per child. Maximum of \$100.00 per family. Free for all Bnos members. Guests are welcome at \$15.00 for the session.

• **Please note new time:** Rabbi Weiss' Shiur for men and women will focus on Chanukah this Wed. night at 8:30 PM at the Shenkman residence, 26 Leslie St, Edison.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class meets Thursday at 10:00 AM sharp at Riki Same'l's house. Please call the hotline to confirm at 206-666-8911.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: No class on Monday, Dec 7.

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Dec 6 and Mon, Dec 7.

• SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls will meet on Wednesdays. Please call the hotline to confirm at 732-841-1885.

Mazel Tov!

• Mr. & Mrs. Shalom Cohen & family on Noam's

Bar Mitzvah last week

- Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Cohen upon Perela's Bas Mitzvah
- Dr. & Mrs. Steven Zamy & family upon Sara's Bas Mitzvah
- Rabbi & Mrs. Yisroel Hoffman upon the birth of a granddaughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Ami Avraham upon the birth of a daughter
- Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Fischer upon the birth of a daughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Schwartz upon the birth of a daughter.
- Ms. Yocheved Spetner upon her engagement to Moshe Levy

All in a Day's Work

The office staff is often surprised by incoming mail, particularly donations from our own students מועט, as well as from Alumni and friends of the Yeshiva. When we received a donation from a past student with a note explaining that the money enclosed was to hopefully cover some damage they had caused, we were amazed and took time to savor the moment. As parents we are certainly grateful for the wonderful education our children receive, but this shows us all how deep and inspiring it truly is.

In case the anonymous donor reads this, we salute you and see you as a real בעל עליה.

- Mrs. S. Hoffman

Catch 'em Being Good!

Dear Mrs. Brudny:

Last Monday I had a procedure on my foot which has severely limited my ability to walk for the next month. After shul on Shabbos as everyone was walking home or to lunch at a significantly faster pace than I, Emunah Rottenstreich in the 4th grade in the girls school kept me company on my slow walk to lunch instead of walking ahead with everyone else. It was a big mitzvah that had a big impact on my own daughter Yakira a 2nd grader in the girls school who then also kept me company on my slow walk home after lunch. What wonderful mitzvah girls!!!

- Mr. A. Lockspeiser

The Writer's Corner

Since the beginning of the year as Mrs. Ziegler's 2nd graders have traveled through their Scott Foresman reading series, the 2nd grade girls have spent much time "exploring". They explored cities, foreign countries, camping experiences, and even outer space. Each girl had the opportunity to write about one of these places. Below are two samples which we hope you will enjoy.

Camping Trip

by Sara Malka Shenkman

I'm so excited because we are going on a camping trip. We are going to make hot dogs, roast marshmallows and make smores. We are going to play flashlight tag. We are going to sleep in a tent. Yay! We will play animal spy, go hunting and tell stories. All of these ideas came from my father and they sound great!

The Country

by Esther Gitty Kurtz

I am so excited! I am going to the country for the summer. My great grandparents live there. I love going to camp in the country! There's a playground for me to play. I am so happy that I get to spend the summer in the country.

BULLETIN BOARD

- **Sun, Dec 6 - 12:00 noon - RJJ Annual Ladies Luncheon and Chinese Auction** honoring the Mondrow Family in memory of Marian Mondrow, ז"ל. The luncheon will be held at Cong. Ohr Torah.
- **Motzai Shabbos, Jan. 2 - 8:30 PM - Tiferes DVD** for women: will be shown at the Siegel house, 16 Edgemount Rd. Current weekly teleconferences series: "Our Parents and In-laws" with Mrs. Seryl Berman. The teleconferences are FREE to all women in the month of Kislev! 212-444-9898. Pin # 5775. For more info, please contact Aviva siegelmom@optonline.net.
- **Sun, Jan 3 - 7:00pm - YST Technology Event** featuring keynote speaker Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski. Rabbi Dr. Twerski is an world renowned specialist in addictive behavior, and lectures extensively on topics of stress, self-esteem and spirituality. Following the keynote address, parents will be invited to join focus groups on topics that they find personally engaging. Towards that end, please complete the Survey Monkey that was sent to you at your earliest convenience.
- **Motzai Shabbos, Jan 9 - Save the Date for an exciting Mother Daughter Event featuring your girls! Stay tuned for further details.**