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TORAS CHAIM  
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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# TEAM SPIRIT

Miami Candle  
Lighting  
6:18 PM

Friday  
November 4, 2022  
י' חשון תשפ"ג  
פרשת לך לך

Through the  
Classroom Door  
Page 4-8



## CHINUCH IN CHESED

Dear Parents,

*Erev Shabbos Parashas Lech Lecha 5783*

With the Covid pandemic essentially behind us, B'H, we can refocus on our interactions with each other and put aside restraints we may have had on inviting guests and performing other acts of *Chesed* that require close contact. The lessons of Avraham Avinu's *chesed* that we read about in these weeks' *Parshiyos* provide a wonderful opportunity to gain new insights into how far reaching *Chesed* should be. Two important facets of Avraham's *chesed* guide us towards appropriate goals we should be striving to achieve.

***"This was true concern for others – it started with the here and now, but his care stretched to eternity."***

Avraham truly loved his fellow man. That love found expression in tending to his fellow's physical needs for food and shelter. Avraham understood that the essence of humanity is to emulate Hashem's traits of kindness and goodness, and he devoted himself to the wellbeing of every individual- This concern for the physical wellbeing of others was only half the picture. Avraham nurtured the soul of his fellow man as well. This was true concern for others – it started with the here and now, but his care stretched to eternity.

It is furthermore important to note, that Avraham's focus on the needs of others was not at the expense of his own family. The Torah makes several indirect references to the fact that he enlisted the help of his children in the care of others. Most famously, by the incident with the three angels in next week's Parsha – the Torah tells us (*Bereishis* 18:7 see *Rashi*) " "...הנער איתן אל הנער Avraham gave his son Yishmael meat to prepare to serve the guests. Involving and working with his child is an everlasting lesson Avraham Avinu taught us as to the appropriate manner of being *mechanech* our children to do *chesed*.

At whatever level we involve ourselves in *Chesed*, we mustn't lose sight of our children. They are integral to our efforts in presenting the splendor of *Shabbos* to outsiders. When not-yet-religious guests enter our home, or join us in a communal *Seudah*, they are entering an environment that is bewildering; *Halachos*, *Minhagim*, *Tefilos*, *Zemiros*, *Bentching*, *Divrei Torah*, family traditions, just plain 'shtick' – what are they to make of it?

***"Our children are happy, lively, comfortable with Shabbos and Torah & Mitzvos..."***

No matter how spectacular the food and presentation are, reactions and judgments will be made primarily over two aspects of the experience; the level of warmth conveyed toward them and the impression the children will make on them. That is something almost anyone can relate to. Our children are happy, lively, comfortable with *Shabbos* and *Torah & Mitzvos*, knowledgeable and genuine.

They convey an aura that is completely unknown in the outside world. When they say over their *Divrei Torah* and their *Parsha* sheets, guests are simply amazed.

Lest you think that such children only reside in those picture-perfect families (who always exist somewhere else!), step back and envision your children through the eyes of an uninitiated Jew – you will realize what a treasure you have. Even if the *Zemiros* last only two minutes and the kids bicker a bit, (ok, a lot more than a bit!), even if your child can't remember some detail about the *Parsha*, they still represent a commodity that the nonobservant can only dream about.

Realize the tremendous opportunity that we have. If our children can make such a tremendous impact on others, it surely compels us to involve them as much as possible – before, during and after. Speak with them about the fact it is such a privilege to be a Torah Jew, how proud we are of it and we naturally want this goodness for others as well.

***"When it comes to Chesed, children want to participate and are excited to be involved."***

We mentioned in a previous letter the value of our children experiencing the joys of *Yiddishkeit*.

When it comes to *Chesed*, children want to participate and are excited to be involved. Enable them to be active participants. Let them help with food preparation, set up, decorating the room, making place cards, perhaps serving and certainly cleanup. Encourage them to plan their role during the meal and throughout *Shabbos*. This win-win will capture the hearts of your guests, and greatly enhance the *chinuch* of your children.

With best wishes for a unified, connected and child-oriented *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

## מזל טוב

To Mr. and Mrs. Moshe Freilich and family on the birth of a boy.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Yaakov Goldman and family on the bar mitzvah of their son, our alumnus, Avi.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Meir Benguigui on the engagement of their daughter, Miss Leah Benguigui to Raphael Cremisi.

To Mr. and Mrs. Josh Gordon and family upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, our alumnus, Aaron.

## רפואה שלימה

Chaim Shmuel Ben Leah Yocheved

Yechiel Nosson ben Sara

Dovid Yaakob ben Penina

Meir Michoel ben Rivka

Binyomin Simcha ben Adina Minya

Mina Yehudis bas Masuda Marsel

Nuta Moshe ben Sarah

Fruma Leah bas Raizel

Gittel Bailah bas Eta Esther

Reuven Asher Daniel ben Rivka

## Condolences

To Mr. Marcelo Weissmann on the passing of his father.

## Reminders

Parent Teacher Conferences are this coming Tuesday evening, November 8 and Sunday morning, November 13. Please reserve your slot by logging on to the parent portal at [ytcte.org/ptc](http://ytcte.org/ptc). If you have any questions, email [stamir@ytcte.org](mailto:stamir@ytcte.org)

No Classes on Thursday, November 11  
Teacher Professional Development Day

## Fall Back

Sunday, November 6

End of Daylight

Savings

Move clocks back 1  
hour at 2 AM



## Hotlunch Reminder

November's hot lunch menu are now available for purchase. To place your order, simply log onto the parent portal at [ytcte.org/meals](http://ytcte.org/meals).

If you have any questions, please contact us at [meals@ytcte.org](mailto:meals@ytcte.org)



# Create a World of Kindness

~ עולם חסד יבנה ~



This month we will be focusing on the *chessed* of "*hachnosas orchim*" - inviting guests. At last week's *Erev Shabbos* assembly, some of the teachers put on skits for the girls demonstrating the right and wrong ways to do this *chessed*. The girls reacted with hand motions showing if it was the right or wrong way. It was so much fun watching the teachers perform! The girls really enjoyed. We will have special guests visiting during our Kindness Club Meetings this month, ask your daughters all about it!

Granny was overwhelmed and overjoyed by the messages she received this week! *Kol hakavod!* We are so proud of our girls and look forward to many more messages!

We are seeing so many girls acting with the *middah* of *chessed* throughout our school day. Reports are flooding in from Moros, Teachers, Coaches... it's incredible! Keep **up** the good work!



Caught in the Act!

Mia Beck!



## Kindness Club Stars

- Rose Kopelman
- Leah Pomper
- Shaina Heisler
- Yael Ohana
- Noa Ohana
- Rikki Mann
- Hadassah Mann
- Judy Elbaz
- Lielle Tzur
- Sarah Miriam Ben-Hur
- Orr Ioffe
- Bracha Amster
- Tehila Joseph

- Ahuva Rubin
- Mia Beck
- Basya Fishman
- Ora Ouaknin
- Naomi Berdugo

- Raffle Winners**
- Leah Pomper
  - Lili Cohen
  - Shaina Heisler



**Granny's**  
Hotline:  
641-715-3900  
Ext: 658038#



## National First Responders Day

2G-1 celebrated National First Responders Day. Rabbi Fried, a Hatzalah volunteer and a faculty member at YTCTE was our guest speaker. He showed the girls a variety of equipment that he uses during an emergency. The girls learned a lot!



## Chumash Creations

Morah Ioffe's students in 3G-1 and 3G-2 got creative and hands-on in their learning. They each constructed an *Akedas Yitzchak* scene using pictures and matching them up to the original words of the *chumash*.



## Writing Binder Decorating

Mrs. Jaroslawicz's fourth grade girls had a great time decorating their new writers' binders.



# Butterfly World



On Wednesday, November 2, the second grade girls went on a special trip to Butterfly World. The 2G girls learned about the life cycle of the butterfly. They girls got to see the Research Laboratory present the most unique larva and pupa from their butterfly farm. After, the girls walked around 3 giant "open-air" aviaries, brimming with tens of thousands of "rain forest flyers"! Then the girls toured the tropical bird aviaries, housing exotic birds and a rainbow of other extraordinary bird species. Other highlights included the swinging Tinalandia Bridge, Macaw Landing, Butterfly Museum, and of course, the live Bug Zoo! After the tour, the girls enjoyed their lunch at the playground adjacent to Butterfly World. Thank you to the parent chaperones who joined. Everyone had a great time!



## Deluxe Kiddush

Rabbi Porters 5th grade students were treated to a special 6x Club Kiddush for reviewing their learning 6 times over *Sukkos break!*



## Art Corner



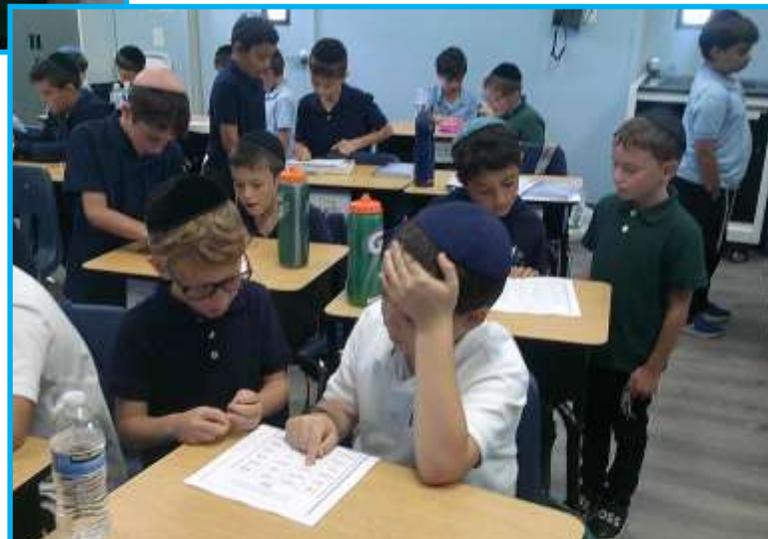
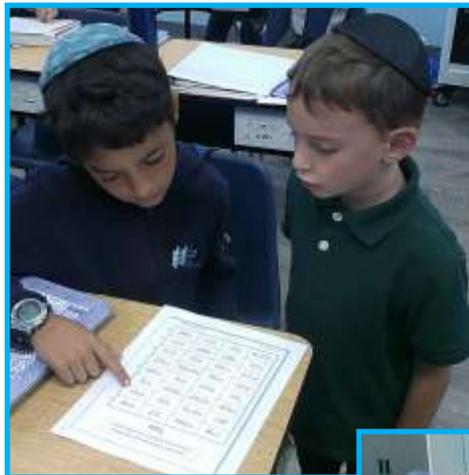
## Kiddush Hashem Program Kickoff

This Wednesday, the KES boys division kicked off their Kiddush Hashem program. Rabbi Ephraim Shapiro came and spoke with the boys about how easy it is to make a Kiddush Hashem and gave a number of real life examples of how people have done so. We will continue to work on this program in the classroom with the Rebbeim and at our assemblies. We look forward to growing in making a Kiddush Hashem in so many ways!



## Kriah Mentorship

Rabbi Rosenberg's 1st Grade class got to learn Kriah with Rabbi Shnidman's 5th Grade class. The 5th graders did a wonderful job helping the 1st graders with their Kriah and everyone enjoyed the mentoring opportunity.



# chosen words

## Personal Growth

### Dismantling the Idols

Dina started her first full-time professional job, and for the first time in her 21 years, she was receiving an ample paycheck. Since she lived at home with her parents, she had few expenses, so she was more than happy to begin "splurging" on the many charitable causes seeking contributions.

"What are you doing giving away so much money?" her father inquired when he noticed a stack of envelopes stamped and ready for the mail.

"It's just a little more than the 10 percent I have to give," she replied.

"Right now, maybe you don't need it, but you should be putting every single penny away for your future."

Having endured much financial insecurity in his life, Dina's father put his faith in a conserva-

tive mutual fund. In the desert, the Jews also experienced insecurity, and they reacted by putting their faith in a Golden Calf. Then, on Tisha B'Av—a year and three weeks later—that same mind-set led them to put their faith in the scouts sent into Israel, who declared the land unconquerable. These two tragic episodes—both resulting from a lack of faith in Hashem—framed for all time the three-week mourning period between 17 Tammuz and 9 Av.

Thousands of years later, this same mind-set persists, and keeps us, in our own way, wandering in the wilderness. Giving away one's money, putting one's time into Torah study and chessed, bypassing busi-

ness opportunities because they occur on Shabbos or Yom Tov—all of these demonstrate a firm, bottom-line belief in Hashem's promise of blessing to those who do His will. But there are many idols, wearing many guises, to sway us from this faith. We have to unmask them before we can dismantle them. And then, we are done wandering.

#### Shabbos Table Discussion:

How does one prevent something permitted, such as money or physical

## Torah Tools for Personal Growth

### Inspiration

▼ Ideas

### Excellence

### Success

beauty or intellectual ability, from becoming an idol?

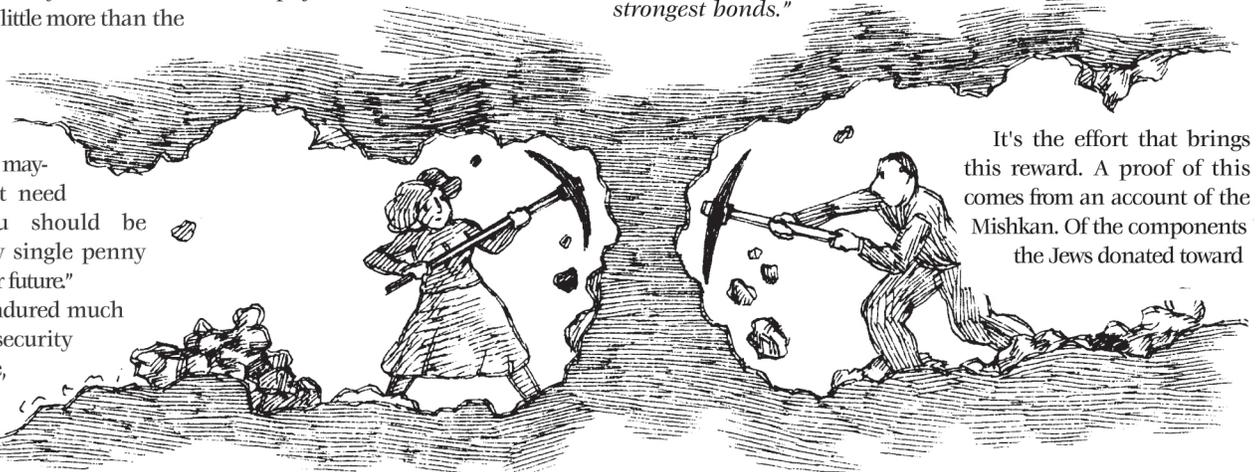
*Adapted from "Growing Each Day," by Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, MD, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

*"Effort forges the strongest bonds."*

## Better Relationships

### Labor of Love

When a young couple starts out life together, they often make some unwelcome discoveries about their spouse. They may even be stricken with the fear that they made a mistake. Yet most struggle through this passage and arrive on footing far more solid and elevated than the soft-focus utopia they first experienced.



It's the effort that brings this reward. A proof of this comes from an account of the Mishkan. Of the components the Jews donated toward

## Effective Prayer

### Alive!

"I open one eye, I open two, I say Modeh Ani 'cause it means Thank You." Every child knows this song. Modeh Ani is one of the first tefillos children learn, and the first tefillah of the day. We wake up, realize we're alive and thank Hashem.

The verse concludes: "You have returned my soul within me with compassion. Abundant is Your faithfulness." The word for "Your faithfulness," "emunasecha," can also be translated as "Your faith." But what does it mean to say

Hashem has faith? In what?

Our awakening testifies to Hashem's faith in us. The fact that Hashem has granted us a new day of life declares His belief that we have more to offer the world. He invests us with a neshamah for another day because He has faith that we can fulfill our potential. What stronger vote of confidence can a person have as he sets out on a new day?

**To do:** Upon saying Modeh Ani tomorrow, set one goal for the day.

*Adapted from an address by Rebbitzin Tehila Jaeger at the Mishmeres Yom Iyun, 5762*

the construction, the precious Shoham and Miluim stones, given by the princes of each tribe, are listed last. The Ohr HaChaim explains why they are mentioned after the less valuable gold and silver that the other Jews donated: The silver and *continued on back*



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# The Dimensions of Love

There was an impossible child. He grew into an impossible teenager whose greatest area of expertise was causing his parents anguish. Eventually, he left home, settled down and began his own family. Only then did he begin to have an inkling of what he had done to his parents whose only crime was to try to keep him on the right path.

The young man wanted desperately to reconnect to his parents, but he couldn't make the first move. He was sure that hearing from him would only open old wounds.

In Bamidbar, Moshe is actually commanded to open old wounds. He is told to recount for the Jews all the stopovers at which they had angered Hashem. Rashi explains this command with a parable: A king brings

his ill son on a lengthy journey to find a cure. They succeed in their quest, and upon arriving home, the king recounts all the terrible manifestations of illness they experienced at each stopover. Each recollection serves to bolster their joy and gratitude at having found a cure.

**“Our rebellions are, in His eyes, temporary infirmities.”**

But the parable doesn't seem to suit the circumstances. The king's son wasn't stubborn or rebellious; he was sick. The Jews in the desert, however, seem more like the impossible child, constantly testing his parents' patience. How could reviewing these anger-provoking instances stir Hashem's love? The parable works only because Hashem's love is of a power and depth we cannot even fathom. Because He sees His people in this loving light, our rebellions are, in His eyes, temporary infirmities,

the result of our lack of comprehension.

When a Jew does teshuvah, he overcomes this “illness.” He is able to recount his sins and return to Hashem's loving embrace, for there are no “old wounds” to open. There is no lasting anger. There is just a Father, overjoyed to see His child restored to spiritual health.

**Shabbos Table Discussion:**

How does Hashem's love encourage teshuvah?

*Adapted from “Majesty of Man,” by Rabbi Henoah A. Leibowitz, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

## Labor of Love

*continued from front*  
gold came from the people's personal assets, acquired from the Egyptians in payment for 200 years of slave labor. The Shoham and Miluim stones fell from Heaven, with the manna, into the princes' possession. Thus, the silver and gold were, in Hashem's eyes, a truer expression of love.

The husband and wife who work through their difficulties, the parent who pours effort into a difficult or disabled child, the child who patiently tends to his elderly parent—all may at times feel depleted by their efforts. But in reality, their struggle is forging the most durable and precious of bonds.

*Adapted from “The Pleasant Way,” based on the teachings of Rav Avraham Pam, zt”l, by Rabbi Sholom Smith, with permission from the author*

# Waiting for the Answers

Rabbi Shimon Sofer of Cracow came to his revered father, the Chasam Sofer, with a problem. “Yesterday, a heretic asked me a question, and I was unable to answer him.” He repeated the question, but his father offered no answer. Several days later, the Chasam Sofer summoned his son and showed him the answer, which was easy to ascertain. “I didn't show you the answer right away,” the father explained, “because I wanted to teach you that in questions of faith, one does not have to worry if he does not have an immediate answer.”

A person of faith knows the Torah is truth, and all the answers are there. A question—even one with no immediate answer—doesn't shake that knowledge. When a person knows that the answers are there, he can live with the questions.

*Adapted from “Touch of Wisdom, Touch of Wit,” by Rabbi Shmuel Himelestein, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

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## Dedications

לע"נ חיים יחיאל מיכל בן  
רפאל פייוועל שניאור ז"ל

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2G-1 made an edible Kever Rochel scene to commemorate the yertzeit of Rochel Imeunu on י'א חשוון



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Hadassa Mann  
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**2nd Grade**  
Gitty Danziger  
1060 NE 176th Street

**3rd Grade**  
Ora Nussbaum  
1191 NE 175th Street

**4th Grade**  
Ella Rabovsky  
1111 NE 175th Street

**5th Grade**  
Meira Kolodny  
17341 NE 12th Court

**3:30-4:30**

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us!  
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