

What's New @ YTCTE

פרשת ויגש | י' טבת תשפ"ד | DEC 22, 2023

NMB CANDLE LIGHTING 5:16 PM*

**Other S. FL communities may differ*





A MESSAGE FROM THE ROSHEI HAYESHIVA



Amongst But Separate

RABBI MORDECHAI PALGON, שליט"א

The very last pasuk in Parshas Vayigash explains that **וישב ישראל בארץ גושן**, מצרים בארץ גושן, Bnei Yisroel lived in the land of Goshen which is in the land of Mitzrayim. Many ask the question: why does the Torah need to repeat the information that Goshen was in Mitzrayim? We already know from previous pesukim that Goshen was in Mitzrayim. Is it not enough to just say they lived in Goshen without qualifying its location?

Rav Moshe Feinstein explains that the reason there is repetition is to teach us that sometimes Bnei Yisroel has to live in galus because Hashem puts us in that place, but a Jew must always exert effort not to live amongst the goyim. Jews should work to separate themselves in distance and in action. When we are in galus, we build institutions and entertainment that are separate to avoid undue influence from the secular society, even as far back as Mitzrayim. Everything for the Jews was in Goshen and not in Mitzrayim, both geographically and culturally.

Rabbi Sholom Rubashkin tells a story that what saved him when he went into prison was his mindset. He held onto the idea that a person has a neshama and a body. If a person embraces his neshama, only his body is imprisoned but his neshama remains free. We are in galus, but if our neshama is embracing Hashem by following the Torah and mitzvos, our neshamos will not be.



HALACHA CORNER



Fasting On Shabbos

DAVID FRYDMAN

BMZE, 2nd Year Talmid
Hollywood, FL

It is forbidden to fast on Shabbos. Fasting in this context refers to either not eating or drinking for any amount of time with the intent of fasting, or not eating or drinking until **הצות** (midday) even without intent to fast. The second example of fasting can be a problem for someone who goes to a later minyan on Shabbos and the minyan doesn't finish until after **הצות**. If someone wants to make sure that they keep the Halacha of not fasting on Shabbos, they should make sure to eat something before **הצות**.

There is a מחלוקת in the poskim as to whether a person can drink in order to consider it as if he didn't fast. Some poskim question whether any liquid works to "break your fast" on Shabbos. The Aruch Hashulchan rules that a hot beverage works to break your fast, but a cold beverage or water does not work. R' Ovadia Yosef rules that a person can break his fast with water and it is even **לכתחילה** to do so.

A MUSSAR MOMENT



Simple Words, Complicated Impact

RABBI YAAKOV KIER

Rosh Kollel, Kollel Mechanchim Zichron Yitzchok Isaac,
12th Grade Rebbe

He had all the cards in his hands. After an illegal abduction, he now had their beloved son as a hostage. How could the family break through and redeem him? This storyline doesn't come from the current headline but rather from this week's parsha.

Yehuda got the seemingly evil tyrant of Egypt to break. The Medrash (Parshas Vayigash 93:4) explains the secret of Yehuda's triumph. It lies within understanding the depth of human nature. Rav Shmuel Berenbaum (Tiferes Shmuel) explains that even though the Shevatim got Yosef to cry in private, they didn't break

him. It was just Yehuda's simple straightforward words which finally pushed Yosef over the edge. Rav Shmuel explains that you see from here how complex human dynamics are. It's not necessarily the surefire, emotional plea which motivates a person. It may be just another simple sentiment that will shake him.

This yesod is so important in interpersonal relationships, especially for parents and children, Rebbeim and their talmidim. You never know when your simple words will make an impact. Don't be discouraged when your well-rehearsed presentation seems to be ignored. Simple words in a different scenario and setting could sometimes penetrate even the most fortified defenses.



New Old Reality

Dear Parents,

Many Jews, secular ones in particular, are bemoaning the new reality that has been thrust upon us since *Simchas Torah*. The explosion of antisemitic acts and words in the public arena of this country are a great cause of concern for all of us. It would be helpful to get a perspective in understanding what might be underlying these events and perhaps a glimpse as to what message *Hashem* may be sending us. **During our long and bitter Galus, we have been in dangerous and uncertain situations many times**, so what we are experiencing is, unfortunately, not something unprecedented.

After receiving and accepting the startling and most welcome news that Yosef was still alive, *Yaakov Avinu* lead his family on their journey down to *Mitzrayim* to reunite with Yosef. *Hashem* appears to *Yaakov* in a vision to tell him not to fear leaving *Eretz Yisrael* and settling temporarily in Egypt, "...because I will make you into a great nation there." (*Bereishis* 46:3).

The *Seforno* comments that *Hashem* is informing *Yaakov* that were he and his children to stay in *Canaan*, they would end up intermarrying with the local inhabitants and becoming assimilated. However, in Egypt, where "the Egyptians are not able to eat bread together with the Hebrews," *Yaakov's* family would be forcibly separated and thereby not be susceptible to intermarriage. It was only in Egypt that *Yaakov's* family could develop into a separate nation.

It is astounding to think that the great sons of *Yaakov* and their children would be unable to remain distinct and separate from the lowly *Canaanites* surrounding them. With their great *mesorah* from *Avraham*, *Yitzchak* and *Yaakov* it seems unfathomable that merely being in proximity to a welcoming and accepting culture and environment could sway them from their powerful roots. Nevertheless, that is the clear message that the *Seforno* tells us *Hashem* was conveying to *Yaakov*.

The great *chesed* and open and welcoming environment that always was America, has unfortunately already swallowed up millions of our fellow Jews. We are both blessed and cursed to live in a country where our rights are protected by law to the same degree as every other citizen. It has stood us in good stead and enabled us to rebuild our world from the ashes of the Holocaust. But the goodness comes with a price; a price that has already been paid by so many of our brothers and sisters who have assimilated and been lost to the Jewish people.

Hashem has promised He will not allow the Jewish people to disappear and He takes measures to ensure that. It has been observed that when the Jews fail to separate sufficiently from the surrounding non-Jews, the non-Jews separate themselves from the Jews, many times causing us great pain and suffering. The great European *Rosh Yeshiva*, *Harav Boruch Ber*

Leibowitz zt'l who visited the United States in the 1930's is quoted as having said: **"In America, the Jews know how to make Kiddush, they do not know how to make Havdala."** His point was that the Jewish community was very open and accepting of differences among Jews and between Jews and non-Jews. What they failed in was creating the proper barriers and separations from non-Jews, to protect against intermarriage and assimilation.

Without a *Navi*, a prophet, to interpret what is really happening today, we can only conjecture as to *Hashem's* plan. It would not be unreasonable to suggest that *Hashem* is letting us know that we are getting too comfortable in our surroundings, too close with the non-Jewish culture and environment. We are falling short in our *Havdala*, therefore *Hashem* is causing the people around us to decide that the Jews are too integrated, too much a part of them and it's time to make that separation, perhaps painfully.

This message needs to be internalized and transmitted to our children. We are different and we are special. We already invest heavily in maintaining our distinctiveness. *Shabbos*, *Kashrus*, going to shul, attending Yeshiva, are all lifestyle choices we have made that we and our children are okay with and celebrate. But, the areas of dress, entertainment, pursuit of pleasure, drive for affluence and immersion in secular media and culture all represent a more subtle challenge to our being a separate people, distinct from those surrounding us.

We all need to continue developing greater pride in the uniqueness that an all-encompassing Torah life engenders, even though being visibly different from those around us may make us somewhat uncomfortable and apprehensive at this time. The Jews' desire to fit in and be a part of society, is apparently not being reciprocated by the non-Jews. This message is being cruelly thrown at us with increasing frequency. May we and our children heed the message, stand tall and resolute with *gaavah d'kedusha*, pride in our holiness and distinctiveness and thereby be protected from the *Havdala* of the *Goyim*. As we continue to *daven* for the welfare of our brothers and sisters in *Eretz Yisrael*, may we also be spared further harm. May we grow stronger and prouder of our special status as the *Am Hanivchar*, the chosen people of *Hashem*.

Best wishes for a comforting and inspiring *Shabbos*,



Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal, EECC/KES/BTE

NEWS AND UPDATES @YTCTE



Calendar Reminders

December 25

EECC/KES/BTE/RMS: Regular Classes
Mesivta Avraham Zev: Dismissal 2:20 PM

January 1

EECC: JPK-PK Dismissal 11:30 AM, K Dismissal 12:00 PM
KES: Dismissal 12:00 PM
BTE: Dismissal 12:15 PM
RMS: Dismissal 12:20 PM
Mesivta Avraham Zev: Dismissal 2:20 PM

Mazel Tov!

To Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Refaelovitz and family on the
Bar Mitzvah of their son, our talmid, Elchanan!

To Mr. and Mrs. Mordechai Korik and family on the
engagement of their son, our talmid, Yoshi to Rivka
Zidell from Miami Beach!

To Mr. and Mrs. Avraham Binyamin and family
on the birth of a baby boy!

To Rabbi and Mrs. Asher Schnaidman and family
on the birth of a baby girl!

To Mr. and Mrs. Eytan Ohayon and family
on the birth of a baby boy!



Parnes HaYom

ו' טבת

All Divisions
לרפואה שלמה
פסח משה בן הינדה ברכה
For the success of Pesach Goodman's
kidney transplant iy"H

ח' טבת

RMS
לעילוי נשמת
Harav Shlomo Zalman ben Harav Aharon Yehuda A"H
on his yartzeit
by the Coane family

ח' טבת

KES
לרפואה שלמה
יהודה צבי בן מאטל
by Drs. Stuart & Marcy Bernstein

Secure the merit of 1,300 children and young men learning Torah
and davening on your behalf.

YTCTE.ORG/PARNESHAYOM



Reminders

Do you have another child ready to join YTCTE?
Applications are now open for NEW students for the
2024-25 school year! Visit ytcte.org/apply. Stay
tuned for information regarding re-enrollment for
current YTCTE students. Feel free to reach out to the
admissions office with any questions at
admissions@ytcte.org.

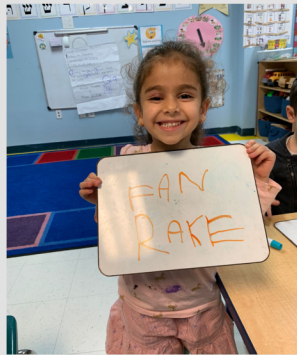
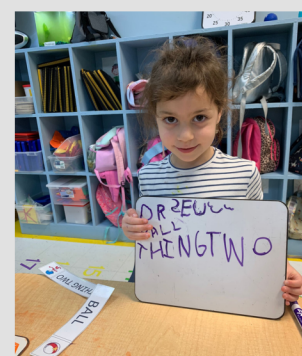
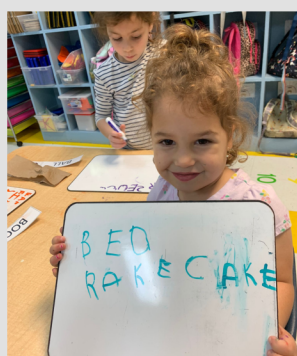
ESFORMES EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



All About Me is the new unit that the junior pre-k students began exploring. With self-portraits, handprints and footprints just as the start, the students can't wait to learn even more about themselves in the coming weeks.



The pre-k classes started their new unit on authors. All students loved learning about the first author, Dr. Seuss!

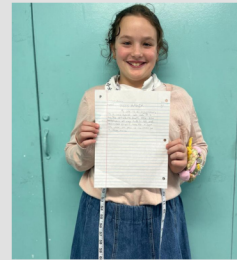
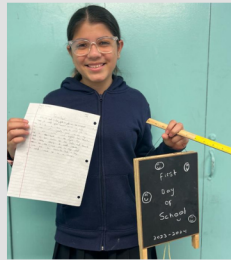
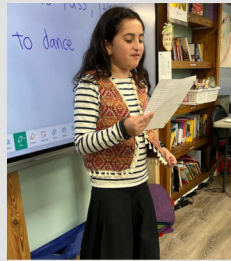
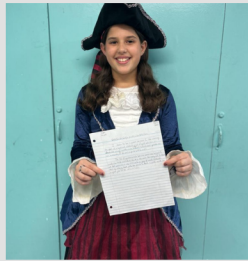




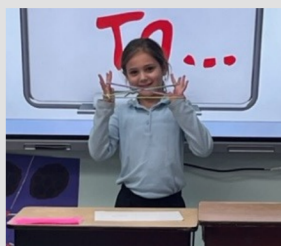
KLURMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - GIRLS



During a team building activity that 4G-3 did in Mrs. Shaffren's robotics class, the girls had to figure out what color sticker was on their forehead without speaking.



5G-3 made presentations about a variety of colonial jobs. They came dressed in character and read their reports.



The girls in 2G-1 walked down the red carpet to give their how-to presentations.





BTE hosted a Chanukah chagiga for the 5th graders. They had a blast decorating donuts, making a project and playing a fun game of kahoot together.

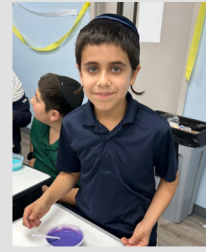


In Navi class, the talmidos learned Shiras Chana and the neis that Hashem gave her a son, Shmuel, showing that Hashem can transform reality. They made beautiful Shiras Chana projects for their mothers to say after hadlokas neiros.





KLURMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BOYS



5B-2 and 5B-3 earned a slime party after exceeding their read-a-thon goals!



The scientists in 2B-3 and 2B-4 did their first science experiment of the year... the egg drop challenge.



5B-1 constructed their devices for their class egg drop competition!

ROHR MIDDLE SCHOOL - BOYS



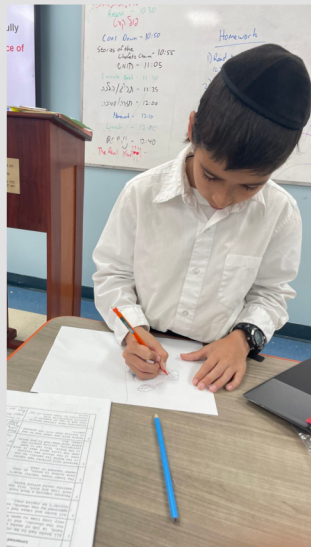
Mr. Betances's science class began preparations and research for their upcoming science projects.



6th grade talmidim incredibly completed Tehillim 10x as a grade. In celebration of this accomplishment, they had sports leagues.



After learning about the invention of the printing press, the boys created posters explaining life before and after this invention, as well as how it affected and shifted the balance of power in society.



THE DR. ABE CHAMES HIGH SCHOOL & BAIS MEDRASH ZICHRON EZRA - מתיבתא אברהם זאב

Students in the Bais Medrash track worked on their independent study English class with the help of Dr. Brown.



12th graders had a training session with Coach Melnick during a break in the workout room.



The high school talmidim had the zechus to listen to a shmeuss by Rabbi Rubashkin about bitachon and his life experiences. It was very inspiring with lessons surely to remember.





Strengthening hasmadah — *with you*



They turn page after page, deep in limud, with the passion they learned at yeshiva and the commitment they've gathered from home. **Together, we're raising a generation dedicated to limud haTorah.**

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JAN. 14, 2024 | AN EVENING OF PARTNERSHIP



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North Miami Beach, FL 33162

BNOS TORAS EMES

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