



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Dec. 23, 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 Girl'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. Both the boys school and girls school will dismiss at 3:30p.m. on Tuesday, Dec 27 and Wednesday, Dec 28. There will be no HW club sessions nor after school programming during Chanuka.

- In order to receive your Shaarei Tzion e-mails, please add info@ystnj.org to your contacts.

- Around the Table - We will be on vacation until Jan. 8th.

- Bnos Malka 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.

Parnes Hayom

A day of learning is being sponsored on Sunday, Dec 25, 2016, כ"ה כסלו, in memory of Mr. Bertram Ney, z"l ברוד בן גרשון ז"ל by the Federman Family

a FROGLICHIN CHANUKAH!

One of the miracles celebrated on Chanukah is the miracle of having found a flask, containing enough pure oil to burn for one day, amongst the havoc the Greeks wreaked in the Holy Temple. The Maccabees wanted to light the Menorah with sacred olive oil, and knew it would take eight days to produce a new batch. Pragmatists may have assessed that since it is apparently impossible for one day's worth of oil to remain aflame for eight days, one should either light one-eighth of the oil each day, or have the Menorah lit for fewer hours each day, or other compromising possibilities. The Maccabees no doubt knew their options, yet decided to light the Menorah in the most preferred way. This was done despite the fact that it entailed exhausting their entire supply of pure olive oil on the first day, leaving them with the probability of not being able to maintain the highest standard they so aspired to reach. But they decided to do their maximum with the resources they had, and let the Al-mighty take care of the rest. There is a deep message here for us today. How many worthwhile endeavors are cast along the wayside because we are not guaranteed total success? Yet, the result of inaction due to fear of failure, is failure by default. We can learn from the Maccabees that when there is a worthwhile goal to achieve, one should let go of immobilizing perfectionism, and instead capitalize on existing assets and do one's utmost under the circumstances.

This Chanukah, you can transform the Maccabees' legacy into your own. Choose an important goal which you have been pushing off due to fear of failure, and try to accomplish whatever you can. Don't worry whether complete success will be yours. Just give it all you've got at the moment and leave the degree of success to Hashem. For just as Hashem let one day's worth of oil burn for eight, His Divine assistance can enable you to realize your objectives - even those you believed to be beyond your grasp. And that's a real miracle.

Written by Reb A. Kramer, Aish HaTorah

Week in Review

This past Tuesday was a day we, in the boys school, all felt very proud. We had the privilege of having Horav R Abba Brudny, representing the Va'ad Ha'Chinuch, spend the day in our building. Rabbi Brudny began by visiting the classrooms of grades 1-8 where he had the opportunity to "Farher" the students and see firsthand how much they learned and retained from the start of the year. Watching recess in the gym was another stop and it was surely impressive to watch the boys enjoying the courts the way we'd expect Yeshiva boys to play. Rabbi Brudny spent a while with Mrs. Indig reviewing and discussing the General Studies department. All in all Rabbi Brudny expressed how pleased he was with our Talmidim which left us with an uplifted feeling and a sense of accomplishment!

The first grade boys delved into the concept of courage and how bravery can be expressed. They grasped the idea that a courageous person is willing to act in spite of any scared feelings he may be experiencing. On the heels of numerous class discussions and reading a slew of books on the topic, the boys pondered the times they have shown courage and wrote about their encounters with bravery. This first grade is a valiant group of boys, indeed, as they faced flu shots, first rides on a two-wheeled bicycle without training wheels, visits to the dentist, and amusement park rides undaunted. Please stop by the bulletin board outside the first grade classroom to read their narratives.

Chanukah fun is in the air in the girls school! First grade girls went on a Pre-Chanukah trip to Lakewood for a fun packed day. They started with a musical interactive program, combined with a storyteller, and then made an exciting Chanukah puzzle project. The girls enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Lakewood pizza shop before they headed back to school. Thank you Mrs. Bloom for your winning storyteller raffle ticket!

Preschool Jottings



Where does it belong? As we continue with our Lots of Language Unit, we have moved out of the living room and gone into the dining room. We learned so many new vocabulary words and took a tour of a real living room and dining room. The children had pictures of the objects that they had learned about and taped them onto the real objects located in a home at 111 Washington Ave. The most learning happens when children take the abstract lessons and apply them to real life. That is exactly what happened!

The parents of Morah Mimi's class were invited to tour the Menorah Museum that was set up in the classroom. The children were given wood pieces, tiles, glue and a variety of candle holders. No two looked the same. Each menorah is unique and special and so telling of each child's preferences and personality!

What did Yosef's כַּתְנֵי פְתִימִים look like? The nursery children in Morah Yaffa's class each designed what they thought the colorful coat looked like. They designed the fabric, added buttons and pockets. It's no wonder that the other brothers were jealous of this beautiful garment.

The fireproof menorah that the children of Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's class created will be an enhancement around Edison/Highland Park. It is safe, colorful and festive. You will be able to spot them in the window as you drive through the town.

We are very busy preparing for our Chanukah Breakfast - singing, dancing and decorating! The children, rightfully so, are so proud of what they have mastered and are so excited to show off their talents. Parents, grandparents and all members of the YST Family are invited to join on Tuesday morning at 9:15because CHILDREN ARE A MIRACLE!

Mrs. Chait's 5th grade writers are hard at work composing their first short stories. While using a balance of dialogue and narration, the 5th graders are creating unique and difficult problems for their protagonists to solve, all without using the word "said!" Students are also focusing on using good transitions and integrating descriptions throughout the story. Some creative plots include a teacher getting locked out of her classroom, a girl facing both schoolwork and a gymnastics competition, and a student moving to a new town. Stay tuned for the completion of these wonderful tales!

Did you notice the colorful, exciting bulletin board filled with "math mobiles" hanging outside the 7th grade girl's classroom? Come and take a look at how the girls worked on creating visual tools to help them learn the concept of solving algebraic equations. While 8th grade algebra students are practicing to become efficient problem solvers through a procedural approach, the 7th graders are solving mobile puzzles in their math class to enable them to understand the balance that each equation contains. Each girls' original and unique mobile is made of real objects with number solutions attached to each item. Why don't you try to see if you can solve these mobile puzzles?!

There are a slew of fun-filled educational activities that are being planned for the math classes to take place on Chanukah. Some of the projects will help solidify the concepts and applications of perimeter and area through drawing Yom Tov related diagrams out of polygons and measuring each shapes' dimensions to help find its area and perimeter.

Grades 2 and 3 continue to work on their nightly math drills, which continues raising the level of fluency among our younger math students. Along with the Reflex math program that the girls work on in school, this "practice makes perfect" motto is helping to reach our goals of mastering grade level math facts. Thank you for all the efforts at home and keep up the great work!

Tech-Tips

Families who play together, learn together. Family participation is also great for media activities—it encourages social interactions, bonding, and learning. Play a video game with your kids. It's a good way to demonstrate good sportsmanship and gaming etiquette. You will have the opportunity to introduce and share your own life experiences and perspectives—and guidance—as you play the game.

Bulletin Board

- **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.
- **Sun, Jan 15 - 9:30 am.** - Dr. Robert Schanzer, Chairman of this year's **Annual Highland Park Community Kollel Breakfast**, is pleased to announce that the Guest Speaker at this year's breakfast will be Rabbi Sarel Malitzky, Assistant Rabbi at Congregation Ohr Torah in Edison, NJ. The breakfast will take place at Congregation Ohr Torah.
- **Motzai Shabbos - Jan. 21 - 8:30 PM,** - **Tiferes Weekly Teleconferences** with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd.

Catch Them Being Good!

*Dear Morah Blumie
I wanted to tell you an amazing story. This evening we were driving home. We were listening to the children's hour on Kol Berama. They were playing Ma-o-Tzur and someone was singing the entire song so sweetly and knew all the words. Who was it? It was LEEBA! I couldn't believe it! I shepped such Nachas. I was sooo happy.*

- Mrs Eisengart

Mazel Tov!

- **Rabbi & Mrs. YY Blumenkrantz upon Devorah's marriage to Chanoch Mashitz**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Cohen upon Shevi's marriage to Yitzi Weiss**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Boruch Goodman upon the engagement of their son Mendy to Gitel Springer**

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sunday, Dec. 25th at 11:00 am at the Agudah; Parsha class on Monday, Dec 26th at 8:00 pm at Ohr Torah.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: No class on December 27
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class will meet on Monday, December 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.