

# Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 23

פרשת ויקרא - פרשת זכור

Week ending March 18, 2016

A Freilichin Purim!!!

Candle lighting 6:50

## Parsha Points

“אשר נשיא יחטא ועשה אחת מכל מצות ד' אלקיו אשר לא תעשינה בשגגה ואשם.”

“If a leader commits a sin by unintentionally violating one of Hashem's negative commandments, he incurs guilt.”

Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai, commenting on this verse, explained, “Praiseworthy is a people whose king offers a sacrifice for his inadvertent sin!” (*Horayos 10b*). Why does a people deserve praise if its king brings a sacrifice for his error? With this comment, Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai is offering a revealing insight into human nature. No one ever finds fault with himself, least of all a political leader or a king. Therefore, when a king brings a *korban* for a sin he committed, it is evident that the people must have brought the sin to his attention. Far from currying favor or flattering him, they told him the unvarnished truth about his misdeed. This unabashed sincerity is what evoked Rabbi Yochanan's comment, “Praiseworthy is a people that does not flatter even a king.”

Rabbi Yisroel Salanter from *Otzar Chaim* taken from *Torah Treasures*

## PD Postings:

Congratulations to Rabbi Herskowitz, Rabbi Segall, Morah Minah and Mrs. Sauer on successfully completing the six-part Internal Coach Program, sponsored by Hidden Sparks. The ICP provides training to administrative faculty to support the school's ability to understand and teach all students in the classroom. The focus of the training is to provide classroom strategies to reach students with diverse learning styles and behaviors, and to guide staff members to grow as reflective educators. Each of YST Internal Coaches will receive in-school mentoring by a senior Hidden Sparks coach over the coming academic year. Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion is proud to partner with the highly-regarded Hidden Sparks program in this exciting venture.

## The Week in Review

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys had an exciting week. On Wednesday, they participated in a model סוכה project. Each boy built a סוכה portraying the cases of the משניות they learned in class. The enormous effort and many hours spent on the projects were obvious to all. There were סוכות on top of a boat, on a camel, in a haystack and even a double-decker סוכה! Do you know if a סוכה with a sheet underneath or on top of the סכך is כשר? How about sleeping under a canopy bed or sleeping underneath the bed?! Our fourth graders know the answers. As one observer remarked, it was really חיים תורת - a living Torah-as the words of the משנה came to life. Each boy received a special prize from Rebbe for all the effort and time expended on their projects. The older grades are eagerly looking forward to seeing the models and many boys have remarked about the fond memories they harbor of having made model סוכות when they were in 4<sup>th</sup> grade!

There is nothing like Liberty Science Center! The 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys were fortunate to spend the day at this special attraction. With a full day to discover the wonderous exhibits and hands-on science activities, we ran from one exhibit to the next learning and exploring amazing facts and scientific wonders. The boys gained a great amount of knowledge in numerous scientific areas. Some of the highlights of the day were navigating a 80 foot long pitch black tunnel and learning how the world's largest skyscrapers are constructed. They visited the zoo with a live question and answer exhibit on a jungle carpet python. They also asked many insightful questions and got accurate answers. The boys tested their physical strength as they tried the rock climbing wall and raced up a climbing ladder! As we got back on the bus to leave, one boy was overheard saying “This place is awesome. I want to come back tomorrow!”

Pajamas, pigtailed and polka dots were popping this week in the girls school as the season for “Purim Shtick” went into high gear. 5th grade did a stupendous job creating their 5-star hotel, the Shaareitron, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade worked really hard to showcase their creativity with a marvelous carnival. The best part, of course, is the spirit of camaraderie and cooperation that the girls display, with a profound understanding that their “shtick” has been inclusive and comfortable for the whole class. Everyone would agree that a few backward desks or disappearing students is a small price to pay in exchange for good, clean fun that enhances *achdus* and *ruach* throughout the building.

Mrs. Gross' 7<sup>th</sup> graders just finished their study of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The timing of this chapter coincided perfectly with the primary season and helped them understand the election process. In the many class discussions about our natural rights and freedoms, the girls were surprised to hear that flag burning, though distasteful, is perfectly legal and may objectionable comments are actually protected under free speech. Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders have become quite politically savvy!

## Preschool Jottings

Before you listen to the *Megillah*... you should come to Morah Rochel and Morah Yaffa's nursery classroom and watch the story enacted. Come meet all the Purim characters dressed in their homemade costumes! “Will you be my queen?” “Such shall be done to the man the king wishes to honor!” “Away with you!”

Special thank you to the Edison Fire House located on Plainfield Avenue for hosting Morah Mimi and Morah Irene's kindergarten class. A firetruck is a child's favorite toy, but on this trip, the children learned that fire fighting is one of the toughest jobs there is and it calls for some equally tough equipment. The children were shown the many things that firemen use. And most important, they were taught that a Fireman is our friend, who is always there to help.

Morah Rochel and Morah Faige taught the letter **צ** this week. Each of the children decorated his/her own **צדקה** box that will surely fill up over the Purim Day! Savta Middos reinforced the *mitzvos* of **צדקה**, **צניעות** and **צניעות**.

We are on the move!! We learned words of things that move people from place to place – raft, segue, scooter, limousine, car, city bus, train. We talked about how you let the driver know you want to get off, we talked about the tracks, water, roads and sidewalks that the vehicles ride on. Finally, each of the children designed their own vehicle and guess what? You can see the vehicles driving along YST Boulevard! Come and see!

## FYI

• Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, is Ta'anis Esther. Girls' grades 6-8 will be dismissed at 1:45 p.m. and boys' grades 7 & 8 at 2:15 p.m., all other grades both boys and girls will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m.

• **As noted on the lunch calendar, Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> is Ta'anis Esther and no lunches will be served in the boys' and girls' divisions because Park Place will be closed.**

• In honor of **Shushan Purim, Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a **delayed opening of 10:00 am.** (Buses run on a one and a half hour delay). Boys division is being dismissed at 1:00 pm

• **Achievement Tests** are coming up the **girls school (April 11 - 15)**. Please make every effort to avoid having your children miss any of the testing sessions. Make sure your child has had a good night's rest and come equipped with plenty of sharpened pencils and some healthful snack.

• **Please note: As of Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>** regular Friday dismissals will begin after the Pesach vacation. **Friday dismissals will be at 3:00 pm.** (1:35 p.m. for girls grades 6-8)

• The Kinder Fund Logo Contest deadline is on Sunday! Please send in all entries to be part of this exciting contest!! Winners will be announced on Purim.

• There will be a Pre-Pesach Boutique on Tues., March 29<sup>th</sup> at 20 Celler Rd. From 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. See attached flyer for details.

• 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.

• **RESERVE NOW FOR THE JABALE ACROBATS. A SHOW YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!** Tuesday, March 22 - 6:30 - 7:45 PM at the YST Boys School. Please make advance reservations by emailing [pircheiedisonhp@gmail.com](mailto:pircheiedisonhp@gmail.com) or by calling 732-819-9738. Price for Bnos/Pirchei members: advance reservations \$6.00 at the door \$8.00. For non-Bnos/Pirchei members advance reservations \$13.00 at the door \$15.00.

• OE's 9th Annual Purim Costume Gemach will be open this year on Sunday, March 20th (10am-2pm) at Ohav Emeth 415 Raritan Ave. Highland Park. Donate your gently used costumes or pick up a “New to You” costume. Over 600 costumes from infant to adult sizes. Many accessories as well. Contact us to drop off before Gemach days: [costumegemach@yahoo.com](mailto:costumegemach@yahoo.com). Come check it out, take a costume off the rack or let your creativity inspire you. Suggested \$5 donation per costume borrowed. Cleaning closets?? With every full costume donated, receive voucher to borrow 1 costume.

• Cong. Ohr Torah will hold this year's community Shaimos Collection on Sun, March 27 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The cost is \$20 per large garbage sized bags. Please make all checks out to Cong. Ohr Torah. (Coordinator/questions) Barry Siegel,

siegeldad@optonline.net and there will also be a used Seforim sale at this time, Great Bargains!!! Come find your hard-to-find and/or out-of-print books and stock up your home libraries.

• **Annual AY clothing giveaway** - Sun, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am - 2 pm.. Come get new to you clothing in excellent condition. All clothing is free. Donations are accepted. For more information or if you would like to donate clothing in excellent condition, please contact Ida Scheiner 917-439-6163 ([imscheiner@aol.com](mailto:imscheiner@aol.com)) or Rivka Jaffe 732-762-0490.

• 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. For more information and/or to schedule an appointment please call Sara Scott at 516-526-0941.

• **Bikur Cholim** is looking for volunteers to visit at the Regency nursing home on DeMott Lane in Somerset. For more info, please call Rahel Baruh at 732-672-4673 or email [rbaruh@yahoo.com](mailto:rbaruh@yahoo.com)

Also for the TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: Drivers and coordinators needed. Coordinate rides to and from medical appointments - match requesters with an available driver. Each coordinator serves for two weeks at a time. To volunteer to coordinate or to drive, please call Bikur Cholim hotline at 732-572-7181 or fill out the volunteer form on the website [bikurcholimrv.com](http://bikurcholimrv.com)

• Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sunday, March 20 or Monday, March 21.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class and SemPlus: no classes week of March 20.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, March 21 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8<sup>th</sup> Ave., Edison. This will be the last class until after Pesach.

• Woman's Parsha discussion: Steinsaltz Ambassador, Betzalel Strauss, will be conducting discussion based on the essays of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, every Monday at 1:00PM in the Ahavas Achim Beit Midrash. All interested women are invited. Contact Cynthia at [cynthiaandlloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiaandlloyd@yahoo.com) with any questions.

## Mazel Tov!

• Mr. & Mrs. Steven Steinhart & family upon Miriam's Bas Mitzvah

## Library Additions

• The Season of Pepsi Meyers

donated in honor of Natan Blumberg's 12th birthday.

## The Writer's Corner

To conclude their unit on creativity, the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade girls were paired up to write and use their imaginations to “create inventions.”

### Neatonater

by Faigy Blau and Adina Chait

A Neatonater makes your room neat and it cleans it up. You can use it if you can talk. The Neatonater can be used when cleaning up a big mess. You can use it in your room/playroom. You can use it by saying “Clean My Room, Neatonater!” You would use it if you are too busy it will clean up your room quickly. It can be useful for a lot of people.

### The Wish Machine

by Chana Gelfand and Rivka Neuwirth

The Wish Machine can make your dreams come true. It gives you whatever you can possibly want. Whoever wants to use it, can use it. You can use it every day but Shabbos. Since this invention was made to help people who don't have enough money, you can find it on the street or in the store. In order to use it, you go down the street and find the machine. You click the button of the thing that you want. Then you wait until the thing you wanted comes through. The big things come through a big hole. The little things come through a frame. You should use the machine because it gives you things that are useful for you. By using it you don't have to worry about things you don't have and being jealous.

### BULLETIN BOARD

• **Sun, March 27 - 5:30 PM - Ohr Torah Dinner at the Rutgers Chabad House in New Brunswick, honoring, Sheila & Henry Schanzer and our own Bracha & Ami Avraham. You can reserve, place your ad and pay entirely online at [www.ohrtorah.net/dinner](http://www.ohrtorah.net/dinner).**