

# Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 13

פרשת שמות

Week ending January 1, 2016

Candle lighting 4:23

## Parsha Points

“Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply...” “...הבה נתחכמה לו פן ירבה...”

Rashi, quoting the *Midrash*, explains that in contrast to Pharaoh's words “lest they multiply,” Hashem declared, “the more they multiplied and the more they spread out.” The intent of Pharaoh's decree of “lest they multiply” was the nullification of the divine mandate of “be fruitful and multiply”. It is interesting to note that the numerical value of the words *הבה נתחכמה לו פן ירבה*, *Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply*, equals 918. Surprisingly, 918 is also the numerical value of the verse in *Beraishis* 1:28: *ויאמר להם אלקים פרו ורבו*. And the Lord said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply.” It was schemes such as Pharaoh's to which Shlomo Hamelech alluded in *Mishlei* 19:21: “There are many devices in a man's heart, but the counsel of Hashem shall stand.” *Otzar Chaim taken from Torah Treasurers*

## The Week in Review

Rabbi Kramer's 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom walls are a sight to see. They are decorated with beautiful family trees describing the lineage of *שבט לוי*. It is evident that the boys spent a lot of time, effort and imagination to create their eye catching projects, which gave them a clear understanding of the *פסוקים* they are learning in *חומש*. The boys were able to see how *עמרם* was related to *יוכבד* (his father's sister), as well as how *קרח* was related to *משה רבינו* (first cousin). Our students were evaluated by the judges, with creativity and accuracy were the main criteria. All of the boys did a superb job. Congratulations to our winners: Elisha Merel, Yosef Finver and Yitzy Fried. We hope that our *תלמידים* continue to use their wonderful talents to grow in their learning and become true *חכמים*. In addition, *מזל טוב* to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade on having completed *מסכת ראש השנה* – a major accomplishment! As is usual for this time of year, Rabbi Nusbaum came to the class this Friday to blow the *שופר* and discuss various *הלכות* that the boys learned in *משניות* of *מסכת ראש השנה*. Thank you, Rabbi Nusbaum for this most enjoyable and educational experience.

Learning centers provide students with exciting and interesting experiences to practice, enrich and enhance their learning. In 1<sup>st</sup> grade, their purpose is twofold: They provide time for the teacher to meet with small groups to accommodate individual learning styles, and they also afford the teacher with opportunities to delve further into an idea or reteach a concept to the student who “did not get it.” Another significant benefit is the social opportunities the centers offer as the students interact in games and tasks that require teamwork. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade is utilizing center-based learning in literacy and math with very encouraging results. Reading goals are tailored to each student's specific strengths. The math stations allow for careful tracking of each boy's progress. All is all, our first graders are developing beautifully in their skills and learning.

In the girls division...

Although the show has yet to come

3<sup>rd</sup> grade girls are having so much fun.

Whether it's reading while picturing in our mind

Or writing beautifully line by line.

Or beginning to multiply numbers so long

And continuing to practice our math songs.

Noticing the many *חסדי ד'*

As we learn about the nervous system.

The cold hasn't hit here outside of school

Yet everything in our classroom is very cool!!

Through reading Deborah Ellis' novel “The Breadwinner”, Mrs. Greene's 7th grade Language Arts class is gaining exposure to both a different culture as well as a current political conflict. Set in contemporary Afghanistan, the story of an 11 year old girl has them considering not only how dramatically different her life is from theirs, but just how much they might have in common.

Meanwhile, the 8th grade has commenced their study of “Little Women.” They are very excited to be able to annotate their copies of the novel, highlighting evidence related to the themes of materialism, femininity, character development and work. Just a week into our reading, each of the March sisters has its own “fan club” already. So far, Jo is leading the pack, but you can bet that by the end, each of the Little Women will win them over in their own way!

## Preschool Jottings

Our heads are spinning round and round as the Kids Corner children are learning about wheels and axles. They searched the building to find wheels and behold, they found so many. Wheels on chairs, wheels on garbage cans, wheelie shaped pasta and Lego wheels. The children watched Morah Rikki and Morah Helene demonstrate how the wheel was discovered and they were just amazed. The children participated in an experiment to see if it is indeed easier to roll a heavy object or to carry it in their hands.

Young Investigators focus throughout the year has been Shabbos. They have already learned about Shabbos foods, the shul they go to on Shabbos and now...they have decided that they want to learn and discover about how to clean a house for Shabbos. They took a trip to Stop 'n Shop and checked out all the cleaning supplies. But, what help would the cleaning supplies be without a house! So they are off to building a house. Nelson brought in two huge boxes and the carpenters are at work!

Morah Mimi's class wanted to understand what slaves are and what they do. So using toothbrushes, scrub brushes and soap, they got on their hands and knees to wash the floor. Now they get it! Now they understand why the Jews wanted to leave Mitzrayim.

Morah Rochel and Morah Faige introduced so many words that begin with the letter “י” to their class. The children made *ידיים* out of gloves, talked about flavors of *יין*, discussed a *yarmulke* and finally, made a mural of *ירושלים*!

Morah Yaffa and Morah Rochel's nursery class did an amazing experiment in their classroom. The children learned that Moshe Rabbeinu, as a baby, was put into a basket that floated along the Nilus River. Each of the children made a basket out of the medium of their choice and then tested it in the water to see if it would float.

Emmy Weiss, our precious kindergartner, has a little baby brother named Moshe. On Thursday, Mrs. Weiss brought Moshe to Emmy's classroom. Mrs. Weiss gently put Moshe in a basket. They pretended to smear tar on the outside and then put the basket in the “water” and watched it float away. Basya, came to the rescue! Thank you to the Weiss's for making *Parshas Shmos* come alive in YST Preschool!

## FYI

• **Please note: Boys School - 3:30PM Dismissal on Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> for all grades.**

• Girls' After School Program make-up dates:

Mon:- Edible Arts, Cake Decorating - Jan 4

Tues: - Coding - Jan 5, 12

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

Thurs. Gymnastics II & Gotta Run - Jan. 14

• **Six Flags Read to Succeed 2016 is here!** Once again, YST is participating in the Six Flags Read to Succeed program that offers free tickets to Great Adventure for students Pre-1 to 6<sup>th</sup> grade who read and log a minimum of six hours over the next few weeks. The **Student Reading Log** needs to be completed and submitted to your child's teacher no later than **Feb 24, 2016**. Happy reading!

• 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 2:15 – 3:15 at the Agudah

• 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.

• Women's Israeli Dancing at Etz Ahaim every Sunday: Women's beginning Israeli Dancing is held at Etz Ahaim every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. All women and girls are invited to join in the ruch, fun and aerobic exercise. Dance costs \$10/per session (Rutgers students 1/2 price \$5) made out to Daughters of Etz Ahaim.

• **Shiur for Men:** Shovavim Project presents a two part review shiur on halachos of Taharas Hamishpacha to be given Wednesday, Feb. 10 and Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 8:00 PM by Rabbi Steven Miodownik at Congregation Ahavas Achim. All married men welcome. For more info, please contact Lynn Hanfling [dodcdad@aol.com](mailto:dodcdad@aol.com)

• Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur for men and women on the Parsha, with a focus on Eemunah and Bitachon, will be held on Wednesday nights at 8:30 PM at the Shenkman's residence, 26 Leslie Street, Edison.

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

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, Jan 4 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave., Edison.

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sun, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM at the Agudah; Parsha class on Mon, Jan 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah.

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

• 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. Menachem Carlebach & family upon Devorah Leah's Bas Mitzvah

## The Writer's Corner

Yes, we know that we are experiencing record temperatures but that hasn't stopped Morah Blumie's 1<sup>st</sup> graders from drawing on previous winter experiences to utilize their new *Lurit* vocabulary to compare and contrast the seasons. Enjoy Chanala Nusbaum's fabulous chart below!

הפעל	בחרף	בקץ
בונה	בחרף אני בונה קיר של שלג	בקץ אני בונה ארמון-חול עם דגל
שותה	בחרף אני שותה תה חם.	בקץ אני שותה מים קרים עם קרח.
אוכלת	בחרף אני אוכלת מרק.	בקץ אני אוכלת ושלגון.
לובשת	בחרף אני לובשת סודר.	בקץ אני לובשת בגד-ים.
חובשת	בחרף אני חובשת כובע שלג.	בקץ אני חובשת כובע-שמש.

## BULLETIN BOARD

• **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 # 8775. 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.

• **Motzai Shabbos, Jan 9 - 8:00 p.m. YST Girls' Mother/Daughter Melave Malka** - to be held at the boys' school 71 Ethel Rd. West, Piscataway. See attached form to make reservations.

• **Sun, Jan 17 - 9:30 a.m. - The Highland Park Community Kollel 8th Annual Breakfast** celebrating the Kollel's Decade of Torah, Avodah & Gemilus Chasodim. will take place at Cong. Ohr Torah 48 Edgemount Rd. The Guest Speaker will be HaRav Lipa Geldwerth Shlit" a, R'M at Yeshiva Torah Temimah & Rav, Congregation Kol Torah.

• **Motzei Shabbos, Feb 6 - 8:15 PM - Park Mikvah Event** - Cooking demonstration and food tasting with Victoria Dwek, Managing Editor of Ami's Whisk Magazine and author of many cookbooks in the “Made Easy” and “Secret Restaurant” series, to be held at . at the home of Yael Kamelhar, 22 Perry Rd. For women only. Space is limited. To make a reservation, please mail or drop a \$25 check made out to Park Mikvah at the home of Esther Posen, 12 Fairhill Road. For more info, please call Lynn Hanfling at 732-777-0225.

• **Save the date! 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.