

YST News

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Parsha Points

Don't Cry! Rebuild!

When the Gerrer Rebbe met the Belzer Rebbe shortly after the Holocaust - in which most of their followers had been killed - the Gerrer Rebbe quoted the *Pasuk* in this week's *Parsha* (*perek* 45 *pasuk* 14), which states that Yosef wept on Binyamin's neck and Binyamin wept on Yosef's neck. Rashi explains that they weren't crying about their own pain they were crying over the other one's pain. Yosef was crying about the first and second *Bais Ha'mikdosh* that were going to be in Binyamin's portion in *Eretz Yisroel* that would eventually be destroyed, and Binyamin was crying about the *Mishkan* that would be in Yosef's portion in *Eretz Yisroel* that would eventually be destroyed. The Gerrer Rebbe said from here we see that to be sympathetic and cry about someone else's *churban* [destruction/pain] is fine but on your own *churban* you don't cry, you rebuild! And that's just what they did. They rebuilt their communities in our post Holocaust era and they are B"H flourishing and growing and will *Be'ezras Hashem* continue to be successful

Week in Review

The Pre 1A boys are progressing beautifully in their קריאה reading and writing programs. They can now recognize all the נקודות and are practicing blending שנקודות with letters. Using the "Read it Write" program, the boys learned to write all the letters of the ב-ג. This week, they practiced writing their names with the appropriate בקודות They also formed their names out of model magic, and pasted them on a strip as a keepsake. The morahs are very impressed with the boys' writing skills, and the writing has certainly reinforced their knowledge of the אותיות as well.

It may be getting cold and snowy, but the third grade classroom in YST is warm with excitement! The boys are enthusiastically learning our multiplication tables. By using many modalities such as the 9 lines, multiplication cards activities and math sprints, they are really catching on quickly. In science they are completing the unit on the human body. The boys learn a lot and are commencing with a life sized body project. They can't wait to bring them home.

The Keser Malka Program for the Pre1a girls is going really well. Morah Mindy and her girls have been talking about different feelings. They discussed the body language that shows those different feelings and also know that different people might have alternative reactions to the same situation. For example, two children on top of a slide can feel differently, one can find it fun and feel happy, whole the other can find it scary and feel nervouse. It's important to recognize that people don't always feel the same way we do.

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.

- Message to all parents: When entering any of our buildings, whether for a scheduled meeting or any other reason, you are asked stop at the front office to announce yourself. Please do not go to a classroom or any other location in the building without being directed. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Picture day is finally here!

Thurs, Jan 12th 2017 - Boys and Girls Division Wed, Jan18th 2017 - Preschool

Flyers with envelopes are being sent home to every student. Please send back one envelope for each child, even if you are not ordering.

Boys School students - please wear dark pants and white shirts

8th Grade boys - suit, tie, white shirt, black shoes & Shabbos hat.

Cus de

Grades 1-6 -navy shirts and uniform skirt/jumper

Grades 7-8 striped shirt with uniform skirt

- In order to receive your Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion e-mails, please add *info@ystnj.org* to your contacts.
- Around the Table Mothers of girls grades 3rd-5th should look out for an email with information about an event this Motzei Shabbos, January 7th. There is a nominal fee of \$10 to attend each event.
- Bnos Malka for girls grades 1-5 is from 2:15- 3:15 in the Agudah.
- Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:15 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.njda.org

Preschool Jottings

Although Chanukah seems so far behind us, we are still humming and singing our Preschool Chanukah song – "We are a Miracle!" The large turnout of parents, grandparents and siblings at the Breakfast made for a perfect audience for the performers. The Moros and the parents were so proud of each and every child! You had to see it, to believe the wondrous miracle of our YST Preschool Chanukah Breakfast!

Our Chanukah week was filled with many fun activities. We enjoyed a program with Musical IQ, where each child held a drum and followed the instructions of when to bang. The children listened intently to the Chanukah story and enhanced it with beats and sound effects that they made on the drum. On Monday, we played a Chanukah Bingo game and on Wednesday, we celebrated with a festive lunch of latkes!

Lots and lots of language. All the preschool children know where a peeler, a koala, a donkey, a blender, a nutcracker, a chimney, a mattress and a buffet belong!! This list of new words is quite long and you would just be amazed. This week we were exploring a playroom and identifying all the things that are in it — a dollhouse, a couch, board games, toys, trucks and dice! Friday was our fun dice game! Each child rolled his dice and if it matched our number they earned points. We were all very excited for our champions who won a large die!

Dr. Y. Weinstein and his collegue, Dr. Pappas came to the 8th grade girls class to teach them about lasers. They brought a real laser from their lab to show the girls many fascinating properties of light and lasers. Thank you so much for this en"light"enting experience.

Writer's Corner

The latest reading/writing unit in Mrs. Anolik's 4th grade girls class is Realistic Fiction. As a warm up activity to the stories that the girls are currently writing, each girl wrote a detailed description of a real person. They then created their own realistic (yet fictional) characters. After describing them, down to their favorite food, they drew portraits, wrote diary entries and are now in the process of writing a short story starring their very own, made-up (but very realistic) characters.

Please enjoy the following example of a character description written by Zeesy Benedek. Although Zeesy is describing a real person, her made-up character seems just as real!

My sister Tali has curly brown hair, dark blue glasses and beautiful brown eyes. She's pretty short for her age, but she doesn't care.

You can usually find Tali doing homework or reading a book. And in the middle of all that, Tali complains about clothes my mother got her.

Tali is a really good friend (and sister) to have. So, if you have an opportunity to be her friend, take it. Tali will make a difference in your life.

Bulletin Board

- 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.
- Tues, Jan 10 at 9:30 AM Women's Learning Initiative presents internationally renowned guest lecturer, Mrs. Shira Smiles. Title: "Creating Kedusha with Words". Class will be held at the home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff Street, Edison. (off of Brookhill Avenue, past Stone Street). Sponsored by Mordechai and Yifat Schnur for the zechut of a refuah shelaimah for Avraham Shmuel ben Shaindel. For more info, please call 732-966-6503.
- 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.
- 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.

Mazel Toy!

- Rabbi & Mrs. Pinchus Werner upon Yehuda Leib's marriage to Leah Epstein
 - Rabbi & Dr. Sariel Malitzky upon the birth of a daughter
 - Mr. & Mrs. Dan Wise upon the birth of a grandson
 - Mr. & Mrs. Avi Milgraum upon Mordechai's Bar Mitzvah

Library Additions • Some Kind of Joke donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler in honor of Moishie Nusbaum's Bar Mitzvah • 23 Under 1 Roof - The New House donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler in honor of Binyamin Lasar's Bar Mitzvah

Tech-Tips

Be a good role model. Teach and model kindness and good manners online. Because children are great mimics, limit your own media use. In fact, you'll be more available for and connected with your children if you're interacting, and playing with them rather than simply staring at a screen.

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Jan. 8. Please contact Aviva at 732-572-4408 or siegelmom@optonline.net for status of Parsha class on Monday, Jan. 9.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: No class on December 27
- Mrs. Leah Drillman will not be having her Shimiras Haloshon class on Mon, Jan 9.
- 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.