

# TEAM

# Spirit

TORAS EMES  
ACADEMY OF MIAMI  
Samuel Aba & Sisel Klurman  
Elementary School  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Friday, November 6, 2009  
Candle Lighting 5:19 PM

פרשת וירא

## ★ STAR STUDENTS ★

Brandon Benchetrit ★ S.S.  
Avraham Brass ★ S.S.  
Daniel Danan ★ T.S.  
Meira Entin ★ T.S.  
Moti Froimovich ★ T.S.  
David Grinman ★ T.S.

Baruch Haimov ★ T.S.  
Chaya Sorah Koot ★ S.S.  
Chava Len ★ T.S.  
Yitzi Meisels ★ T.S.  
Debbie Nash ★ S.S.  
Tehila Palgon ★ T.S.  
Aviya Perets ★ S.S.  
David Sharbani ★ T.S.

Sara Seltzer ★ S.S.  
Yenon Moshe Sharaby ★ S.S.  
Rina Siegel ★ S.S.  
Sara Weberman ★ T.S.  
Sara Winter ★ T.S.  
Hillel Weinberger ★ S.S.  
Sara Winter ★ S.S.

## EXCITING DINNER NEWS!!!

### BLOOMS NAMED AS GUESTS OF HONOR AT THE ANNUAL DINNER

With great *Kavod* and excitement, the Yeshiva announces this year's Guests of Honor will be Dr. and Mrs. Norman and Naomi Bloom. With over sixty years combined service to Toras Emes/Toras Chaim on the lay and professional level, the Bloom name is synonymous with our Yeshiva. It's hard to imagine anyone more deserving than the Blooms, to receive the Yeshiva's highest recognition, as this year's Guests of Honor.

Watch for more details and further information in your mailbox and in future newsletters.

school and helpful in many ways. They are greatly admired within their community and we are fortunate to count them amongst the Yeshiva's closest friends. See further info later in this newsletter.

## PROJECT DERECH

This week's topic is "Not Interrupting". We are learning about the importance of letting other people (especially parents and teachers) finish what they're saying before saying what we want to. Please keep sending those DERECH passes back to school - we love to hear how wonderful our students are!

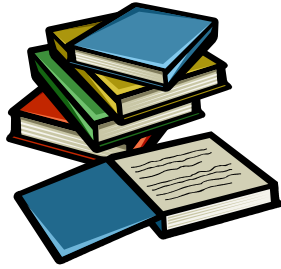
### MR. AND MRS. GOLDIS TO BE HONORED AT ANNUAL DINNER

The Yeshiva is excited to announce that the coveted *Kesser Shem Tov Award* will be conferred upon Mr. and Mrs. David and Chanu Goldis at the Annual Dinner.

The Goldis Family of Hollywood is a long time, loyal Toras Emes family, who has been very supportive of the

**READY, SET**  
**....READ!**

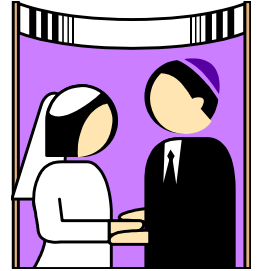
We are getting ready for this year's Book Fair, which will be held (conditions permitting) from December 4 through December 11. We are still in need of volunteers to help with set-up, sales during that week and making decorations for display. **Volunteers are the heart of a successful Book Fair.** The time and energy shared by you not only promotes school spirit, it is crucial in helping us achieve our goals of making the Fair most meaningful and worthwhile for the children. Please share your time to help make this year's Book Fair a resounding success. For more information, and to offer your help, please contact Mrs. Racheli Grossman at 305.651.6541.



***Mazel***  
**TOV**

To Drs. Stuart and Marcy Bernstein and family on the marriage of their son, our alumnus, Aryeh to Leeba Meinstain.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Avrohom Yachnes and family on the engagement of their daughter, our alumna, Sora Minna to Yoey Shapps of Canada.



**NICHUM AVEILIM**

To Mr. David Buzaglo and family on the loss of his mother.

**REFUAH SHELAIMA**

- " Ruchama Aliza Sara Chana *bas* Esther Leba
- " Chaya Yachet Elka *bas* Chana Rochel
- " Bina *bas* Chaya
- " Libba *bas* Fayga
- " Tova *bas* Rochel
- " Chaim *ben* Breindel Bracha
- " Mordechai *ben* Ora Yehudis
- " Yosef *ben* Simcha
- " Yossi Yosef *ben* Etti Esther

**BANK OF AMERICA -**  
**MUSEUMS ON US PROGRAM**

Get free general admission to participating museums, zoos, science centers, botanical gardens and more on the first full weekend of every month - just by presenting any Bank of America card (proof that you are a customer) and your photo ID. Go to the Bank of America website for details.

**GO FLY A KITE!**

That's exactly what Rabbi Steinberg's 5B-1 class did this past Sunday morning. After learning about how Avraham Avinu single handedly spread the belief of one, all powerful G-d, we listened to Abie Rotenberg's song "Little Kite". The powerful lyrics relay the message that although we can not see Hashem, all the proof of His existence and involvement in our lives is as clear as day. After discussing the song the boys enjoyed flying a kite or two.

## NEWS FROM 1G

The first grade girls learned all about Rachel Imeinu's Yahrzeit, which was on 11 Cheshvan. We learned how very special Rachel Imeinu was and we made beautiful Kever Rachel projects using colored stones. Last week we finished our marble jar for behaving so outstandingly well throughout the first two months of school. We celebrated with a delicious ice cream party. We each made our own ice cream sundaes with cones, sprinkles and chocolate syrup! We had such a good time and are already on our way to finishing our marble jar for a second time! Aren't we a terrific bunch of first graders!

### 1G ICE CREAM PARTY-YUMMY!!!!



### KEVER RACHEL ART PROJECTS - SO BEAUTIFUL!



## SUMMER REVIEW LUNCHEON

Our thanks to the parents who drove and/or chaperoned the students on Thursday for the Summer Review Luncheon at Jerusalem Restaurant. It was a most enjoyable event honoring the students who worked so diligently and performed so well on their Dikduk and Shorashim skills throughout the summer vacation. Yasher Koach to the students and to the following parents:

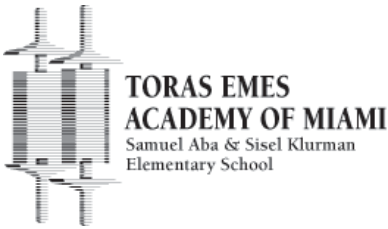
Mrs. Rose Balgley  
Mrs. Sheri Benchetrit  
Mrs. Miriam Cohen  
Mrs. Chanie Deutsch  
Mrs. Adina Dreyfuss  
Mrs. Esther Entin  
Mrs. Julie Kirschenbaum  
Mrs. Yocheved Lesnik  
Mrs. Sarah Palgon

## INTRODUCING ...THE JAG (Jewish Athletic Girls)

An after school sports program for girls in grades 3 - 5 will be offered on Wednesday afternoons starting November 11. The program will include basketball, soccer, football, machanayim, racing and more! For more information, or to register, call Estie Gruenstein at 786.357.0210.

## LET'S GET DRAMATIC!

A six week Drama Workshop on Tuesday afternoons and Sunday mornings is beginning soon for girls ages 8 - 11 at Toras Emes. The sessions will focus on self-expression and imagination in a Torah environment through games, activities, skits and story telling. Please call Estie Gruenstein at 786.357.0210 for more information.



Rabbi Kalman Baumann  
*Principal*

Dr. Deborah Lerer  
*Secular Studies Principal*

Rabbi Noam Grossman  
*Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Naomi Bloom  
*Early Childhood Director*

Erev Shabbos Parashas Vayera 5770

Dear Parents,

This week, we are sharing an abbreviated version of an article by Mrs. Rifka Schonfeld, educational consultant, that appeared in last week's Yated Ne'eman. Thank you to Mrs. Sarah Glatt, our Title I teacher for bringing it to our attention.

Everybody knows Watty Piper's classic children's book, *The Little Engine That Could*, about a small, kind locomotive that pulled a train over a mountain. While the other engines were too tired or arrogant, the small train managed to pull the dolls and toys to the good little boys and girls on the other side of the mountain. The message of this book is one of perseverance. Though the engine was small, she decided that she would try her best and chugged up the hill, motivating herself by saying "I think I can. I think I can. ...." She refused to give up, even as she knew the odds were against her.

The lesson of *The Little Engine That Could* is very important for children, especially in today's fast-paced and instantly gratifying society. Advances in technology have made life significantly easier, but they have also made many of us expect everything in life to come to us without difficulty. To our chagrin, when there are tasks that require excess effort and exertion, we may not have the tools to motivate ourselves to continue to strive for our goal. This is where perseverance comes in.

### *What is Perseverance?*

Perseverance is about sticking with a goal and steadfastly working to achieve that goal, even when everything does not work perfectly. There are many examples of famous people who persevered despite numerous setbacks and eventually became successful. Abraham Lincoln failed to be elected into the government seven times before becoming President of the United States at age 51. Walt Disney went bankrupt four times before creating Mickey Mouse and the Disney World empire; J.K. Rowling's first *Harry Potter* manuscript was rejected by twelve publishers before becoming a best selling phenomenon.

### *Why is Perseverance Important?*

Thomas Alva Edison, the inventor of the light bulb and many other innovations dealing with electricity asserted, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." In other words, brilliance is not about how talented you are, but rather how hard you try.

The benefits of perseverance can be seen as early as children in preschool. Dr. Lisa Wright, of Teachers College, Columbia University explained that she interviewed three different four-year-olds about what they do when they get "stuck". The first child replied, "I practice and practice until I get it done." The second child said, "I ask my Mommy to help me." And the last child simply stated, "I cry." Dr. Wright used these three different children as examples of strategies that people employ in order to succeed when faced with challenges. Most likely, when faced with obstacles, both the first and second child will succeed (the first through her own strength and the second through her reliance on others). However, the third child, the one who cries when faced with a seemingly insurmountable problem, lacks the skills to be successful at the task. So, if perseverance is a skill that we need in order to succeed in difficult undertakings, how can we teach it to ourselves and our children?

### *How Can we Teach Perseverance?*

Like any other skill, perseverance is something that we have to learn how to do. Luckily there are some simple tips that encourage and build perseverance. For example:

**Start Small:** Pick a goal that is just beyond your reach. If you wanted to open your own catering business, you would begin by figuring out the menu to offer to your customers. This is a small task and will allow you to feel a sense of accomplishment when completed. Once the menu is finalized, you can begin thinking about what equipment you'll need to create the food on your menu. Upon completion of each small goal, you move on to the next goal. The same applies to children – whether it's school work, a craft project or a household chore.

**Resist Jumping In:** If you see your child wrestling to open a bag of crackers, resist the urge to open it up for him. When you jump in with help every time you see your child struggle, you are signaling to him that he is incapable of doing anything on his own. Instead, unless your child is in danger, allow him to struggle and fail. Eventually he will try a new strategy and succeed.

**Applaud Effort:** Because perseverance is about trying even when you don't succeed, give your child credit when she exhibits effort, regardless of the outcome. Say something like, "What an impressive effort!" "When you want something, you go after it to try to make it happen." This sends a clear message to your child that you value effort, regardless of the result.

**Lead by Example:** (This is a hard one..) If you give up when the going gets tough, you are teaching your children that quitting is a viable option. If you are fearful, for example, of driving in an unfamiliar area, share your efforts to overcome this challenge with your children. This perseverance will show your children that even if something is scary or hard, if we work at it, we can achieve our goal.

**Don't Perseverate:** Persevering and perseverating are very different things. Persevering is about trying to achieve the same goal even when things are not working out perfectly. Perseverating, however, involves trying to achieve the goal through the same (unsuccessful) means over and over again. For example, if a child wants to get a ball from on top of a cabinet, but is not tall enough, he might try to jump to see if he can reach it. When jumping fails, he might try to bring a stool to stand on. If the stool fails as well, he might take a large textbook and place it on top of the stool to give him greater height. This is persevering. However, if this child tries jumping repeatedly without success, that would be considered perseverating. Do not get stuck on one strategy, explore many possibilities to achieve your goals.

Perseverance can enhance self-esteem. Perseverance is a skill that is manifest when we are struggling, not when things come easily. *The Little Engine That Could* made it over the mountain because she made the attempt and found encouragement by repeating to herself, "I think I can, I think I can." When she was done, she puffed away whispering, "I thought I could, I thought I could." This sense of accomplishment and renewed self-esteem is a wonderful result of perseverance. The more you try, the more likely you are to succeed. Then your child will smile and happily say, "I thought I could, I thought I could."

Have a wonderful Shabbos!



Rabbi Kalman Baumann  
Principal

DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

As soon as David walks in on שבת he always says good shabbos to everyone & gives hugs + kisses!

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:

Name: David Worranski Gr. 1

Parent's Signature: [Signature]



DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Benny asked his rebbe in a soft and pleasant voice for more toda at the Siyum

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:

Name: Benny Kanoff Gr. 2B

Parent's Signature: [Signature]  
Rebbe's

DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Moshe spoke softly, even when he was upset at the person after she hurt him.

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:

Name: Moshe Koppen Gr. 1

Parent's Signature: [Signature]

DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Avrumi played fairly & nice w/ his friend when he came over

I reviewed the concept of "derech erez" with:

Name: Avrumi Ovensky Gr. 2

Parent's Signature: [Signature]

DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Ezra spoke softly when playing at Adam's house on shabbat and also when playing with Avrumi later!

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:

Name: Ezra Kischenbaum Gr. 2B

Parent's Signature: [Signature]

DERECH PASS

"יקימר ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Mordechai spoke nicely to his sister & thanked her for helping out with his bekef

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:

Name: Mordechai Shapiro Gr. 1B

Parent's Signature: [Signature]



DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

One time, when Ma'ayan and her brother were experiencing a conflict, she spoke to him in a pleasant tone of voice.

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Ma'ayan Tzur Gr. 2nd  
Parent's Signature: Johanna Tzur

Ma'ayan

DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Naomi greeted her Saffa nicely & respectfully when she saw her Sunday.

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Naomi Burszky Gr. 2G  
Parent's Signature: [Signature]

DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Mindel was upset. She asked a question in a soft tone.

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Mindel Weinberger Gr. 2G  
Parent's Signature: Elishava W.

DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Avia shared her knowledge about speaking in a pleasant voice.

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Avia Bennett Gr. 1  
Parent's Signature: [Signature]

DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Kayla got pushed and she didn't get upset at him or yell at him. She softly told him. 😊

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Kayla Lefkowitz Gr. 1G  
Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

DERECH PASS

"יקימך ה' לו לעם קדוש ... והלכת בדרכיו."

Hadassa spoke beautifully to her neighbors, i.e. "sure you could use my bike!"

I reviewed the precept of "speaking softly," with:  
Name: Hadassa G. Gr. 1  
Parent's Signature: [Signature]