

TEAM Spirit

WE ARE STAR STUDENTS* AND TEAM** PLAYERS!

Each week teachers recognize one student who has distinguished him or herself during the past week in academics, citizenship, effort or improvement. Our PE teachers recognize two students per class who demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship during recess or PE during the past week. Students' names are published in the weekly newsletter, names are posted on the display board near the office, and a beautiful certificate is sent home.

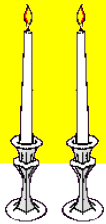
*Student Achievement Recognition **Teamwork, Encouragement, Attitude, Midos Tovos

SS - Secular Studies, TS - Torah Studies

פרשת כי תצא

CANDLE LIGHTING

7:13 pm



STAR STUDENTS

Tehila Alfassy – S.S.
 Penina Bergida – T.S.
 Gaby Chattah – S.S.
 Tehila Cohen – T.S.
 Tzivi Elias – T.S.
 Aliza Feldman – T.S.
 Ahuva Grossman – S.S.
 Esther Pam – T.S.
 Hadassah Privalsky – T.S.
 Lea Riesel – T.S.
 Rochel Schloss – S.S.

Sara Seltzer – S.S.
 Chana Shaffier – S.S.
 Aliza Turner – S.S.
 Sivan Zaig

Dovid Alber – S.S.
 Ezra Berger – T.S.
 Netanel Hendel – T.S.
 Asher Greenberg – S.S.
 Yackov Greenberg – T.S. & S.S.
 Akiva Jeger – T.S.
 Sholom Marcus – T.S.
 Zohar Reboh – S.S.
 Aileyahu Shanes – T.S. & S.S.
 Akiva Yeshurun – S.S.

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TEAM PLAYERS

Leehee Akrish
 Ellee Benchetrit
 Shoshana Cohen
 Fayge Deutsch
 Dina Ellenbogen
 Chavie Fried
 Adina Kon
 Batel Levi
 Rochel Schloss
 Adina Schwartz

Abigail Shapiro
 Rivka Sheinkopf
 Mindel Weinberger
 Nechama Wulwick

Dovid Alber
 Yacov Benchetrit
 Danny Breier
 Akiva Jeger
 Abraham Kanter
 Sholom Marcus
 Natan Mizrahi
 Noam Peleg
 Shea Rosenberg
 Aileyahu Shanes

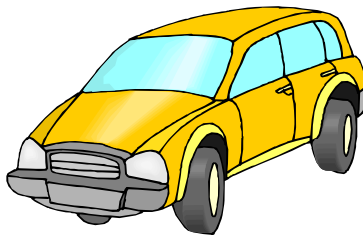
CARPOOL COMMUNIQUE

Please be advised that on Mondays through Thursdays school ends at 4:00 PM and outdoor carpool procedures conclude at 4:20.

On Fridays, dismissal is at 2:30 and carpool ends at 2:50. After 4:20 on Monday-Thursday and 2:50 on Friday, all administrators and staff who supervise outdoor carpool return to the office.

We ask that you please make every effort to pick up your children before those times. If, occasionally, circumstances beyond your control cause you to arrive late on a given day, you will need to come to the office to pick up your carpool.

Additionally, we would like to remind all drivers that all morning drop offs of elementary students should be made **on the girls' side of 11 Avenue. Parking or even stopping on the boys' side** causes traffic congestion and creates a potentially hazardous situation. Thank you for your cooperation.



AM ARRIVAL POLICY

Please be aware of our school policy for dropping off your children in the morning. Drop-off time begins at 8:15. We ask that you do not drop your children at school before 8:15, unless you have made prior arrangements with the office for early drop off. Early drop off begins at 8:00 -we do not provide supervision before then and cannot be responsible for children left here before 8:00 AM.

TARGET STORES—TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM

This year we are continuing our *Target Stores – Take Charge of Education Program*. By signing up, you help our school raise money effortlessly and enrolling is simply a breeze!

If you already have a Target Guest Card, just call 1-800-316-6142 and sign up to have Toras Emes receive a donation

every time you make a Target Card purchase at the store. If you do not currently have a Target Card, you can pick up an application at any Target Store.

This program really works! Just this week we received a sizeable donation based upon your purchases! We hope that we can significantly increase the amount

through this year's parent participation. Please consider helping the school in this way.



NO MORE LATE LUNCHES PLEASE!

In a concerted attempt to avoid interrupting the classes while they are in session and while the children are learning, we ask that all lunches and snacks be sent to school in the morning WITH YOUR CHILDREN. While we understand that there are times when this is not possible, we ask that it be the exception and not the rule. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



DON'T DEHYDRATE

Due to 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.



MAZEL TOV

To Mr. and Mrs. Josh Ehrenreich and family on the birth of a son.



To Drs. Sol and Deborah Lerer and family on the birth of a grandson, born to their son Daniel and Sarah Lerer.

To Mr. and Mrs. Barry Wulwick and family on the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, our alumna, Tova and Yaakov Cohen.



UNIFORM UPDATE

If you have any school uniforms that are no longer in use please send them into the office to be recycled. Also, if you are in need of uniforms, we have various items in stock in assorted sizes. Please call Mrs. Esta Rosenberg at 305.653.0115 for further information.



To Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Bursztyn and family on the engagement of their daughter, our alumna, Dina

Feldstein to Moshe Rechthand of Baltimore.

KIDS FOR KOSHER FOOD BANK

The Jewish Community Services Kosher Food Bank provides needy families in our community with critically important food items and other daily necessities. The Food Bank is unique in that all the food must be either OU, Chaf-K, O-K, or Star-K certified, making it suitable for any family. Those in need make an appointment to shop, and are not seen by any other shopper. The Food Bank depends **on everyone's participation to help** combat hunger in our community—one meal, one person at a time. Last year, the JCS Kosher Food Bank received more than 2,500 family visits.

Thanks to a volunteer Toras Emes parent, we are participating this month in a food drive to help **stock the Food Bank's shelves for Yom Tov**. We have placed **receptacle bins in both the boys' and girls' offices to receive donations of** non-perishable food items to be distributed for the *Yomim Tovim*. Every student and family is asked to help by bringing a can or other packaged food item with proper Hashgacha (detailed above) at least one time between now and Rosh Hashana. For more information, contact the school office, or our volunteer, Mrs. Paola Leonoff at 786.281.1133 or via e-mail at

paolalipo@hotmail.com. Thank you for your help. *Yasher Koach!*



REFUAH SHELAIMA

- Ruchama Aliza Sara Chana *bas* Esther Liba
- Bracha Elka *bas* Marysha Rivka
- Zev Meir *ben* Yael Sara



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

Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal

Rabbi Noam Grossman
Assistant Principal

Dr. Deborah Lerer
Secular Studies Principal

Mrs. Naomi Bloom
Early Childhood Director

Erev Shabbos Parashas Ki Seitzei 5771

Dear Parents,

One of the valid critiques of the modern school system is that with the heavy emphasis on academics, the children are short-changed when it comes to training for 'real life.' It is a well known fact, that there is not such a strong correlation between high grades in school, and success and fulfillment later in life. Those students voted "most likely to succeed" usually don't.

Rather than bemoan this state of affairs, we would be better off if we analyzed what attributes and behaviors that are vital to success in school, may apply to life beyond the classroom. The beginning of the school year, as children and families settle down to 'school' routines, is the perfect time to make this analysis.

One of the most obvious and important traits is acting with a sense of responsibility. Regardless of actual performance on tests and quizzes, keeping an organized desk and backpack, bringing papers home and completed assignments back to school in a timely manner are basic life skills for home or the workplace. Knowing what the homework assignment is by writing it down clearly, in the correct place and arranging all necessary materials at home in a neat, organized work space, are among the building blocks for success as an adult. A child who can then take responsibility to complete the assignment and ensure its return to school the next day demonstrates that he or she has the makings of an adult competent in being in charge of him/herself – which is the foundation of taking control of everything else in his or her life – **family, job, one's place** in the community and most importantly for our children, his or her spiritual responsibilities and challenges.

What a shame it is that all too often, these life skills inherent in the daily homework assignment, are overlooked by parents and educators alike. Doing the assignment is obviously for the purpose of reinforcing the skills and knowledge gained that day in the classroom – **but there is so much more that will stay with the child that is well beyond that day's *dikduk* rule, mathematical operation or vocabulary word.** Parents would do well to look for life lessons in their children's day, and give them the focus and attention they deserve. A child who tries responsibly to be organized with his things, and careful to complete his assignments to the best of his ability is worthy of praise and reward, for he is truly developing his *mentschlichkeit*.

Your child will only end up in one profession or vocation from amongst the vast number of choices, meaning there's little chance that any particular child will be a mathematics professor, engineer, Rosh Yeshiva or businessman. But he or she will be a *mentsch* – if we pay attention to and show appreciation and encouragement for their efforts in that direction.

Have a beautiful *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann
 Principal

Library News



Dear Parents,

We would like to give you the opportunity to recognize your child's birthday by donating a book to the Toras Emes Library. Books can also be donated in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion.



For an \$18 donation, a new library book will be purchased and a bookplate placed in the front of the book inscribed with the person's name and occasion. **Library Birthday** books will first be presented to the children to be enjoyed for a week before we add them to the permanent library collection. A photo of the presentation will be taken and placed in the TEAM Spirit newsletter.



We are now honoring all birthdays from July through October. Please fill out the form below and return it to the office. Thank you for helping our library grow!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Joanna Dennis,
Library Volunteer
Toras Emes Academy of Miami

Library Birthday Club

1. <u>Name:</u> _____ <u>Grade:</u> _____ <u>Birthday</u> _____	2. <u>Name:</u> _____ <u>Grade:</u> _____ <u>Birthday</u> _____
3. <u>Name:</u> _____ <u>Grade:</u> _____ <u>Birthday</u> _____	4. <u>Name:</u> _____ <u>Grade:</u> _____ <u>Birthday</u> _____

Other Library donations:

1) Name: _____

Occasion: e.g. in memory of, in honor of _____

2) Name: _____

Occasion: e.g. in memory of, in honor of _____

Please feel free to use the back of the form for more entries.

\$18 enclosed for each book - Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Please return form with money to office

chosen words

Personal Growth

Only the Best

The Torah describes Chanoch using words of high praise: "And Chanoch walked with G-d," (Bereishis 5:24). The Midrash explains that Chanoch was a shoemaker, a man who spent all day long at his trade. Yet this shoemaker was so holy that he was singled out from among all others in his generation to be eternally remembered in the Torah.

How did this shoemaker achieve his level of holiness? It derived from the thoughts that went through his mind as he worked. He wasn't pondering the mysteries of the universe or the nature of existence. He was concentrating on the shoes. Were the stitches strong and even? Would the shoes be comfortable and durable? Would his customers derive all the benefits from them that they expected?

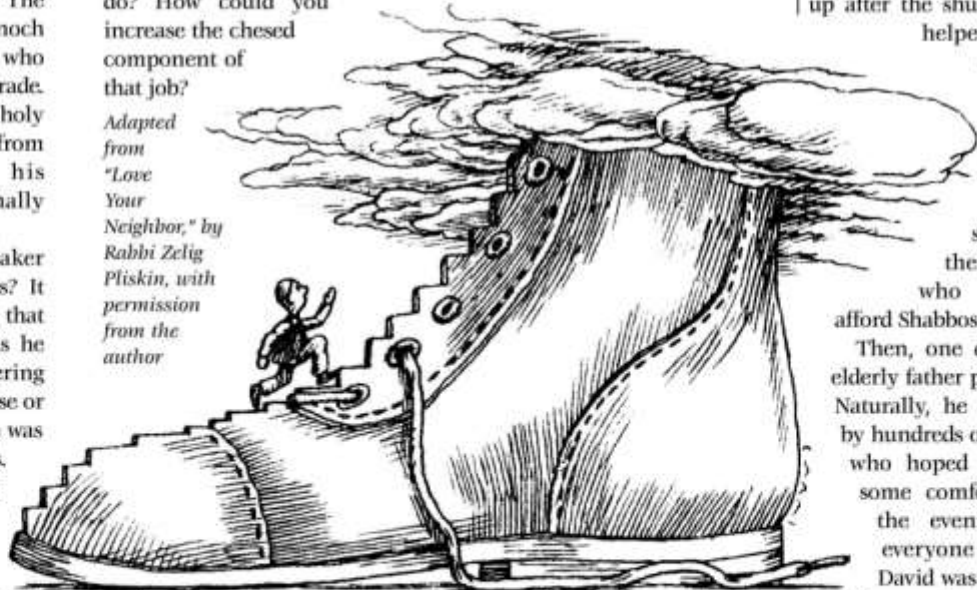
In today's society, the skills, time and patience to do a superior—even an adequate—job are often lacking. Expectations are low, and it becomes easy to allow ourselves to slide to the pervading standards. Yet in the Torah's view, a person whose standard is just "good enough" not only cheats his customer, he loses the opportunity to transform his material pursuits into something far more spiritual.

Rav Yisrael Salanter explained that quality craftsmanship elevates the craftsman. When his heart is turned toward giving his customers his best efforts, his money-making endeavor is transformed into a chesed. No matter what livelihood a person pursues, his products or services can be viewed as a medium for serving both his fellow man and Hashem.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

What benefit do others derive from a task you do? How could you increase the chesed component of that job?

Adapted from "Love Your Neighbor," by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin, with permission from the author



"The shoemaker's work—as any work—elevates the worker when its goal is to give others one's best effort."

Effective Prayer

In G-d We Trust

From the beginning of Elul until the end of Hoshana Rabba, a chapter of Tehillim (27) is added to the daily prayers. Yet nothing in the chapter speaks of teshuvah. It simply declares the desire to be close to Hashem, and ends with the words: "Hope to Hashem, strengthen yourself and He will give you courage; and hope to Hashem."

What does this chapter add to our preparation for the New Year, when our focus is on teshuvah, tefillah, and tzedakah? It opens with moving images of Hashem's love and protection which saturate the heart with the desire to cling to Hashem. By building the desire to cleave to Hashem, David's words effectively block the desire to sin.

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

- Inspiration
- ▼
- Ideas
- ▼
- Excellence
- ▼
- Success

Better Relationships

One Plus One

David was the most helpful, friendly man in the neighborhood. He cleaned up after the shul's kiddush, helped the old men build their succas, quietly supplied cakes and sweets for the families who couldn't afford Shabbos extras.

Then, one day David's elderly father passed away. Naturally, he was visited by hundreds of neighbors who hoped to provide some comfort. But in the evening, when everyone had left, David was profoundly depressed. Among all

those men, there was not one with whom he felt comfortable revealing his deep heartache. They smiled and chatted with him; he smiled and chatted back. No one appeared open to witnessing this grown man's tears.

"I haven't got one friend," he told his wife.

"You have hundreds of friends!" she exclaimed. "Everyone loves you!"

continue on back



Published for Torah Emes Academy of Miami by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

Dedicated L'Ilui Nishmas Reva Esther bas Tzvi Hersch HaLevi a"h

Shabbos Table Discussion:

How does trust in Hashem improve one's prayers?

Adapted from "The Artsroll Tehillim," by Rabbi Avraham Chaim Feuer, with permission from Mesorah Publications

True Confessions

Tova was 32 years old the first time she lit Shabbos candles. Tears streamed down her cheeks as she recited the brachah, linking herself to a chain of Jewish women extending back to Sarah. It was a sanctified moment, unlike anything she had experienced in her previously irreverent, free-wheeling life.

By the 200th time she lit candles, it was a routine her hands and lips performed all on their own. As she uncovered her eyes before the glowing lights, she noticed some wax drippings that would have to be cleaned up after Shabbos. Did Tova fulfill the mitzvah? To her mind, she did. When Yom Kippur

rolled around, she could at least be confident that the requirement of Shabbos candles had been met.

The concept of "vidui" is usually associated with the confessions recited on Yom Kippur. But the word is also used in the declaration, "vidui ma'aser," that Jews made upon bringing tithes to Jerusalem: "I have removed the holy things from the house and I have also given to the Levi, the proselyte, the orphan and the widow, according to (k'chol) whatever commandment You have commanded me."

What is the confession here? It is in the word "k'chol," which means "like all." The person is confessing that the

mitzvah hasn't been done exactly as it should have, only "like" it should have. It is that subtle difference that describes the vidui of the observant Jew. Through 613 mitzvos, we possess 613 open lines connecting us to Hashem. But what do we send along those lines—the content of our hearts, or the static of our distracted minds?

Vidui urges us to examine even the mitzvos we do faithfully. It urges us to reinvigorate them, feel them and let them be to us a real source of light and life.

To Do:

Resolve to freshen your approach to one mitzvah.

Adapted from "Rabbi Frand in Print," by Rabbi Yissocher Frand, with permission from Mesorah Publications

"What do we send Hashem—the content of our hearts or the static of our distracted minds?"

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The Seeker

Rav Chaim Shmulevitz once visited his uncle, Rav Avraham Yaffen, Rosh Yeshivah of the Novhardok Yeshivah in Lithuania. Upon entering the Beis Midrash, he asked his uncle to point out who, among the illustrious student body, was the most promising student. Rav Avraham pointed out various outstanding students and their intellectual strengths.

"But who is the most outstanding?" Rav Chaim persisted. His uncle pointed out a young man learning quietly in the corner of the room, someone he hadn't previously singled out.

"He's not the sharpest or deepest thinker right now," Rav Avraham explained. "But he is the greatest "mevakeish," that is, he seeks to know Hashem's wisdom and to cling to Him with all his heart and soul. With such sincere spiritual yearning, he will eventually excel above everyone."

The student was Yaakov Yisrael Kanievsky, later known as the illustrious Steipler Gaon.

Adapted from "For the Love of Torah," by Rabbi Shimon Finkelman, with permission from Mesorah Publications

One Plus One

Continued from front

Pirchei Avos advises, "Acquire for yourself a friend." The word "acquire" indicates the need to actively cultivate a friendship. The simple article "a" teaches that a trusting, close relationship can only be forged with one person at a time. Once a real friendship has been developed, the groundwork is laid for building a relationship of trust with others as well. But it all starts with one real friend.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

How do you cultivate the kind of friendship to which Pirkei Avos refers?

Adapted from "Growing Each Day," by Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, with permission from Mesorah Publications

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Chosen Words is a biweekly publication of the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

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לע"נ

צבי הירש הלוי בן יעקב הלוי ז"ל

Dedicated by

Judy Z. Lane and Jerry Lane

We gratefully acknowledge our generous sponsors for making this publication possible.

We welcome your comments!

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