



March 10, 2017



Purim Points

The salvation of the Jews in Megillas Esther involved people and events that, ostensibly, spelled trouble for the Jews. It was Haman who advised Achashverosh to kill Vashti (Megillah 12b). Vashti's removal paved the way for Esther, who brought about Haman's downfall. Esther's inviting Haman to the feast made the Jews fearful that she was becoming friendly with their enemy and would not come to the defense of her brethren. Haman, on the other hand, viewed the invitation as a sign of his incomparable greatness. Of course, both feelings were wrong. The feast's purpose was to bring about Haman's end and the Jews' salvation.

In our personal lives, as well, the end of a matter is often not the way we would have imagined it to be at first. Occurrences that seem advantageous often bring about problems, יָדָא, while that which appears to be problematic is often the source of improvement in our lot. We must always bear in mind that Hashem's ways are beyond human comprehension. As wise as we may be, we can never be absolutely certain of a matter's end result. All that we can and must do is ensure that our actions are in full consonance with Torah. Having acted in this way, we can place our full trust in the One Above, with the confidence that He will guide matters toward a conclusion which, ultimately, is in our very best interests.

Rabbi Yehudah Zev Segal taken from [Inspiration and Insight](#)

Week in Review

What a busy week! In honor of the holiday of Purim, YSTB celebrated all week long!!

We started with an educational and pleasurable Mad Science show. Dynamite Dave entertained us with a disappearing water trick, a slimy creation and lots of frothing and foaming dry ice. There was no shortage of volunteers who bravely offered to mix and melt, stir and shake, and of course, blow and blast!! On Wednesday, we had a surprise event planned by the Grade 7 boys. What a Purim *SHPIEL*. Full of slapstick and humor, the grade 7 students has us in stitches. They led us through an entertaining mixed-up service that ended with a most creative *shofar* blast!! A pre1aer was overheard laughing with his friend over the "funny *Kiddush*" he was hearing. What an impressive united bunch!! Not only were they super organized in their preparations, they had costumes, props and lighting!! What a show! What a show! While the lower grades were being entertained, Grades 6 and 8 played their long awaited basketball game. Grade 6 gave the Grade 8 boys a run for their money and did not let them win easily! The heated match was a true nail biting event! To cool us down, all were rewarded with Italian ices!!

Lest you think that we are done, we ended the week with HAT day at YSTB. With music, food, fun hats and shtick, YSTB is the Place where Purim Prevails Proudly!!

Preschool Jottings

It was a whirling week of Pre-Purim festivities. On Monday, the preschoolers each brought in a crown. We looked at each of the crowns and decided whether it would be worn by Esther or Achashveirosh. We enjoyed a moon bounce that kept us jumping and jumping. And on Thursday, we enjoyed some funny skits that taught us how to deliver a Mishloach Manos package to our friends and Moros. You will see, on Purim, just what we learned, as we use a proper voice, make eye contact to the recipient of the package and wish them a Happy Purim!! On Shushan Purim, parents and younger siblings are invited to join us for a Stretch the Silly Man performance at 11:00 a.m.

The Purim projects that the children made are just spectacular! We describe them as superkalafra-gilisticxpalidochus! Morah Mimi's children will proudly read the story of the Megillah from their very own parchments. Morah Faige and Morah Rochel's class proudly marched out carrying their suitcase filled with costumes for each Purim character. They will retell the story wearing the appropriate garb. Proudly, the nursery children in Morah Yaffa's class will bang their graggers in shul, making sure that you notice them! They worked hard to make their gragger beautiful and they wanted it to make the loudest noise possible!

FYI

• This week starts daylight savings time - do not forget to move your clock forward one hour!

• PLEASE NOTE DISMISSAL TIMES! Mon., March 13 is Shushan Purim - There will be a delayed opening of 10:00 a.m. for all grades and all boys classes will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m. and all girls classes at 2:30 p.m.

• The YST Girls School Play will be on Sun, March 19 at 1:30 p.m. at the Forum Theater. See attached flyer (online) for reservations and tickets.

• 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:

Shabby sweaters and/or coats
Large shawls
Metal buckets
Old fashioned suits/dresses

• Achievement Tests are coming up in the girls' and boys' divisions (April 24 - 28). Please make every effort to avoid having your children miss any of the testing sessions. Make sure your child has had a good night's rest and comes equipped with plenty of sharpened pencils and some healthful snack.

• No Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the Agudah. This Shabbos.

• Bnos this week is from 2:15 - 3:15.

This week, Mrs. Ziegler's 2nd grade girls had a chance to "meet and greet" some famous people from the past. They welcomed Benjamin Franklin, Christopher Columbus, Helen Keller, Albert Einstein, Neil Armstrong and many others to our classroom. Each girl selected a biography to read, wrote an excellent book report, depicted a bear to be this famous person and then dressed up as this individual and shared with our class the highlights of his/her life. The girls enjoyed this assignment and learned a lot from it too! Kudos to the 2nd graders for a job well done!!

Mrs. Possick's 5th grade girls are working on decimal operations. They learned a shortcut that makes it soooo easy! They are progressing nicely with their Front Row math practice. The girls are advancing levels and mastering concepts.

6th grade was introduced to positive and negative numbers. We use two-colored chips to combine the numbers in different ways. They enjoyed a "Purim shtik" done by Mrs. Possick. They were all tied together and had to work hard- but not too hard!- to pull themselves apart.

Mrs. Gross's 7th graders have begun to study the U.S. Constitution. They will be learning about how our government works, and how our religious and civil liberties are protected by the amendments. They will soon be able to partake in your political discussions!! The 8th graders learned about imperialism, and analyzed political cartoons portraying both the benefits and evils of this practice(?). They are becoming pros at understanding both the message and the objective of political cartoons.

Congratulations to Rina Krief and Adina Federman for winning honorable mention for the project "The Help Mate" that they submitted to the Toshiba Exploravision contest. In their project, they envisioned a device that uses sonar and cell phone technology that will be placed on highways and other public places. This device will detect sounds of accidents or other emergencies and immediately summon the appropriate emergency responders. Their goal is to make the world a safer place! We are terrifically proud of their efforts!

A week of Pre-Purim festivities started overtime with a Sunday special activity. Fun, laughter, and Purim spirit filled the air at the Pre-Purim preschool carnival. The event was hosted by YST girls' very talented 'ר כַּתָּהּ, under the direction of the dedicated Morah Halberg. The girls prepared exciting booths including pickleraces, clown target and face paint. The giant moon bounce and refreshments also enhanced the carnival. The happy faces of the children, as well as their mothers, proved what a fantastic success the carnival was. Thank you 'ר כַּתָּהּ for doing such a super job and ensuring that every child had a great time!

And the week continued with clever shtick, heavy-duty Purim preparations, accumulating tickets for the Shushan Purim Chinese Auction, all with high spirits and great anticipation. Vashti's Car Wash, the Estheraunt, 1st grades custom-designed Queen Esther doll gowns (thank you Mrs. Shaps!) and even Pre1Aer's with VeNaHapachu shirts all contributed to the Purim spirit, culminating in Friday's beautiful assembly that featured star performances by both Morah Metzger's 2nd graders and Morah Govhari's 5th graders. Wishing one and all a freilichen Purim!!

Local News & Shiurim

• Congregation Ohr Torah will hold this year's community **Shaimos Collection** on Sun, March 18 from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. The cost is \$20 per large garbage sized bags. Please make all checks out to Congregation Ohr Torah. For questions contact Barry Siegel - siegeldad@optonline.net. At the Shaimos Collection there will be a used **Seforim sale**. There will be used Seforim sale at great prices!!! Come find your hard-to-find and/or out-of-print books and stock up your home libraries.

• Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No Tefillah class on Sun, March 12 or Mon, March 13.

• Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tuesday, March 14 at 9:30 AM at the home of Leah Epshtein, 253 Lawrence Avenue, Highland Park.

• Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class will meet on Monday, March 6 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave., Edison. This will be the last class until after Pesach.

Bulletin Board

• **Motzai Shabbos, March 18 - 9:00 PM -Tiferes DVD for women** to be shown at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd., Edison. The topic will be: "Peer Pressure- Does it Ever End?" Speakers: Rabbi Ariel Shoshan and Mrs. Ayala Berney.

• **Sun, March 19 - 8:00 PM** - Dessert buffet & parlor meeting to benefit **YACHAD**. Enjoy a fun and delicious night out with friends while learning more about what Yachad does here and across the country. Buffet will be at the home of Srulee and Alisa Hercman, 9 Ryan Rd.

Mazel Tov!

- **Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Krauss & family upon Sruli's Bar Mitzvah**
- **Dr. & Mrs. Mordechai Neustadt upon Shabsi's engagement to Henny Rivlin**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Avi Siegel upon the birth of a daughter**