

THE  
WEEK  
IN  
WORDS



December 10, 2020 כ"ה כסלו תשפ"א

5:12 PM

פרשת וישב



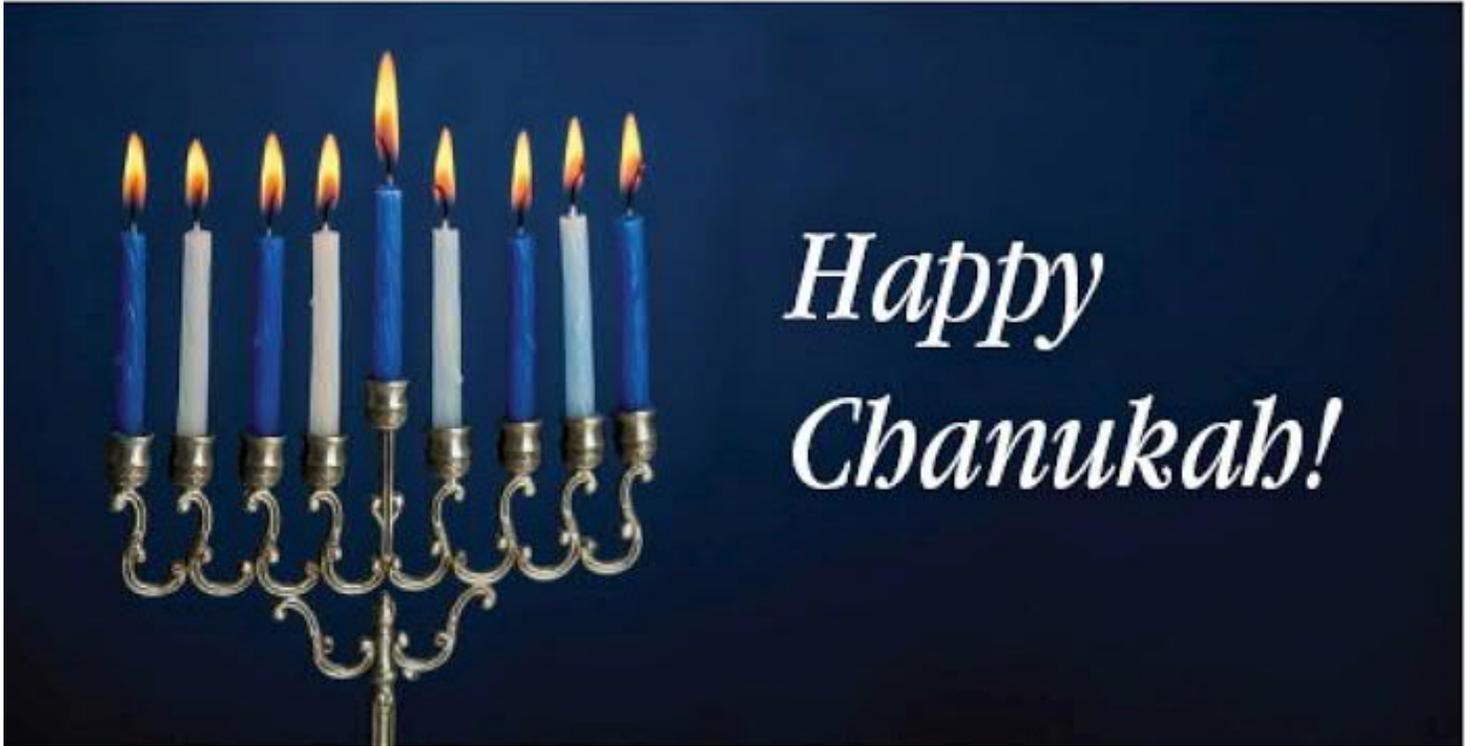
## Calendar Notes

December 11-14

Chanukah Break— No School

December 25

Asara B'Teves. Dismissal at 1:00PM



The teachers and staff would like to thank the PTA and all the parents for their generous Chanukah gift!

## COVID CORNER

Before your children will be able to return to Yeshiva on Tuesday, December 15th, following Chanukah break, we will be asking families to complete an affirmation via the parent portal. In order for your child(ren) to be admitted to campus after Chanukah break, you must **fill** this form out for each child. Please lookout for an email from the school with the affirmation link and information. If you answered "yes" to any of the questions, your child(ren) will not be admitted to Yeshiva and the COVID Safety Team will be in touch with you regarding the next steps. If you are able to answer "no" to all the questions, your children will be admitted to Yeshiva on Tuesday morning. Please complete the affirmation on Monday, December 14th. If you have not completed the **affirmation**, your children will not be admitted to Yeshiva until the **affirmation** is completed.

Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy and safe Chanukah!

# From the desk of Rabbi Baumann

Principal: Rabbi Kalman Baumann Director: Mrs. Talia Levine



## IN THOSE DAYS, IN OUR TIMES

Dear Parents,

Erev Shabbos Parashas Vayeishev Shabbos Chanuka 5781

The celebration of *Chanuka* this year should be different than any in recent memory. Not because we need to abide by Covid restrictions and conduct our family and community celebrations in a very unusual manner, which of course, we will do. Nor because of places and people we won't connect with this year, to our deep regret.

What should be different is our mindset and understanding of the *Mesiras Nefesh* of the *Chashmonaim*. When confronted with a direct attack on the core values of Torah Judaism, and in light of the abandonment of those values by a large number of their co-religionists, *Mattisyahu*, his family and a relatively small number of followers abandoned the security of their homes and community, and with incredible determination, fled into the wilderness and, in fear for their lives, hid in caves for an extended period of time.

Not content to merely preserve their own personal way of life and values, they endangered their lives again and again by venturing forth in battle against overwhelming odds. This was not a short-lived military campaign, but one that dragged on for years and years. How does one remain committed to a cause for such an extended period of time? From where does one draw the inner strength to not weaken in his or her resolve as time passes and a return to 'normal' remains elusive?

We are experiencing our own battle that threatens not only our health but our ability to maintain and strengthen a robust Torah community and spiritual way of life. We have not disappeared into caves in the wilderness, but we have been confined to our homes with greatly limited ability to join together as a community of Torah committed, *mitzvah*-observing members of *Klal Yisrael*. As the months drag on in this surreal experience, are we able to summon up the inner strength to maintain our level of *Mesiras Nefesh* that we demonstrated back in the spring? Has "Corona Fatigue" set in and brought with it a malaise and lethargy when it comes to maintaining our physical and spiritual well-being?

We should utilize the lessons from the *Chanuka* story to help us reflect upon the reality that has been thrust upon us. How did the *Chashmonaim* do it? Were they just some super-heroic *tzadikim* to whom we cannot possibly relate, or were they committed, sincere Jews who consciously chose to follow their higher values and not compromise. Even without super-hero standing, they were Jews who didn't let someone else worry about the future of the Jewish people, rather they decided to fight the complacency that was all around them.

**Has "Corona Fatigue" set in and brought with it a malaise and lethargy...?**

It is perhaps not so well known, that the backdrop to the *Chanuka* story, as explained by the *Bach* in his commentary to the *Tur Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chayim 670)* was an atmosphere of complacency about the service in the *Beis Hamikdash*. People were no longer animated or passionate about the daily sacrifices. They took them for granted, going through the motions in rote compliance of the *Halacha*. This less than desirable approach resulted in

*Hashem* taking away the opportunity to perform the service, until the fire and passion of the *Chashmonaim* brought back the holy service to the Jewish People.

Is it perhaps our complacency about the wondrous gift, in our day and age, to be able to practice our *Yiddishkeit* with full legal protection in a country that is kind and compassionate towards us, and that has enabled us to advance materially with no restrictions, which has caused those foundations to be shaken to the core? Have we become so comfortable that we are unaware of our historically tenuous existence in *Galus*? There are numerous parallels that can be drawn between the circumstances surrounding the experience of Greek oppression and how we should be reacting to the current pandemic.

At minimum, we can gain a greater appreciation for what the *Chashmonaim* endured and accomplished. We can hold up their successes and reflect them upon our trials and tribulations. Torah Judaism survives and thrives because when *Hashem* sees that Jews won't have it any other way, and are prepared to sacrifice comfort,

security and safety for it, He brings about a miraculous salvation. Our ability to remain focused on our personal and communal spiritual growth will put us in a league with the great *Maccabees* and will give us the fortitude to fight fatigue and complacency of any kind.

Our current difficulties provide us with a strikingly teachable moment – to show our children what "*Netzach Yisrael Lo Yeshakeir*" ("the eternity of Israel is not a falsehood") is all about. The heroes of *Chanuka*, the heroes of our recent past all teach us that with resolve, faith, determination and solid *Bitachon*, we are a nation of winners in the epic battle to bring *Hashem's* truth to the world.

May the light of *Chanuka* be the light at the end of our tunnel and may that light enable us and our children to find the true path to happiness, that awaits all of us.

Best wishes for a *Chanuka* filled with light, joy and good health,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

**The celebration of Chanuka this year should be different than any in recent memory.**

**May the light of Chanuka be the light at the end of our tunnel...**

# JuNIOr Pre-K PRESSs

MOROT LINDSAY, NAOMI & RINA

This week, the Junior Pre-K classes have been busy with Chanukah preparations! We have been having a blast creating Chanukah crafts and learning the Chanukah story. The children even acted out the story with helmets, shields,



menorahs, and dreidels. Everyone is very excited to have made their very own unique and special menorahs and can't wait to actually use them!



We have been discussing fire safety and how we must always light our menorah with a grown up. Throughout our week we have also been using different Chanukah objects

such as candles and dreidels, to make patterns, count, sort, and cut. We have also been learning lots of Chanukah songs and the Brachos for lighting the menorah! The children are very excited to take home all their Chanukah crafts and show them off to their entire family! Happy Chanukah!



# PRE-K PAGES

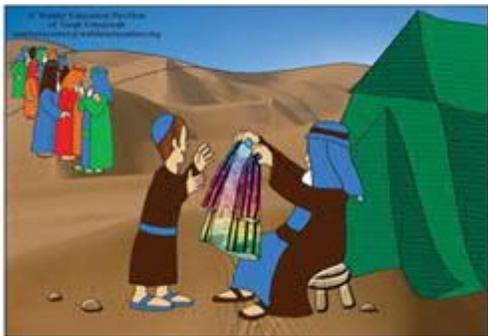
## MOROT NECHAMA, MIRIAM & MORIEL

The Pre-K children are ready for Chanukah! They worked so hard on their menorahs and had a great time making all their other projects. They know the story of Chanukah so well and can't wait to tell it over. They also learned all about the way to light the menorah, the Brachos and about the foods we eat.

This week's letter was Zayin. We noticed how Zayin stands in a zig zag sort of way so we call it "ziggly Zayin". We learned all about the mitzvah of zrizus and are trying hard to practice this mitzvah.

This week's Parsha told us all about Yosef's dreams. We heard about his Kesones HaPasim too and had fun making one in class. The children loved hearing about the dreams of Sar Ha'mashkim and Sar Ha'ofim too.

Have a Happy Chanukah and a wonderful Shabbos!



## MOROT ELYSE & YEHUDES

We had the most amazing week in Pre-K! We have definitely been anticipating Chanukah and are so happy that it is finally here! On Monday, we played a fun subitizing game where the children had to match the latkes to its corresponding number pan! We then went on to do many fun math activities such as making patterns with dreidels and using a dice to roll and put that many candles on our menorahs! Tuesday was all about finishing our Chanukah gift for our parents. We have been learning about oil so we thought it would be appropriate to make oil bottles to help you fill up the glass of your menorahs with oil. The students also worked very hard to write their own cards and decorate the gift bags. On Wednesday, we turned into scientists! We started off by doing a science experiment where we mixed water with different solutions such as apple juice, orange juice and grape juice. We observed that when water is mixed with these substances it mixes together. We then asked what they think would happen if we mixed the water with oil. The children guessed that it would mix together as well. They were so surprised to see that that wasn't the case! Oil didn't mix with anything! It always rose to the top. For table time we squeezed olives to make oil and did some fun oil and water activities. On Wednesday and Thursday we reviewed the importance of fire safety and how we need to be super careful on Chanukah. We also enjoyed playing with fun Chanukah themed sensory activities. We hope you enjoy your Chanukah and look forward to having another fun week!



# KINDERGARTEN CORNER

## MOROT CHAYA, DEVORAH, ESTHER, ESTY & RENA

Happy Chanukah to all!! The YomTov we have been waiting for, planning for, singing about, and learning about is finally here! The children have been enthralled with all the details of the miraculous Chanukah story. They have also been given many hands on interactive tactile experiences during the creation of our magnificent Chanukah projects. The children enjoyed peeling their tiles and choosing their choice of tiles. They were given the opportunity to design and lay out their unique Menorah designs. Please enjoy the other exciting Chanukah projects as well.

We never stop learning Torah in Kindergarten. We have continued learning Aleph Bais and Parsha throughout the Yom Tov season. Parshas Vayeshev is such a detailed and exciting Parsha. The children had a chance to fill in the missing parts of several Parsha scenes in their Parshas Vayeshev coloring book. Be sure to ask them what to share with you what they learned.

We are looking forward to many more fantastic Chanukah themed activities next week, on Chanukah!

Enjoy the Chanukah break!



## MOROT MORAL, PEARLY & RACHELI

This week in foundations we learned the letters Ee and Rr. We named some words that start with the new letters we learned. We also learned two new sight words We and Me. We played fun games to help us with our rhyming and continued practicing syllables.

In math, we practiced forming the number 10. We also practiced counting 10 different objects. We used counters to help us identify which numbers are greater than, less than, or the same as 10.

We're continuing our lesson on fire safety. Due to Covid-19 the fire department wasn't able to come to our school this year so instead we watched a virtual tour of a fire station and fire trucks. We learned what the firefighters wear and why they wear it. We also learned that we should not touch fire or light our menorahs without parental supervision. We finished our amazing projects and can't wait to bring it home. The children practiced their addresses so if they ever need to call 911 they would know where to send the firemen. We even wrote what we should do if there's ever a fire.

We also practiced our phone numbers in case we ever need to call our parents from a friends house, or if we're lost.

**FIRE  
SAFETY**



Chai Lifeline  
SOUTHEAST

This Chanukah,  
gift a  
**smile.**



CHAI LIFELINE  
**toy**  **drive**

Brighten a sick child's life by donating a toy today.

**When:**

December 1 -December 16

**Drop off location:**

Toras Emes -KES Girls Office (sent in with student)  
1051 North Miami Beach Blvd NMB

In person drop off location- Chai Lifeline Office  
2699 Stirling Road Suite B 303  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33312

**Send a gift for a sick boy or girl, infants through teens, in any price range.**



For a drop off location, to have your toys picked up  
or for any questions, Call Chai Lifeline at:  
**305-956-9990 or email [LFEINTUCH@CHAILIFELINE.ORG](mailto:LFEINTUCH@CHAILIFELINE.ORG).**

NOW MORE THAN EVER...

# the *savor* moment



Join **JEW** ACROSS  
THE WORLD GOING  
**SCREEN**  
**FREE** FOR **30** MINUTES  
AFTER  
הדלקה

OPEN YOUR נשמה TO THE  
SHINE OF THE נרות AND  
EXPERIENCE THE  
*True essence of*  
חנוכה.

A GLOBAL PROJECT OF



IN CONJUNCTION WITH



TO RECEIVE DAILY REMINDERS  
[SAVORTHEMOMENT@TAG.ORG](mailto:SAVORTHEMOMENT@TAG.ORG)

FOR MORE INFO, CALL OUR OFFICE AT **732.730.1824**