



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Dec. , 2016

FYI

IMPORTANT!! Attention all Edison and Highland Park Parents: By now you should be receiving a B7T voucher from your Township that confirms that your child is a student in YST. **The B7T voucher must be signed and returned to the Township office in order for your payment to be issued.** Please remember that Rechev Transportation is currently advancing the funds to cover the cost of the Durham buses. If your child rides the bus, the school reserves the right to ask for payment whether or not you have submitted your B7T.

- Even though the Gilr's school classrooms are warm, the hallways are cool. Please send your girls in with indoor sweaters (navy or black) for your child's comfort. Pre-1Aers can use any color.
- Please note that there will be no busing on Dec. 26 or Jan. 2 and dismissal for all grades will be 3:30 p.m.
- Give Hakoras Hatov to your child(ren)'s teachers by sending in a check or by using the website. The deadline is **THIS Monday, Dec. 19th!** See att. flyer (online) or go to ystnj.org.
- In order to receive your Shaarei Tzion e-mails, please add info@ystnj.org to your contacts.
- Around the Table - Mothers and fathers of Pre1a - 2nd grade boys and mothers of 6th - 8th grade girls should look out for an email with details about an event this Motzei Shabbos, Dec. 17th. There is a nominal fee of \$10 to attend each event.
- Paint night for pre school mothers on Dec. 20th from 8-10pm. There is a \$40 cost for the night. For more information or to RSVP please email ystpta@ystnj.org.
- Bnos Malka is for girls grades 1-5 is from 2:15-3:15 in the Agudah.
- Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:05 to 4:00 at the Agudah. There will be a minyan for Mincha before Pirchei at 2:45.
- Last week for *the Chai Lifeline Chanukah Toy Drive!* Please send in an unwrapped toy in any price range to school for a sick child from infants to teens. Program ends Dec. 21st.

Parnes Hayom

A day of learning was sponsored on
Tuesday, Dec 12, 2016
in memory
אליעזר יחזקאל בן צבי ז"ל
by the Slepoy Family



Parsha Points

“ויאמר יעקב אלוקי אבי אברהם ואלוקי אבי יצחק...”

“And Yaakov said G-d of my father Avraham and G-d of my father Yitzchok...”

As Yaakov prayed to Hashem to save him from his evil brother Eisav, he invoked the merit of his saintly ancestors, the Patriarchs. Are they not however, Eisav's ancestors? How can he entreat Hashem to listen to his prayers in lieu of Eisav's? We may derive from this pasuk that only one who follows in the footsteps of his ancestors may invoke their merit. Yaakov followed the path which was paved by his forefathers; he maintained their ideals. We may add that it is not sufficient to merely emulate the actions of the Patriarch externally, but it is even more necessary to internalize the totality of their approach to life. This is indicated by Lot's behavior. Despite the fact that he was Avraham's student in the mitzvah of kindness to others, Lot's spiritual essence was tainted as a result of his decision to live in Sodom. Following in a tzaddik's path means interacting their ideals into the entirety of one's philosophy of life.

Horav Yechezkel Levinstein, Z"l taken from *Peninim on the Torah*

Week in Review

Mazel Tov to the 8th grade תלמידים upon the completion of the first major section of מסכת בבא קמא. The קול תורה in the classroom continues as they begin the new גישימאק of מיטב with renewed גישימאק. At the same time, the תלמידים have begun a thorough חזרה of everything they have learned until now in preparation for their upcoming “faher” from the *Vaad Hachinuch*. Many of the boys are also using this opportunity to prepare for their “fahers” for *mesivta*, and we wish them much הצלחה!

The boys in Pre-1A have been busy mastering the alphabet. We have learned 9 letters so far, including two vowels (o and a) and their short vowel sounds. This week we focused on the letter Mm as we integrated our science lesson with our letter study. After reading the non-fiction book, *Magnets: Pulling Together, Pushing Apart*, the students worked with magnets and a variety of objects to determine which objects contain magnetic force.

The students look forward to center time at the end of each day. These child-directed learning activities reinforce concepts while promoting independent, higher level thinking. We recently launched our iPad center, where the students have an opportunity to review math and language arts skills using various interactive apps.

In the girls division, 'ג כתה has started an exciting new shabbos project! We spend *erev Shabbos* preparing for *Shabbos* in a most special way. Each week we learn a new fact about *Shabbos*, decorate our *Shabbos* scrapbook and even learn a special *Shabbos* song! You can even hear us wishing the entire a *gut Shabbos!* *Heilige Shabbos!* In song!

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Preschool Jottings

YST Preschool invites parents, grandparents and friends to our Chanukah Breakfast on Tuesday, Dec 27 at 9:15 am. The performance will feature the preschoolers and the theme “Children are a Miracle!”

The YST Menorah Museum is now open! Each kindergarten child picked pieces of wood and the tiles of their choice and created a menorah that they can truly call their own. They had to fulfill the basic requirements of eight candles and a shamash that is a bit higher....and the rest was left to their imagination! Hours of the museum?? Please call to schedule an appointment.

It was the color pink in Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's room. The children pretended to be pretty, pink babies with pink pacifiers and pink bibs. There will be no mistaking of the color pink forever more! Acting like pink babies left a strong impression on the “big” children! The story of Chanukah is coming alive in Morah Yaffa and Morah Devora's classroom. The children know exactly when in the story they should begin playing dreidel. They learned that the Yevanim would try and catch the Jews learning Torah and doing mitzvos and then punish them.

Lots and lots of language! We have finally left the kitchen! We know almost everything that can be found in a kitchen – corkscrews, peelers, blenders, forks, knives, spoons, mixers, potato mashers, oven, sinks and many kitchen gadgets. We moved into the living room and discovered a couch, a plant, a picture, a coffee table, a recliner and a bookcase. Using stickers and pictures, each of the children made a picture of their own living room. Being able to picture something in your head and then designing it on paper is a skill that preschoolers work hard to master. The YST Preschool designers will be happy to join with any of the local interior decorators.

In Morah Lani's gym class over the past 2 weeks, our Pre1A through 2nd Grade girls have moved on to more fast-paced games. In effort to promote moving SAFELY as we increase our speed, each class had a brief interactive discussion where the girls gave each other ideas on how to achieve their goal. "It's better to get out than get hurt" was a theme that was repeated throughout the grades. Since our "outs" are never very long, the girls are also learning how to handle momentary disappointment and are therefore having a more enjoyable time over-all.

Meanwhile in the 3rd and 4th grade, we are combining teamwork with lots of hand-eye coordination. A seemingly simple game of Moon-Ball (a more advanced version of "Keep-It-Up") has groups of girls working together and strategizing to complete different challenges. As always, Morah Lani is really enjoying watching how the girls are learning to interact with each other effectively and respectfully through play.

The girls in Mrs. Ukrainik's writing elective take notice of things others might walk right by. They then incorporate their observations into their stories, be they crime thrillers or fictional tales that unfold through a series of diary entries. The girls are now in the thick of the editing process -- polishing grammar, diversifying word choice, and adding interesting details. Next, they will transform their stories into a book they craft themselves, making a library keepsake out of everyday supplies.

Tech-Tips

Set limits and encourage playtime. Media use, like all other activities, should have reasonable limits. Unstructured and offline play stimulates creativity. Make unplugged playtime a daily priority, especially for very young children. And—don't forget to join your children in unplugged play whenever possible.

Thank You!

Thank you - in appreciation to Mrs. Brudny, all the teachers and מחנכות - for all that you've done for me! I wouldn't be who I am today without Yeshiva Shaarei Zion. I hope to give over to my students (9th and 10th graders, Bais Yaakov of Denver) everything you've given me!

Much continued תודה!

Adina Adler

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: There will be no Tefillah class on Sunday, Dec. 18th; Parsha class on Monday, Dec 19th at 8:00 pm at Ohr Torah.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tuesday, December 20. No class on December 27. Classes will be held at 9:30 AM at the home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff Court (off of Brookhill Avenue, past Stone Street).
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class will meet on Monday, December 19, and 26 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave., Edison.
- Rabbi Bassous' Women's class is held on Sun mornings at 10:00 AM at Cong. Etz Ahaim. Class will be based on the book, "Happiness" by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin.
- SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls: Please call the hotline to confirm at 732-966-6503.
- 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 shleima 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.

Bulletin Board

• **Motzai Shabbos, Dec. 17 - 8:30 PM - Tiferes DVD** for women will be shown at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members.

• **Sun, Dec 18 - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - Pre-Chanukah Sale** featuring "It's A Girl Thing" and "Hedy's Hats" at 20 Celler Rd., Edison. (Sponsored by YST and Cong. Ohr Torah)

• **Thurs, Dec 29th - Cong. Ohav Emeth presents a Chanukah Concert featuring Shlock Rock.** Doors open 6:30 pm; Concert at 7:00 pm at Highland Park High School. \$15 per ticket / Max \$75 per family. For tickets visit eventbrite.com and search for "Shlock Rock".

• **Sun, Dec 18 - 9:30 AM - RPRY Annual Toby Mayer Scholarship Breakfast** honoring Mrs. Shulamis Benjamin at RPRY - 2 Harrison St., Edison.

• **Sun, Jan 8, 2017 - 6:30 P.M. - Torah Links of Middlesex County 13th Annual Benefit dinner** honoring Mrs. Rikki Samel & Dr. & Mrs. Josh Segal. The dinner will be held at the Radisson Freehold Hotel 50 Gibson Pl., Freehold, N.J. Couvert: \$360 per couple. To RSVP call 732-613-1613 or e-mail -MDLSX@TORAHLINKS.ORG.

Mazel Tov!

- **Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Greene upon the birth of a daughter**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Moshe Feuer upon the birth of a granddaughter**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Krauss upon the birth of a grandson**
- **Dr. & Dr. Yaakov Kader upon the birth of a daughter**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Dov Bhatia on the birth of a grandson**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Elyahu Akerman upon the birth of a son**

Library Additions

- The Complete Guide to Animals in honor of Sarah Bloom's 6th birthday
- Motti of Paraguay in honor of Esther Gitty Kurtz's 8th birthday
- Flight 079 donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler in honor of Mordechai Milgraum's Bar Mitzvah.

