

Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 16

פרשת בשלח

Week ending January 22, 2016

Candle lighting 4:45

Parsha Points

“אז ישיר משה ובני ישראל...” “... Moshe and the people of Yisrael then sang...”

The Midrash comments: “Moshe said, I sinned by using the word **אז**, then, for I said, **הוזהר** לעם הזה, *From the time I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your Name he has dwelt ill with this people.* Now I shall begin my song of praise with the same word **אז**.” One may wonder how the use of **אז** in the Shirah can make amends for the prior use of **אז** in an improper context. Let us consider an individual whom Hashem delivered from anguish and sorrow, who now offers praises and gratitude to Hashem. He expresses gladness for his rescue, but he certainly does not rejoice in the pain and trouble from which he was saved. By contrast, when Moshe and the people of Yisrael proclaimed the glorious Shirah, the Song of the Sea, they were inspired not only by miraculous events they had witnessed but also by their being the instrument of revelation of Hashem’s glory. For through their salvation Hashem’s greatness became known throughout the world. Thus, the Shirah was a hymn both in praise of the redemption, and in expressing their salvation from bondage, for without bondage there can be no redemption.

This then is what Moshe said: “I confess that I sinned when I used the word **אז**, for in the verse beginning with **אז**, I complained about the unbearable severity of our servitude. But now I raise my voice in a song of praise, commencing with **אז**, a song inspired by our redemption as well as our suffering.” Thus, the protest against suffering is atoned for by a song of praise inspired by suffering. Similarly, Dovid Hamelech states: “I thank You, for You have afflicted me and become my salvation.” I offer thanks to You for the pain You inflicted on me, for the pain was the source of my salvation, and through me Your Name was glorified.

Bais Halevi Taken from Torah Treasurers

The Week in Review

Words are inadequate to describe the level of grief and disbelief that has enveloped our community in the wake of last week's tragedy. The unfathomable pain of the Kraus family - parents, grandparents and siblings - leaves our spirits saddened. May the Ribono Shel Olam grant them comfort and strength in these trying times.

This heart breaking loss has left in its wake emotions and feelings that need to find an appropriate outlet that is both meaningful and therapeutic. In the Boys' school, with the guidance of Chai Lifeline, our students have been encouraged to try and think of all the good that **ד** does for us on a regular basis. Some boys are writing such ideas on paper, while others are at least being more sensitized to not taking things for granted, but to ponder on the good fortune that surrounds us, and to express our gratitude to **ד** for all that we have. In addition, boys in grades 4-8 were asked to volunteer to make a collective **סיום** on the mishnayos of the entire **מועד ע"ה**, **סדר מועד** on the mishnayos of the entire **מועד ע"ה**, **לזכר נשמת היים בן ישראל דב הלוי**. In approximately one hour of it being offered, the entire **מועד** was accounted for, and many **מטכות** are being learned two or three times, because so many boys desire to be a part of this great **מצוה**. May **ד** spare all of **ישראל** from further **צרות**, and may we all be worthy of the coming of the **משיח** - **במהרה ימינו כקרוי**.

With many hours of hard work and effort.....Mrs. Breski's 4th grade just finished their Explorers Reports. The boys created presentations showing the class about the life of their explorer and his accomplishments. We had some boys dress up in amazing costumes! Many boys created fun sheets filled with important facts about the explorer they researched. Some boys even topped their presentation with a treat handed out to the class. The presentations reflected the vast amount of knowledge each boy attained after all the hard work they put in to their reports. We are so proud of them!

Mrs. Ziegler's 2nd grade girls were thrilled to start their “Creative Ideas” unit in the Scott Foresman series. They were given the privilege to demonstrate their creativity on their trip to Just Bead Yourself. The girls made beautiful necklaces which they can proudly wear. **א"י**, through the next few weeks they will be given many opportunities to express their creativity. We're all looking forward!!

Mrs. Anolik's 3rd grade language arts class just finished their Fancy Nancy unit. They read and analyzed many books in this very appealing series and then set out to write their own. After writing, editing, rewriting and illustrating their books, they went into the 1st grade (dressed up as Fancy Nancy) and shared their books to a delightful class of 1st grade girls. The books are currently hanging up in Mrs. Anolik's trailer. Please come and take a look. Some of the titles are “Fancy Nancy and the Perfect Parrot”, “Fancy Nancy, Too Many Sweets”, “Fancy Nancy and the Princess Party” and “Fancy Nancy, and Camp Nancy.”

Here is the important question: Should March 1st be designated as “Machanayim Day” in YST Girls? Mrs. Gross asked her 7th grade history students to pass around a sheet with these words on it and to sign it if they wanted. They then discussed why they did or did not sign the paper and whether their signatures alone could make this become reality. She then compared it to their study of the Constitutional Convention and why perhaps only 39/55 delegates were willing to sign. They also learned that the signatures alone did not make the constitution the law of the land. After running their demand by King George, aka Mrs. Brudny, the 7th

graders had to widen the constituency of signators to their petition. Although the students were disappointed to hear that this lesson was only a tool to help them understand U.S. history, they are hoping that Machanayim Day will one day become a reality! Stay tuned!

Preschool Jottings

As the preschool staff continues to learn and discover how to implement the Reggio approach in early childhood education, the opportunities become endless. Morah Yaffa and Morah Rochel gave the young children paper and markers and each child drew one of the *makkos* that they remembered the best. The artwork is so telling of all the information they have retained, their creativity, and their language processing skills. This week as they learned about the **מן**, they once again drew their own artwork of the foods that they would want the **מן** to taste like. Come and take a peek at the art exhibit outside the classroom! Morah Mimi gave her class an assortment of “loose parts” and each child designed his/her own drum, trying to imitate what they imagine the drums looked like when they sang **שירה** upon crossing the *Yam Suf*.

As the kindergarten children learned the letter *Lamed*, they painted the longest *Lamed* that you ever saw! The Guinness Book of World Records would have wanted to be here to see the *Lamed* under construction and then hanging from ceiling to floor. It took a lot of hard work, patience and perseverance to make it happen, but then the children were awarded with a good rest. After all, that's what we do in the *לילה*! The children came to school dressed in their pajamas. Morah Mimi and Morah Irene treated their class to hot cocoa and smores for a midnight snack. Morah Faige and Morah Rochel took the children to the Sauber house where the room was all set up with blankets. The walls were covered with star paper and everyone took a good rest!

FYI

- Girls' After School Program make-up dates
Thurs: Miss Benny's art class - Jan 28
- Six Flags Read to Succeed 2016 is here!** Earn free tickets to Great Adventure! Pre-1 to 6th 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!
- No Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash this Shabbos.
- No Bnos Malka this Shabbos because of the weather.
- Bone Marrow Drive: Lisa Schanzer's mother needs a bone marrow transplant as soon as possible. She has teamed up with BeTheMatch Bone Marrow Registry to hold a drive on Feb 7th from 9AM - 3PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. If you are at least 18 years old, please come and help save a life! **SCREENING REQUIRES ONLY A CHEEK SWAB.**
- 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
- Note change of address:* Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur for men and women on the Parsha, will be held this Wed, Jan 27, 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 Samei's house. Please call the hotline to confirm at 206-666-8911.
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimras Haloshon class: Monday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 PM at the home of Janet Rivenson, 19 Price Drive, Edison.
- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Jan 24 or Monday, Jan. 25.
- SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls meets on *Sunday evenings*. Please call the hotline to confirm at 732-841-1885.

- Rabbi & Mrs. Adlin upon the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson
- Mr. Larry & Morah Shelly Jacobs upon the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi & Mrs. Yisroel Weiss upon the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Cohen upon Batya's engagement to Menashe Krupka from Passaic
- Ms. Yocheved Spetner upon her upcoming marriage to Moshe Levy
- Rabbi & Mrs. Savitz upon the marriage of their daughter Shoshana to Moshe Newman

Library Additions

- Kids Speak #8 donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler in honor of Yaakov Lobel's Bar Mitzvah

CATCH 'EM BEING GOOD!

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz,

I hope this finds you well. I am pleased to share that the 1st grade boys displayed exceptional middos and derech eretz at my son's birthday party last week. A special 'yasher koach' to Eliyahu Alshay for saying 'thank you' multiple times and for being mevatar many times during the party. Yay for YST Boys...

With gratitude,

Mrs. M. Rottenstreich

כל הכבוד!!

Morah Frankl's 7th graders traditionally share a daily diary that records the ins and outs of their lives. The “yoman” travels from girl to girl, with each of them contributing their perspective on the notable events of the day. That part is easy enough - the challenge is to add their submissions in Lurit! But Shira Cohen did a masterful job describing the excitement and glory of YST's win in Wednesday's Chidon on Sefer B'raishis against the RJJ Girls School in Staten Island. Read on!

היום היה לי יום מאוד נחמד וכיף בבית הספר. שלוש בנות מכיתות ו', ח' השתתפו בחידון פרשת בראשית ומאוד התרגשנו. היו שני סיבובים לחידון והמורות לא גילו לנו מי ניצח והיינו מאוד סקרניות לדעת. לאחר המשחק המורות חילקו לנו דונאטס אחרי זה הלכנו לשחק מחניים והיו ארבע בנות מכל כיתה ואני הייתי אחת מהן הייתי מאושרת בגלל שלא נפסלתי אפילו פעם אחת לאורך כל המשחק וגם בגלל שניצחנו. אחרי כך חזרנו לחדר אוכל והמורות גילו לנו מי ניצח בחידון הפרשה וכל בית ספר התחיל לקפוץ ולצעוק משמחה כי ניצחנו!!!

BULLETIN BOARD

- Sun, Jan 24 - following Maariv at 7:00 PM - 8th Annual Tu B'Shvat Fruit Tasting** at Khal Chasidim, 46 North 8th Avenue, HP. Men and women are invited. For more info, please contact Mendel Eiserman 347-245-2549.
- 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 eposen@optonline.net. For more information, please call Lynn Hanfling at 732-777-0225
- Save the Date! February 7th for the Father/Son Brunch.**
- 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 **א"י** take place at Cong. Ohr Torah 48 Edgemont Rd. The Guest Speaker will be HaRav Lipa Geldwerth Shlit" a, R'M at Yeshiva Torah Temimah & Rav, Congregation Kol Torah.
- 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 are available. Invitations to follow.

Mazel Tov!

