



FYI

- On Tues, Jan 1st, there will be no busing and the boys' division will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. **IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE THAT** This Tues, Jan 1st, there will be no sessions in the girls' division (including preschool) due to a Staff Professional Development Day.
- Mon, Jan 14th – All Schools will have Picture day. Boys should wear white shirts and dark pants. 8th grade boys should bring in or wear: Shabbos suit, White shirt, Tie & Shabbos shoes.
- After School Make-Up-Dates:
Boys' Division - Bricks for Kids - Jan 3
Girls' Division -
Mon - Edible Arts - Jan 14
Tues - Fun in the Kitchen - Jan 22
Wed - Gymnastics - Jan 2
Thurs- 3:30 gym - Jan 10
4:30- Sewing - Jan 10
4:30 Ad. Gym - Jan 10, 17
- Save the Dates:
1) Sun, Jan 6, 2019 - Boys' School Brunch. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle please contact Miriam Goldblatt at (732) 322-3211 or Tzippy Reider at (718) 541-4710.
2) Sun, Feb 10th - Father/Son Learning Program for grades 6-8.
3) Sun, March 10th -the girls division presents the play, "Hope from the Shadows" at the Forum Theater. Details to follow.
- Bnos this week is from 2:15 - 3:15pm at the Agudah. Save the date!! January 20th Make Your Own Pizza at Jerusalem Pizza - 10:15-11:30 am. Advanced reservations are required. See attached flyer.
- Pirchei (Grades 1-5) and Pirchei Beis Medrash (Grades 6-8) this week will be from 3:05 to 4:00 at the Agudah. The minyan for Mincha before Pirchei will be at 2:45.
- The Boys' Night Seder program at the Agudah continues each night from Monday through Thursday after the 8:00 Maariv. Mon./Wed./Thur. from 8:15 to 8:45 and Tues. from 8:15 to 9:00 (Shiur at 8:45). Refreshments are served.
- *Achoseinu*, the girls' grades 4-8 Shmiras Halashon Group meets Friday nights 15 minutes after candle lighting. This group is led by our alumnus, Golda Ayelet Glinn at her home 162 North 8th Ave.

Parsha Points

The פסוק says: "And it was in those days and Moshe grew up and he went out to his brothers, and he saw their suffering." Rashi asks, "The פסוק already told us previously that Moshe grew up, why is the פסוק repeating itself again?" Rashi explains that the first time it says he grew up it refers to physical growth, whereas the second time it says he grew up, it is referring to the fact that he developed qualities that all good leaders need to have; empathy and the ability to be sensitive to the suffering of other people.

True greatness is not just defined by how much knowledge you have. It is defined by how you use that knowledge to recognize and be sensitive to the needs of others. This is what the Torah is teaching us by letting us know that Moshe developed the quality of being sensitive to the suffering of other people. This is something we must integrate into our own personal growth as we develop into the future leaders of K'lal Yisrael.

Week in Review

Kol Hakavod to our second and third grade boys who completed Part II of the *Kab-balas Shabbos Kriah*. And *Kol Hakavod* to fourth, fifth, and sixth graders who completed Part II of the *Parshas Hashavua Kriah*. We had record breaking participation-close to 50 boys took upon this voluntary *Kriah* challenge and finished the second half of their respective programs. Excitement filled the air on Monday afternoon in the YST lunchroom as each *Kriah* champion was called up and presented with a special prize- a "Shabbos treat" of Doritos and Gatorade that was enjoyed by all! Rabbi Herskowitz drew the tickets and presented the raffle winners with their prizes. Congratulations to the raffle winners- Akiva Cooper, Aryeh Freund, Yair Gewurtz, Michael Hoff, Moshe Lasar, Uriel Mey-sarosh, Eliezer Mozes, Avi Paul, and Avi Sabo.

Rabbi Gutman's fifth grade has בט"ד, celebrated finishing its first blatt of גמרא with a סיום this past Tuesday. The enthusiasm toward this new לימוד is palpable. They are mastering their גמרא skills, understanding to whom the גמרא is bringing a proof and then appreciating how these proofs are later disproven. They are doing all of this while perfecting the skills of reading and punctuating the גמרא properly. Many students have asked the upcoming questions of the גמרא before they even learned them. Others have even been able to give the answer that the גמרא gives before learning them. This classroom has evolved into a miniature בית המדרש of budding תלמידי חכמים. The topics being covered in חומש assist them with these skills as they learn the פסוקים along with רשי"י that are the source of many of the subjects covered in סדר נשים נזיקין. They also should be commended for collecting close to \$1,000 for Lev L'achim!

Mrs. Lockspeiser's fourth grade boys have become quite versed in persuasive language! They learned that there are three reasons for writing: to inform, to entertain, and to

Preschool Jottings

Our nursery class left school on Thursday, wearing a crown that is truly their badge of honor. The children were so proud that the slits in the crown were cut by THEM! They are learning how to handle, hold and use a scissors and the making of the crown is just the beginning of their lifelong cutting career.

You would have wanted to be in the kindergarten classroom for the exhibit similar to the one at a real wax museum! The children learned the letter י this week and made a wax form of their own יד. The display of all the ידים was so magnificent that there have already been several offers made to YST Preschool to take it to the wax museum in the city!

Our pic fun this week was about preparing for our picnic, after all, no picnic can happen without some preparation. Each child decorated his/her own fork and that's the utensil he/she will use at all our future picnics. Meanwhile, they are resting in our wicker picnic basket, waiting to be used.



persuade. After reading a few pieces of persuasive writing, the boys each chose a topic whose purpose was to persuade the teacher. Topics included: getting out early for a day, 15 minutes of extra recess, going on a class trip, no homework for a week, board game day, and more. Now Mrs. Lockspeiser has the very tough job of deciding which boy's paragraph is the most persuasive! In this unit, the boys created their own menorahs using recycled materials and used persuasive language to advertise their product. After hearing their explanations, you'd want to buy them all! This week, the fourth graders started their new novel study of Frindle. The main character in the book is "sold" on his idea to change the name of an ordinary object. Will he be able to persuade others to "buy into" his dream? Stay tuned!

The 6th graders are still very excited for their STEM classes. This week they explored static electricity, shocking themselves and making lightning. This coming week, they will be making tornadoes to help understand the vortex and other features of that type of storm. Rabbi Davis's math classes are busily engaged in equations and calculations. The 8th grade has moved from solving equations to solving inequalities varying in difficulty from simple one-step inequalities to multi-step inequalities with variable on both sides of the inequality. The 7th grade is combining like terms in both expressions and equations with one or more different variables. The 6th graders are multiplying numbers with decimals. The 6th & 7th grades each spent one period last week discussing apparent mathematical anomalies in the Torah, specifically the seeming discrepancy between the stated number of people that went down to Mitzrayim (70) and the actual name count (69), and how we can explain them.

in the girls' school...

What an enjoyable and accomplishing week in Morah Moller's 'ג' כתה! We finished a פרק in חומש and can act out the entire פרק's meaning. Anyone who dropped in this week was amazed at our proficiency in the פסוקים! We also had such a nice time writing our own summary of the פרק in story form. Wow!

During history with Mrs. A. Gross, the sixth graders have been traveling back in time to ancient lands. The girls have many fascinating journal entries in their passport journals describing what they discovered from their studies of ancient Egypt and Greece. Whether it is a first hand account of the discovery of the Egyptian King Tut's tomb or the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta, these journals are very creative and informative. We can't wait to add ancient Rome to our passport journals.

Mrs. Epstein's seventh grade has been hard at work in science these past few weeks. The students have been studying the complicated processes of photosynthesis and respiration, understanding the steps of each process and how they are each vital for the survival of all living things. To complete the unit, every student created her own model of each of the processes. Come check out them artwork at the seventh grade!

In the sixth grade, we have been learning all about viruses and bacteria and how they affect the lives of all living things. Due to the recent measles outbreak, this unit has been particularly interesting and relevant for the girls, as they are discovering how diseases can be prevented, spread, and treated. In the upcoming week, we will iy"H be discussing how we can stop the spread of diseases through proper hygiene and hand washing. Stay tuned for the results of our next experiment where we will discover the most effective way to keep our hands germ-free!

Notes from the Nurse

Give Kids a Smile Day is coming Friday, February 1, 2019. For free dental visits for your child(ren) ages 12 and younger, visit www.njda.org/gkrs. for more information, call a location below and set up an appointment.

Locations:

- East Brunswick Dental Studio, E.B. - 732-613-1931
- Edison Dental Arts, Edison - 732-494-7575
- Florentini Family Dentistry, Monrow Twp - 609-655-1023
- Jewish Renaissance Medical, Perth Amboy - 732-376-9333 x2103
- JFK Medical Center, Edison - 732-321-7608
- Kids Smile PC, Monmouth Jct - 732-297-5200
- Kidzdent, Old Bridge - 732-679-2323
- Lake Family Dentistry, Colonia - 732-288-2822
- Dr. Silman Smile Spa, Manalapan - 732-577-1515
- Freehold Orthodontics, Freehold - 732-462-0700

Mrs. Epstein's seventh graders have started reading Eugene Yelchin's book, Breaking Stalin's Nose. As they practice citing text evidence to support their ideas about the novel, they're feeling extremely grateful that they live in a democracy and that they don't share their kitchens with 40 other people. In eighth grade Language Arts, the girls have just finished their unit on "the move toward freedom," in which they examined the Civil War era through texts by Frederick Douglass, Ray Bradbury, and Louisa May Alcott, who served as a battlefield nurse!

Bulletin Board

- **Motzai Shabbos, Dec. 29 - 8:00 PM - Ahavas Yisroel Annual Woman's Melave Malka.** Join us this year for Edison/Highland Park Woman's Got Talent 2.0. To register to perform or to make a reservation to come text or call Rivky Arnow at (732) 986-3153 or go to ayedison.org
- **Sun, Dec 30 - 9:30am - Highland Park Community Kollel Breakfast.** The Guests of Honor for this year's Breakfast will be Mr. & Mrs. Akiva & Sara Scott and the Guest Speaker will be Rabbi Hillel Feldman. The breakfast will iy"H take place at Cong Ohr Torah. For further information or to make an online donation, please visit www.HPKollel.com or contact Mr. Avi Milgram at (908) 812.6924
- **Tues, Jan 1 - Ahavas Yisroel Yom Iyun in conjunction with Chevra Hatzolah of Middlesex Co. presents Rabbi Yisrael Kleinman, Shacharis** at 8:15 am with breakfast and shiur at 9:00 am at Cong. A.Y. 1587 Route 27. To submit questions please e-mail info@hatzolahmc.org. Please put "halacha question" in the subject.
- **Motzai Shabbos, Jan 12 - 8:30 PM - Tiferes DVD for women** at the home of Aviva Siegel 16 Edgemount Rd., Edison.
- **Motzai Shabbos, Feb 23 - Park Mikvah presents a Melave Malka for women.** Guest Speaker: Charlene Aminoff from @galicouturewigs. Details to follow.
- **Save the Date! Sun, March 17 - 9:30 AM - Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Breakfast** to be held at the Pines Manor in Edison. **Guest Speaker will be Rabbi Shay Schachter.** More details to follow.

Writer's Corner

Mrs. Anolik's 4th grade girls have been studying realistic fiction. After reading some examples, the girls created their own realistic character. Before actually writing their stories, they did some warm-up exercises to help them get to know their character better and to give their character a 'voice'. Below is Bracha Lewis' letter 'written by' her character, Ricky. We hope she seems real to you.

Dear Sary:

My first day in this new school was NOT the best day ever. Everyone in my class has a necklace that's hot pink and it spells out the words, B-E-S-T F-R-I-E-N-D-S. For example, one kids has a 'B' and one kid has an 'E' (on and on), but one kid doesn't, and that girl's name is Ricky (me). It's getting really annoying when they put their necklaces together and scream "BEST FRIENDS!" Anyway, the teachers are a little nice and make you say good day when they walk in the classroom, and they give us treats once in a while. I really miss you and hope to get at least one friend in this odd new place.

T Ricky

Mazal Tov

- Dr. & Mrs. Steven Zarny upon Alyssa's Bas Mitzvah
- Mr. & Mrs. Moshe Eisner upon the birth of a son

Local News & Shiurim

- Parsha class by Mrs. Miri Cohen: Class on Tuesday, January 1 at 9:30 AM at the home of Leah Epshteyn, 253 Lawrence Avenue, Highland Park. Babysitting is now available at the shiur; call / text Leah at 917-763-1848 to reserve.
- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sun, Dec 30 due to the Kollel breakfast; Parsha class on Mon, Dec 24 at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah.
- Shimiras Haloshon class by Mrs. Leah Drillman: Class on Mon, Dec 31 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North 8th Ave, Edison.
- Rabbi Weiss' shiur on Tehillim: for men and women on Wed. nights at 7:30 pm at the Eiserman home, 154 N. 10th Ave., Highland Park.