

Shaarei Tzion



Volume 21, Issue 27

פרשת אחרי מות

Week ending May 6, 2016

Candle lighting 7:41

Parsha Points

“בזאת יבא אהרן אל הקדש בפר בן בקר לחטאת ואיל לעולה.”

“Aharon shall come with these into the sanctuary, with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.”

Midrash Rabbah relates that the *kohein gadol* also brought with him the merit of the *mitzvah of milah*. Why did he bring this particular mitzvah into the *Kodesh Hakedoshim*, on Yom Kippur? At every *bris mila*, the assembled guests recite, *Keshem shenichnass lebris yikaneis letorah, lechupah, ulemaasim tovim*. “Just as he entered into the covenant, so may he enter into the Torah, the marriage canopy and good deeds.” The reason that we do not express a similar wish at a *bar-mitzvah* ceremony is that at the time of the *bris* the infant is doing the mitzvah in its purest form, without any selfish or egotistical motives. Thus, we wish for him to enter into the Torah and the chupah with the same purity of heart.

There is usually a subconscious element of self-interest, pride or arrogance in the *mitzvos* we perform. How can the *kohein gadol* bring such tainted *mitzvos* into the *Kodesh Hakedoshim*, where the true intent of each *mitzvah* is revealed and the motive that inspired it is bared? It is for this reason that the *kohein gadol* enters with the *mitzvah of milah* which is undergone without even the slightest trace of selfishness.

Rabbi Chaim Elazar Spira of Munkacz in Os Chaim Veshalom, taken from the *Torah Treasures*

The Week in Review

A few weeks before Pesach, the Pre 1A boys started saying the ברכות השחר during תפילה. As each ברכה is introduced, the class learns its meaning. The focus of the discussion is appreciating all the ברכה that comes from ד'. Whether we talk about our sight, our clothing or the מצוות תר"ג that were given to us, we try to be aware of how great our gratitude to ד' must be. To help the boys remember the meaning of all the ברכות, they will be making scrapbooks with photos of themselves acting out the different ברכות and colorful pictures accompanying the words of the ברכה. Of course, the boys are looking forward to receiving their סדורי in a few weeks, and then each boy will read the words straight from his own new סדר!

The 4th grade boys are knee deep in producing their very own chapter books. Each boy's book will be a combination of many skills. Before the actual writing began the boys mapped out a plot with a complete beginning, rising action, climax and ending. They created captivating characters and a comfortable setting in which their story would take place. After the outline was ready, they began writing, making sure to incorporate in each chapter a literacy skill they learned this year. We are aiming for our chapter books to be completed within the next two weeks, בס"ד.

Welcome back! The 6th and 7th grade science classes have begun to work on their respective projects for the upcoming Shaarei Tzion **S.T.E.M. FAIR**. The 6th grade will be focusing on transportation engineering and will be exploring magnetic levitation as it is used in train systems. The 7th grade will be following on industrial engineering and will be exploring and creating simple machines.

S.T.E.M. FAIR

(Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

The month of May is **S.T.E.M.** month for YST girls. Each class, grades 1-8 is working on a unique creative engineering project related to their science curriculum. All parents are invited to a **S.T.E.M. FAIR** on Wednesday, June 1st, showcasing your daughters' projects. Stay tuned - more details to follow.

Preschool Jottings

Many letters and notes from parents and grandparents were sent to the Preschool Moros after Yom Tov. We heard about how well the children participated at the Seder and over Yom Tov. Thank you for taking the few moments to let us know. We are so proud of all the children.

The kindergarten children are up to the letter *Kuf* and they are very excited that they are getting closer to the final letters of the *Aleph Beis*. They enjoyed a special “*Kiddush*” in honor of the new letter with hot potato *kugel* and a *Kiddush* drink of grape juice.

Kids Corner began a unit on “*ABSORPTION*.” They experimented with different materials to see which absorb the most liquid and which do not absorb at all. By squeezing and collecting the water in cups, they are proud to tell you that they endorse Bounty Paper Towels!

We are moving right along on our ON THE MOVE unit! This week we learned about the many things that move in the sky – airplanes, helicopters, birds, blimps, hot air balloons and even a drone! We compared and contrasted the flying objects and discussed the reason they would be flying way up high. We also learned about a pendulum and identified many of them in our world. We made our own pendulum and discovered the different energy levels in the ones with the short strings and the ones with longer strings.

Re-thinking LINK

The girls school was abuzz with maiden names and Pesach minhagim before our break. “Family talk” was very much in vogue as the LINK cards were introduced. Here are

some 4th grade reports of family news that they discovered:

Kiki Sabo: I found out that my grandfather is from Romania and that he married my Bobbi Erica who owned a horse!

Chava Milgraum: I never knew that my grandmother was born in Trinidad!

Tzippy Mueller: I found out something really funny - my grandfather played jump rope when he was little!

Elisheva Feuer: My mother told me that she used to go to school on a train - without a cell phone! She was my age!

Gili Safran: I found out that even if there's a lot about your family that you don't know you can ask questions and find out a lot of things.

and from an appreciative grandmother:

Dear Mrs. Brudny,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful card game that you created. Our entire family- from youngest (Adina) to oldest (me) enjoyed playing Links/Go Fish together. What a fun way to focus on family memories and to see our children's perspective about what is meaningful and memorable in their lives. And all done without a device, a screen, or WiFi

All the best,

Cindy Zucker (Adina Chait's grateful Savti)

FYI

• **Please note: 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.

• **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.

• **No regular Pirchei** this week, but there is Pirchei Beis Medrash at 3:15. 5th graders are invited to join us. Mincha will be at 2:50.

• The Pirchei National Sijum 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.

• **No Bnos Malka** this Shabbos.

• Middlesex County is offering a Prescription Discount Card for uninsured residents or anyone whose current plan does not include prescriptions. There is no cost for the card and can be used at any participating pharmacy in Middlesex County. To obtain a card or find participating pharmacies, call ProAct toll free at 1-877-776-2285 or visit NJRxDiscountCard.com

• 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 Emunah 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 ayproject.com.

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

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sun, May 8 at 10:00 AM at the Agudah; Parsha class on Mon, May 9 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.

Mazel Tov!

- Rabbi & Morah Frankl upon the birth of a son
- Mr. & Mrs. Yaakov Reider upon the birth of a son
- Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Krauss upon the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi Dovid & Morah Minah Kamin upon the birth of a grandson
- Mr. George & Morah Yaffie Kassai upon the birth of a granddaughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Ben Schiffman & family upon Yehuda's Bar Mitzvah
- Rabbi Israel & Morah Devorah Botnick upon the marriage of their son Yerachmiel to Shavy Bruckstein

- Rabbi Yisoschor & Morah Moller upon the marriage of their son Raphael to Nechamie Rokowsky

Catch 'em Being Good!

Hi Mrs. Weldler,

Last Thursday Perel Sarah (Blum) went to work with me for Bring Your Child To Work Day. She visited my elementary school, 4th grade class. Perel Sarah performed the entire Map Song for Ms. Q's 4th grade class. She was a smash hit and motivated the class to study the map. The teacher of the class was absolutely amazed!
- Mrs. R. Blum

Dear Mrs. Brudny,

I would like to share with you the nachas that I had from the 4th grade girls as they are busily preparing for their upcoming *siyum* on *Sefer Bereishis*. The dance group met the other night at the Mueller home to prepare and practice their *siyum* dance. The dance group, headed by Rochel Mueller and Rivky Lobel, worked together with positive energy and true *achdus*. When I asked Malky who made up the moves and motions, she simply remarked, "Mommy, we really all made it up together! Each girl gave her own ideas and all agreed on the dance together." I was amazed that 4th graders can independently plan, choreograph, and work so beautifully together! Thank you to Morah Krauss for giving our girls such an excitement for learning while instilling *midos tovos* through personal example. With much appreciation,
- Mrs. R. Silber

Dear Morahs:

Yakira (Lockspeiser) sang the מדה נשתנה in Hebrew, Yiddish and English so beautifully and her incredible *truly* enhanced our Seder. Her great-grandmother and *zeydi* especially appreciated the Yiddish portion of the מדה נשתנה. She was also a big help for her brothers and cousins over the entire Yom Tov!

- Mrs. D. Lockspeiser

Dear Morah Leeba:

Chana (Gelfand) was very well prepared for the Seder. She participated enthusiastically, asked questions, gave answers and דברי תורה. She also helped prepare for Pesach in general, and the Seder in particular. Very proud.
- Chana's Father

המקום ינחם...

to Mrs. Amy Eisengart upon the loss of her mother,
Carol Olitzky, ע"ה

BULLETIN BOARD

- **Tues, May 10 - 8:30 PM - The Highland Park Mikvah** is sponsoring a lecture by Mrs. Chaya S. Newmann, author, educator, matchmaker, and well-known speaker from Israel, at the home of Debbi Sabo, 153 Brookhill Ave., Edison. Title: “The Heart of the Jewish Family: The Role of the Woman”. Admission is free. Lecture for women and post high school girls only. For more info, please contact Aviva at sieglmom@optonline.net or call Lynn at 732-777-0225 or Debbi at 347-743-9142
- **Motzai Shabbos, May 14 - 10:00 PM Tiferes DVD for women** to be held at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Road. For more info, please contact Aviva sieglmom@optonline.net.
- **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 Alumnus/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.
- **Save the Date: Sun, June 19 - 9:30 a.m. - YST Breakfast honoring Rabbi Dovid Adlin and Chaim and Debbie Sabo as Parents of the Year.**

Breaking News!

Congratulations to 8th grader, Rina Lewis, for placing 2nd in the National Better-to-Write Essay Contest, sponsored by the Legacy Heritage Foundation. Details to follow!