



YESHIVA  
SHAAREI TZION

March 3, 2017

## משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה



### Parsha Points

When speaking about collecting the various materials used for the *Mishkan*, the Torah enumerates the materials in descending order of value (gold, silver, copper...). However, at the end of the list, after having enumerated relatively inexpensive items (wood, oil, spices), the Torah lists the *Shoham* stones and the precious stones used in the *Ephod* of the *Kohen Gadol's* breastplate (the *Avnei Shoham* and *Avnei Miluim*).

The *Ohr HaChaim HaKadosh* asks the obvious question -- Why are the *Avnei Shoham* and *Avnei Miluim* out of order in this catalog of solicited items which is apparently arranged in descending order of value? The *Ohr HaChaim* answers: the *Gemarah* says that the *Avnei Shoham* and *Avnei Miluim* were brought to the *Nesi'im* on clouds from *Gan Eden*. Since these were donations that in effect "came from Heaven" and did not represent and blood, sweat, or tears -- there was no toil involved -- they were listed after the oils and spices, which, although they may have cost very little, did represent a gift that came from people's labor and efforts and in that way were superior to the much more "expensive" gifts of precious stones.

We learn from this a tremendous lesson. It's not necessarily about the size of the actual gift, what's important is the amount of effort put into it. As Rabbi Yissocher Frand puts it "A poor person's check of \$18, which may be something he had to scrape for, can very well mean more in the Eyes of Hashem than a six figure gift which is "pocket change" for the person who wrote the check".

### Week in Review

Nearly 400 YST students across both the boys and girls campuses enjoyed a unique experience this past Wednesday. Pre1A students through 8th graders took turns gathering around a 5 foot by 9 foot model of the portable *Mishkan* that was built by the Jewish people in the wilderness.

Rabbi Hallel Newman, taking full advantage of the latest 3D printing technology, prepared virtual models of every component of the *Mishkan*, as described in this week's *Parsha* and "printed" them out of plastic - ready to assemble them into a complete structure, in much the same manner as our forefathers did in the *Midbar*. Best of all, this model is a "please touch" depiction of the *Mishkan* and its utensils. Due to its durability, the students were encouraged to manipulate the *kerashim* and other objects so as to bring the textual descriptions to life. From the bare feet of the *Kohein Gadol* walking up the ramp to the *mizbeach* to the twelve little plastic loaves of the *lechem hapanim* stacked in two neat rows, the detail complexity and brilliant design of the *Mishkan* came to life as Rabbi Newman described the structure and function of each part. What a very special experience this was!

Can you believe it! We have just finished our 100th day of school. That certainly called for a celebration. To commemorate the milestone Pre1A through 5th grade boys had fun with educational activities all day long. Pre1A and Grade 1 studied the concept of adding groups of ten, ten times to create one hundred! It was a yummy activity. Grade 2 created a brown paper bag "selfie" of what they will look like at 100 years of age. Grade 3 filled in a newsletter and wrote about what they could do with a hundred dollars. The STEM based 100 day kits were a big success. Grades 4 and 5 received the same STEM challenges at the same time. Each group was tasked with an engineering task that required thought and creativity. The challenge was to use only the items found in the box to create something specific! Imagine building a tall structure out of spaghetti and marshmallows. How would you build a pipeline with just two foam cups, several straws and a box of clay? What about building a

### Preschool Jottings

IT'S IN THE AIR! IT'S IN THE CLASSROOMS! IT'S IN THE HALLWAY! ROSH CHODESH ADAR CAME FLYING INTO OUR SCHOOL ALONG WITH LOTS OF HELIUM BALLOONS! The balloons created such a spirit in YST Preschool and the children carried the spirit of Adar home with them as they picked one balloon and soared down the steps and home with it! From Rosh Chodesh and on, every day has been sparkled with something fun and special. On Tuesday, we learned about clowns and made our very own clown faces. Wednesday, everyone came to school wearing funny socks. Thursday was Soccer with Spencer and on Friday, we had a "Gragger Exhibit." MESHENICHNAS ADAR MARBIN B'SIMCHA!!

As the kindergarten children are learning the story of the Megillah, they write/illustrate their very own Megillah. They color what they remember from the story line that was taught that day and dictate the narration, as Morah Mimi and Morah Irene write for them. This activity strengthens expressive language and enables the children to express their own thoughts and ideas.

The children in Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's class are very busy preparing their infamous Purim Costume Box. With just a bit more work, it will be ready to make it's way home and then....it's like a jack-in-the-box...out will pop the purim story in costume and all!

Morah Yaffa and Morah Devorah put on a Purim skit every day. Morah Helene joins to play Vashti and it's a comical production for children and adults! The clowns that they children designed, add to the Purim spirit.

### FYI

- **IMPORTANT!** B6T Transportation forms for the 2017 Fall Semester are due by *March 10th*. The individual forms for both boys and girls school, 3:30 & 4:30 dismissal times are attached to the newsletter and are also on the website. Please fill out one form for each child using the bus and send it into the respective schools.

- Parent Teacher Conferences in the boys' school is on Wed, March 8th. Dismissal for all grades at 3:30pm. Please call the school office to make your appointments.

- As in the past years, YST has been collecting donations for poor people in Eretz Yisrael through Od Yosef Chai for the very important mitzvah of *Matanos L'evyonim*. Please send in your donation no later than, March 9th. See attached letter.

- *Taanis Esther* is Thurs., March 9th. Dismissal in the girls school will be 1:30 p.m. for grades 6-8 and 3:30 p.m. for all other grades. (NO HW club either) 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.

- **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 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,

- *Pirchei* and *Pirchei Beis Medrash* will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the *Agudah*. There will be a *minyán* for *Mincha* before *Pirchei* at 2:50.

cont'd from page 1

dam with just three objects and have it actually work?!! Well, the 4th and 5th graders figured it out! The creativity!! The discussions!! The science!!

Not only was it fun, it was quite informative, upon filling in the lab sheet, one group wrote that the challenge that they found most difficult was to build a 100 piece puzzle without any conversation. They realized they need communication to move quickly. The pattern block challenge seemed almost too easy until the students had to fill in the What about lab sheet. The amazing group determined the fraction, decimal and percent of the total used for each type of block!! When asked why were you successful? Every group answered that to complete their challenge they had to work together. What a wonderful lesson!!

Unusual situations call for unusual responses. So if Rosh Chodesh Adar comes out on a Monday and the 8th graders have to decorate the building, and, obviously, the building has to be empty to do so then . . . school needs to be open on Motzai Shabbos to prepare for the big event! Sure enough, the 8th grade girls did not disappoint and the "Something's Fishy" theme went over swimmingly well! All was ready for a Monday morning, music-blasting-in-the-hallways, spirited-dancing-in-the-gym welcome for Chodesh Adar. Thank you, 8th graders, for setting the scene so carefully and cleverly.

As the week flew by, the *Chodesh Adar* spirit in 'ב כחה is definitely in the air! They enjoyed dancing on *Rosh Chodesh*, yummy treats, and a fun carnival that the 3rd grade prepared for the younger grades to enjoy. Feeling sufficiently grown up to plan Purim "shtick", the 2nd grade swapped rooms with the 7th grade students on Tuesday morning. Both Morah Leeba and Morah Frankl played along, with Morah Frankl sharing a story with her new students and her impressions of their beautiful davening. The 7th graders then shared warm and nostalgic memories in the 2nd grade room as they reverted back to being 'ב כחה students. On Wednesday, the 2nd graders traded their usual uniforms for shirts, dresses, hoodies, headbands, necklaces, you-name-it, that had a "heart" motif. They wanted to make it very clear that they love 2nd grade and most definitely love Morah "Leeba." Finally, Purim play preparations are well underway and their efforts will be proudly be displayed next Friday at the Park Avenue wax museum.

Mrs. Landau, Technology Co-ordinator in YST Girls and Mrs. Greene, LA teacher, worked together to infuse new interest and excitement into the mastery of vocabulary. When they heard about the NY Times 15-Second Vocabulary Video Challenge, they teamed up to teach the girls Powtoon, a video-making software program, in order to create unforgettable depictions of word meanings from the NY Times' collection of 1600 words. Most certainly, the definitions of "jaunty", "fugitive" "redundant", "nonchalanant" and more, will be forever endeared to the girls - they loved the challenge (and hope we get a winner!)

**THANK YOU MORAH HALBERG AND THE 6TH GRADE GIRLS FOR PREPARING A DELIGHTFUL PRE-PURIM CARNIVAL FOR CHILDREN AGES 3 - 6. SEE ATTACHED FLIER FOR DETAILS.**

### Catch 'em Being Good!

Dear Mrs. Brudny,

The 7th and 8th grade students were polite and poised as they manned their sales booths during Tuesday evening's Parent-Teacher Conferences. But I was particularly impressed by Sara Bleier's courtesy and efficiency in helping parents complete the necessary B6T's for the coming school year. Her understanding of the process and attention to detail was superb! It was a pleasure doing business with her!

Mrs. L. Eisner

### Local News & Shiurim

- Congregation Ohav Emeth's 10th Annual Purim Costume Gemach is available. Over 800 infants to adult costumes are available to borrow. The Gemach continues this year for 2 more days on 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 [costume-gemach@yahoo.com](mailto:costume-gemach@yahoo.com) or see our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/costume-gemach>
- 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](mailto:siegeldad@optonline.net). At the Shaimos Collection there will be a used **Seforim sale**. There will 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 5, 12; Parsha class on Mon, March 6 at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. No class on Mon, March 13.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tuesday, March 7 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 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](mailto:FayMLobel@gmail.com) or [Elleshlang@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://bikurcholimrv.org)

• **Sun, March 5 - 11:00 AM-1:00 PM - Hat Sale** is taking place at the home of Samara Goldrich, 11 Raritan Ave, #E8, Highland Park. Come check out Bella's Hats, a new collection of trendy and affordable hats, baseball-style caps, beanies, fascinators, and other accessories. A contribution to RPRY will be made from the proceeds.

• **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!

- Rabbi & Mrs. Aharon Grossman upon the birth of a daughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Warren Fink upon the birth of a granddaughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Slepoy upon the engagement of their daughter Tova to Nati Shore of Toronto.
- Mr. & Mrs. Yisroel Blumberg upon Natan's Bar Mitzvah
- Mr. & Mrs. Yisrael Dov Kraus upon Rena's Bas Mitzvah