

YST News

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Parsha Points

After Yaakov blessed Ephraim and Menasheh, he added on "By you shall Bnei Yisroel bless (their children) saying: May Hashem make you like Ephraim and Menasheh" (perek 48 pasuk 20).

The children of Yosef were very dear to Yaakov, but Yaakov had many grandchildren, who were all righteous. Why did Yaakov specifically say that all the future generations should be blessed to be like Ephraim and Menasheh? What was so special about these two?

All of Yaakov's descendants grew up in a complete Torah environment – where they learned from Yaakov and easily followed in his footsteps. Ephraim and Menasheh however, grew up in Egypt – a country of evil people - and there in Egypt they remained righteous. Somehow, they had the strength, confidence, and clarity in what's right not to be negatively influenced by their surroundings. It was for this reason that Yaakov chose that all future generations should be like Ephraim and Menasheh. Yaakov foresaw that the Jews will go into exile and will be surrounded by negative influences. When we are blessed to be like Ephraim and Menasheh, it is a special prayer that we, just like them, should have the strength to remain pure and not become influenced by our surroundings.

Week in Review

In celebration of the completion of a פרק of גמרא, the 7th grade boys enjoyed a trip to Boro Park. (Thank you to the girls school for adjusting their trip schedule to accommodate us and making Harvey's bus available). The had a special זכות and privilege to meet one of the גדולי, the אדמו"ר from Novominsk, שליט"א. The Rebbe greeted the boys warmly and proceeded to "farher" them on their knowledge of the גמרא that they were מסיים. The Rebbe was duly impressed at how well the תלמידים knew the גמרא. The Rebbe then went on to teach the boys two Yiddish words. He taught them the meaning of an "ehrlicher" vid – a Jew who is sincere in his Yiddishkeit. The second word the Rebbe mentioned in Yiddish was "geshmak", as in "learning תורה is geshmak!", and that it's thoroughly enjoyable to be a Jew. The boys then enjoyed an exciting scavenger hunt at KRM - one of Brooklyn's largest supermarkets - with the theme based on the פרק of גמרא that was recently completed. After exhausting themselves from their hunt, the boys were more than delighted to enjoy their סעודת סיום at the world famous pizza shop – Mendelsohn's Pizza. The boys certainly had a "geshmake" time!

Hop on board! The 4th grade boys at YST are 'visiting' different important landmarks in the Northeast Region and enjoying the fun and interesting 'train ride' throughout the many states. Additionally, the boys are learning different ways to improve their writing skills and excel at coming up with Power Verbs to replace boring ones. The exemplary work of the 4th graders is earning them lots of decks! As the school year moves along, we look forward to continuous growth and learning.

FY

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.

• 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
Metal buckets
Old fashioned seltzer bottles

- Girls After school program make-up dates:
 Wed, Drawing and Fun in the Kitchen 1/18
- Around the Table Mothers of boys grades 2 5 should look out for an email with information about an event this Motzei Shabbos, Jan 14th.
 The event for mothers of preschool children has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control. We will send information about rescheduling as it becomes available.
- Bnos Malka for girls grades 1-5 is from 2:15-3:15 in the Agudah. In case of inclement weather, then Bnos will be canceled. If by 2:00 p.m. on Shabbos, the weather is till okay, there will be Bnos Malka! Please make sure there is an adult present before leaving your child(ren).
- 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.
- Give Kids a Smile Day is designed to offer dental care to kids who otherwise do not see a dentist Friday, Feb. 3 2017. For more info. visit www.nida.org

Parnes Hayom

A day of learning was sponsored on י"ד טבת לעילוי נשמת מלכה ברכה בת שמעון חיים ע"ה

upon her שלושים

Preschool Jottings

Upon the completion of *Chumash Bereishis*, the children in Morah Mimi's class have compiled a book that highlights the important events that they each remember from each week's *Parsha*. Every child has their unique version and every child illustrated the pictures with their own personal touch. חזק חזק ונתחזק. The children decorated a pillowcase with the words of the אפרים that were given to אפרים and ברכה that are written in this week's parsha.

Morah Faige and Morah Rochel enjoyed a week of circles! Every part of the drums that the children made and decorated, are circles! The project was just a bang! The children created round snowmen from round marshmallows and everyone shared in the treat on the warmest day of the season!

The nursery children explored the winter wonderland this week. They decorated a "Dry Boots Mat" with a winter scene that each child created. Using so many different mediums, from buttons to pipe cleaners, paint to crayons, the creativity was "snow" wonderful!

We entered the laundry room in our "I BELONG IN A ..." language adventure! What amazing things we discovered. We noticed a washing machine, a dryer, boxes and bottles of detergent, bags of detergent pods, scrub brushes and hangers. We worked out how to get out some stains; first with plain water and then with some detergent. We also made our own detergent pods following a recipe. Everyone is excited to drop their pod into the washer and looking forward to having their clothing smell like the strawberry scent that we added to the mixture!

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It was a monumental week in the girls Pre1A! With only 9 Letterbooks completed, the girls were able to read their first story. They can read many words using those 9 alphabet letters by blending all of the letters' sounds together. The girls met two new friends in their story, Tig and Doll. New friends will join them in future stories. They were also introduced to the "__at" family. By inserting various letters at the beginning, new words can be formed. Each new letter learned creates many possibilities for new words.

Do you think when it's raining there are really cats and dogs coming down from the sky? Mrs. Schwartz's 3rd grade girls know! They are collecting different examples of figurative language (sayings) on our bulletin board. So far they collected the following: "I'm all ears", "I wish I was in your shoes", "As cute as a button", "Hold your horses", and "That's not my cup of tea!" If you can think of any new ones, just tell a third grader so she can share it with the rest of the class.

Yasher Koach to Morah Govhari's 5th graders who completed Parshas Va'Aira in their study of Sefer Sh'mos. The girls have worked hard since the beginning of the school year, applying all their Chumash skills and learning many new ones as they made their way through the p'sukim of this Parsha. In honor of their efforts and accomplishment, 5th grade was treated to a gala breakfast siyum - complete with bagels, pancakes and hot cocoa. The girls prepared elaborate presentations for their siyum, which included skits, relay races and even a puppet show! What an enjoyable and memorable morning! Mazel tov!

Mrs. Brotsky and the eighth grade girls visited the Princeton Plasma Physics Lab this week. Wearing hard hats, they went on a fascinating tour of the "sun on earth", a nuclear fusion reactor. Scientists are experimenting here to use fusion as an energy source for the future. When in use, this reactor produces plasma that is 10 million degrees, contained in a magnetic field because it's too hot for any container. After the tour they participated in some amazing experiments that demonstrated many of the scientific principles used to make the reactor. It was a unique and fascinating experience for the girls. (In addition, they even completed a SCRABBLE Challenge on the bus ride to and from Princeton, acknowledged by a surprise, energizing visit from Morah Marla Rottenstreich! Thank you, Morah Marla!)

Tech-Tips

Know the value of face-to-face communication. Very young children learn best through two-way communication. Engaging in back-and-forth "talk time" is critical for language development. Conversations can be face-to-face or, if necessary, by video chat with a traveling parent or far-away grandparent. Research has shown that it's that "back-and-forth conversation" that improves language skills—much more so than "passive" listening or one-way interaction with a screen.

Bulletin Board

- 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 Sariel Malitzky, Assistant Rabbi at Congregation Ohr Torah in Edison, NJ. The breakfast will iy'H take place at Congregation Ohr Torah.
- Tues, Jan 17 7:15 p.m. Hishtadlus in Shidduchim: Navigating the Process Women's Learning Initiative presents a program for mothers of children in shidduchim, and single girls. There will be a question & answer period with Mrs. Chana Rose and an opportunity to meet with Mrs. Rose, Mr. Menachem Schwartz and Mrs. Bluma Wolf, professional shadchanim. Program will be held at 12 Fairhill Rd. Please RSVP with profile and picture and for more info e-mail: shiduchforum.wli@gmail.com
- Motzai Shabbos Jan. 21 8:30 PM, Tiferes DVD for women: "What is Ahavah? Cultivating this middah in ourselves and our children". Speakers: Rabbi Leib Kelemen and Rabbi Fishel Schachter. The program will take place at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd.
- Motzai Shabbos Feb 18 8:15 p.m. Park Mikvah presents a cooking demonstration with Miriam Pascal, founder of OvertimeCook. com, author of Something Sweet and Ami Whisk Magazine columnist. A milchig buffet will be served. The event will be held iyh, at the home of Esther Posen, 12 Fairhill Road, Edison. The cost of the event is \$36. Space is limited. For women only. To make a reservation, please email Esther Posen at: eposen@optonline. net. For more info, please call Lynn Hanfling at: 732-777-0225.
- Sun, Feb 26 8:30 p.m. Park Mikvah and Irgun Shiurai Torah present a Shovavim Project Lecture for Women by Mrs. Debbie Greenblatt on the topic of "A Journey Towards Intimacy, The Mystery and Practicality of Taharas Mishpacha" to take place at Congregation Ohr Torah (social Hall). For married women only. For more info please email parkmikvahevents@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. Details to follow.

Mazel Toy!

- Rabbi & Mrs. Ari Neuwirth upon Avigdor's Bar Mitzvah
- Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Klein upon their son, Zevi's Bar Mitvah
- Dr. & Mrs. Mordechai Neustadt upon the birth of a grandson

Catch 'em Being Good!



8th grade minyan boys, along with Harvey, helping out in the snow.

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women: No classes on Sun, Jan. 15 and Mon, Jan.16
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tues, Jan 17. Class will be held at 9:30 AM at the home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff Street, Edison. (off of Brookhill Avenue, past Stone Street).
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class will meet on Mon, Jan 16 at 7:30 PM at the home of Janet Rivenson, 19 Price Drive, 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.