



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Feb. 17, 2017 ,



Parsha Points

Parashas Yisro contains the most momentous event in Jewish history, the giving of the Torah to the Jewish people. Upon their departure from the incredible events at the *Yam Suf*, the Jews began their march to *Har Sinai*. This was not simply a distance to be covered; during this journey *Bnei Yisroel* reached the high spiritual level required in order to receive the Torah. What traits were they working on? Just what does it take to be prepared to accept the Torah? In this week's *Parshah* as the Jewish people are approaching *Har Sinai*, we find an interesting *Pasuk* (19:2). "And he [the Jewish people] camped there, opposite the mountain." It is interesting to note the tense used in this statement. It seems that the correct conjugation would have been "Vayachanu- and they camped." Instead, the Torah uses the singular tense, "Vayeechan- and he camped." Why is it written this way? Rashi, quoting a *Medrash*, tells us that when the *Bnei Yisroel* reached this point, they were *K'ish echad b'lev echad*- like one man, with one heart. Until this point, the Jews fought amongst themselves. When they reached *Har Sinai*, though, they achieved complete harmony. They had *Achdus* - unity. This was not mere coincidence. The *Kli Yakar* writes, that the Torah tells us this in order to highlight the importance of unity. The Jews were unfit to accept the Torah until there was peace amongst them. For the Jews to rise to their highest calling, they must be unified. Only when they were united in their goal of hearing the word of Hashem could they receive the Torah.

Week in Review

It's been a very long time and so much has happened. What exactly am I referring to! We'll let the YST Middle School Boys tell you about it as they are preparing a massive timeline covering the last 2,000 years of world and Jewish history. The timeline will include major events that have taken place across the globe and parallel them with developments in the Jewish world. Important people will be highlighted, as well as elections, inventions, and major happenings here in America from its inception. It's a very bold project that hopefully we will be able to make into a permanent display. Please remind all 6th, 7th & 8th grade boys that their cards must be submitted by February 21st!

The 5th grade *בית מדרש* continues to run on the energy of the *התמדה* of the students. This week we started our sixth *עמוד* of *גמרא*. Over the last few weeks many have offered to say and explain the new *גמרא* before it was actually taught inside, just by using their growing vocabulary and knowledge from the previously learned topics. *In-חומש* we will be finishing *משפטים* this coming week coinciding with the upcoming *פרשת השבוע*. The *סייום* next Fri. will celebrate the hard work that was put in to understanding the vast subjects covered in this *פרשה*. Ask about our W.E. W.A.L.K. T.H.E. H.A.L.L.S. initiative that we have been working on to make sure we enter and leave our classroom like *בני תורה*.

Big News in the girls Pre1a! We started our unit on *Brochos* and up to date we finished *הגפן* and *המוציא*. We watched a video on how to make wine and grape juice and learned that grapes are *הגפן* before they are squeezed and *העץ*.

An exciting new *קריאה* contest for boys, grades 1-5 will be presented to our students on Monday. All boys who complete their required amount of reading of *אסתר* will receive a *מגילה* as a special gift. A list of the recipients will be posted in this newsletter.

FYI

- Parent Teacher Conferences in the girls' school is on Tues, Feb 28th. Appointments will be made for you and will be e-mailed and posted on the website. Please call or e-mail the office if you will not be able to make it or if you have a strong preference for an early or late appointment. We will try to accommodate your requests.
- Purim is just around the corner! Send *Mishloach Manos* through the YST-PTA. See attached flyer for details.
- *Taanis Esther* is Thurs., March 9th. Dismissal in the girls school will be 2:00 p.m. for grades 6-8 and 3:30 p.m. for all other grades. In the boys school, dismissal will be 2:15 p.m. for grades 7 & 8 and all other grades will be 3:30 p.m.
- Mon., March 13 is *Shushan Purim* - There will be a delayed opening of 10:00 a.m. for all grades and all classes will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m.
- The 6 Flags Read to Succeed reading logs in the girls school must be submitted by Feb 24th. *Sorry, no exceptions are allowed.*
- The YST Girls School Play will be on Sun, March 19 at 1:30 p.m. at the Forum Theater. See attached flyer for details.
- PROP/ COSTUME CALL: If you have any of the following items that you can share for the school play, please label the item and send it to the Girls School office:
 - Newsboys Caps
 - Plaid or striped shirts (size 14 - 16 -18)
 - Suspenders / Vintage aprons
 - Large shawls
 - Metal buckets
 - Old fashioned suits/dresses, size 2 , 4, 6
- *Pirchei* and *Pirchei Beis Medrash* will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the *Agudah*. There will be a minyan for *Mincha* before *Pirchei* at 2:50.
- *Bnos* this week is from 2:15 - 3:15.

Preschool Jottings

One of the educational tools that YST Moros has implemented this year was to always teach the children from a visual, tangible and true- to- life object rather than the abstract. We have been working hard to include this golden rule of education in our classrooms throughout the year. This week there were so many, many opportunities that the Moros used to enrich the children with the "real thing!"

Morah Mimi and Morah Irene's kindergarten took a trip to Acme and visited the Bakery Department. They enjoyed a tour of the bakery section and the entire store. As they continue learning about community helpers, they were introduced to a doctor. Thank you so much to Dr. Malitzky for taking the time to come to school and share details about her profession with the children. They enjoyed a trip to Dr. Lieblich to learn about dental health and hygiene and to the Highland Park Library to meet Librarian Fran. The Edison Fire Station treated the children to a tour of the fire station and fire trucks.

The nursery children are learning the rectangle shape. Morah Yaffa and Morah Devora took the children on a real train ride in Woodbridge Center where the children were able to sit in the rectangle cars and enjoy! They also concentrated on a bit of a more complicated shape – a heart and made racoon heart shaped, face masks

What a treat it was for Morah Rachel and Morah Faige's class to spend a morning under the stars! They were learning the star shape and dressed in their pajamas, they went to sleep in Morah Faige's house! She treated them to hot cocoa and a snack, lullabys and good night wishes.

What belongs in the sea? Oh...it's been a whale of fun! The children made their favorite fish and in preparation for *Chodesh Adar*...they are swimming all around our building. Watch out for the whales who have water coming out of their blowholes!



Parnes Hayom

A day of learning was sponsored on Monday, Feb 13, *ל'ז שבט* in commemoration of the *yahrtzeit* of Mrs. Urow's father Yosef ben Feivl, ז"ל by the Urow Family

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afterwards. So, we did the same! We ate some grapes and made **העץ**, then we smashed and squeezed them to make grape juice and boy that was a big job! After all that work, we got to make the *brocha* **הנפן** and appreciate the "fruits of our labor". Next up is **מזונות**!

After an exciting kickoff at Morah Kleinbard's house in Lakewood, **כחה** has begun learning and exploring what being **בת מצוה** is all about. As a preparation for this important stage of their lives (turning 12), the girls will be learning from **ספר הליכות בת ישראל**, which discusses the special **מצוות** and **הלכות** pertaining to women. The girls are enthusiastic about discussing the **חשיבות** and the beauty and protection of **צניעות**, among other topics included in the **ספר**.

Every morning, Morah Frankl's 7th graders get a chance to be inspired. Before davening, Morah Frankl shares with us powerful stories that give each one of us a lift before class begins. Recently, the girls have been passing around the astounding book R' Yaakov Galinsky. The message that we have received is of **שמירה** and to never give up our belief in **א** and our Yiddishkeit. Thank you Morah Frankl for your inspiration every morning.

Mrs. Chait's 5th grade scientists have just completed their arthropod unit! Based on their research on their assigned arthropod, students created fantastic posters and presented them to the class. They described the animal's habitat and explained what each animal eats and the way it defends itself. To celebrate the culmination of their research and have the opportunity to see arthropods up close, the students enjoyed a visit from Insectropolis on Wed. 5th graders learned even more about insects, arachnids, and myriopods, and were given the opportunity to touch a tarantula, scorpion, and hissing cockroach (as any 5th grader will tell you, of course they were not venomous)! On his way out, Mario, the "bug expert," remarked to the office staff that this class was one of the most well-behaved classes he had even seen. Keep up the great work!

In Morah Lani's gym class, our Pre1A through 2nd grade just started one of their favorite units. What's red, blue, green, yellow and filled with lots of fun? Parachute Games, of course! The girls are working their upper body muscles as they make big and little waves, mountains and caves. They are learning how cooperation plays a big part in manipulating how we want our parachute to move. But most of all they are excited because they know they will be having a blast playing games like Cat & Mouse, Popcorn Catch and Color Tag.

Meanwhile, our older grades are excited to be starting their Soccer Unit which combines foot/eye coordination, teamwork and focus. Morah Lani is confident that they will put their "best foot forward" in acquiring these skills.

Catch 'em Being Good!

I admit it - after setting a much "overhyped" Snow Day in motion last Wednesday night, I decided to sleep in on Thursday morning. I got up at a leisurely hour, drank my coffee s-l-o-w-l-y and watched the snowflakes drifting over my backyard. But, when I opened the front curtains to a quartet of YST students who were shoveling my sidewalks and the path to the Brudny front door, I could not have been prouder. Thank you, thank you Rochel Mueller, Shira and Elisheva Feuer and Chasi Zeilberger for your tremendous chesed!

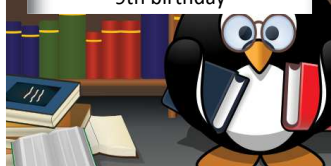
- Mrs. Brudny

Tech-Tips

Don't use technology as an emotional pacifier. Media can be very effective in keeping kids calm and quiet, but it should not be the only way they learn to calm down. Children need to be taught how to identify and handle strong emotions, come up with activities to manage boredom, or calm down through breathing, talking about ways to solve the problem, and finding other strategies for channeling emotions.

Library Additions

- *The Adventures of Hershele* donated by Mrs. Adler in honor of Chezki Benedek's Bar Mitzvah
 - *Ahrele* in honor of Avigayil Gelfand's 7th birthday
 - *Our Heroes 2* in honor of Chana Gelfand's 9th birthday



Bulletin Board

- **Sun, Feb 19 - 8:00 p.m.** - The **Nshei of the Edison/Highland Park Chabura** invites all women to an inspirational video presentation of emunah and bitachon by Mrs. Karmel from Yerushalayim who is living and thriving with the debilitating disease of ALS. The video will be shown at the home of Mindy Billowitz, 98 Leslie St., Edison.
- **Sun, Feb 26 - 7:30p.m.** - **Khal Chassidim Simply Tzfat kumzitz** at Rabbi Horowitz's Shteible, Khal Chassidim on 46 N. 8th Ave. This (free admission) kumzitz is among the many gatherings - in song, study and community commemoration - held in tribute to Hinda bas Yaakov Peretz, Rabbi Horowitz's precious wife a"h. There will be seating areas for men and women in the Shteible Beit Midrash.
- **Sun, Feb 26 - 8pm** - **RPRY PLUS and the RPRY Alumni Association** invite the whole community to Coach Gila's cooking demo and workshop on **TOP TIPS FOR HEALTHY EATING**. At this event you will get to taste the food that Coach Gila prepares right in front of you and go home with a copy of her featured recipes! Cost is \$15 in advance/\$20 at the door. Sponsorships available and include admission: For questions and reservations please email RPRYPLUS@rpry.org
- **Sun, Feb 26 - Cong. Ahavas Yisrael** will be hosting its 8th Annual Journal Breakfast at Cong. Ahavas Achim, 216 S. 1st Ave., Highland Park, NJ, at 9:30 am. Honorees are Mr. Menachem and Mrs. Helene Kravitz (Guests of Honor), Mr. Zev Rosenberg, and Mr. Aryeh Berger (Service Awardees). For more information, please visit www.ayedison.org or email Breakfast@ayedison.org.
- **Motzai Shabbos, March 4 - 8:00 pm** - **Highland Park/Edison Connects Winter 2017 Melava Malka** for women, featuring a very special guest speaker! A former IDF soldier, who grew up in this community and who served during the recent Operation Protective Edge. This very special no-charge event will be taking place at the home of Rachele and Zev Stern, 474 Lincoln Ave, HP. (Speaker to begin at 8:30 sharp to leave plenty of mingling time afterwards!) For more info please email Faygie Lobel at FayMLobel@gmail.com or Elleshlang@gmail.com.
- **Sun, March 5 - 9:30 AM** - **Bikur Cholim of Raritam Valley Annual Event** to be held at the Pines Manor, 2087 Raritan Ave. The Guest Speaker will be Rabbi Dovid Goldwasser. This year's Guests of Honor are Dalya & Harry Chefitz and Ezra and Nava Chefitz; Gomlei Chesed awardees - Leon & Sharon Glaser and the Keter Shem Tov awardees to the Morris Family. Couvert is \$50 per person. Sponsorships are available. For more info, call 732-572-7181 or go on the website at bikurcholimrv.org

Mazel Tov!

- **Morah Yael Friedman upon her marriage to Dani Dolinger**
- **Rabbi Binyomin & Mrs. Hammer upon the birth of a son**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Noach Sauber on the engagement of their daughter Lana to Elazar Bamberger**

Local News & Shiurim

- Congregation Ohav Emeth's 10th Annual Purim Costume Gemach will kick off on Rosh Chodesh Adar, February 26th from 5:00 pm to 8:00pm with great excitement. Over 800 infants to adult costumes are available to borrow. The Gemach continues this year for 3 more days on Wednesday night, March 1st from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Sunday March 5th from 10 am-3 pm and on Tuesday March 7th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The cost is either a \$5 donation or 1 donated costume per costume borrowed. The gemach is located at Congregation Ohav Emeth, 415 Raritan Ave., Highland Park, NJ. For more information email costumegemach@yahoo.com or see our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/costumegemach>
- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sun, Feb 19 at 11:00 AM at the Agudah; No class on Mon, Feb 20.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tues, Feb. 21 at 9:30 AM at the home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff Street, Edison. • Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class will meet on Mon, Feb 20 at 7:30 PM at the home of Janet Rivenson, 19 Price Drive, Edison.

המקום ינחם...

- **Rabbi Yeruchom Levovitz upon the loss of his mother, Rebbetzin Sara Leba Levovitz, נ"ה.** Shiva will be observed at 2168 77th St. in Brooklyn until Wed. morning.