

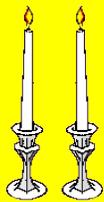
TEAM Spirit

פרשת בשלח

שבת שירה

CANDLE LIGHTING

5:46 pm



STAR STUDENTS

Miriam Balgley – S.S.
 Avia Bennett – T.S.
 Yarden Davis – S.S.
 Shaina Druin – T.S.
 Elisheva El-Gad – T.S.
 Chavie Fried – S.S.
 Rivka Jablon – T.S.
 Atara Laks – S.S.
 Rochel Schloss – S.S.
 Chana Shapiro – T.S.
Ma'ayan Tzur – T.S.
 Esti Weinberger – S.S.

Boaz Abramson – S.S.
 Dovid Alber – T.S.
 Dovid Grinman
 Avraham Kanter – T.S.
 Michel Korff – S.S.
 Natan Oropesa – T.S.
 Dovid Oumanski – S.S.
 Netanel Oumanski – T.S.
 Binyomin Privalsky – S.S.
 Mordechai Shapiro – T.S.
 Akiva Yeshurun – T.S. & S.S.

NO SCHOOL
 FRIDAY
 FEBRUARY 10
 RABBI YOSSI
 HEBER
 TEACHERS'
 INSTITUTE

TEAM PLAYERS

Ezra Berger
 Nossie Bergida
 Moshe Uriel Botton
 Avi Cohen
 Yehuda Kon
 Mordechai Shapiro
 Yossi Rosenberg
 Aryeh Sova
 Joey Tokayer
 Shmuel Vaiselberg

Sarah Buzaglo
 Arielle Chemtov
 Tehila Cohen
 Leah Corcos
 Tzivia Elias
 Hadassa Grossman
 Eila Miriam Liberman
 Esty Newman
 Lea Riesel
 Chana Shaffier
 Esty Stern
 Shira Suissa
 Maayan Wolpov
 Aliza Zeines

PLEASE NOTE:
FAMILY FUN DAY HAS BEEN
RESCHEDULED FOR
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
AND WILL NOT TAKE PLACE
THIS SUNDAY.

We are looking forward to a terrific day filled with family fun, fabulous food and great games and sports activities.



MAZEL TOV

To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Oumanski on the birth of a daughter.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe Gruenstein and family on the engagement of their son, our alumnus, Yaakov to Miriam Metchik of Boston.



To Mr. and Mrs. Chaim Berkowitz and family on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, our alumnus, Zev.

YEDIOS HATORAH WALL OF HONOR

Come check out the amazing bulletin boards filled with pictures of our awesome students who have demonstrated knowledge of many pieces of information through our Yedios HaTorah Program.

PESACH CANDY SALE

The Pesach Candy Sale is ending. All orders



should be turned in to the office by the deadline on this Monday, February 6. Please remember to return the top two pages of the order form in the envelope with the money collected. Check that all orders and tallies are correct, prize selections are clearly **marked, your child's name and grade is** written clearly and that the amount collected corresponds with your order. Keep the bottom page in a safe place at home so you will know who to deliver the candy to when it arrives. *Please note that we are not selling chocolate or coconut flavored macarons this year. Only the chocolate covered macarons are available.*

OPEN SCHOOL DAY

Open School day will take place on **Presidents' Day**, Monday February 20. Please mark your calendars and join us for an 'open school experience' as we sit in on the children's classes. Also note that classes on February 20 are from 8:30 – 1:00.



FEELING DISORGANIZED?

We all feel this way at times. Please see an excellent short article by Sara Chana Radcliffe, reprinted from Mishpacha Magazine for some very excellent ideas and practical suggestions later in this newsletter.



CALLING ALL WOMEN!

See the flyer later in this newsletter for your invitation to an amazing community event on Wednesday evening, February 15 that should not be missed!

GIRLS GALORE BRUNCH & MORE

This exciting morning of food, fun and entertainment featuring "Fantasy Theatre Factory" presenting "The Fantasy Stew" will



take place on Sunday, March 4, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm in the Toras Emes Social Hall.

The following ticket information is applicable:

Pay in advance: \$25.00 one child and one adult

Pay at the door: \$30.00 one child and one adult

Each Additional Guest: \$10.00

Call Joanna at [\(305\)794-1600](tel:3057941600)

or e-mail jogdennis@aol.com

Sponsors are most welcome at \$50.00, \$75.00 and \$100.00 (includes admission).

PLAY IT SAFE

We are taking orders for an outstanding **new children's book on safety**. Please see the flyer/order form later in this newsletter. Order forms with payment should be returned to the school office.



REFUAH SHELAIMA

Ruchama Aliza Sara Chana *bas* Esther Liba

Rachel *bas* Basya

Shayna Ra'achel *bas* Chaya Bryna

Natalie *bas* Vicky

Yehuda Pinchas *ben* Osna

Yaacov Chai *ben* Margalit (HaRav Yosef)

Dovid Mordechai *ben* Chaya Raizel—

Dovid Kaplan of 4B who is recuperating from a tonsillectomy. Hope you feel much better very soon!

NICHUM AVEILIM

To Mr. Mayer Rosenberg on the loss of his father. Shiva is being observed in the Rosenberg home, 1320 N.E. 172 Street, from Monday until Wednesday morning. The number to reach Mr. Rosenberg in New York (through Sunday night) is 845.354.0312.

Minyanim in NMB

Mincha Monday night - 8:00 PM

Shachris

Tuesday/Wednesday - 8:15 AM

Mincha/Maariv

Tuesday - 5:55 PM

PUSHKAS PLEASE!

Now that new Toras Emes pushkas were distributed to all our families, please be sure to return your old ones to any school office. If you need another one, please contact our administrative office at 305.944.5344.



SAVE THE DATE!

Our Annual Chinese Auction is scheduled for Sunday, May 6. Please line up your babysitters now for this amazing evening that you **won't want to miss!**



PARSHA WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Rabbi Baumann's weekly Parashas
HaShavua class takes place every Thursday, 8:45-9:30 am, in the main office. All are welcome to attend.

Routines and Rituals

by Sara Chana Radcliffe

SCHEDULING MAY SEEM MINOR, BUT THERE'S MUCH THAT HINGES UPON A WELL-PLANNED DAY

Routines and rituals can help a family run like a well-oiled machine. They can also help each individual within the family to function at his or her best. In fact, a lack of appropriate routines and rituals can wreak havoc on both family life and individual functioning.

I can't get my four-year-old to school on time — we're always around 15 minutes late. But that's because he gets up too late and I don't have enough time to get him dressed, fed, and ready to go. I know he gets up late because he goes to bed too late but he goes to bed late because we don't finish eating supper till around 8 p.m. and then I like to clean up the kitchen a bit before starting baths and bedtime stories. He still wants a bedtime snack after that, so it's usually around 9:00 before he gets into pajamas and 9:30 before he gets into bed. The problem is that I can't serve supper earlier because he has daily speech therapy lessons at 6:30 and we don't get home till 7:30.

Although there are some routines in this vignette (speech therapy lesson, supper time, story time, and so on), they all occur at the wrong times. The average four-year-old needs to be in bed long before 9:30 p.m. if he is to get up early enough in the morning to be ready for school on time. This little fellow is going to be rushed through his morning routine and probably arrive at school harried, hungry, and tired. He won't be at his best. If the teacher calls to complain of behavioral problems, well, we won't be surprised.

CHAOTIC HOUSEHOLDS

Of course, it's not the child's fault that he is late; his schedule is determined by his parents. The parents, for their part, are trying their best to squeeze everything into one too-short day. By allowing their child to walk into class late each day, however, they are accidentally giving the child a specific sort of education.

For instance, since all the other children have arrived before him, the late youngster learns that he is somehow "special," exempt from the rules that govern the behavior of others. He also learns that he is somehow deficient, *unable* to arrive on time for some reason, whereas everyone seems to be able to accomplish this task. Ironically, his lateness teaches him to rush, flooding his little brain with stress chemistry. Finally, his lateness *fails* to teach him how to organize his time.

When people have time-management difficulties, life becomes a little harder. Arriving late, handing in assignments late, failing to complete or accomplish important tasks — these aren't fun experiences. Rushing, stressing, always trying to catch up — there's got to be an easier way to live! Adults who haven't mastered the art of time management may pass the deficiency on to their youngsters, saddling them with the same lifelong challenges.

Departures, arrivals, and deadlines are only a small sampling of family life and personal functioning that are affected by time-management styles. In fact, *all* household routines are linked to the ability to organize time: when do dishes get washed, clothes get cleaned and put away, rooms get tidied, linens get changed, papers get organized, and meals get served? When is bath time, bedtime, and homework time? When all of these things occur at regular, appropriate, and predictable times, the rhythm of the household has a stabilizing effect on all of its members. But when these things occur less predictably, a feeling of destabilizing chaos often occurs. While some flexibility is both tolerable and necessary, complete lack of order is nothing but stressful.

ESTABLISHING ROUTINES

Some people are naturally organized. Others are more free-spirited — responding to the demands and moods of the moment. However, even members of this latter group may realize that children (and adults too!) benefit a great deal from a small amount of order. Fortunately, changing just one thing can sometimes allow everything else to fall into place, creating instant order out of chaos.

For example, in our story above, changing speech therapy lessons from 6:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. may allow dinner to be completed by 6:30 and bedtime to be achieved by 7:30 or 8:00. This will allow Junior to get up early enough to have a relaxing morning and arrive at school on time. While things aren't always that simple, one principle holds true: start with a *small* change. When the change is firmly established, make another small change. There's no need to change your *personality* — just make a small change in your *schedule*. Most of us, no matter what our time-management style, can benefit from taking this small-step approach to a calmer, more efficient life. ■

2G ENJOYS A VISIT FROM A SPECIAL GUEST

Mrs. Ritterman's second grade girls were honored to welcome a guest speaker on Monday who shared his stories of the Holocaust with the class. He was none other than Mrs. Ritterman's father, Mr. Taub! The girls were mesmerized as he gave a personal account of his family's experience in Hungary during WWII.





TORAS EMES
ACADEMY OF MIAMI
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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

Erev Shabbos Parashas Beshalach 5772

Dear Parents,

Every generation of late seems to have a penchant to decry the deterioration of basic humanity and values. Put another way – **we've undoubtedly heard from OUR parents; 'WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH KIDS TODAY?!' Our generation is certainly no exception.** Two unrelated events in recent weeks help drive the point home.

More than one news commentator has compared the sinking of the cruise ship, the *Costa Concordia*, and the *Titanic*, 100 years earlier. I was struck by the startling contrast. 100 years ago, when confronted with disaster, the passengers of the *Titanic* apparently maintained a degree of calm and willingly allowed women and children to board the few lifeboats available, thereby sealing their own fate. When faced with the ultimate test, the wealthy, highly accomplished men on board acted in accordance with an obviously deeply implanted sense of right and wrong and a recognition and respect for others who exist outside of oneself.

The recent disaster revealed an entirely opposite reaction on the part of modern humanity. Passengers fought with each other to grab space on the lifeboats, seemingly oblivious to any higher morality or awareness that one lives within a community of his fellows. If one seeks to find an example of the moral bankruptcy of modern man, one needs to look no further. How depressing it is, that after vanquishing Nazism and Communism, with all the scientific and medical advances of the 20th century, Western society seems to lack one of the basic elements of humanity – concern for others.

In an entirely different setting, a great man passed away this week, who symbolized and represented a level of responsibility, care and concern for those outside of himself, that one wonders if there will ever be another like him. *Rabbi Avraham Ginzberg, zt'l*, Executive Director of *Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim* for over 50 years, was selflessly dedicated to serving the Yeshiva and his *Rebbe*, the *Rosh Hayeshiva*, *HaGaon HaRav Alter Chanoch Henach Leibowitz, zt'l*.

-continued-

2.

His entire mode of operation was to nullify himself to the cause of the Yeshiva. Always in the background, always thinking solely of others and their needs, he worked with *Mesiras Nefesh* decade after decade, totally subjugating his opinion to that of the *Rosh HaYeshiva*. His humility was the key to why he was so beloved, unusual for a person in such a position. His son, *Rabbi Aryeh Zev Ginzberg* shared a story at the *Levaya* about one time at a Yeshiva dinner when a guest came over to his father and asked if he could bring the guest a certain dish. Without batting an eyelash, *Rabbi Ginzberg* went to bring the requested item. When he delivered the item he asked the guest why he made the request of him. The man responded he thought he was the caterer. When asked why he thought that, the man innocently replied – **“I always see you bringing food to people and helping out your guests. It seemed obvious to me that you must be the caterer!”**

Are we, parents and educators of the 21st century capable of producing such a man? As Torah Jews, do we demonstrate to our children and students a humility, selflessness and devotion to others that can come close to compare? Or are we too busy or distracted, too entertained or wired, too winned and dined to strengthen these basic core values that were always the bedrock of the Jewish people.

The best we can offer our children are the simple things in life: simple truth, simple loyalty and simple devotion to the needs of others. Simply put – there is nothing simple about a person who lives a life of simplicity.

Best wishes for a simply wonderful *Shabbos*,



Rabbi Kalman Baumann

chosen words

Personal Growth

What It Takes

Some people make it by luck, some by innate ability, and some by sheer determination. Then there are those who don't make it at all.

We hear of children whose learning difficulties marginalize them and turn them off to learning. Then we hear of talmidei chachomim who have started out with the exact same challenges. We know of people who are always on a diet, but never lose a pound. And we see others who reach a healthy weight and stay there. We read studies that explain why children from poor neighborhoods have trouble in school. Then we read of a breakthrough by someone from just such a neighborhood.

We ourselves make endless rounds of resolutions: to be more patient, to guard our tongues, to spend more time with our children, to be more organized, to call a lonely relative more often, to pray with more concentration, to get more sleep, to save more money—even just to floss our teeth every day—and most of them come to naught.

Why is it so very difficult to reach a goal? Why are some people hobbled by the obstacles, while others are able to get there? The Torah teaches us the formula to success by contrasting Avraham and his father, Terach. We learn that Terach had also set out for Canaan, but got only as far as Charan, where he lived out the rest of his life. Avraham, on the other hand, "left ...and came to the land of Canaan," all in one verse. Nothing could intercede between his departure and his arrival, because he embarked with his goal burning in his heart. Whether our goal is practical or spiritual, it's the depth of

our desire to reach it that gives us the power to go the distance.

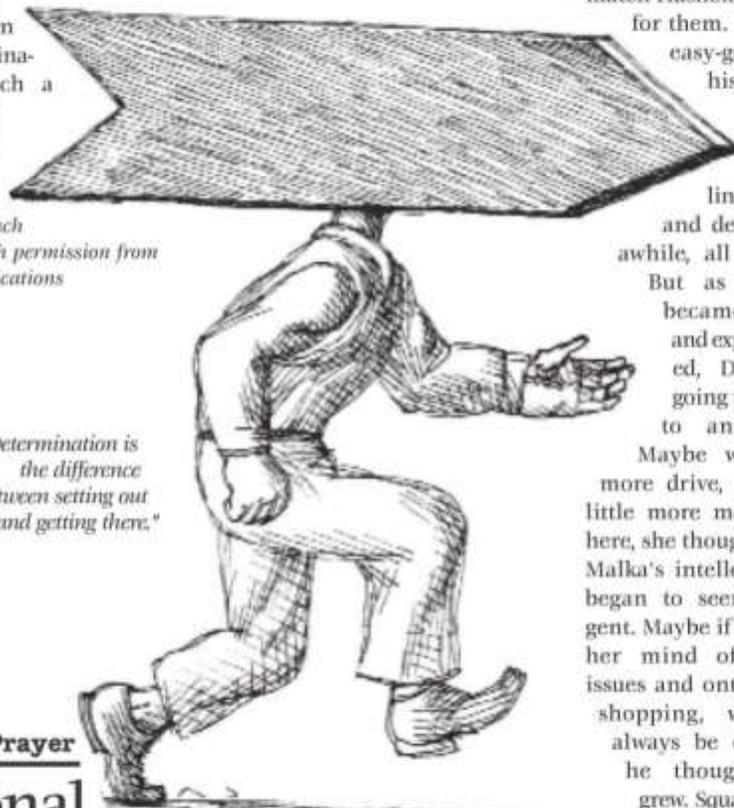
Shabbos Table Discussion:

How can you strengthen your determination to reach a desired goal?

Adapted from "Majesty of Man," by

Rabbi A. Henach Leibowitz, with permission from Mesorah Publications

"Determination is the difference between setting out and getting there."



Effective Prayer

Personal Conversations

The King called his servants by name. He was the ruler of a vast swath of provinces which were home to hundreds of thousands of subjects. Yet his personal servants, he knew so very well. He loved and appreciated them, and did his best to keep them satisfied and content. The servants knew they were special to the King, beloved individuals with names and faces, lives and concerns.

When we say "Adon Olam" at the beginning and end of each day, we cast ourselves in the role of our King's beloved servants. By declaring Hashem our "adon," our "mas-

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

Inspiration



Ideas



Excellence



Success

Better Relationships

Bits and Peace

When Malka and Dovid met, they each knew in an instant that this was the match Hashem had decreed for them. She loved his easy-going nature, his gentle sense of humor. He loved her sparkling intelligence and depth. And for awhile, all was golden. But as the couple became a family and expenses mounted, Dovid's easy-going nature started to annoy Malka. Maybe with a little more drive, there'd be a little more money around here, she thought. To Dovid, Malka's intellectual nature began to seem self-indulgent. Maybe if she could get her mind off the great issues and onto things like shopping, we wouldn't always be out of milk, he thought. Tension grew. Squabbles mounted. A wise friend interceded.

"He's a good, kind man who loves his family," she told Malka. "Why focus on the one negative?" *continued on back*



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

ter," we define a deep, personal involvement between Him and us. He is indeed "Melech Ha'olam," King of the Universe. But we are more than anonymous subjects of the King. We are beloved servants of the Master. No matter how small or insignificant we may feel, no matter how unworthy we may see ourselves to be, our Master recognizes us individually and invites us, through tefillah, into a direct, loving relationship with Him. *Adapted from "Rav Schwab on Prayer," by Rabbi Shimon Schwab, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

Pot Boiler

The Igerres Haramban is a succinct and loving letter of advice from the Ramban to his son; it has long been treasured as a guide to developing one's character. This is the second of a series based on its teachings.

You put a pot of cold water on the stove and turn on the flame. For the first five minutes, the water appears virtually unchanged. Anyone who didn't notice the flame underneath would think the water was room-temperature. But finally, the invisible heat builds to the point at which the water begins to steam, then bubble, and then boil.

"A person in a full froth of anger didn't suddenly get that way."

This little cooking lesson is a lesson in life. Chazal refer to anger as "roseach," which means boiling. And the metaphor is far from accidental, because a person in a full froth of anger didn't suddenly get that way. First there was a small annoyance, then

another, then another, each adding a few more degrees of heat to his heart. Only when the final few degrees were applied did the anger boil over into a full-fledged volcano, leaving the person helplessly in the grip of his emotions.

The way to avoid this loss of control, then, is to keep the pot cool. The Ramban tells us how: "Accustom yourself to speak gently to all people at all times."

"At all times" seems like a very tall order. Yet it provides the key to "keeping cool." It means "in every situation"—even the non-stressful ones—speak gently. When nothing is going wrong, when no one is

challenging or provoking you, take charge of your thoughts and words. Keep them non-stressful and positive. Physically relax, smile, untense your face, breathe deeply. All these strategies keep the water cool, so that even when the inevitable heat is applied, the pot won't come to a boil.

Adapted from "Reaching Your Highest Heights," a taped lecture series on Igerres Haramban by Rabbi Ephraim Wachsman, produced by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

Bits and Peace

continued from front
"She's a loving, devoted wife," the friend told Dovid. "She's not just her flaw."

Machlokes, dispute, has the root "chelek," which means piece. Sholeim, which means whole, is the root of shalom. The words themselves teach us that dispute comes from perceiving a portion of others, while peace comes from perceiving them in their Divinely designed totality.

Shabbos Table Discussion:
How can you use this understanding of machlokes to get along better with others?

Adapted from "A Time to Heal," a taped lecture by Rabbi Jonathan Rietti, produced by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

Dedications

לע"נ
ר' נפתלי צבי בר ר' יצחק אייזיק ז"ל
Rabbi Naftali Reichman ז"ל
נלב"ע ב' שבט תשד"מ

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

The Din Torah

Reb Nassan and Reb Pinchas were locked in a dispute. Reb Nassan earned his meager living selling milk in the Old City of Jerusalem. Then, illness forced him to enter a hospital. During his hospital stay, Reb Pinchas had taken over his milk route. Reb Nassan worried about losing his route, yet he knew Reb Pinchas was providing his customers with a needed service.

When Reb Pinchas heard Reb Nassan was home from the hospital, he rushed to his house. He introduced himself, and presented a handful of coins. "I came to bring you your money," he explained. "I knew you had no other income, so I took over your route while you were ill."

Reb Nassan wouldn't take the money, insisting that Reb Pinchas had earned it. Reb Pinchas wouldn't keep it. So, they brought to beis din a machlokes that no doubt set the Heavens dancing with joy.

Shabbos Table Discussion:
Who should keep the money? Why? [Note: For discussion only. Actual halachic decisions should be made by a rav.]

Adapted from "Visions of Greatness," by Rabbi Yosef Weiss, with permission from CIS Publishing

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HaRav Shmuel Kamenetsky, shlita, Chairman Rabbinical Board
Rav Naftali Jaeger, shlita, Rabbinical Editorial Supervisor

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We welcome your comments!

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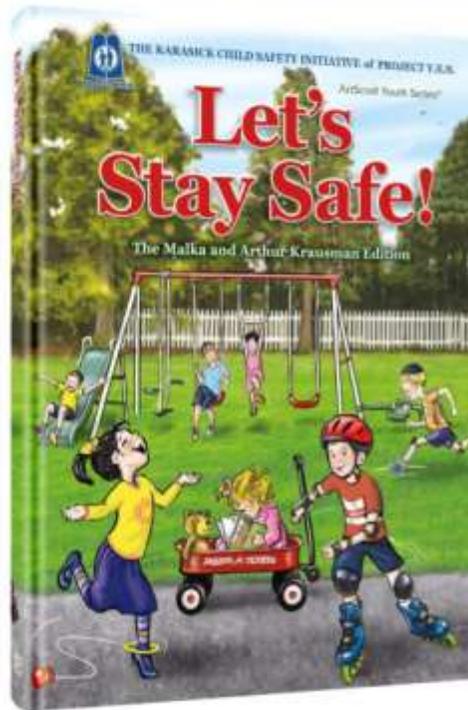
This may well be the most important picture book you will ever share with your children.

*Over two years in the making, and developed by Project YES as part of its Karasick Child Safety Initiative, **Let's Stay Safe!** is a must for all concerned parents -- and all of our precious children.*

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This is a terrific opportunity to help assure the safety of your children while at the same time helping Toras Emes Academy.

The newly released Project YES safety picture book is designed to give parents a script to speak to their children about personal space and privacy in a tzanua manner and in the context of a broader discussion about general safety matters.



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HELP SUPPORT TORAS EMES ACADEMY BY ORDERING YOUR COPY TODAY.

Published by ArtScroll, and recommended by Torah Umesorah, it is delightful to read, but at the same time covers important messages about child safety.

We all want to keep our children safe, secure, confident and happy.

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TORAS EMES ACADEMY OF MIAMI

February 2012

שבט-אדר תשע"ב

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ה	2 ט	3 י	4 יא בשלח שבת שירה
5 יב	6 יג	7 יד YEDIOS HATORAH TESTING DAY	8 טו TU B'SHEVAT SPECIAL PROGRAM	9 טז	10 יז NO SESSIONS RABBI YOSSI HEBER DAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' INSTITUTE Candle Lighting 5:51	11 יח יתרו
12 יט	13 כ	14 כא	15 כב	16 כג	17 כד END OF SECOND MARKING PERIOD Candle Lighting 5:56	18 כה משפטים פרשת שקלים שבת מברכים
19 כו FAMILY FUN DAY 	20 כז OPEN SCHOOL DAY SESSIONS 8:30-1:00 ECE 9-12 PRESIDENTS' DAY	21 כח	22 כט	23 ל FIRST GRADE CHUMASH PARTIES GIRLS - 10:30 AM BOYS - 3:00 PM ראש חודש	24 א MISHNAYOS PROJECT ENDS Candle Lighting 6:00 ראש חודש	25 ב תרומה
26 ג NO SESSIONS PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES 9:00AM-1:00PM	27 ד REGULAR SESSIONS PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES 6:00-9:00PM	28 ה	29 ו			