

Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 18

פרשת תרומה

Week ending February 12, 2016

Candle lighting 5:11

Parsha Points

“and let them take for Me an offering...” “... ויקחו לי תרומה...”

This verse ushers in the chapter of the building of the *Mishkan*, Sanctuary. After the completion of the detailed instructions to Moshe for the construction of the Sanctuary, the Torah goes on to mention the laws of *Shabbos*. By contrast, when Moshe reviews these instructions with the people of *Yisrael* he prefaces them with a reference to *Shabbos*, reversing the order by placing *Shabbos* before the *Mishkan*. This inversion may be understood if we recognize the respective connotations of the concepts of *Shabbos* and *Mishkan*. *Shabbos* implies the homage we pay to *Hashem*. By observing this day with rest and sanctity, we declare *Hashem* as the Creator of the Universe, Who ceased to work on the seventh day. *Mishkan* suggests the greatness of *Yisrael*. It is a testimony that *Hashem* singled out the people of *Yisrael* from among the nations and made His dwelling place among them. *Hashem* placed laws of the *Mishkan* before those of *Shabbos*, thereby demonstrating His preference of *Yisrael's* glory over His own. Moshe *Rabbeinu*, on the other hand, accorded priority to the *Shabbos* over the *Mishkan*, since from Moshe's perspective, *Hashem's* honor took precedence.

Kli Yakar taken from Torah Treasurers

The Week in Review

Without a doubt, the highlight of this week's events in both the boys school and the girls school was the incredible experience of meeting Rabbi Yosef Mendeleovich, a former Prisoner of Zion under Soviet regime. Rabbi Mendeleovich held his audiences completely spellbound as he told the story of his introduction to Yiddishkeit in the Russian underground, his participation in a plot to hijack a Soviet airliner to leave the USSR and his ensuing years in prison. Rabbi Mendeleovich clearly conveyed to his listeners how his decision to increase his observance of mitzvos under frightful circumstances strengthened his will to survive and made the years of imprisonment bearable. His description of dancing in his cell in celebration of *Shabbos* was so uplifting! Rabbi Mendeleovich's regal bearing and heartfelt words were a source of enormous inspiration to all who were fortunate to hear his story. It was truly an experience to be remembered with awe. Dear Mrs. Brudny:

Thank you for bringing Yosef Mendelevit to YST! I bought and read his book a few years ago and my son Yosef also read it. We were both mesmerized. Anyway, Miriam came home today saying how interesting and "cool" his talk was, and it made a big impression on her. And she got my book signed! She can't stop talking about how he made religious articles in prison. Now I can show Miriam the picture of me at JFK when Natan Sharansky first came to the US. and maybe she will also appreciate that.

Thank you again, - Mrs. B. Steinhart

When our Pre 1Aers at the Boys' School do something – they do it right! Our Pre 1A boys are in the middle of learning ברכות, and have supplemented their learning with enjoyable and tasteful activities that will help them to remember their ברכות even better. When they learned the bracha of הדמוציא, the class made a delicious grilled cheese lunch. For הגנץ, each child had a cup of grape juice, and for דעץ, everyone brought in fruit to be used for the creation of a healthy and appetizing fruit salad. What about מזונות? Well, for the last few weeks the class has been baking for the big mezonos sale held this past Thursday, to which all of the boys, from 1st grade to 8th, were invited. Cinnamon buns, mud bars, chocolate covered pretzels, rice crispies treats and cup cakes were made by our Pre 1A class, all ready for the big sale. And a big sale it was! Each boy had his own booth from which to sell his goodies, and each class in the school came to the Pre 1A bakery at its designated time. Everyone enjoyed it immensely, from the 8th graders and down, and of course, especially our Pre 1A ers. (The *Haadama* activity will be soon, בס"ד). Thank you Morah Donya, Morah Tova and Morah Devora for orchestrating such a wonderful event!

The 7th grade in YST boys has recently mastered the subject of positive and negative numbers. This is a very common and useful skill, in particular for businesses. For example, if a business has accrued a number of credits (profits, high volume sales, cash advances, liens etc.), these constitute positive numbers. And conversely, if it experiences losses (costs, low volume sales, fines, etc.) it has incurred negative numbers. Then the accountants need to combine ("crunch") these numbers to determine the financial standing of the business. With the skills that we have just recently acquired we are now able to do just that.

There was such excitement in Mrs. Werner's 1st grade class this week! In conjunction with their unit on changes, the girls experienced a live "change" in their own classroom. Last week, Farmer Ed delivered 12 eggs to the classroom. Morah Shelly and Junior took such gentle care as they turned the eggs each day. The girls anxiously waited until they saw cracks in some eggs on Monday and Tuesday and when they arrived in school they had guests - 8 adorable chicks and more hatched on Wednesday! They even got to play with the chicks and have races across the carpet. But Friday was the day that they had to say goodbye to their YST hatched chicks!

The 7th & 8th grade girls participated in a

special DNA Detective Program on board the Rutgers Science Explorer Bus. The girls became real scientists as they performed a DNA extraction and a gel electrophoresis activity to help identify a mystery plant. To top it off, the girls got to bring home a vial of real DNA to take home. They really enjoyed this unique experience.

Morah Lani has the younger grades partnering off to work on passing and catching. Practicing hand/eye coordination, eye contact with their partners, and learning to "hug" the ball to catch it, will help build their skills and confidence. The Pre1a through 2nd grade have come a long way since the beginning of the school year!

The 5th grade Girls on the Run Superstars, have begun actively training for their 5K. Simultaneously, they are tackling tough concepts such as standing up for myself, and not giving into peer pressure, and most recently, what qualities do I look for in a friend? Do I, myself have those qualities? Week after week, the 5th grade has proven to be insightful and thought provoking.

Preschool Jottings

Each and everyone of the nursery children truly COUNT! The children are busy learning how to count in order, to count quantities, to count using a touch point and to trace the numbers. As they eat snack, as they go up and down the steps, as they sit in the circle, as they look at the squares on the floor...they are singing and counting, backwards and forwards, numbers!!

As the children learned the letter נ, words from the health and hygiene vocabulary fell right into place. The *Moros* taught about the *middah* of נקיין. The children studied their clean faces and checked mirrors to see how they look at different times throughout the day. It pays to always have a face that reflects the *middah* of נקיין.

Morah Mimi and Morah Irene attended a workshop given by the Bureau of Education & Research focusing on practical strategies for strengthening language and reading readiness skills in a kindergarten classroom. Mrs. Angela Cameron shared loads of activities, ideas and projects that can enhance our curriculum. Morah Mimi and Morah Irene will be sharing with the other teachers the most up to date research and the techniques so that we can implement them in all of the Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion preschool classrooms.

A number of parents, community members and professionals have joined us throughout the year to enhance our curriculum by talking to the children. We thank Mrs. Waltuch for taking the time out of her busy schedule to show the children a real stethoscope. They had a chance to listen to their hearts and, using sponges, she showed them how the heart squeezes the blood all over our body. Thank you to Officer Gary Panichella of the Highland Park Police Department who in connection with משטרה - נ, discussed safety and the role that a policeman plays.

FYI

• In the event of inclement weather, parents are requested to please call any of the respective schools to hear a message regarding school closings or delays. The message is updated no later than 6:00AM.

• **Six Flags Read to Succeed 2016 is getting closer to the end!** The **Student Reading Log** needs to be submitted to your child's teacher no later than **Feb 24, 2016**.

• On Motzei Shabbat!, Feb 13 the **Rosh Chodesh Group** at Sara Scott's house, 22 Celler Rd! All women are invited. Please come and bring a friend (and side dish) - complete sefer tehillim, learn and socialize. Greet new faces and smile at familiar ones. Call Vicky with any questions, 732.991.1296 or to join mailing list.

• Due to the frigid weather there is NO BNOS MALKA/PIRCHEI this Shabbos.

• **Bikur Cholim** is looking for volunteers for homebound visiting: - Adults and 11th graders and older who might be interested in volunteering to visit homebound people in our

community should call Bikur Cholim at 732-572-7181. Tizku l'mitzvot!

• **Shiur for Men:** Part 2 of the Shovavim Project review shiur on halachos of Taharas Hamishpacha will be Wed, Feb. 17 at 8:00 PM by Rabbi Miodownik at Congregation Ahavas Achim. All married men welcome. For more info, please contact Lynn Hanfling dodcdad@aol.com

• Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur for men and women on the Parsha is held on Wednesday nights at the Eiserman's residence, 154 North 10th Ave., HP.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class meets Thurs. at 10:00 AM sharp at Riki Samel's house. Please call 206-666-8911 to confirm.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, Feb. 15 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave.

• SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls meets on *Sunday evenings*. Please call 732-841-1885 to confirm.

Mazel Tov!

- Mr. & Mrs. Arie Rand on the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi & Mrs. Shlomo Ziegler upon Ezzie's marriage to Tamar Clyman

Library Additions

• *When I Daven*

Donated to Morah Mimi's Kindergarten Class in honor of Zalmy Akerman's 5th Birthday

CATCH 'EM BEING GOOD!

Dear Rabbi Adlin, Rabbi Hershkowitz and Mrs. Indig,

I wanted to share with you how I witnessed Ephraim Gewurtz displaying the middah of being mevater this past *Shabbos*. Over *Shabbos*, we were at a Bar Mitzvah where there were chocolates on the table. My very upset son Yossi, misplaced his chocolate. Ephraim Gewurtz without hesitating offered Yossi his own chocolate. Also, when it was time to leave, the host handed out fluorescent oranges belts for the walk home. Yossi didn't get one and again without hesitation, Ephraim was ready to hand his over!!! Thank you and to the entire YST staff for teaching our children such great middos!

Many thanks. - Mrs. Rena Klein

Fostering Flexibility

One of the salient points the Mrs. Schuck made during her January 1 Professional Development on Executive Functioning was how important it is to foster flexibility in children. Morah Blumie took the challenge and the topic has become part of the 1st grade lingo. Obviously, the message is getting across - Read on!

Dear Morah Blumie & Morah Devorah:

When baby Hillel colored a big yellow line on Miri's (Hersh) beautiful rainbow drawing, she was flexible and changed the whole background to yellow! She is such a mature young lady!

- Mrs. Hersh

Dear Morah Blumie:

A flexible note! Deenie (Golobchik) had cold water for her shower ☹. While she really wanted a warm shower, she understood that the warm water was finished. So she said "No big deal!" I am so proud of her flexible heart!

- Mrs. Golubchik

BULLETIN BOARD

• **Motzai Shabbos, Feb. 20 - 9:00 PM - Tiferes DVD for women:** "The Performance of Your Life: Inspiration for facing your life's challenges" will be held at the Siegel home 16 Edgemount Rd.. Speakers: Rabbi David Ashear and Mrs. Chani Feldbrand.

• **Sun, Feb 21- 9:30 a.m. - The Highland Park Community Kollel 8th Annual Breakfast** celebrating the Kollel's Decade of Torah, Avodah & Gemilus Chasodim. will ת"ק take place at Cong. Ohr Torah 48 Edgemount Rd. The Guest Speaker will be HaRav Lipa Geldwerth Shlit"א, R"M at Yeshiva Torah Temimah & Rav, Congregation Kol Torah.

• **Sun, Feb 28 - 9:30 a.m. - Cong. Ahavas Yisroel Annual Journal Breakfast** - Our website www.AYEDISON.org is ready to receive ads and reservations. This year's honorees are: Mr. and Mrs. Avi Milgraum - Guests of Honor; Mr. Chezkie Mark - Service Awardee; and a special tribute to our youth co-directors, Mrs. Rachel Teitelbaum and Mrs. Melissa Titen. Please email breakfast@ayedison.org with any questions.

• **Sun, March 6 - 9:30am - Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Annual Event** at the Pines Manor in Edison. The Guest speaker will be Rabbi Eli Mansour, Guests of Honor will be Dr. Barry & Susie Wolf, the Hotline Committee and the Keser Shem Tov Award to Doron & Sari Shalmon. A dairy buffet will be served. Sponsorships & babysitting are available. Invitations are in the mail.

