

# Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 15

פרשת בא

Week ending January 15, 2016

Candle lighting 4:37

## Parsha Points

“...ואנחנו לא נדע מה נעבד את ה' עד באנו שמה”

“...and we will not know with what to serve Hashem, until we come there.”

The Rebbe of Gur interprets this verse in a metaphorical style, thereby expressing a profound thought. He states that we cannot gauge the true value of our service to Hashem until we reach “there,” the higher world, the World to Come. Only then will we learn whether our divine worship was pleasing to Hashem.

Rabbi Yitzchak Meir of Gur Taken from *Torah Treasurers*

## The Week in Review

Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys went on a momentous trip to Lakewood this past Thursday, celebrating their having completed פרק הכונס in גמרא. One of the many stops they made was to the house of Rabbi Yaakov Forscheimer, שליט"א, one of the senior halachic authorities in Lakewood. The boys spoke to the Rav about a topic in הלכות שבת that they learned in mishnayos. It was also noted that Rabbi Forscheimer's phone does not have caller ID, in order to respect the privacy of the multitude of callers who request his advice and פסק on a daily basis. Our 6<sup>th</sup> graders also went to visit the Lakewood Cheder – a brand new facility that houses approximately 2,000 talmidim, one of the largest in the world. They stopped in to see a 6<sup>th</sup> grade in session and Rabbi Berger gave a gemara shiur to both classes (they are learning the same gemara). They also visited six of the eight or nine בתי מדרשים of Bais Medrash Govoha, and went upstairs in the newest and biggest בית מדרש בית יצחק. From where they were they could see into the expansive main בית מדרש downstairs, where hundreds (over a thousand?) young men were delving into the sea of Talmud. For a little diversity they also made a stop at the Hatzalah garage, where they saw, among other emergency vehicles, the “Jaws of Life” truck. The טיפוס trip concluded with a visit to Rabbi Berger's house where pizza was served! מזל טוב again to our 6<sup>th</sup> graders on having completed the פרק. May they continue to complete many more, and יראת שמים in Torah and מעלה למעלה go.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade boys at YST have just finished their science unit on “The Human Body”. Wow, did the boys learn! We learned about the six different systems, the organs that correspond to each one, and all about how each system works. It was fascinating to see how Hashem coordinated it all to work so well! We ended off with a unit project in which each boy created his own life-size poster of the human body, complete with all the organs, blood and veins. Keep your eyes open for the next exciting science unit!

Weeks of practice most certainly paid off! Ask any of the members of the audience at last weekend's Mother Daughter Event and you will surely get rave reviews. The excitement in the air was palpable as the girls went marched on stage and proudly performed. It was a true nachas to witness all the girls, grades 1 - 8, filling the stage from end to end with their very special glow. It is our fervent hope that the girls, and their mothers, internalize the message of “Ashreinu” as their favorite refrains rewind in their memories. Many, many thanks to all the wonderful YST staff members and PTA volunteers who worked tirelessly to create a wonderful evening of song and camaraderie.

Can you name the two pairs of twins in Sefer B'raishis? In which Parsha do we find the promise of ברית בין הבתרים? Which of the שבטים is described as פזח כמיים? Excitement is mounting as the 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade team of girls intensively prepare themselves for the upcoming Chidon on Sefer B'raishis against the Merkaz HaTorah Girls School of Staten Island. Stay tuned for the outcome of this coming Wednesday's event!

Mrs. Brotsky's 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls are investigating light and optics. They are using special red, blue and green LED's to learn how light interacts with different types of lenses and mirrors in addition to learning about colors. They will apply the results of this investigation to understand how we see and how glasses help people with vision problems.

The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls have been going strong for 1 month in their Fitness Fun Curriculum with Morah Marla. They have been exploring cardiovascular exercises (i.e. interval boot camp, high intensity relays, aerobic segments and more), learning how to build strength and track progress and physical aptitude. Keeping the YST girls active at school is an excellent way to improve focus and enhance overall health. In addition, these creative fitness lessons enable participants to forge a healthy connection to fitness, promoting long term health benefits.

## Preschool Jottings

The nursery class has been very busy learning and discovering the triangle shape. They identified hamentashen, watermelon slices, enchilada chips, pieces of a pie and half of a sandwich. But of course, the most exciting one was a slice of pizza...especially when you eat it in the Jerusalem Pizza Shop. Thank you to the crew for hosting the children for lunch on Tuesday.

The letter כ and כ were fun to learn this week in Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's kindergarten class. The children succeeded at doing a task that was so indicative of their growth and progress since the beginning of the year. They were given a paper with כ, כ and כ. Each child had a cup of white paint and a paintbrush. The job they were given was to change each of the letters into a כ by painting over one part of the letter. What an amazing skill! They loved playing the כ and כ hokey – pokey. With the stickers on their hands and feet, they were able to dance and move identifying the letters with accuracy!

Morah Mimi's class has mastered making a mural and the children can now design, paste, glue and cut with precision and creativity. They made a mural for every Parsha in Chumash Breishis, but this week they made a “Winter Mural.” With all that practice, they were organized in their thinking, preparing and finally making the mural. The snow is falling, the children are sledding, the bear is hibernating, the snowman is standing tall and proud...but only in the mural!!

The cards on our Health & Hygiene ring are increasing. We added 9 new pictures this week that all have to do with a visit to the doctor. Using their new vocabulary words, the children shared with each other about their visits to the doctor.

## FYI

• **Lunch order deadline is this Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.** No late orders will be accepted as the next session starts after winter break, Thursday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>.

• Girls' After School Program make-up dates:

Thurs: Miss Benny's art class - Jan 14, 21 & 28

• **Six Flags Read to Succeed 2016 is here!** Earn free tickets to Great Adventure! Prea 1a 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 submitted to your child's teacher no later than **Feb 24, 2016**. Happy reading!

• 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. We continue to build! This week...we will build a wedding hall!

• **Box Tops for Education:** This week we received a check for \$418.50. Keep clipping and send in those box tops!

• 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 beginning Israeli Dancing: held at Etz Ahaim every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. All women and girls are invited to join in the ruach, 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 Wed, Feb. 10 and Wednesday, 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, with a focus on Emunah and Bitachon each Wednesday night at 8:30 PM at the Shenkman's residence, 26 Leslie Street.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class meets Thurs. at 10:00 AM sharp at Riki Samel's house. Please call the hotline

to confirm at 206-666-8911.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Monday, Jan. 18 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North Eighth Ave., Edison. .

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Jan 17 at 10:00 AM at the Agudah; please contact Aviva at 732-572-4408 or siegelmom@optonline.net for status of Parsha class on Monday, Jan. 18.

• 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 sheima* 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!

- Mr. & Dr. Betzaleh Posy & family upon Moshe's Bar Mitzvah
- Rabbi & Mrs. Boruch Goodman upon the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi Naftoli & Mrs. Schwartz upon the birth of a son
- Mr. & Mrs. Arie Rand upon the marriage of their son, Chaim to Sara Ostrovitsky

## הכרת הטוב

Dear Mrs. Brudny:

I just wanted to share with you how much I enjoyed the beautiful Mother/Daughter performance. In addition to the bouncy songs, dances and dazzling costumes, I was truly inspired by the message behind it all - אשרינו מה טוב חלקינו - How lucky we are to be part of עם ישראל...And how very fortunate we feel to have our children part of a school that inspires our children through personal example to live by the mantra of “אשרינו מה טוב חלקינו”.

The warmth, close knit environment, academic professionalism and מדרות טובות that are modeled are some of the many reasons we feel so fortunate to have our children part of Shaarei Tzion, the place that is - אשרינו!

With much appreciation,

Rabbi & Mrs. Dov Silber

## BULLETIN BOARD

- **Save the Date! February 7<sup>th</sup> for the Father/Son Brunch.**
- **Motzei Shabbat Jan 16 - 8:30pm - Rosh Chodesh Group** at Sara Scott's house - 22 Cellar Road. Open to all women. Join us and bring a friend. Featured Speaker - Miri Cohen!! Come say tehillim, learn and socialize too! Greet new faces and smile at familiar ones. Call Vicky with any questions, 732-991-1296.
- **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 א"י 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.
- **Motzei Shabbos, Jan. 30 - 8:30 PM - Tiferes DVD** for women at the Siegel house. Title: Gatekeepers of Greatness, The Jewish woman's indispensable role. Speakers: Rabbi Dovid Elias and Mrs. Rivka Levitansky.
- **Motzei Shabbos, Feb 6 - 8:15 PM - Park Mikvah Event** - Cooking demonstration and food tasting with Victoria Dwek, renowned cookbook author. This event will be held at the home of Yael Kamelhar, 22 Perry Rd. The cost of the event is \$25. Space is limited. For reservations, please email Esther Posen at eposesn@optonline.net. For more information, please call Lynn Hanfling at 732-777-0225
- **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 Shalmon.

