

# TEAM Spirit

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Friday, May 6, 2011  
Candle Lighting 7:36 PM

פרשת אמר

★STAR STUDENTS★

Yaakov Alfassy – T.S.  
Gavriel Aminov – S.S.  
Dovid Grinman – T.S.  
Ariel Hahn – T.S.  
Shua Jeger – T.S. & S.S.  
Natan Mizrahi – T.S.  
Elisha Steinberger – S.S.  
Yaacov Suissa – S.S.  
Akiva Yeshurun – S.S.

Yael Aminov – T.S.  
Ellee Benchetrit – T.S. & S.S.  
Rivka Jablon – S.S.  
Daniella Katz – S.S.  
Debbie Nash – T.S.  
Yasmin Reboh – T.S.  
Sara Seltzer – S.S.  
**Ma'ayan Tzur – S.S.**

TEAM PLAYERS

Gavriel Aminov  
Zevi Bistriz  
Adam Dennis  
Avos Greenberg  
Dovid Kaplan  
Yehuda Lehrfield  
Menachem Oumanski  
Yossi Rosenberg  
Yenon Moshe Sharaby  
Tzvi Winter

**Girls' TEAM Players**  
returns next week!



ASSEMBLIES

Our monthly assemblies will take place this Tuesday, May 10 featuring 5B and 2G-R & 2G-W. Official uniforms must be worn all day on Tuesday, including white **knee socks for the girls**. **Girls' assembly at 1:30, boys' assembly at 2:45.**

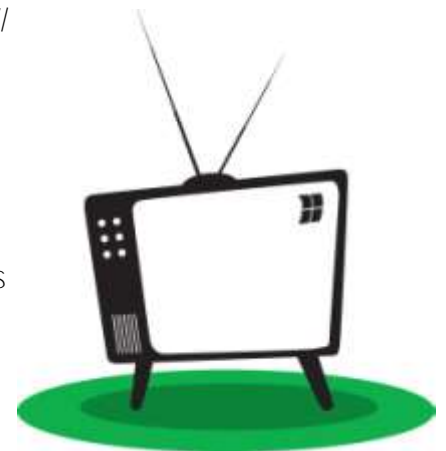
Please note the following uniform reminders:  
Boys - Official uniform pants must be navy blue and no cargo pockets. Girls - White short socks or skin colored knee highs/panty hose are not acceptable substitutes for white knee high socks.

KONEI OLAM

Our travels continue with a visit to the Great Wall of China. While in China, we learned about the midah of doing mitzvos b'Simcha, with a positive attitude and a smile!

SEFIRA/KABBOLAS HATORAH TV/  
VIDEO CONTROL

Our third and final TV/Video Control Program of the year (which began yesterday) will run through *Rosh Chodesh Sivan*, Friday, June 3 - during *Sefiras HaOmer*. 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 TV Control calendars should be initialed by a parent each day to indicate an entire day without watching **TV, videos or DVD's!** For the current week, which ends this Thursday, all students who reach the one week mark will receive ices.

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.

## CHINESE AUCTION

Don't forget to line up your babysitters and join us for the Chinese Auction which will take place, IY" H, on Sunday, May 29. You can view the prizes and order at [www.ytcteam.org/auction](http://www.ytcteam.org/auction)

## 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

## DON'T DEHYDRATE

Due to the return of the hot, humid Florida weather we are insisting that all students bring a water bottle to school with them on days that they have PE. Thank you for your cooperation.



## A SPECIAL VISIT

This Wednesday we were privileged to be visited by a representative from the Lighthouse for the Blind, who presented sensitivity raising sessions to grades 1-3. In preparation for her visit, the students read a story dealing with blindness. Ms. Pijuan discussed a day in the life of someone who is blind, and brought some samples of aids and gadgets that make life easier for those who are visually impaired. Our thanks to Mrs. Lea Kaploun for arranging this special visit. (See enclosed photos.)

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

Parsha with the Principal  
Thursday mornings 9:15-10:00AM  
In Rabbi Baumann's Office (Girls' Bldg.)

Homework Club  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 4-5PM  
Miss Rottman [tobirottman@gmail.com](mailto:tobirottman@gmail.com)

### Boys' After School Sports

Monday & Thursday, 4-5PM  
Coach Melamed 786.356.8063  
Mr. Harkavy 631.612.7532

### JAG

Tuesday (1G-3G) & Wednesday (4G&5G), 4:05-5:05PM  
Note: This cycle of sessions runs through May 18.  
Mrs. Selmar 305.479.7269

### SAT Testing

Week of May 16

## MAZEL TOV

To Rabbi and Mrs. Elchonon Goldenberg and family on the birth of granddaughter, born to their daughter, or alumna, Bracha and Eli Cohen.



## WALKATHON IS ON ITS WAY!

Get out your walking shoes—it is time for our annual Lag B'Omer Walkathon. Watch for further details!



## PLAN AHEAD!

The first day of the 2011-12 school year is, IY" H, Tuesday, August 30.

# AN ENLIGHTENING VISIT FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND







# Happy Birthday!



Arielle Chemtov  
10 years old



Yehuda Gassner  
10 years old



Binyamin  
Rubinov  
8 years old

This book is  
dedicated in  
honor of  
**Your Child**  
on the occasion of  
a birthday  
*by you, the  
parents*

Pictured here with Ms. Grossman, school Librarian, are children who were honored with donations to the TEAM library on the occasion of their birthdays.

For \$18 you may honor your child's birthday with a book. A bookplate with the student's name is placed on the inside of the cover; the student takes the book home for a week before it becomes a part of the library; the student's picture appears in the TEAM Spirit.

Thank you to all who are participating in this effort to increase the volumes of our library.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Dennis, PTA Volunteer



**TORAS EMES**  
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 Elementary School

Rabbi Kalman Baumann  
*Principal*

Dr. Deborah Lerer  
*Secular Studies Principal*

Rabbi Noam Grossman  
*Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Naomi Bloom  
*Early Childhood Director*

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*Erev Shabbos Parashas Emor 5771*

Dear Parents,

In the wake of the elimination of Osama bin Laden this past week, someone made the insightful observation that bin Laden put to rest the lie that terrorism stems from the grinding poverty of the Middle Eastern masses who lash out in desperation against an unjust world. Hailing from Saudi royalty and with personal assets in excess of 300 million dollars, he was obviously motivated by something other than lack of basic necessities.

There are many similar excuses and rationalizations for inappropriate behavior and insufficient effort to act properly and achieve something meaningful in life. Children, especially can fall into the rut of blaming others, difficult situations and challenging circumstances. It may start with "the dog ate my homework," but it can escalate to not taking responsibility for one's actions which can lead to serious problems in a marriage, on the job and within a community. Individuals, couples and families are willing to pay hefty fees to mental health counselors as they try to regain a sense of balance and harmony that frequently stems from one or more of them being unwilling or unable to take responsibility for their errors and to accept difficulties and persevere in spite of them.

How can we guide our children to face challenges squarely, and accept responsibility when they 'mess up'? By observing children who develop this trait in a healthy and wholesome manner, three main approaches seem to be the key.

1. A 'can-do' attitude encourages the child that insurmountable problems are few and far between.
2. Habituating the ability from a young age, to apologize when a mistake is made helps attach a person to the results of his behavior. Covering up and making believe it didn't happen is the road to dishonesty and irresponsibility. It is good *Chinuch* to forego a negative consequence for a misdeed, in exchange for the child's honestly taking responsibility for his or her actions.

Faith in *Hashem* that everything is for the best, will keep a person from being overly rattled by adversity. Accepting with equanimity those challenges that seemingly have no solution helps create a well-balanced individual who is ready for most any circumstance life can throw his way.

How can the parent and educator instill this proper sense of responsibility and taking ownership for one's behavior, no matter the circumstances? The obvious first step is following the Torah's teachings. Step two is role modeling – perhaps in no other area will a child "do as the parent does and not as the parent says," as in the area of personal responsibility. Thirdly, by focusing on the three approaches outlined above, a parent is well positioned to guide his child to be a productive, responsible and honest individual who will reflect the highest values of the Torah and the Jewish People.

Best wishes for an honestly enjoyable *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann