



Parsha Points

“וירא לוט ויקם לקראתם”

“And Lot saw and (he) stood up to meet them.”

Rashi tells us that Lot learned from the house of Avraham the significance of seeking out guests. In other words, Lot, by his very nature and deed, was not a person who enjoyed performing acts of loving-kindness. Opening his home to wayfarers was not only against his nature, but, in Sodom, it was also against the law and thus dangerous. Yet, he did so because of *chinuch*, education, that he received from Avraham. This teaches us the far-reaching effect of education. Lot spent his early years in the home of Avraham and Sarah. There he imbibed the spiritual lessons from the paragons of education. Avraham *Avinu* was the *amud ha'chesed*, pillar of loving kindness, He exemplified this attribute in his every demeanor. Lot was inculcated with this *middah*, and it stayed with him in his later years, when his “other” character traits were manifest.

We suggest that it was not simple education that inspired Lot. True, it was Avraham as the *rebbe* that should have made the difference. There was something else, however. *Rashi* says that Lot learned *chesed* in Avraham's home. This does not mean that Avraham *Avinu* gave classes in *chesed* in his house. It means that Lot saw by personal example that *chesed* reigned supreme. When one observes the lesson, it has greater and more enduring value than when it is simply taught in the classroom. When *rebbe's* demeanor is the classroom of instruction, its effect has a greater impact on the student. Avraham's home was the natural classroom, because he lived and breathed his lessons. *Taken from Peninim on the Torah*

Week in Review

Rabbi Kramer's תלמידים כנה ד' are learning up a storm. They are spending time learning about the meaning of תפילה as they add more תפילות שחרית. We are learning all about the beginning of פרשת שמות יציאת מצרים. There are so many lessons we have learned from these פסוקים. Why did Moshe get involved with the מצרי and then with דתן and אבירם? Why did Moshe name his first son גרשם? It was so interesting to see in נביא how Moshe was given the title of an עבד ד'. Let's hope we can use all our strengths to become true עבדי ד'.

Helpful Hints from Mrs. Krieger's Desk...

Helping your Child Study for a Spelling Text

Starting in first grade, weekly spelling tests are an important staple of an elementary school curriculum. For most children this is their first introduction to tests. Below are some helpful hints to help your child learn how to study for a spelling test.

Index Cards

Have your child draw a picture on an index card representing the word and the first letter of that word on the front. Write the full word on the back of the card. Have your child look at the picture, write the word on a piece of paper, and spell it out loud.

Post-it Notes

Have your child write his weekly spelling words on post-it notes and stick them throughout the house. Every time he sees these notes have him read the word, close his eyes and spell the word.

Play Games

Make a word search, play memory or hangman with the spelling words.

Write a Story

Have your child write a story incorporating the words from the spelling list. This will help him put the spelling words in context. **PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE.**

“איזו היא עבודה שבלב? זו תפילה”

After attempting to unscramble the famous חזו"ל in regards to תפילה, Morah Bakst's כנה ד' girls have embarked on a journey of learning עשרה תפילות. Creating a beautiful scrapbook will help the girls truly take ownership of this critical תפילה. They were treated to a donut in the opening session and it's our hope that the words of תפילה will always be “sweet” on their lips.

FYI

- Fall Back! This Motzai Shabbos ends daylight savings time. Remember to turn your clock back 1 hour.
- Sun, Nov 5th - 5th grade boys *haschalas gemara* will be at 11:00AM.
- Sun, Nov 12. Boys will be dismissed at 11:15 due to a teachers' in service day. Reminder - There will be NO Sunday Sports Day with Rabbi Akerman.
- Bnos Malka of Edison/HP this Shabbos. is at 2:15 in the Agudah for girls grades Pre-1a through 8. Remember to bring your badges.
- Pirchei and Pirchei Beis Medrash this week will be from 3:15 to 4:15 at the Agudah. There will be a minyan for Mincha before Pirchei at 2:50.
- A new Boys' Night Seder program has started at the Agudah. The Night Seder program gives 7th & 8th Grade boys a chance to experience Beis Medrash learning with a Chavrusah. Join us each night Mon through Thurs after the 8:00 Maariv. Mon./Wed./Thur. from 8:15 to 8:45 and Tues. from 8:15 to 8:55 (Shiur at 8:30). Refreshments are served. For more info, to sponsor, or to volunteer, please call or text Arya Eisner (732-547-4994).
- Sun, Nov 12 - 9:30am - 12:30pm - Yad Leah Clothing Drive will be held at Cong Ahavas Achim, 212 S. 1st Ave. Highland Park (in the parking lot). Please donate clothing in good wearable condition only. Winter coats & sweaters are appreciated this time of year. Also accepting in good condition: Linens, towels, tablecloths, handbags, cosmetics & hair accessories, Shoes in “like new condition, Men's and Boy's black hats. Bring all in tied garbage bags. Yad Leah will distribute to the communities throughout Israel. A minimum \$18 donation is requested per donor (checks made out to American Friends of Yad Leah) to help defray the shipping & processing costs.

Preschool Jottings

The color orange filled the nursery classroom this week. As Morah Devora read the class the book “The Three Little Kittens”, the children noticed that all the mittens are orange! When the children picked a color to design their mittens, of course, they picked orange. What a treat it was to make and then drink freshly squeezed orange juice.

Morah Mimi and Morah Irene's class began their unit on houses and homes using the Project Approach method. As they learned about Avraham Avinu's tent in this week's Parsha, they were able to compare and contrast a house and a tent. The children noticed the presence and absence of a floor, a chimney, windows and doors and observed how easy it is to move a tent from place to place.

There is a new *Alef-Beis* letter that walks into Morah Rochel and Morah Faige's class every week. This week, a letter that looks similar to a *Beis* entered wearing a vvest. With a focus on phonemic awareness and reading readiness skills, the Moros made sure to mention that the dot from the *Beis* had vvvvvanished and the the *Beis* had turned into a Vvveis. Each of the children made their own Veis Vest and are excited to wear it as they practice the sounds of each letter.

Why is the pastry that is filled with apples called an apple turnover? And how do you make it? The children this week learned how to make that delicious pastry and as they flipped the dough to cover the apple filling, they sang apple, apple turn over! The children listed many items that come out of a can, but none of them could believe when we opened a can and found apples already peeled and sliced. Those were the apples we used for the filling.

Morah Mindy's Pre1a girls are learning how to say the colors in Hebrew. This week they learned that כתום is orange and צהוב is yellow. They brought תפוזים - oranges to school and squeezed! The מניץ תפוזים - orange juice was delicious!

A focus area that 3rd grade is working on is articulating clear goals for themselves. Many students (and parents) voiced that they want to become better readers this year. So, what makes a great reader? Here is a list that Mrs. Schwartz and her brilliant third graders came up with as to what they feel are the characteristics of really great readers...

- Read with stamina
- Reads A lot of books
- Have a really good vocabulary
- Uses accuracy strategies to be able to read hard words
- Checks for understanding and uses comprehension strategies when needed
- Picks GOOD FIT books
- Reread books
- Read for many purposes

The girls then chose which aspect of being a good reader that they personally would like to work on. They talked about what the steps are to reaching their personal goals and they will be implementing them in the near future. As the year continues, the girls will be assessing their own progress and continuing their very grown up work of making themselves better readers. Stay tuned to hear of their progress!

Math comes alive in Mrs. Hammer's 7th grade girls' classroom as students are actively involved in the learning process. The process of self-evaluation takes on an important role as the girls reflect on the first unit on integers and what skills they plan to perfect through a "fill the gaps" activity. The girls will go through their errors and determine if they can teach other girls what they have mastered while practicing and receiving help for skills that are more difficult for them. What is most rewarding thus far is seeing the girls understand the value of the thought process that leads to real, lasting learning.

Kudos to 8th grade girls who are putting effort into their preparations to take on the challenges of the PSAT assessment. Starting with familiarizing themselves with calculators as an effective tool to solve problems efficiently and solving a problem each day, they are surely going to put their best foot forward in this endeavor.

In conjunction with their study of the Civil War, Mrs. Gross' 8th graders are doing a letter writing project. Each girl created a fictitious character living in the union or confederacy, and they will be corresponding with a friend or relative in a different part of the country about their war experiences. This assignment will enable the girls to understand the realities of this war on individual lives.

Mazal Tov

- Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Gross upon the birth of a granddaughter
- Dr & Mrs. Mordechai Neustadt upon the birth of a grandson
 - Mr. & Mrs. Eli Levy upon Atalia's Bas Mitzvah
- Rabbi & Mrs. Zalman Busel upon the marriage of their daughter, Nechama to Yitzchok Paler

Library Additions

- *Secrets of Greatness* donated in honor of Shimmy Sauer's 10th birthday
- The following books were donated by Mrs. Rivka Adler:
 - *The Captains Kids & Dangerous mission* in honor of Yehoshua Leiter's Bar Mitzvah and
 - *The Silly World of Chelm* in honor of Moshe Roscher's Bar Mitzvah

Local News & Shiurim

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sun, Nov 5 at 11:00 AM at the Agudah; Parsha class on Mon, Nov. 6 at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah.
- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon, Nov 5 at 7:30 PM at 407 North 8th Ave, Edison.
- Mrs. Miri Cohen 's Parsha: Tues, Nov 7th at 9:30 AM at the home of Leah Epshteyn, 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: Wed evenings at 8:30 PM in the Khal Chassidim dining room, entrance through front door of house. For more info, please call Marsha at 732-777-1155.

Bulletin Board

• **Motzai Shabbat, Nov 4 - 8:00 pm - The Highland Park/Edison Connects** is proud to present **Cocoa and Crafts**, our next event open to all women in the community! Join us at Cong. Ahavas Yisrael (1587 Route 27, Edison). You can take home what you make or donate it to hospitals in the area! The cost is only \$10 and advanced registration is required; space is limited so reserve yours today! RSVP can be made to Leah Epshteyn at pol-lack.leah@gmail.com. Any questions feel free to reach out to Hannah Farkas, Faygie Lobel, or Leah Epshteyn.

• **Motzai Shabbos, Nov 4 - 8:30 pm - Tiferes DVD** Titled: "Attitude of Gratitude – the secret to a life of happiness". Speakers: Rabbi Avigdor Miller z"l, Rabbi Ephraim Eliyahu Shapiro, Rabbi Meir Wikler, and Mrs. Bas-sheva Alpert. The DVD will be shown at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Rd.

• **Sun, Nov 12 - 12:00 - 2:00 pm - Pre Chanukah fun with Central Jersey Yachad @Rutgers Chabad**, 70 College Ave. Join us for some Fresh Theater Arts fun and a menorah-making workshop with Chabad's Rabbi Mendy Pevzner. Please go to www.Yachad.org/Rutgersevent to register \$5 fee; open to kids ages 10 & up.

• **Sun, Nov 12 - 7:00 - 9:30 pm - Moms of kids with special needs- save the date for a fabulous Moms Night Out!** Come for support, networking and FUN with jewelry making and dinner on us. RSVP to avrahamb@ou.org

• **Sun, Nov 12 - 7:30 pm - Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Weinberg** will speak at the **ACTT Happiness Module 2 kickoff event**. Title: "Serve Hashem with Joy: Can we work on being happier?" Source book: Artsroll's "[Living Simchah: Finding the joy in Everything](#)" by Rabbi Hadar Margolin. Admission is free. Donations are welcome. More details to follow. For more info, e-mail info@actt613.org or call Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762.

Catch 'em Being Good

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz,

I've only been in town for a couple of weeks, but I can't help but notice the uniqueness of YST students. Over TWENTY 7th and 8th grade boys have been attending our new nightly night seder program at the Agudah, arranged by Rabbi Nusbaum and Mr. Arya Eisner. Even after a long day at school the boys are thirsty for more and learn with their chavrusas with remarkable enthusiasm. At a shiur I gave the boys on Tuesday night, the boys demonstrated beautiful *Derech Eretz* and an sincere excitement to learn. Their parents and Rabbeim have a lot to be proud of. Keep up the good work!
- Rabbi Hillel Feldman

Dear Rabbi Herskowitz and Rabbi Neiman,

We would like to take this opportunity to express our הנהגה for all that you do for Yehoshua, his class and the school. At Yehoshua's Bar Mitzvah we got a little glimpse of this wonderful group of boys. They were polite, well behaved and did a great job on the dance floor! We were amazed by the אודות of the boys and how they arranged shtick to add to the שמחה. A number of the boys came over to us to wish us a נול טוב - how mentchlech! We hope that this class continues to bring נחת to the school and to their families, and that they see much הצלחה in their learning and טובות. Sincerely, - Rabbi & Mrs. Leiter

Dear Mrs. Brudny:

Chani came home from school on Wednesday afternoon happy and spirited after another wonderful day of first grade. Before we even realized that she had left anything behind, I got a message from Sara Scott that Shira had found Chani's navy fleece sweatshirt on the bus. Later in the evening as we were finishing up the homework /supper routine we heard a knock at the door. Lo and behold it was Shira Scott returning Chani's cozy sweatshirt! Although Shira could have easily waited for the next morning to return it to Chani, the Scott's went the extra mile to return it right away. When I thanked Sara Scott she remarked, "Shira was so excited to do the mitzvah of Hashavas Aveida, how could I say no?"
- Rachel Silber