

What's New @ YTCTE

MAY 17, 2024 | ט' אייר תשפ"ד | פרשת אמור

NMB CANDLE LIGHTING 7:43PM*

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A MESSAGE FROM THE ROSHEI HAYESHIVA



Counting Towards Purpose

RABBI YISROEL Y. NIMAN, שליט"א

The Sefer Hachinuch writes that the purpose of the mitzvah of counting the Omer is to show our excitement, value, and yearning for Shavuos, the day that we received the Torah from Hashem. Since the whole purpose of the existence of Klal Yisroel is to serve Hashem and to do mitzvos, the meeting at Har Sinai, when the Torah was given as a way to do so, was a greater experience for the nation than going from bondage to freedom.

The question arises: Bnei Yisroel were in Mitzrayim for 210 years doing backbreaking labor as slaves, subject to the whims of any Egyptian, until they were finally freed through Hashem's tremendous miracles. How could receiving the Torah be greater for those who received it than that enormous, defining milestone in their lives?

After the nation saw the hand of Hashem and all of the nisim in Mitzrayim and the sea, their priorities were clear. They had a distinct appreciation and understanding of their purpose in the creation of the world to perfect themselves to be better people and emulate Hashem. Once they recognized this, receiving the Torah and the guidelines for achieving this was so much more precious and significant than leaving the painful experience of Mitzrayim. It meant being able to fulfill the purpose of creation! This is what we are so excited about and count towards to Shavuos and Matan Torah.



HALACHA CORNER



Tisha B'Av VS Other Fasts

NETANIEL SHIMUNOFF

BMZE, 2nd Year Talmid

Kew Gardens, NY

There is a major difference between תשעה באב and all of the other fast days. On תשעה באב, not only is eating and drinking prohibited, but the other prohibitions that we keep on יום כיפור apply as well, including washing etc. The other fast days, including י"ז בתמוז, י"ג בטבת, and צום גדליה are not as strict. The only prohibition on those days is eating and drinking.

The Chofetz Chaim in the משנה ברורה says that one who is a בעל נפש should try to be strict even on the "minor" fast days and treat them with the same severity as תשעה באב (except one is allowed to wear regular shoes). The Chofetz Chaim also says in the הלכה ביאור that on the fast days that have to do with the destruction of the בית המקדש, such as י"ז בתמוז and י"ג בטבת, a person should try to be strict and treat them with the same severity as the 9 days. This means that a person should not take haircuts, wash for pleasure or listen to music. R' Yitzchak Yosef in the ספר ילקוט יוסף says that on all fast days, a person should not listen to music.

A MUSSAR MOMENT



The Elevated Count

RABBI YAAKOV KIER

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

We count with anticipation the days before Shavuos leading up to Kabbalas HaTorah. However, this isn't the sole objective of this accounting. We call it Sefiras Haomer- counting the days since we brought the Korban Omer. What is the significance of this counting relative to Shavuos?

The Maharsha in Rosh Hashana (16a) explains that on Pesach we bring the Korban Omer which is made out of barley. In contrast to Shavuos when we bring the Shte HaLechem which is made out of flour. The Maharsha explains the difference is that originally when they left Mitzrayim they were only on the level of simple creations

like animals that eat barley. After the transformation of the days before Kabbalas HaTorah, they reached a Madreiga of a Bar Daas, someone fit to eat human food made of wheat. With this we can tie together Kabbalas HaTorah and Sefiras Haomer. it is only after one counts days of achievement before Shavuos that one can elevate oneself from animal to complex man worthy of receiving the Torah.

We live in a world where sometimes the lines between gashmiyus and ruchniyos, animalistic behavior and lofty heavenly ideals, can be dulled and blurred. At this time of Sefiras Haomer, we truly have to count up. Not just in numerical value, but also in real change to become a more elevated person. However, that growth doesn't come overnight. We literally have to take it one day at a time.



Animals V. People

Dear Parents,

Statistics indicate that there are approximately 100 million domestically-owned dogs and cats in the United States. Nearly one in every two households owns a pet. Humans and animals have an intriguing relationship. We consume animals in great volume, thereby promoting the slaughter of untold numbers of animals, while at the same time, many people are very attached to their pets and care very deeply about the welfare of animals.

Animals were clearly integral to everyday life for everyone until the rise of urban living. For example, animals are central to the *Avodah* in the *Beis HaMikdash*. Also, animals were the primary means of transportation and commerce worldwide until a little more than 100 years ago.

What is the Torah's attitude about animals and pets, and what messages should we be sharing with our children?

We can learn a lesson from a mitzvah in this week's *Parsha*. The *Pasuk* says (*Vayikra 22:28*): וְשׂוֹר אֹר שֶׁה אֹתוֹ וְאֵת בְּנוֹ לֹא תִשְׁחַטּוּ בְיוֹם אֶחָד. *An ox or sheep, do not shecht (slaughter) the mother and child on the same day.* The *Sefer HaChinuch* (*Mitzvah 294*) explains the rationale for this negative commandment: A person is to take to heart the realization that **Hashem's Hashgacha (Divine Providence, Divine Supervision) is over all species** of living things, which is the reason why species continue to exist. Therefore, we are commanded to do our part to preserve animal species to implant that lesson in our heart. (Killing two generations of animals in one day is equated to causing the destruction of the species.)

The *Sefer HaChinuch* then goes on to explain that there is a fundamental difference in *Hashem's* relationship with mankind on the one hand, and animals on the other. *Hashem* runs the world with *Hashgacha*, supervising the course of history. Animals are related to with a generalized *Hashgacha*, without *Hashem's* individualized attention. Each animal's fate is

left up to the vagaries of nature, while the species as a whole is protected and preserved by Divine intervention. We see from this approach of the *Sefer HaChinuch* that animals play an important part of this world and are to be treated in a manner that will ensure their preservation. That still leaves much leeway to allow people to use animals for their own purposes and to take measures to protect themselves from particular harmful and annoying animals.

People, however, are treated with *Hashgacha Pratis*, meaning that what happens to every individual is not happenstance but a direct manifestation of *Hashem's* will. People are individually unique and attended to by *Hashem* himself. Therefore we are required to treat each other with kindness, respect and care, to emulate how *Hashem* looks after each and every human being.

It is important to share this understanding with our children. Animals are to be treated with care, never abused or destroyed for no reason. Acting cruelly to animals for one's enjoyment is strictly forbidden by the Torah. Many times, pets can provide important therapeutic support for children and adults. However, to lavish excessive attention, expense and emotion on a pet is not in line with the *Torah Hashkafa*. We should never elevate the relationship to a pet to that which we should be cultivating with our family, friends and neighbors. Animals' "rights" do not supersede people's right to use animals for our needs.

Let us keep in mind and impart to our children our obligation to partner with *Hashem* in preserving the innumerable species in our wondrous world, while directing the focus of our love, care and compassion to our fellow human beings.

Best wishes for a wonderful *Shabbos*,



Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal, EECC/KES/BTE



Calendar Reminders

May 23

KES: Lag B'Omer BBQ & Activities

BTE: Lag B'Omer Activities

Mesivta: Begin No Maariv After Mishmar,
Dismissal 8:00 PM

May 27

EECC: No Classes

KES: Boys Only Sunday Class Schedule
9:00 AM-12:00 PM

BTE: Classes 8:30 AM-12:00 PM

RMS: Classes 8:10 AM-12:20 PM




Mazel Tov!

To Rabbi and Mrs. Avraham Mitgang and family
on the birth of a baby girl!

To Rabbi and Mrs. Moree Ivgi and family
on the birth of a baby boy!

To Mr. and Mrs. Moshe Drebin and family
on the bar mitzvah of their son, our talmid, Eliezer!



Parnes HaYom

ד' אייר
BMZE Morning Seder
לעילוי נשמת
Tuvia Tzvi ben Shmuel Dovid a"h on his yartzeit
Grandfather of David Frydman
by the Frydman family

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

YTCTE.ORG/PARNESHAYOM



Reminders

Lunch portal was updated for May 23 for KES which is the Lag B'Omer BBQ & Activities day. BBQ lunch can now be purchased on the portal. Previous orders for the regular hot lunch option for that day were canceled and credited to the accounts. Parents MUST order from the portal the BBQ lunch, if desired.

ESFORMES EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



JPK learned about Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai and created friendship paintings.



The pre-k children reviewed the alef-beis with games and activities as they get really close to making an alef-beis siyum.

Kindergarten students count the omer every day as they prepare for kabbalas haTorah with v'ahavta l'reicha kamocho in their everyday interactions.





KLURMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - GIRLS



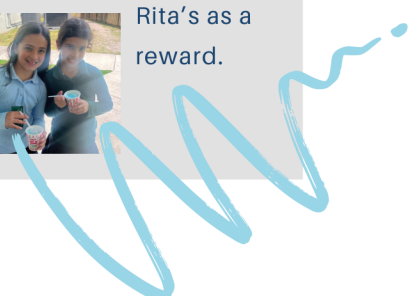
The 5th graders enjoyed a fun graduation trip to Sky Zone and Sun Splash Waterpark.



4G-3 made "Gallon People" to help learn measurements and common conversions.



The girls who completed the Chemdah program over Pesach got to enjoy Rita's as a reward.





The 6th grade girls learned about cellular respiration, photosynthesis, and fermentation. They blew up a balloon through fermentation and changed the color of an indicator solution with cellular respiration.



Some girls went to Mrs. Wax's house to make potato kugel for the Erev Shabbos assembly.



The girls beaded keychains in art.





KLURMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BOYS



To increase reading fluency, 2B-1 and 2B-3 had friendly competitions playing meatball and spaghetti and trying to win prizes.



The 5th graders earned a pizza party from the Mishnayos auction.



The boys who completed the Hasmoda program over Pesach got to enjoy Rita's as a reward.





Rabbi Chait brought some 8th graders to work with our JEMS friends.



Rabbi Kaganoff's 6th grade talmidim made a siyum on Mishnayos.

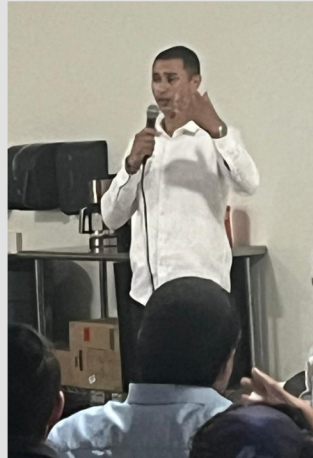
Rabbi Berger's class made paper rockets and compared different fuels, such as water and air.



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



Shawn Balva, author of Conviction: A Journey from Prison to Torah, spoke at the Rosh Chodesh breakfast and kumzitz. He spoke about his time in federal prison and how he became a baal tshuva.



9th grader, Gabriel Friedlander, gave an interesting science presentation called "Introduction to Calorie Measurements."



Rabbi Luban gave his weekly Parsha shiur during morning seder to BMZE.



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2024

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