



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Dec. 2, 2016

FYI

IMPORTANT!! Attention all Edison and Highland Park Parents:

As you know, Rechev Transportation has contracted with Durham Bus Company to provide busing for our students this year. We are hopeful that you are satisfied overall with the new arrangement. Within the next 2 - 3 weeks, you should receive 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.

- Parent Teacher Conferences in the girls' school is on Wed., Dec 7th. Appointment schedules are available on the website. Please call or e-mail the office if you will not be able to make it. Boys School Conferences will be on Wed, December 14. Appointments can be scheduled starting this coming Sunday.
- 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.
- Around the Table - Mothers of Pre1a - 6th grade girls should look out for an email with details about an upcoming event on Dec. 10th. There is a nominal fee of \$10 to attend each event.
- Bnos Malka is back!! Girls grades 1-5 are invited to join 2:15 - 3:15 in the Agudah. We are looking forward to an exciting first week of Bnos Malka. Please see attached flyer for details on our Membership Event this Sun, Dec. 4th.
- 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.
- *Lost & Found*: A house key with Superman design on an oversized holder, found in the boys' school.
- *The Chai Lifeline Chankukah Toy Drive* has begun. Please send in an unwrapped toy to school for a sick child from infants to teens in any price range. The program lasts until Dec 21st.

Parnes Hayom

A day of learning was sponsored on
Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2016
in memory of Joel Adler, z"l
יוסף יצחק בן זאב הלוי ז"ל
by the YST Boys' Division



Parsha Points

ויצא הראשון אדמני כולו כאדרת שער ויקראו שמו עיסו

"And the first one came out ruddy all over like a hairy mantle, and they called his name Eisav."

Rashi explains that the name Eisav is derived from the root word עשה (made). Consequently, the name Eisav was given to him because of his appearance. He was completely formed and matured. We may suggest that the Torah is not merely concerned with describing Eisav's extraordinary physical appearance, but rather in teaching a fundamental spiritual message, as well. Eisav exemplified a unique type of evil, evil disguised as good. The Midrash compares him to a large vessel, externally bejeweled with diamonds, while internally consisting of earthenware. He cared only for the superficial, viewing himself as complete as long as he appeared perfect externally. He was not concerned with his inner self-development. He had no desire for change, for he felt he wasn't lacking anything. In describing Eisav, this *pasuk* alludes to the following thought. In order to be able to accept lessons and admonishment from others, one must always feel that he can engage in spiritual advancement. It is only through an awareness of our shortcomings that we can work towards achieving perfection.

Horav Yitzchak Aizik Sher, z"l taken from *Peninim on the Torah*

Week in Review

Mazel tov to Rabbi Kramer's 4th grade class on their siyum of *Parshas Shemos!* The boys are working hard to master the 30 *shoroshim* they have learned in the *parsha*. They can't wait to start *Parshas Vayira* and the *makkos*. The boys have finished an intensive review of their Rashi skills and are getting really good at catching all of Rebbi's "mistakes" on their review sheets. The sounds of a *shofar* can be heard from the classroom as we learn *perek gimel* in *Mishnayos Rosh Hashana*. May we soon hear the sound of the shofar we are all waiting for!

The boys are having fun in lab these past few weeks. Some of the highlights of the activities/experiments include a journey in the digestive system for 3rd and 4th graders. They experienced the route food takes from the mouth through the small intestine. Making chyme was a blast - who knew gastric juices could be so entertaining?

The 6th graders were busy creating bionic hands a few weeks ago and then last week conducting some fun experiments with air pressure.

1st grade made volcanoes, color changing chameleons, and are working on making colors disappear. Meanwhile, the 2nd grade is working on an animal unit. They created animals with backbones out of pasta and are now working on animal life cycles.

8th grade is working on experiments pertaining to Newton's laws, and 7th grade practiced building tall buildings out of spaghetti, topped with a marshmallow.

Please note: All middle schoolers, and their parents, are being asked to sign a science lab contract, ensuring proper conduct in the lab. Please ask your child to review it and sign it - They need to have it signed in order to be admitted into lab. Here at YST we take student safety seriously. Thank you in advance.

Looking forward to a great and adventurous year!!!!

Preschool Jottings

The Three Little (orange) Kittens who lost their mittens were the center of attention in Morah Yaffa and Morah Devora's room this week. Orange came alive in the room with many orange projects and many kitten and mitten activities. The children can now add this new book to their collection of favorites.

Morah Rochel and Morah Faige turned their classroom into a green farm called Green Acres Farm! The hay on the floor, the digging tools and the toy animals grazing made the atmosphere real. The children painted the green background that looked like acres of grass. The kid-farmers tried to cut the green grass - what a job it was! They played in the hay, rode on the big tractors through the farm while dressed in green farmer uniforms.

Parshas Toldos brought special activities to Morah Mimi and Morah Irene's kindergarten. The children came to school dressed like a twin with a fellow classmate. They were dressed alike, but they certainly were not identical twins - similar to the type of twins that Yaakov and Eisav were. The children loved making Yaakov and Eisav cookies and preparing some red soup.

What belongs in a kitchen? YST Preschoolers knew all the regular things - a stove, sink, refrigerator, table, chairs. But then we opened a drawer in the kitchen and pulled out kitchen gadgets! We were just overwhelmed by the number of gadgets that one kitchen can have and we are loving every minute of learning what each one does. There have been some magical moments in the preschool as the children watch in amazement how a can opener, a mango slicer, kitchen scissors, cherry pitters, a nutcracker, an apple/peeler/corer/slicer, an avocado slicer, a egg slicer, a hand mixer, a pineapple slicer do their work!

Excitement is in the air of Morah Krauss' 'ד כיתה's classroom! They are already up to the second ברכה of יעקב ברכה! Also the fourth grade was treated to a trip to Old Richmond Town in Staten Island in honor of Riva Gross' birthday! The girls took a fascinating tour with Mr. Paul and saw old buildings, shops and houses dating back to the 1600's!! Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Gross for a wonderful, educational, and fun trip!

6th grade scientists have been studying viruses and bacteria. We are currently using the scientific method to design and run experiments that test the effectiveness of different hand washing methods to kill bacteria. Using petri dishes, we will be growing bacteria left on our hand after washing and then analyzing and charting our data to determine how we can improve our hand washing to help stop the spread of bacteria.

Mrs. Greene's 7th grade girls are learning to read with deeper understanding by searching for various text features, or "signposts," along the way. In Langston Hughes' short story, "Thank You, Ma'am", the girls noted when they found the signpost Contrasts and Contradictions - when a character says or does something that is the opposite of what one would expect. They then wondered and discussed in small groups and as a class, "Why might he or she be doing this?" The class is now on alert for another signpost, "Aha Moments", when a character realizes, understands or finally figures something out, while reading "For Richer or Poorer" by Dorothy Parker. The students are asked to consider how such a moment might change things in the story.

Tech-Tips

In a world where children are "growing up digital," it's important to help them learn healthy concepts of digital use and citizenship. Parents play an important role in teaching these skills. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers a list of "Tech Tips" to help families manage the ever-changing digital landscape. We are happy to share these valuable tips.

Make your own family media use plan. Media should work for you and within your family values and parenting style. When used thoughtfully and appropriately, media can enhance daily life. But when used inappropriately or without thought, media can displace many important activities such as face-to-face interaction, family-time, outdoor-play, exercise, unplugged downtime and sleep. Be proactive - Make a plan!

Catch 'em Being Good!

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz,

I would like to praise the great job of teachers at Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion Elementary School. I am a school bus driver at Mercy Transportation. I picked up your kids at 5.20 pm today. I had the chance to meet with them previously. I am very impressed. The kids are the most intelligent and clever kids I have met during my work. I could notice it right away when I picked them up first time. I know this is the result of the way of their education they have received in their life. I wish all kids I pick up would behave and act this way. The conversation among them is very mature preceding their age.

I wish you the best, and please keep up this great work.
Sincerely, John Aerokix

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No classes on Sun, Dec 4th or Mon, Dec 5th.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tues, Dec 6 at 9:30 AM at the home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff Street, Edison. (off of Brookhill Avenue, past Stone Street).
- 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.

Bulletin Board

- **Sun, Dec 4 - Shacharis 8:15 a.m.** - Cong. A.Y. invites the community to a **Siyum Tenach in memory of Ezra Schwartz, hy"d** and a memorial program. Speakers include Peter Schwartz, Ezra's uncle, Rabbi Miodownik and message from Rabbi Gotch Yudin.
- **Motzai Shabbos - Dec 10 - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.**- **Pre-Chanukah Boutique** at RPRY. with many incredible vendors! Hats, children's shoes, jewelry, Judaica, tablecloths, make-up, artwork, sheitels, toys and more!
- **Motzai Shabbos - Dec 10 - 7 to 8:30pm** - **Cookie Decorating** with Whimsical Confections for children in grades Kindergarten and up at RPRY. Cost is \$18/child (\$15 for RPRY PLUS members). Checks should be made payable to RPRY PLUS and sent to the RPRY office by 12/6. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/RPRYcookies>. Any questions, please email RPRYPLUS@rpry.org
- **Sunday, Dec. 11 - 12:00 PM** - **RJJ Ladies Luncheon & Chinese Auction** at Cong. Ohr Torah, 48 Edgemount Rd, honoring Mrs. Lisa Goldberg and Mrs. Ariela Weintraub.
- **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.

Mazel Tov!

- **Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Bak** upon Moshe's Bar Mitzvah
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Shlomo Nusbaum** upon Moshe's Bar Mitzvah
- **Mr. & Mrs. Alan Kluger** on the engagement of their son **Michael** to **Rena Rothman**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Dovid Dolinger & Mrs. & Mrs. Joseph Friedman** upon the engagement of their children, **Dani** to **Yael**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Sharir Yablonsky** upon Rana's marriage to **Shua Himes**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Yehoshua Lewis** upon the birth of a daughter

Library Additions

- *So What?! Standing Tall to Teasing* in honor of Emmy Weiss' 5th birthday
- *23 Under 1 Roof. The Blq Surprise* in honor of Eliana Dersovitz's 11th Birthday

