

TEAM Spirit

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Friday, May 27, 2011
Candle Lighting 7:47 PM

פרשת במדבר
שבת מברכים

★STAR STUDENTS★

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Daniel Akrish – T.S. | Tamar Brody – S.S. |
| Ethan Aronov | Naomi Bursztyn – T.S. |
| Ephraim Berkowitz – T.S. | Sarah Buzaglo – T.S. & S.S. |
| Yochie Gittleson – T.S. | Leah Corcos – T.S. |
| Yackov Greenberg – T.S. | Elisheva El-Gad – T.S. |
| Avraham Homnick – T.S. | Chaya Ora Goldenberg – S.S. |
| Tzvi Lehrer – S.S. | Sora Gruenstein – T.S. |
| Shmuel Dov Palgon – S.S. | Chaya Sharfman – S.S. |
| Kalmi Rosenberg – S.S. | Rivka Sheinkopf – T.S. |
| | Mindel Weinberger – S.S. |

TEAM PLAYERS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Malka Anton | Ethan Aronov |
| Rebecca Balgley | Jacob Benchetrit |
| Avia Bennett | Shui Braunschweiger |
| Pnina Bergida | Avraham Flamholtz |
| Arielle Chemtov | Moti Froimovich |
| Chana Froimovich | Yochie Gittleson |
| Adina Kon | Moshe Glazer |
| Atara Laks | Ariel Hahn |
| Tziporah Pam | Yehuda Lehrfield |
| Hadassah Privalsky | Michael Shmueli |
| Chaya Sharfman | Yosef Steinberg |
| Alyssa Suissa | |

**THIS MONDAY IS
MEMORIAL DAY
CLASSES - 9:00AM-12:00PM
BRING SNACKS, NO LUNCH**

***Please note: On days with a
9-12 schedule, school begins at 9:00 AM
sharp, not 9:10!**

CHINESE AUCTION
THIS SUNDAY!!!!
6:30 pm@toras emes

We are looking forward to seeing all parents at the Precious Moments Chinese Auction this Sunday night at 6:30PM. Enjoy yourselves with our amazing entertainment, featuring MC Nachum Segal and delicious food from Asia restaurant. Drawing at 10:00PM. We will focus on supporting our wonderful school and capture a great evening!

YTC/TEAM TEA & CAKE SALE
THIS WEDNESDAY!

We look forward to welcoming all women to our pre-Shavuos Community Event, An Elegant Evening of Inspiration, on Wednesday, June 1 featuring Rabbi Ephraim Shapiro. This event takes place at the home of Mrs. Alyssa Baumgarten, 4385 Pinetree Drive, Miami Beach. Doors open at 8:00 pm, program begins at 9:00 pm.



LAG B'OMER WALKATHON

Our Lag B'Omer Walkathons, barbecue and fun activities were thoroughly enjoyed by our students, teachers, administrators, staff and parents. Yasher Koach to our own Rabbi Teitelbaum, our chef extraordinaire, who barbecued hundreds of delicious hot dogs for our consumption!

We are most appreciative of the parent volunteers who were a great help during the day.

Mrs. Chanie Dudovitz
Mrs. Toby Goldman
Mrs. Cindy Itzkowitz
Rabbi Aaron Kaplan
Mrs. Chaya Levy
Mrs. Esther Schwab

Yasher Koach to everyone who helped us raise funds by soliciting and making pledges! Copies of the sponsor sheets were sent home on Wednesday to enable the children to collect their pledges. T-shirt order forms were also sent home for those children who solicited pledges of \$35 or more. These forms must be returned by Monday.

HASMODA PARTICIPANTS CELEBRATE!

On Thursday, the students who successfully participated in the Pesach Hasmoda Project were treated to a special luncheon in their honor. Yasher

Koach to all the students who dedicated time to learning during Pesach vacation! Thank you to Mrs. Esta Rosenberg for setting up the luncheon for our students.



MAZEL TOV

To Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe Lehrfield and family on the birth of a granddaughter, born to their son, our alumnus, Menachem and Sarala Lehrfield. Special Mazel Tov to great grandparents, Rabbi and Mrs. David & Miriam Lehrfield.



To Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Braunschweiger and family on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Eli. Special Mazel Tov to grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack & Rashi Levy.



SEFIRA/KABBOLAS HATORAH TV/ VIDEO CONTROL—ONE MORE WEEK!

The TV Control calendars should continue to be initiated by a parent each day to indicate an entire day without watching TV, videos or DVD's! For the third week, which ended yesterday, all students who completed every day will receive ices, a mystery prize, and a slice of pizza. Those students who complete this TV Control Program (participation in previous programs not required) will celebrate at a banquet and show on Monday, June 13. **The calendar should be kept in one of your child's Torah Studies folders or notebooks, to be shown to the teacher upon request.** Please continue to help and encourage your child throughout this most meaningful program.



CLOTHES 'N BOWS UNIFORMS



To ensure back to school delivery of your new uniforms, **please visit Clothes 'N Bows** for your fitting (and \$10 gift certificate!) before Sunday, June 12. If you have any questions call the store at 305.947.9646.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

- ◆ Ruchama Aliza Sara Chana *bas* Esther Leba
- ◆ Tziporah Feiga *bas* Sima Shaindel
- ◆ Aliza Chaya *bas* Sara Freida
- ◆ Tinok *ben* Chaya Sara
- ◆ Yoseph Simcha *ben* Zaka Basya
- ◆ Nina *bas* Victoria
- ◆ Yitzchak *ben* Blima
- ◆ Yehuda Pinchas *ben* Asna
- ◆ Zev Meir *ben* Yael Sara
- ◆ Rivka Miriam *bas* Ahuva Chaya
- ◆ Dovid Mechoel *ben* Yocheved
- ◆ Alter Mordechai Menachem *ben* Esther Frayda
- ◆ Dovid *ben* Etta Riva
- ◆ Rus Esther *bas* Devorah Alter
- ◆ Yisraela Nechama *bas* Pesha Malka

A SPECIAL VISIT

B'ezras Hashem, this coming week our Yeshiva will have the great privilege of being visited by Ha-Gaon HaRav Yitzchok Bruk. Rav Bruk, שליט"א, has been the Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivas Novardok - Yerushalayim for approximately the last thirty years. Yeshivas Novardok in Yerushalayim was founded over seventy years ago by HaGaon HaRav Ben Zion Bruk, ז"ל, one of the foremost talmidim of the Alter of Novardok, and is unique in its connection to the Novardok derech in mussar.

LAG(D) B'OMER 5771







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

Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal

Dr. Deborah Lerer
Secular Studies Principal

Rabbi Noam Grossman
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Naomi Bloom
Early Childhood Director

Erev Shabbos Parashas Bamidbar 5771

Dear Parents,

This week's *Parsha* launches into a discussion of the life of the Jewish People in the Sinai Desert. One reason the Jews needed to begin their new lives as a free and Torah nation in a desert, and not in a civilized location, was to keep it free of the influence of surrounding societies and cultures. As a nation that broke with the traditions of the surrounding nations, it was necessary to develop in a protected and insulated framework.

Despite, or perhaps because of our two thousand years of exile among the nations, we need to be ever vigilant of the need to keep the outside society at arm's length. While this has always been a challenge, each passing year of life in the Wired Age presents greater and greater obstacles to maintaining the *Kedusha*, sanctity of our families and community. Ask any educator and he or she will verify the increasing exposure of our children to the vulgarities and inappropriateness of the modern secular world. Most alarmingly, this exposure is occurring at an earlier and earlier age.

Parents need to be aware of this phenomenon and take responsibility for what in many cases is occurring 'under their noses'. I'm reminded of research undertaken in the 1990's concerning opposing perceptions of teachers and students. While I don't have the exact statistics in front of me, the research showed that a large percentage of teachers thought their students felt they had a good relationship with them, their teachers, while in fact, only a small percentage of students felt that way. I believe a parallel misconception exists between parents and children concerning internet usage. A large majority of parents 'trust' their children do not have access, while the children laugh all the way to the nearest wi-fi spot, all too often in their own bedroom!

Internet access through computers, cell phones, i-pads, DSis and other devices is so pervasive, that unless a teenager is personally motivated to stay away from it, there are no safeguards and protections that will keep that adolescent away from some exposure to the internet. If it's not happening in your home, it's either happening in someone else's or from a hand-held device anywhere. What is happening all too often, subsequent to the teenager's involvement with the internet is they share information, images and ideas with younger siblings.

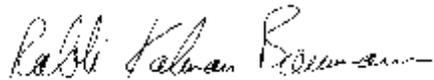
We are facing a sort of double jeopardy. In the past, a tiny minority of elementary aged children may have been exposed to improper language or indecent images from magazines or other printed material. And if it was ever brought to school, it was easy to spot and stop. The current state of affairs finds a larger percentage of children coming in contact with inappropriate materials out of school, and if brought to school, easily sharing images on tiny, hard to spot electronic devices.

Mechanchim everywhere struggle to minimize and even eradicate any negative effect that comes with exposure to other children, but without parental awareness of the seriousness of the issue, it's likely to be an uphill battle. It is wonderful and most helpful to honestly trust in your child's innate goodness and honesty. But be advised – the challenges kids face today are truly unprecedented, and parents would do well to simultaneously respect and pre-cautiously 'suspect' their children. If your child is heading towards trouble – it is not necessarily a negative reflection of your effectiveness or sincerity as a parent – it is a manifestation of the tidal wave of exposure that our children are confronting.

2.

Our children need their parents more than ever. Don't let this frighten you into paralysis in the face of a seemingly insurmountable problem – let it galvanize you into action to protect your most precious commodity, your children. Like Bnei Yisroel in the desert, with *Siyata deShmaya* we can create an insulated, protected environment in our own home, and provide a nurturing, focused atmosphere that can help us succeed in our mission of being a Torah nation. With open eyes, and prayer to *Hashem*, your vigilance will enable your children to navigate safely to a healthy, sanctified adulthood.

Best wishes for a *Kedusha*-filled *Shabbos*,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rabbi Kalman Baumann". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Rabbi Kalman Baumann