



YESHIVA
SHAAREI TZION

Dec. 8, 2017

FYI

- During the week of Chanukah, (Dec 13, 14, 18, & 19) dismissal is 3:30p.m. in all schools. There are no after-school programs during Chanukah.
- On Dec 25 & Jan 1, There will be no bussing and all schools will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m.
- After school make up dates for girls:
 - Tues: Edible Arts - Jan 16
 - Wed: Sewing Basics - Jan 17
 - Thurs: Drawing - Jan 18
- After school make up dates for boys:
 - Mon: Bricks for Klds: Jan 8
- **SAVE THE DATES!**
- 1) Father/Son Learning Event for grades 6-8 will be on Monday, Jan. 1, 2018.
- 2) Mother-Daughter Event Motzei Shabbos, January 20th, 2018.
- *Reminder:* Orders placed at any time from Display My Art will help support the school! It's a great idea for Chanukah gifts! Orders can be placed online at www.displaymyart.com or by phone 800-394-2090.
- Attention girls, grades 4-8: Come join *Achoseinu* the Shmiras Halashon Group, on Friday nights, 15 minutes after licht benching. This group is led by our alumna, Golda Ayelet Glinn at her home 162 North 8th Ave.
- Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash will be from 3:05-4:00 this Shabbos at the Agudah. There will be Mincha at 2:45 pm .
- Bnos Malka this Shabbos is from 2:15 to 3:15. Don't forget to bring your cards!
- Avos Ubonim is this Motzai Shabbos, from 6:45 - 7:45 p.m. at the Agudah.
- The Boys' Night Seder program continues Mon through Thurs after the 8:00 Maariv. All nights will be from 8:15-8:45 since it is Chanukah and there is no shiur on Tuesday
- Chai Lifeline will be starting its Chanukah Toy Drive. Gifts for all ages, tots to teenagers, are being collected in all buildings. Toys should be brand new and please do not wrap the items.

With Chanukah around the corner, we are excited to see the handmade menorah contributions to our school-wide Menorah Contest at YST Boys! The contest will be on Wed, December 20th. Students may bring their menorahs to school on Tuesday or Wednesday and put them directly in the art room for display. Please remember to include your name, grade, and a short piece of writing on your entry. Sample forms were distributed on Friday.



א. פרוגליחין חנוכה! א. פרוגליחין חנוכה! א. פרוגליחין חנוכה!



One of the miracles celebrated on Chanukah is the miracle of having found a flask, containing enough pure oil to burn for one day, amongst the havoc the Greeks wreaked in the Holy Temple. The Maccabees wanted to light the Menorah with sacred olive oil, and knew it would take eight days to produce a new batch. Pragmatists may have assessed that since it is apparently impossible for one days' worth of oil to remain aflame for eight days, one should either light one-eighth of the oil each day, or have the Menorah lit for fewer hours each day, or other compromising possibilities. The Maccabees no doubt knew their options, yet decided to light the Menorah in the most preferred way. This was done despite the fact that it entailed exhausting their entire supply of pure olive oil on the first day, leaving them with the probability of not being able to maintain the highest standard they so aspired to reach. But they decided to do their maximum with the resources they had, and let the Al-mighty take care of the rest. There is a deep message here for us today. How many worthwhile endeavors are cast along the wayside because we are not guaranteed total success? Yet, the result of inaction due to fear of failure, is failure by default. We can learn from the Maccabees that when there is a worthwhile goal to achieve, one should let go of immobilizing perfectionism, and instead capitalize on existing assets and do one's utmost under the circumstances.

This Chanukah, you can transform the Maccabees' legacy into your own. Choose an important goal which you have been pushing off due to fear of failure, and try to accomplish whatever you can. Don't worry whether complete success will be yours. Just give it all you've got at the moment and leave the degree of success to Hashem. For just as Hashem let one day's worth of oil burn for eight, His Divine assistance can enable you to realize your objectives - even those you believed to be beyond your grasp. And that's a real miracle.

Written by Reb A. Kramer, Aish HaTorah

Week in Review

Mazel Tov to the 8th grade בחורים upon the completion of the first major section of קמא במא. The מוסכת בבא קמא in the classroom continues as they have begun the new סוגיא מיטב with renewed גישמאק. Outside of the classroom as well, ב"ה, the לימוד התורה continues, as two of the בחורים recently (on their own initiative) took time off from their recess to חזר the entire מוסכת מכות, learning a דף a day together with the worldwide דף היומי program! ב"ה our nightly voluntary night seder is very well attended as the boys, חזר the day's לימוד with their חברותות. In addition, many of the boys are using some of their time at night to begin preparing for their farhers for Mesivta, and we wish them all much הצלחה!

The בית מדרש that was recently dedicated in memory of R' Nochum Zeldes זצ"ל, is being put to good use. The 7th and 8th graders' שחרית Minyan is a truly impressive experience. As the 8th grade boys put on their תפילין, the 7th graders utilizes their time and say ברכות בחברותא; as one boy says the morning ברכות, his חברותא listens and says אמן. Davening starts and the boys pour out their תפילות with deep כונה. After minyan, Rabbi Nusbaum or Rabbi Neiman says a short הלכה דבר. While most boys are off to get their breakfast, some 8th graders stay behind and learn while taking their תפילין off. Hopefully, the minyan should continue to be a נחת for Hashem, as well as anyone who comes to see these wonderful תלמידים.

The Pre1A boys have finished learning all the letter of the א-ב. What a great accomplishment! They will be celebrating this milestone with a special סיום next week. Each boy will be responsible to present 2 letters at the סיום. One letter they will display in a creative way, using any materials they choose. For the other letter, they will bring in something that begins with that letter, and give hints to the class to guess what it is. Of course, they will be treated to some special desserts. They will also bake א-ב shaped cookies, and Rabbi Herskowitz will speak to the class about the importance and greatness of reaching this moment.

Preschool Jottings

The highlight of our week was a visit from Fireman Moshe Stareshevsky of the Rutherford Fire Squad. He showed us all of his gear and taught us the important words of STOP, DROP AND ROLL. He emphasized the importance of being safe around Chanukah oil and candles, near the window and even in the kitchen! His visit was enjoyable for all the children and our guests, the Pre-1a boys!

It's color review week in the nursery room. The children had so much fun singing nursery rhymes that have something to do with a color. The favorite was Little Bo Peep who lost her white sheep! The candles of the menorahs that the children made are multi colored and now the children can successfully recognize and name them all!

It's like a Menorah Museum in Morah Mimi and Morah Irene's kindergarten! Each of the children picked pieces of wood and tiles of their choice and created a menorah that they can truly call their own. Each menorah had to fulfill the basic requirements of eight candles and a shamash that is a bit higher....and the rest was left to their imagination and creativity!

The kindergarten children are learning the letter Zayin this week. Guess who came to visit in Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's kindergarten! No, it was not Savta Middos...she sent Zeidy this week. He had a very important message to teach the children. It was all about Zizus when doing a mitzvah!

Our upcoming Chanukah Breakfast is THIS COMING Wednesday at 9:15 am. The children are so excited for parents, grandparents and relatives to come join, watch and enjoy the high "LIGHT" of our year! LIGHTS, camera, action....we can't wait!

Bulletin Board

• **Motzei Shabbos, Dec 9 - 8:30 p.m. - N'shei Agudath Israel of Edison/Highland Park** - Just in time for Chanukah! **Roundtable Discussion for Women** to be held at the Audah upstairs lobby and will be led by Mrs. Faige Sauber on the topic of "The Art of Appreciation: Keeping Your Light Burning Bright".

• **Sun, Dec 10 - 12:00 noon - Annual RJJ Ladies Luncheon and Chinese Auction - Honoring Mrs. Shelly Presby**, to be held at Cong. Ohr Torah, 48 Edgemount Rd. For more info, please call RJJ at 732-985-6533.

• **Tues, Dec 19 - 6:30pm Chanukah Party/Guest Speaker** at Union Hill Congregation in Manalapan- 364 Union Hill Road. Join us for a special Chanukah Program with guest speaker, Rabbi Shmuel Silber, Rav of Suburban Orthodox Cong. in Baltimore, MD, and Dean of the Institute for Jewish Continuity (rabbisilber.com). Great food, kids program, suggested donation \$5. Please RSVP to unionhillcongregation@gmail.com

• **Motzei Shabbos, Dec 23 - 8pm - Cong. Ahavas Yisroel 10th Annual Women's Melave Malka to be held** at the new Torah Links building 261 Dunham's Corner Rd., East Brunswick. This year's entertainment is a Kosher Chopped competition run by Naomi Nachman, the Aussie Gourmet! Higher sponsorship levels will receive a signed copy of Mrs. Nachman's new cookbook, and a special edition Kosher Chopped apron. Register at www.ayedison.org. Email Sisterhood@AYedison.org with any questions, and for information on how to become a Kosher Chopped contestant!

• **Save the date! Sun, Dec 24 at 8 PM "Come Discover Why We Cover"**. All Married women and women of marriageable age are invited to attend the event being held in the Agudah basement. Join us for a presentation given by esteemed kallah teacher and personal life coach from Monsey, Mrs. Reena Resnick, about the spiritual reasons as to why married women cover their hair. There will be demonstrations, light refreshments and Israeli rectangular scarves and shapers available for purchase. 10 percent proceeds go to YST. Sponsorships are available. If interested please text Avivah Eisengart at 609- 462-3979.

Mazal Tov!

- Rabbi & Mrs. Yosef Leib Busel upon the birth of a twin sons
- Mr. & Mrs. Dovid Dolinger upon the birth of a grandson
- Rabbi & Mrs. Avrohom Bernfeld upon the birth of a son
 - Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Fischer upon Leah's Bas Mitzvah
- Mr. & Mrs. Louis Glinn upon the engagement of their son, Shalom to Zeldia Eisen of Monsey

Local News & Shiurim

- Sofer Class has begun on Sunday evenings at Cong. Etz Ahaim with Rabbi Bassous starts at 4:45 p.m. (right after Mincha). The goal is to write your own Megillah. For more information, please contact Rabbi David Bassous at 732-247-3839.
- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Dec. 10th. Parsha class will be on Mon, Dec. 11th at 8pm at Cong Ohr Torah.
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, Dec 4th and Mon, Dec 11th at 7:30 PM at Smith house, 407 North 8th Ave, Edison
- Mrs. Miri Cohen 's Parsha: Class resumes on 12/12 at the home of Leah Epshstein, 253 Lawrence Ave, Highland Park.
- Tehillim group: There is a new Woman's Tehillim group every Shabbos afternoon at 3:45 PM at Cong Etz Ahaim, 230 Dennison St, Highland Park.
- Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur, "Living with Parsha", for men and women: Change in location! Wed evenings at 8:30 PM Eiserman residence at 154 N. 10th Ave. For more info, please call Marsha at 732-777-1155.

ספר קריאה to our א' כותב boys who have just completed their first

During the daily Kriah groups the boys have reviewed all נקודות and are accurately reading multi syllable words! They are also experts in "scooping" - a multi-sensory activity in which the boys divide the syllables of words as they read. The boys enjoyed a special ice cream "scoop" party to celebrate this milestone. It is also amazing to see how many words from the ספר קריאה our boys recognize and can even translate just from the חומש and skills that they have learned and mastered with Rebbe! We are looking forward to watching our boys continue to flourish as they start the next stage of the Kriah program.

In Literacy, the 6th grade boys are busy writing persuasive business letters to the fictitious Zebra Wink Corporation. Putting their imaginations to use, each student dreamed up what product Zebra Wink manufactures and a reason for writing the company. As they learn to express polished, supported arguments designed to persuade, their creative flair is on full display.

To complete a unit on Sir Isaac Newton's Three Laws of Motion, Mrs. Greene's 8th graders are industriously building their own "Newton's Cradles." Working in pairs and trouble-shooting along the way, the boys designed and engineered these devices that exemplify all three of these fundamental physical principles. Each Newton's Cradle was unique and the boys displayed wonderful teamwork along the way!

Chagiga practice is well underway in the girls school and the excitement is palpable. It is amazing to watch the 8th grade girls organize their productions from start to finish - all the while motivating their 5th - 7th grade charges to practice, practice and practice until each girl has mastered her part. We are looking forward to an exciting event - YST alumnae, wherever you are - You are welcome to join!

Morah Moller's 3rd graders had an exciting week. They completed their first Parsha, פרשת תולדות, and celebrated with a gala siyum, replete with nosh, a chutes & ladders game, a dance, a skit and a wonderful d'var Torah. It is incredible to watch the girls soak up the Chumash skills within their Blended Learning classroom and move with excitement into פרשת ויצא.

In the girls school, Mrs. Chait's 5th grade scientists are immersed in learning about ecosystems. Ask a fifth grader to identify both the biotic (living) and abiotic (nonliving) factors that interact in an environment; some of their answers might surprise you! Students enjoyed learning about the nitrogen cycle and saw the water cycle come to life in their own water cycle water bottles. This week, the fifth graders studied producers, which are living things that make their own food, and witnessed proof that potatoes make starch. The students are excited to apply their knowledge to study the next part of the unit: consumers!

Meanwhile, Mrs. Epstein's 6th grade scientists have been working hard seeing all different objects through a new "lens." The students have compared different materials, plants, salt, sugar, and various organisms under the microscope. Even the simple letter "e" was fascinating to see under magnification!

The ambitious 4th graders are combining their love of reading along with their drive to qualify for a Lev L'Achim pizza party by organizing a Used Book Sale for grades Pre1A - 6th. If you have gently used books that are looking for a new home, feel free to send them into the girls school. The girls have organized collection boxes for picture books, chapter books, non-fiction, fantasy, and Judaica and are eager for donations. Their book sale is scheduled for the last day of Chanukah, so there is still time to submit donations.

Thank you!

Catch 'em Being Good

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz,

I wanted to share with you what happened this past Motzei Shabbos at Avos Ubanim.

I was learning with Moishy and about halfway through he went out for a break. A few minutes later I noticed Moishy back in shul- and he was learning B'chavrusa with his classmate Dovid Twersky! What an amazing sight it was to see two third graders spontaneously start up a chavrusa on their own initiative! Even more amazing was the excitement and simcha that emanated from them as they chazered together the entire perek lamed daled from Parshas Vayishlach! This truly is a credit to Rabbi Cohen and all of the dedicated Rebbeim in YST that model such enthusiasm and love of learning to our boys!

With much appreciation,
Rabbi D. Silber

USED
BOOK
SALE

