



Parsha Points

“...You must be holy for I, Hashem, am holy.” “קדושים תהיו כי קדוש אני ה' אלוקיכם.”

The *Midrash* elaborates, “You may think that you must attain a degree of holiness that equals My holiness. This is not so, for the Torah states, ‘for I am holy.’ meaning, ‘My holiness transcends your holiness.’” This *Midrash* presents a perplexing problem. Why does the Torah find it necessary to tell us this? Nobody would entertain the absurd notion that man could possibly reach Hashem’s level of holiness. However, the *Midrash* here is not referring to the totality of Hashem’s holiness. It is focusing on a single aspect, “Who dwells with them in the midst of their uncleanness” (*Vayikra* 16:16); the *Shechinah* is with Yisrael even when they are unclean. The *Midrash* then poses the question: perhaps, just like Hashem, a Jew can also remain holy while living in an unclean, depraved environment. The reply is that Hashem’s holiness is superior. Only He is capable of “dwelling with them even when they are unclean.” *Har Tzvi Taken from Torah Treasurers*

The Week in Review

Our 2nd graders are so excited about so many things going on in their class. First, the boys recently began learning Rashi letters. They attempt to find the letters they learned in the actual Rashi in *חומש* and also in the back of the Rashi booklet where parts of the *תהלים* are written in Rashi script. In addition, the boys recently finished *פרשת חיי שרה*, and are already into the second *פרק* in *פרשת תולדות*. The class also has a special program of earning points for their excellence in learning and *davening*. To date, they have earned 45,000 points!! and will be treated to a trip for their performance, *בסט*. Lastly, every boy received a *גדול* album, and each week another picture of a *גדול* and stories about him are added. It's great to be in 2nd grade!

In 5th grade, we're reading, A play –
“Wings for the King”,

Where the king let it be known,
He just wants one thing.

To be able to cure his boredom,
And get from place to place.

A pair of wings, to help him fly, He pleaded his case.

He called his page and said, “There’s no delaying –
Line them all up, I’ll even be paying.

A bag of gold, as a reward, If I will no longer be bored!
From a kite to a heli”cap”ter, Many did try.

To bring a pair of wings, To help him fly.

Along came Isaac, With a pile of books

And proved his point, Amid suspecting looks,

“READING IS DISCOVERING! Isaac did cry.

There’s no better way, For the king to fly!

The 5th grade boys have taken this lesson to heart and are hard at work earning more scoops for our reading contest. Keep it up!

מזל טוב on finishing *כתה ד'* Morah Krauss' *ד' ספר תהלים* and a beautiful *תורה* including *דברי תורה*, dance, gymnastics, raffles, and a game. We are so proud of all these accomplishments. May they go *אל חיל* מחדל.

Last Thursday afternoon, cheers of joy went up in the 8th grade classroom when Mrs. Brudny announced that Rina Lewis won 2nd place in the “Better to Write” Essay Contest. The contest asked participants to reflect on their experiences in the highly acclaimed Better Together program, which fosters relationships between Jewish students and local Jewish seniors. Rina’s essay earned \$15,000 towards the YST Scholarship Fund as well as a stipend for Rina to use towards furthering her Jewish education. **Read Rina’s stirring essay yourself! Visit www.ystnj.org and click on the link on the home page.** May Rina continue to bring *nachas* to her family, school and community!

S.T.E.M. FAIR

(Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

Calling all parents and grandparents in the girls school! Please share your experience and expertise with our girls at the S.T.E.M. Fair on Wed, June 1st. See attached flyer for details.

Preschool Jottings

MOVING right along in our language unit, we learned all about cycles. We identified a unicycle, a bicycle, a tricycle, a tandem bike and a bicycle with extra training wheels. And then Thursday came! The weather was gorgeous – the sun was shining brightly and all the children began bringing their bicycles to school. We filled the parking lot with bikes and at 11:00 the rodeo began! The preschoolers were off and riding on their bicycles with their handmade streamers blowing in the wind. Ron rode on the unicycle and we watched in amazement as he did tricks while riding. Mr. Gedaliah Reiss joined us on his motorcycle – vroom, vroom. And then suddenly a car made in 1956 joined on the road! It was a morning of lots and lots of movement.

The nursery class began their final unit that focuses on *brochos*. *Hamotzi* was the first *brocha* and the aroma of the fresh *challah* that they baked filled our hallways.

There are so many children whose name begins with the letter *ר*. They were so proud to wear letter *ר* hats. Morah Mimi’s class painted the bottom of their *רגלים* and then created colorful flowers. Morah Rochel and Morah Faige’s boarded Harvey’s bus and traveled to the Edison Train Station. They boarded the *רכבת* and traveled to Metuchen, where Harvey was there to meet them.

Young Investigators are studying “Shabbos clothing.” They took a trip to the Laundromat to see how clothing would be washed and cleaned *l’kavod Shabbos*. The whirling and spinning of the machines was something that most of the children had never seen before.

FYI

• **Boys Division - Please note:** There are no sessions for the boys on Sunday, June 19th.

• **Thurs, May 26th is Lag Ba’Omer.** Dismissal for the boys will be 2:00 p.m. from the park and the girls, 3:00 p.m. from the park.

• The PTA is looking for **volunteers** to help with both the boy’s and girls’ schools’ **Lag B’omer barbecues**. If you are available from 10:30-1:30 on Thurs, May 26th or have any questions, please respond to please respond to YSTPTA@ ystnj.org or call Rivky Arnou at 732-986-3153.

• **Friday, May 27 - Early dismissal** in the elementary school - all grades 1:30 p.m.

• **Memorial Day** - Mon, May 30 - no sessions in the girls & preschool divisions; Sunday schedule in the boys division.

• Shavuot is coming and...the PTA is planning an exciting **Shavuot Morning Event** for women and girls on Sun, June 12th. Details to follow! We are looking for people interested in helping sponsor the event. **Deadline to Sponsor is this Mon, May 16th.** If you would like to contribute any amount in the honor or merit of someone or have questions, please respond to please respond to YSTPTA@ ystnj.org or call Rachel Gruen at 646-660-2350.

• Bnos Malka this Shabbos at 2:15.

• Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the Agudah. Mincha Minyan before Pirchei at 2:50.

• The Pirchei National Siyum Mishnayos will be on Sunday May 15th, 6pm at Kol Yaakov Hall in Flatbush.. Any parents willing to drive in should please contact Arya Eisner as soon as possible so that reservations can be made. Call 732-547-4994 or e-mail pircheiedisonhp@gmail.com.

• **PSA:** The Liberty Science Center, located in Jersey City, has issued an alert to *kohanim* that the exhibit “Bodies Revealed” will feature real human forms, organs and skeletons. The exhibit will run from June 18, 2016 to Jan 16, 2017. They are announcing this now to offer complete transparency to the Jewish community. The show will be exhibited in a separate gallery on the 4th floor. Please consult your LOR if you have any questions.

• **TorahKid Leagues** is back again for its 7th exciting season! Sunday morning sports fun for area children at the Highland Park High School baseball field. There are separate programs for boys (11:00-12:30) and girls (9:30-10:45). Competitive play in different sports. **Spring ball starts May 22 (boys 4-6; and girls 5-11); and Summer ball starts June 26 (boys 4-12; and girls 5-11).** For registration information, please contact Rabbi Lasar at TKLsports@aol.com or at (732) 985-1050.

• Rabbi Bassous’ Women’s class: Sundays at 10:00 AM at Etz Ahaim. Class will be based upon the book “100 Brachos, Counting your Blessings 100 Times a Day” by Rabbi Moshe Goldberger

• Rabbi Yisroel Weiss’ shiur for men and women on the Parsha, with a focus on Emonah and Bitachon, has resumed on Wed evenings at 8:30 PM at the Shenkman’s home, 26 Leslie, corner Leslie and Lexington, across from 92 Leslie.

• *New weekly chabura for women:* We meet to learn a lesson in Ahavas Yisrael, discuss ideas and also catch up! This Shabbos, Sara Roscher will host the chaburah at 5:15 pm in her home. Her address is 1509 Central Ave in the Triangle. For more information, please visit ajproject.com.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen’s Parsha class meets Thursdays at 10:00 AM sharp at Riki Same’s house.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman’s Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, May 16 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, May 15 at **11:00 AM (new time)** at the Agudah; Parsha class on Mon, May 16 at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah.

• Woman’s Parsha discussion: Steinsaltz Ambassador, Betzalel Strauss, will be conducting a discussion based on the essays of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, every Monday for women only at 1:00PM

in the Ahavas Achim Beit Medrash

• Women’s beginners’ Israeli Dancing will resume after Lag B’Omer on Sunday, May 29.

CATCH ‘EM BEING GOOD!

Dear Mrs. Brudny:

Thank you Mrs. Brudny. I have just opened up your e-mail and wanted to tell you that Aurelia and Nava (Lamm) were so excited about the *Yedios Klalios* when they came home from school, that they got to work right away, and I had such *nachas* watching them studying together and testing each other. I have already signed off 50 points for Nava!

I find the *Yedios Klalios* project with its involved incentives to be an extremely useful tool for the girls to amass such a large amount of important facts, and only wish I had the opportunity to do something like this when I was in elementary school! Many thanks.
- Mrs. E. Lamm

Dear Mrs. Brudny:

After *כתה ד'* finished their *סיום* filled with nosh, ice cream and performances, you can imagine what the classroom looked like!! Tzippy Mueller, single handedly, swept the entire classroom and made it spotless!! Thank you Tzippy!

- From the 4th grade girls

Library Additions

The Actor in honor of Asher Eisner’s Bar Mitzvah & *Nati & Tzvi* - *The Double Mystery* in honor of Yehuda Schiffman’s Bar Mitzvah were donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler

Mazel Tov!

Mr. & Mrs. Warren & Lisa Fink upon the birth of a grandson.

Rabbi & Mrs. Dov Bhatia on the engagement of their son, Abba, to Shana Aurbach of Lakewood

The Writer’s Corner

At the beginning of the year, Chana Lewis, Rena Silber and Mirel Leifer formed a newspaper called “The Sixth Grade Times”. They asked girls to submit writing to add to the newspaper. With Mrs. Gross’ encouragement, the submissions gathered on the bulletin board called, “Classroom Writes.” Enjoy these interesting samples.

Cosi Mocha is a paper doll standing in our classroom with a coffee cup and a watchful eye to make sure we have good *middos* and to teach us the *Kesser Malka* skills so in school we could bloom. She’s always there with us as if she’s another member of the class.

It caused the whole class great sorrow and pain to see Cosi Mocha’s treasured cup be thrown in the garbage. “Oh Cosi Mocha, I hope you stay with us forever!”

BULLETIN BOARD

• **Motzei Shabbos, May 14 - 10:00 PM Tiferes DVD for women** to be held at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Road. Title: From Middos to Majesty, a 7-week journey; Speakers: Rabbi Pinchus Jung and Rebbitzin Rena Tarshish.

• **Sun, May 15 - from 11 AM to 2 PM - First Annual Highland Park Jewish Women’s Conference**, presented by Cong. Ohav Emeth 415 Raritan Ave. It will be a day of inspiration, during which we will discuss “Idealism vs. Realism: Striving for greatness while accepting our imperfections.” Featuring Keynote Speaker, Mrs. Yael Kaisman. \$25 Women, \$15 Students. RSVP hpjwconference@gmail.com. Sponsored in part by Covered Girl Clothing.

• **Mon, May 23 - 6:30PM - Yeshiva Tiferes Naftoli’s 11th Annual Dinner** Honoring Rabbi & Mrs. Asa Minkowich and other esteemed honorees, will take place at the Raddison Hotel in Freehold NJ. To make reservations or to place an ad please call the Yeshiva office at 732.952.8384 or go to ytncnj.org.

• **Thurs, May 26 - 6:00-8:30PM - Lag Ba’Omer** at the community wide happening coordinated by the **Mekor Chaim/Steinsaltz Ambassadors program**, located at Grove 1 in Donaldson Park. Free admission! Music and entertainment provided by Jeff Wilks! Activities for kids, learning sessions for adults and food and drinks for sale! Contact Rabbi Shmulie Greene for more info and sponsorship opportunities at rabbishmulie@steinsaltz.org or 973-214-8577.

• **Sun, Jun 5 - RJJ Yeshiva Annual Dinner 5:30 - reception, 6:30-Dinner** honoring Dr. and Mrs. Ira Krumholtz and Rabbi and Mrs. Tzvi Leifer with the Alumnu/Harbotzas Torah Award. The dinner will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton, Newark Airport. For info or to place an ad or call office at 732-985-6533.