



Feb 23, 2018



# YST News

פרשת תצוה  
פרשת זכור

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Candle lighting: 5:24

## 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, ח"ו, 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

Rabbi Cohen's 3rd grade תלמידים were enveloped in the spirit of Adar while experiencing the true "שמחה" and excitement of לימוד התורה in a most engaging manner! While learning פרשת וישב, the boys not only mastered the details of the dreams of שר המשקים and שר האופים - they actually went back in time and experienced the dreams "first hand"! While visiting תלמידים 'time traveling' squeezed real grapes into פרעה's cup, balanced the three bread baskets of the שר האופים on their head, and celebrated פרעה's birthday! Stay tuned! Rabbi Cohen's תלמידים will soon be starting their לימוד משניות! They will be bringing home their sealed letters with "Yehuda's Signet Ring" announcing the date of their משניות.

Our very own 8th grade boys spearheaded a most successful learning initiative which began before winter break and culminated this past Thursday night. This voluntary learning program was dedicated ע"ד לעילוי נשמת חיים קראוס, our beloved fellow תלמיד of YST. Commencing on Chaim's yahrtzeit, almost every 4-8 grader participated, all on their own time, and came very close to collectively finishing the entire ששה סדרי משנה! In honor of this incredible learning milestone, our boys were treated to a gala דברי ברכה from Rabbi Hillel Feldman. Rabbi Feldman expressed how impressed and inspired he was by the YST boys' sensitivity and אחדות as they joined together to create this memorable learning experience. Lively music and dancing enhanced this מצוה מצוה and will hopefully leave an indelible impression on all who attended.

The 5th grade boys have been so creative in art these last few weeks. With hammers, saws, nails and large glue guns they have taken Home Depot odds and ends and explored different ways to build their dreams. It's so exciting to watch them come into the room with energized faces ready to work. Last week's "trip to the basement" is a source for even more fun stuff to create with. Some boys are working very hard to put together a very complicated prefab castle for the pre1a. Although much of what we've made is the process not the

## FYI

• **Taanis Esther Lunch Change:** Because Park Place will be closed on Taanis Esther, deli sandwiches will be provided to replace all hot lunch orders.

• YST will be collecting מתנות לאביונים through Od Yosef Chai, an organization that provides assistance to the poor in Eretz Yisrael. Please send in your donations by Feb. 28th so it can be distributed for Purim. See attached letter for details.

• Eligible boys will be going to CoCo Key on Tuesday for a Yedios Klaliyos trip. All students will be dismissed at 3:30.

• Registration for the '18-'19 school year is now open. Materials were emailed to all current parents, and will be available for download from the website. Early bird discounts ends Monday, March 5th.

• B6T Transportation forms for grades K-7, are due on Feb 28th. If you have not sent in your forms, please see the attached.

• School Portrait orders are due February 26th. Visit [irvinsimon.com](http://irvinsimon.com), enter code Q381683-3UX45 to access YST pictures.

### IMPORTANT DATES!

1) Wednesday, Feb. 28 - Ta'anis Esther. Bus dismissal in the girls school is 1:30 pm for grades 6-8 and all other students is 3:30 pm. Dismissal in the boys school is 1:30 pm for grades 7-8 and 3:30pm for all other students.

2) Fri, March 2, Shushan Purim - 10:00 am delayed opening with regular Friday dismissal.

3) Sun, March 4 - 7:30 pm - Reenas presents "Voices & Choices" for women and girls. See attached flyer for details.

• **Achoseinu** the girls' grades 4-8 Shmiras Halashon Group will continue on Friday nights, 15 minutes after light benching. This group is led by our alumnus, Golda Ayelet Glinn at her home 162 North 8th Ave.

• Bnos Malka this Shabbos is at 2:15pm.

• Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash this week will be from 3:15 to 4:10 at the Agudah. There will be a minyan for Mincha before Pirchei at 2:50pm.

• The Boys' Night Seder program continues Mon through Thurs after the 8:00 Maariv. Mon./Wed./Thur. from 8:15 to 8:45 and Tues. from 8:15 to 9:00 (Shiur at 8:40). Refreshments are served. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO NIGHT SEDER WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY THIS COMING WEEK. For more info, to sponsor, or to volunteer, please call or text Arya Eisner (732-547-4994).

## Preschool Jottings

Enrollment is now open at  
YST PRESCHOOL

Your School for the Talented tots  
Our children graduate having fully  
mastered An intense preschool  
curriculum.

Each of the children receive credits  
for successfully completing the following courses-

- EQUESTRIAN TRAINING
- CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
- WORD OF THE WEEK SOCIAL SKILLS
- ENHANCEMENT
- MATH ESSENTIALS
- HEBREW AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
- COMMUNICATION
- CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
- ARTS
- ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

For more information, please call the  
Preschool Office 732-819-7083

A FREILICHIN PURIM TO YOU AND  
YOUR FAMILIES!



product, we're still having a lot of creative fun.  
in the girls school...

‘ד כתה traveled all over the world with suitcases packed and flights all arranged! What a great idea for Purim shtick in honor of חודש אדר! Morah Krauss was equally prepared with a fun lesson on בגדים, עונות, and מזג אוויר. The girls wrote letters to “פריידייל מפלורידה” and “ענייה מאלסקה”. All in all, it was a successful and fun day in ‘ד כתה!

On Wednesday, the 8th grade girls had the unforgettable experience of visiting a museum-quality expo set up in Lakewood's Shiras Devorah High School. The history of pre-WWII life in Europe, the Holocaust years, and the subsequent rebirth of the Torah World in America and Israel was elucidated through song, dance, drama, video presentations and artistic displays. The many vignettes of מסירת נפש left a deep impression on the girls. Many of them reflected on the impact of the following concept which was hung across the expo hall: If one devoted a moment of silence to each of the victims of the Holocaust, one would be silent for eleven and one-half years! Each of the girls felt that they learned new information and gleaned new insights into this dark period of Jewish history. Nonetheless, the inspiring chapter of renewal, of which they are a part, instilled immense pride in the girls. One of the last rooms of the display hall featured an oversized ledger, listing the names of all the girls who are currently enrolled in Lakewood high schools. Our girls were proud to add their names, as well, to this impressive roster of a new generation of Torah-true young adults. In many ways, it was a memorable experience for all the girls.

Did you remember that Thursday was a special day, the 100th day of school! The pre1a celebrated being 100 days older and certainly 100 days smarter. They spent all day doing various activities to mark this milestone. The girls counted by 1's, 5's and 10's to 100. They were proud to read 100 words and enjoyed a 100 day snack, 100 pieces of cereal. They looked at various items of 100, including dixies cups, beads, napkins, rubberbands and dreidels, to name a few. They saw that “100” can look different depending on the item and even completed a writing activity that asked what they wished they had 100 of. It was a fun filled day!

Chirp, chirp, chirp are the sounds you'll hear coming from Mrs. Werner's first grade classroom. In conjunction with their Unit on Changes, they had 12 eggs delivered, waiting to hatch. The girls knew to be gentle and patient, and when they returned to school on Tuesday there were fluffy, adorable chicks! It was a wonderful experience, duly recorded in their journals with special emphasis on the changes that were noticed each day. What a thrill the girls had holding and playing with the chicks. Special thanks to Morah Shelly for taking responsibility for this project! First grade is sorry to have to say goodbye to our cute “friends” when they picked up at the end of the week, but all agreed that first graders belong in a classroom, while chicks need to return to the farm. . .

The Middle Ages (aka Dark Ages or Medieval Times) transformed to an exciting time in Mrs. Gross' 6th grade classroom. The girls continued honing in on their note taking skills with their groups to create 3-dimensional projects of the Feudal system and wrote individual summaries. The girls really worked hard with peer/individual editing which produced beautifully written summaries of this time period. We look forward to seeing what the girls will produce next as they have now begun learning about the Renaissance Time period.

In Language Arts, The 6th grade girls just finished reading the historical fiction book Esperanza Rising. The final product was a folder with a compilation of assignments that the girls worked on individually or with a triad discussion group. The girls were given various in depth aspects to look out for, as well as prepared their own discussion question to pose to their triad. After examining different literary essays from students the same age, the girls are ready to craft their own. We discussed each sample's thesis statement and if we felt the essay proved the stated thesis. In order to write this essay, the girls are reading Number The Stars. As they learned from the previous book read in class, the girls are flagging (using post-it notes) their book as they come across portions that will help them prove their own thesis statement.

## Catch 'em Being Good!

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz,

We can't adequately express our gratitude to you, Rabbi Neiman and Rabbi Nusbaum. Your sincerity and enthusiasm in celebrating Jonah's bar mitzvah was so moving to our family on Friday. The boys behavior was exceptional, from being respectful and standing up for my father in law, to dancing wholeheartedly with Jonah. (The dancing was truly awesome). It was also quite amazing to see some of the 8th graders join the circle of pre1a and 1st grade boys to dance with them. The achdus in YST really shone and the morning left such a great impression on us! The boys came up to my husband and myself after davening to wish us Mazal Tov and did so again before going back to class, to thank us for the breakfast. Thank you for making our son's bar mitzvah day so special and something we will remember forever!

- Mr. & Mrs. M. Goldblatt

## Bulletin Board

• **Sun, Feb 25 & Thurs, March 1** - See That Photo by Esti in Edison invites you to bring your family in costume and some Purim cheer for a family portrait this Sun Feb 25th or on Purim morning, Thurs, March 1st. Check for \$30 required. 1 full resolution digital image per family. E-mail Esti Lamm at seethatphotobyesti@yahoo.com or call 347-251-0200 to book your reservation. 10% of the proceeds to be donated to YST.

• **Sun, March 4 - 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.** - Congregation Ohr Torah will hold this year's community **Shaimos Collection**. The cost is \$20 per large garbage sized bags. Please make all checks out to Cong. Ohr Torah. (Coordinator/questions) Barry Siegel, siegeldad@gmail.net. **Seforim sale:** There will also be a used Seforim sale at this time, Great Bargains!!! **Come find your hard-to-find and/or out-of-print books and stock up your home libraries**

• **Motzai Shabbos, March 10 - 9:00 PM - Tiferes: DVD for women** at the Siegel house, 16 Edgemount Rd. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members. Current teleconference: “All Different, All Mine”. Speaker: Mrs. Mindy Blumenfeld.

• **Sun, March 11 - 10AM -3PM - The AY annual clothing giveaway.** Come “shop” for the entire family for new to you clothing. Donations are optional (but welcome). Clothing donations (in EXCELLENT condition only) can be dropped off at 238 Harrison Ave., Highland Park, NJ. For more information regarding donating clothing to the giveaway please contact Ida Scheiner at 917-439-6163. For more information about the clothing giveaway please contact Rivka Jaffe at (732)762-0490.

## Mazal Tov!

- **Rabbi Yitzchak Yaakov & Morah Mimi Blumenkrantz upon the engagement of their son, Yehoshua to Batsheva Posy of Brooklyn**
- **Rabbi & Mrs. Shlomo Ziegler and Morah Bracha Ziegler upon her engagement to Noam Cohen from Washington Heights**
- **Mr. & Mrs. Mark Goldblatt on Jonah's upcoming Bar Mitzvah Shabbos Parshas Ki Sisa**
- **Rabbi Pinchas & Mrs. Shoshana Werner upon their son, Aaron's, bar-mitzvah**

## Local News & Shiurim

- Rabbi Feldman's Women's shiur from last week was rescheduled for this Motzai Shabbos (2/24) at 8:45pm at the Schein home (334 N. Eighth Ave. in Edison) -- Purim and Our Lives -- It's All About Seeing the Bigger Picture.
- Cong Ohav Emeth's Annual Purim Costume Gemach is excited to announce it's 11th year with over 1,000 infants to adult costumes available to borrow. This year, we dedicate the Gemach in memory of our dear friend, Chaya Friedman, נ"ע, who was a proud supporter of the Gemach since its inception. The Gemach opens this year on Sun, Feb 18th at 10:00am- 5:00 pm and continues on Sun, Feb 25th from 10:00am-5:00 pm. The cost is a \$5 suggested donation to OE's Youth Department per costume borrowed. The Gemach is located at Cong Ohav Emeth, 415 Raritan Ave., Highland Park, NJ. For more information, email costumeagemach@yahoo.com
- Shovavim shiurim for For women will be given by Rebbetzin Aviva Wasser, speaking on halachos and hashkofos of Taharas Mishpacha on Sunday 2/25 at Cong. Ohr Torah at 8:00 p.m. Please submit questions to be answered by Rebbetzin Wasser at the review to parkmikvaevents@gmail.com.
- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sunday, February 25; for status of Parsha class on Monday, Feb. 26, please contact Aviva at 732-572-4408 or siegelmom@gmail.com
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Class on Mon Feb. 26 at Janet Rivenson's house, 19 Price Drive, Edison. This will be the last class until after Pesach.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: For status of class on Tuesday, Feb. 27, please call / text Leah at 917-763-1848.
- Rabbi Bassous will be holding his Women's Class this Sunday at 10 AM on the Thirteen Principles of Faith at Congregation Etz Ahaim.
- Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur, "Living with Parsha", for men and women: Wed evenings at 8:30 PM Eiserman residence at 154 N. 10th Ave.