

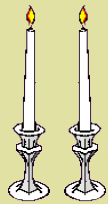
JANUARY 11, 2013

TEAM Spirit

STAR STUDENTS

פרשת וארא

ראש חדש שבט



CANDLE
LIGHTING

5:30 pm

Avi Cohen – T.S.
Zevi Eisenberger – S.S.
Asher Goldenberg – T.S.
Avrami Flamholtz – T.S.
Benyamin Mendoza – S.S.
Yosef Nemani – T.S.
Binyomin Privalsky – T.S.
Dovi Schwartz – T.S.
Ailee Shanes – S.S.
Coby Tzur – S.S.
Reuven Wulwick – S.S.

Shira Adar – T.S.
Ellee Benchetrit – T.S. & S.S.
Shifra Braunschweiger – T.S.
Abby Dennis – T.S.
Avigayil Feld – T.S.
Zissel Leah Goldsmith – S.S.
Tamar Hyman – S.S.
Atara Laks – S.S.
Kayla Lefkowitz – S.S.
Avigail Maya – S.S.
Chaviva Pam – T.S.
Sarah Rosenberg – T.S.

28th ANNUAL JOURNAL DINNER

It's hard to believe that our journal campaign has come to a close. We thank you all for your efforts and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday evening as we pay tribute to our most worthy honorees.

If you have not yet made your reservations and/or communicated your seating preference, please do so ASAP by calling us at [305-944-5344](tel:305-944-5344) x 223, or by emailing us at dinner@ytcteam.org. Have a GREAT Shabbos and see you at the dinner!

TEAM PLAYERS

Ephraim Dudovitz
Dovid Feldman
Avi Girnun
Ariel Hahn
Mendy Itzkowitz
Dan Leonoff
Dovid Leubitz
Shalom Marcus
Aaron Riesel
Shea Rosenberg

Orly Adar
Shira Adar
Leehee Akrish
Avia Bennett
Naomi Bursztyn
Gabriella Chattah
Cila Ginsparg
Noa Gutfreund
Rivka Jablon
Tessie Koot
Shira Richmond
Elisheva Sharfman
Eden Zabari

CALENDAR CHANGE AND CLARIFICATION

January						
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Please note: There is regular school this Friday, January 18 (shading on school calendar is a mistake).

Change:

1. There will be regular school until 4:00 PM on Tuesday, March 5, Parent-Teacher Conference Day.
2. Classes will begin at 8:30 AM, regular time, on Thursday, April 4 (the day after Isru Chag Pesach) - for both Elementary and ECE.

CYCLE III BEGINS SOON!

Forms for the third cycle of the Hot

Lunch Program are

available on our website at www.ytcteam.org.

Cycle III will begin on Monday, January 29 immediately following our midwinter vacation. If you would like to order lunch for our next cycle, please check our website or contact Mrs. Tamir in **the boys' office, 305.948.3338**. Orders must be received by Wednesday, January 16.



GIRLS GALORE BRUNCH & MORE

This exciting morning of

food, fun and

entertainment will take place this Sunday,

January 13, 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 & one adult

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

Each Additional Guest: \$10.00

Sponsors are most welcome at \$50.00,

\$75.00 and \$100.00 (includes admission).

Call Chava Mann at 786.623.7744 for more

information or to make a reservation.



ASSEMBLIES

Our Shevat assemblies will take place, **IY"H, this Thursday, January 17 featuring 2G and 2B. The girls' assembly is at 1:30 and the boys' assembly takes place at 2:45.**

Official uniform must be worn all day on assembly day, including white knee socks for all the girls.

MAZEL TOV



To Dr. and Mrs. Ari Turner and family on the birth of a girl.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Kalman Baumann and family on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Shmuel Wagner.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shloime Ritterman and family on the marriage of their son Eli and Leah Goldstein.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Gedalya Glatt and family on the marriage of their daughter, our alumna, Adina and Yehuda Mittel.

CHEVRA KADISHA CLASS

The annual review class for members of the *Chevra Kadisha* will take place, IY"Y, on Tuesday evening, January 29, 8:15 at Levitt Weinstein Memorial Chapels, 18840 West Dixie Highway, North Miami Beach.

RAISING G.R.E.A.T. CHILDREN

Rabbi Baumann's Parenting Class takes place on Tuesday mornings, 8:45-9:30, in the Library.

Please join us!

This week's topic:

HOW TO PRAISE/CRITICIZE - PART 2

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Leah bas Rochel

Leah bas Freida

Yoel Efraim ben Baila

Shifra Pua bas Rochel

Mordechai Yehuda ben Esther Rochel

Chaim Berel ben Shoshana

Binyomin ben Sarah

Yosef ben Rus

Rochel bas Rivka Leah

Yechezkel ben Tova

Ariella Sara bas Elisheva Malka

Yehuda Pinchas ben Asna

Shlomo Meir ben Aviya Nechama

Malka Rivka bas Devorah

Shoshana bas Miriam

Shmuel Yitzchak ben Zisa Sara

Chaya Shaina Sara bas Chana Esther

Meir Yitzchok ben Pessel

Rochel Gittel bas Yehudis Etil

Leah Lilach bas Sara Chana

Peretz ben Gittel

Yaakov Dovid ben Pava

Aryeh Meir ben Aidel Fraidel

Ariela Rivka bas Yocheved

Yaakov ben Malka

Miriam bas Itzilah Aida

Rafael Menachem Meir ben Raizel Aidel

Devorah bas Victoria

Avraham Shlomo ben Ita

Yehudis Malka bas Rivka Perel

Naftuli ben Rivka

Dovid ben Golda

Yitzchak ben Taiba

Penina bas Ashira



WE HAD A FIELD DAY AT OUR FIELD DAY!!

The entire elementary school enjoyed a special Field Day event at Toras Emes on Thursday afternoon. The students participated in a variety of team-based outdoor fun activities which reinforced the school-wide community building that we have worked on for the first half of the year. A great time was had by all! See photos attached.

KIDS FOR KOSHER FOOD BANK

The Food Bank depends on

everyone's participation to help combat hunger in our community—one meal, one person at a time. For the month of January the specific requests are Mac & Cheese boxes, apple juice, canned fruit, and Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste). Keep in mind that all the food must be either OU, Chaf-K, O-K, or Star-K certified, making it suitable for any family. Thank you for your continued help. *Yasher Koach!* Please bring your donations to the school office.



LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found

boxes are overflowing with sweaters and jackets that you

surely must be missing in this cooler weather.

We have made an effort to return all items that were labeled to their rightful owners, however, many items remain. *All items remaining in the office will be donated to a gemach over winter vacation.* Please remember to label your **children's outerwear and lunch boxes** before they are sent in to school.



MID-WINTER VACATION

School will be closed Sunday, January 20 through Sunday, January 27. Classes will resume at 8:30 AM on Monday, January 29.



TORAS EMES HAS A
FIELD DAY!





WATCH OUR BUILDING GROW!





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 Vaera Rosh Chodesh Shevat 5773

Dear Parents,

The first three of the *Makos* (**plagues**) detailed in this week's *Parsha*, were actually put into motion by *Aharon HaKohein* and not *Moshe Rabbeinu*, the more obvious choice for the job. *Rashi* (7:19) explains this by telling us that the Nile River, from where the blood and frogs emerged, had protected *Moshe* as an infant. In *Perek 8 Pasuk 12* *Moshe* again defers to *Aharon* to initiate the plague of lice and *Rashi* explains that since the lice emerged from the dust of the earth, and the dust had hidden the body of the Egyptian that *Moshe* killed, it was not appropriate to be stricken by *Moshe*.

Later commentaries explain *Rashi* was referring to an obligation of *Hakoras HaTov*, gratitude on the part of *Moshe* to the body of water and the earth itself, for their roles in saving his life. That obligation made it impossible for *Moshe* to directly cause an interruption in the normal functioning of these entities.

The lesson in the obligation of *Hakoras HaTov* is striking in that *Moshe* was thereby unable to qualify as the one to carry out **Hashem's** will to inflict these plagues on the Egyptians. What is perhaps more striking is that this obligation of gratitude was towards inanimate objects – the river and the earth! We could more easily understand **Moshe's** need to express gratitude to another person who would be aware and be emotionally uplifted by being thanked. At least we could see how **Moshe's** action (or inaction) benefitted someone else. But what purpose is there in saying thank you to water or the dust of the earth??

-continued-

What emerges is a profound insight not only into the obligation of gratitude, but into a **Jew's behavior in general. We tend to judge actions in terms of how they help or affect** others. But that is only a part of the picture. The predominant factor in any analysis of the ultimate benefit or detriment of any action is the effect it has on the person doing the action! For example, we know *Chazal* established the extra stringency of *Maaris Ayin* – that in some circumstances, even an otherwise permissible act that only looks like a forbidden act is also not allowed. A contemporary example of that would be eating pizza topped with salami and soy cheese (with no signage indicating the cheese is *parve*). More to the point – according to the *Gemara (Beitza 9A)* the law of *Maaris Ayin* applies even when a person is alone in his own house, when the only witness is himself! There is no other who is being impacted by his action.

This is extremely important in regards to the *chinuch* of our children. If they do something **inappropriate, and excuse it with “I was only kidding,” or “she doesn't mind when I talk/ act that way” or “it's not my mess, why do I have to clean it up” or “what I smashed was not usable anymore anyway” they are missing this point entirely. Every action, decision and growth step is significant because it impacts on the doer's values, motivation and ultimate development as a servant of Hashem.** The story is told of **Rav Shmuel Salant, zt'l**, Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi of *Yerusholayim* at the dawn of the 20th century. One day he heard his 12 year old granddaughter let out a stream of invectives that shocked him. Upon investigation, she explained she was shooing away a cat. When she saw **Rav Salant's** troubled look, she **reiterated “it was only a cat.” Her grandfather responded “yes, but it was your mouth.”**

We all are aware of the need for a child to have a healthy self-esteem, to view him or herself as an important, significant and worthy person. Just consider what an enhancement it would be to that self-image if our children could understand that the actions of a Jew are **significant, irrespective of anyone else's reaction or even awareness of it. What comes out** of their mouth, their actions and inactions are of cosmic importance! Could anyone be more significant than that? By implanting and reinforcing this message in our children, we will then be able to look with pride and true *Nachas* at how we set them on a direct path to greatness.

Best wishes for a wonderful *Shabbos and Rosh Chodesh*,


Rabbi Kalman Baumann