



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Nov. 18, 2016

FYI

- **Important Calendar Change!** On Fri, Nov. 25th there will be a professional development workshop for teachers in the girls' & preschool divisions, therefore there will be no sessions in the girls' or preschool divisions. In addition, the boys' division will have a 12:15 p.m. dismissal for all classes.
- Parent Teacher Conferences in the girls' school is on Wed., Dec 7th. 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.
- Around the Table - Mothers of boys and girls in grades 6-8 and preschool mothers should look out for an email with details about the ATT event. This program has been designed to offer facilitated conversations about relevant parenting topics on multiple motzei shabbasos during the winter months. There is a nominal fee of \$10 to attend each event.
- Looking for volunteers! Bnos Malka has provided the girls of the community Shabbos afternoon groups and several activities throughout the year. Mrs. Minah Kamin has organized the functions for more than 15 years and is now asking for help to be able to continue the Shabbos groups. The volunteers would be giving of their time on Shabbos to be present during the afternoon and to help in making the Shabbos groups exciting and enjoyable. They would be accepting the responsibility of being the adult on the premises to ensure the safety of the children who attend. To offer your services please email bnosmalkaofehp@gmail.com
- Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:05 to 4:05 at the Agudah. There will be a minyan for Mincha before Pirchei at 2:45. (NOTE TIME CHANGE) Any additional fathers willing to volunteer to help out with Pirchei Beis Medrash should contact Arya Eisner at pircheiedisonhp@gmail.com.
- Avos Ubanim will be on Motzai Shabbos from 6:45 - 7:45 at the Agudah.
- The Chai Lifeline Chankukah Toy Drive has begun. Please send in a toy to school for a sick child from infants to teens in any price range. The program lasts until Dec 21st. For more info, please see attached flyer.
- Lost & Found: A set of keys was found in the boys school. Call the office to claim.



Parsha Points

יִרְאֵהוּ אֱלֹהֵי ד' ... וְהוּרָא יֹשֵׁב פֶּתַח הָאֹהֶל

"And Hashem appeared to him and he sat in the doorway of the tent."

Rashi explains that in order to spare Avraham the burden of guests during his recovery from the bris milah, Hashem removed the sun from its "container." Upon seeing him grieve because of a lack of visitors, however, He brought the angels to Avraham in human form. It seems puzzling that Hashem would send angels instead of humans. Would it not have been more appropriate to send poor people rather than angels, thereby allowing Avraham to perform the actual *mitzvah* of *tzedakah* and *hachnasas orchim* (hospitality for wayfarers)? We may derive an important lesson from the meaning of these very noble *mitzvos*. One should not think that it is his act of charity which enables the poor individual to survive. Hashem has many agents and vehicles for taking care of His children, and these individuals would ultimately find another means of support. The purpose of the *mitzvah* of charity or any form of kindness to others is a benefit to the giver, not the recipient. Just as Avraham was transformed into the beneficiary, since the "poor people" were actually angels, so too, we must realize that it is the giver who is the one who is indebted to the receiver.

Horav Nissan Alpert, z"l Taken from *Peninim on the Torah*

Week in Review

מזל טוב! The Pre 1A boys completed their unit on א-ב. They have mastered the letters very well, and celebrated with a beautiful סיום this week. The boys were excited to come to school wearing white shirts. They were treated to ice cream sandwiches, א-ב cookies, and pretzels and taffies that were used to form אותיות. Mr. Septimus brought in his accordion and played, while the boys sang and danced like yeshiva בחורים. Rabbi Herskowitz spoke to the class, making them feel so proud of their accomplishment. He told them that every builder needs tools to do his job. The boys are like the builders, and their tools are the א-ב. Knowing the א-ב is the only way that anyone can daven and learn תורה. All the great תלמידי חכמים had to begin learning by mastering the אותיות.

The students at YST Boys, along with many Americans, have recently received a crash course in Civics, with a hotly contested presidential election coming and going. The boys followed the process beginning with the debates, and gained an insight into how the Electoral College works, and how the two-party system may not be so effective. The boys had a chance to survey the issues, reflect upon each candidate's personal strengths and weaknesses, and critically analyze the free election process. Closer to home the boys were able to put the democratic process to work in our 2nd annual student elections. There were three sets of candidates: Boruch Shenkman & Noam Cohen, Asher & Yitzchak Eisner, and Yehuda Schiffman & Mordechai Milgraum. The boys ran a clean, well-structured campaign, replete with campaign signs, slogans, and a debate. Congratulations to the Eisner boys on their election to the position of Student Body Presidents. May all future national elections be conducted with the same civility and derech erez as the one held at YST!

Preschool Jottings

As our youngest nursery children became familiar with the color green, they read and enjoyed the book Over in the Meadow by John Langstaff. The children made a replica of the story including many of the animals, trees and bushes. Discovering the meadow was truly a new, "green" experience for the children!

In connection with the *Parsha*, the kindergarten children learned how to greet and treat a guest. They opened their classroom to guests from the other classes. They set the table for them and will be happy to treat you graciously, if you choose to come and visit their "tent."

The older nursery class had an amazing week surrounded by the color yellow. On Monday, Harvey gave the children a tour of his yellow school bus. He showed so many details and interesting things about the yellow bus that the children never knew. Harvey even explained why he wears a cap when he drives. The yellow sun sometimes gets in his eyes and the cap makes it easier to block out the sun! The children never knew that even a bus has a trunk! Thank-you Harvey for your time and for sharing the bus with us!

We are loving and enjoying our language unit – I BELONG IN A... This week, we learned about the things that belong in a bedroom. The children added so many new words to their vocabulary – mattress, dresser and closet. We moved on to the kitchen at the end of the week and we learned about one of the most important foods that can be found in everyone's kitchen – an egg. We looked at the outside of the egg – white ones and brown ones, talked about a raw egg and then made four different types of edible eggs – a scrambled, a sunny side up, a soft boiled and a hard boiled. It was just an outstanding, egg-celent day for everyone!

Step into Morah Govhari's classroom and the מצרים נסים will come alive! As they study פרשת וארא and פסוקים they are learning in depth the פסוקים and מדרשים that describe the מכות. Our bulletin board displays a chart detailing a summary of each מכה that is filled in as we learn the פסוקים. Across the clothesline hangs chart paper with descriptions of each מכה. In addition, each girl is creating a beautiful מכות scrapbook reflecting the information she learned. Each girl uses her imagination to create a beautiful picture depicting the scene of each מכה. The girls especially enjoy singing a new song to describe each מכה. They are now up to מכת כינים and are eagerly awaiting more!

Mrs. Schwartz' 3rd grade girls are learning so much! They are becoming great readers and writers by practicing, practicing, practicing! In writing about what they read - noticing the connections that one makes about one's own life - helps them to understand their stories better. By reading like writers, they are noticing how the authors write and trying to write just like them.

3rd grade has also started learning about the human body and how it is divided into systems. In particular, the girls are realizing that Hashem created their bodies with tremendous חסד. Looking forward to more!

Technology Take-aways

Yeshiva Shaarei Zion was proud to host Dr. Eli Shapiro of the Digital Citizenship Project this past Sunday. Dr. Shapiro's presentation on "Raising Healthy Children in a Digital World" touched on the importance of modeling responsible digital behavior and supervising ALL digital engagement. With humor and practicality, Dr. Shapiro provided valuable direction in maintaining an open dialogue with children and promoting healthy social interactions. Dr. Shapiro's talk can be viewed on the YST website - it is well worth watching! In addition, check out the "What Can We Do Now?" See attached flyer.

- Thank you YST administration for bringing Rabbi Shapiro and his excellent presentation to us. Always be aware of your "digital footprint" and post thoughtfully, responsibly, and less impulsively.
- Mrs. C. Federman

- Thank you again for organizing a most informative, (entertaining!) and thought provoking evening with Dr. Shapiro. His presentation was delivered in such a down to earth manner, while at the same time it was chock full of research based- current information and practical suggestions. It was an added bonus that Dr. Shapiro shared with us in such an honest and real way, how he navigates and implements digital safety and responsibility with his own school age children.
- Mrs. R. Silber

Mazel Tov!

- Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Kamin upon the birth of a granddaughter
- Rabbi & Mrs. Aryeh Leib Zeilberger upon Chayale's marriage to Yisroel Kanerek
- Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Shaps upon Chaim Yehuda's marriage to Guta Gettinger
- Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Lasar upon Binyamin's Bar Mitzvah

Thank you!

Dear Mrs. Brudny,

I wanted to take a moment to say how special YST preschool is. Every child there is so loved and appreciated for who they are. I really feel like every Morah, from Mrs Kamin to Morah Lori and all the classroom morahs, treats every child as if they were her own. I feel so blessed to send my son there every day. May they be zoche to nurture all their students for many years to come.

- A Grateful Preschool Parent

Bulletin Board

- **Sun, Nov 20 - 8PM** - Mekor Fitness will be hosting a **Zumba** dance party at Lotus Studio, 431 Raritan Ave. (across from Stop&Shop on the 2nd floor) to benefit **YACHAD**. Come find out about the great YACHAD programs. Minimum \$12 donation to dance! High school girls- sign up to volunteer at a local upcoming YACHAD event and dance for FREE!

- **Thurs, Nov 24 - Shacharis -8:15 a.m. -The Bostoner Rebbe of Yerushalayim** will be at Cong. Ahavas Yisroel followed by breakfast and a shiur. On Mon, Nov 28th, the Rebbe will be available to meet with individuals and families by appointment, at Cong A.Y. 1587 Route 27. The Rebbe is fluent in English, Hebrew & Yiddish. To reserve a private audience, contact the Rebbe's secretary at bostonrebbe@gmail.com or 516-519-3999. For more information go to info@ayedison.com

- **Sun, Dec 4 - Shacharis 8:15 a.m. - Cong. A.Y.** invites the community to a **Siyum Tenach in memory of Ezra Schwartz, hy"d** and a memorial program. Speakers include Peter Schwartz, Ezra's uncle, Rabbi Miodownik and message from Rabbi Gotch Yudin.

- **Motzai Shabbos - Dec 10 - 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.- Pre-Chanukah Boutique** at RPRY. with many incredible vendors! Hats, children's shoes, jewelry, Judaica, tablecloths, make-up, artwork, sheitels, toys and more!

- **Motzai Shabbos - Dec 10 - 7 to 8:30pm - Cookie Decorating** with Whimsical Confections for children in grades Kindergarten and up at RPRY. Cost is \$18/child (\$15 for RPRY PLUS members). Checks should be made payable to RPRY PLUS and sent to the RPRY office by 12/6. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/RPRYcookies>. Any questions, please email RPRYPLUS@rpry.org

- **Sunday, Dec. 11 - 12:00 PM - Save the date.** RJJ Luncheon at Ohr Torah.

- **Motzai Shabbos, Dec. 17 - 8:30 PM - Tiferes DVD** for women will be shown at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members.

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sun, Nov. 20 at **10:00 AM** at the Agudah; Parsha class on Mon, Nov. 21st at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah.

- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class will take place Tues, Nov 15, 22, 29, and Dec 6 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, Nov. 21 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave., Edison and Mon, Nov. 28 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.

- Please join the Tehillim hotline by calling 401-694-1602 at 8:45 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Follow the prompts and enter access 4625 followed by the pound key. The Tehillim is said as z'chus for refuah shleima for community members, who are ill. Following the Tehillim, we will be learning from the sefer Growing Each Day. If you would like to volunteer to lead a night of Tele-Tehillim, please contact Adina Pruzansky 732-339-0780.