

Early Childhood Newsletter

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

Parashas Chayei Sara

October 25, 2013
Candle Lighting 6:25 P.M.

MAZEL TOV:

Shoshana Szachniuk on her engagement to Alejandro Rotholc.

THANK YOU:

Mr. Yossi and Rachel Kanoff for donating educational equipment to the KIV class in honor of Gali's sixth birthday.

30th Anniversary Journal and Dinner

*Our annual campaign is underway!
Please see the attached flyer to learn
about our "Parents of the Year" -
Mr. & Mrs. Seth and Esther Entin*

****FLASH****

**WE ARE PROUD TO ADD TO OUR LIST
OF DISTINGUISHED HONOREES:
MR. & Mrs. David and Doris Buzaglo
Amud HaChesed Award**

Nut Free School

PLEASE ALERT YOUR BABYSITTERS AS WELL AS OTHER CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY NOT TO PUT SNACKS WITH NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS IN THE **CHILDREN'S LUNCHBOXES.**

MUSIC MONTH: MORAH ZELDA

This week, our Music Month program focused on many different instruments. First we learned about instruments that are blown. The children compared a shofar and a chalil (recorder) and were excited to see how they are different from each other. They learned that a shofar comes from a ram's horn, while a chalil is made from plastic or wood. A shofar is curved and a chalil is straight. Also, a shofar has no holes along the side while the chalil has many holes.

The children learned about the way tones are produced in the different instruments. The tones from a chalil are produced by covering and uncovering the holes. We saw three different sizes of recorders and learned that the shorter instruments produce higher tones and the longer instruments produce lower tones. We had a wonderful time following our conductor as we played our recorders using the rhythmic patterns that we had previously learned.

Then we learned about the flute. It was so much fun touching and listening to the sounds that it produces. We learned that it is held on the side and has holes that are covered with keys called buttons. Each tone is produced by holding down combinations of keys. We saw and listened to several unusual blowing instruments including a whistle boat.

Next, we learned about accordions. We learned how sound is produced by opening and closing an accordion. The children had the chance to play the keyboard on the side of the accordion. That was a lot of fun.

We look forward to having many more musical experiences this year.

NURSERY – MORAH TAMI

The mitzvah of Gemilus Chassadim was introduced this week in Nursery. We talked about Rivka's act of chessed in giving water to Eliezer and his camels. To help the children understand the mitzvah of Gemilus Chassadim, we stressed the concept of sharing both at home and at school. A new song about sharing was taught to the children;

You share, I'll share

We all share together

Sharing together,

That's the thing to do

Toys and books and puzzles and dolls

Whatever you have,

You've got to share it all.

For Music month, we reviewed the four families of instruments and sang and danced as we listened to music.

Our Hebrew language unit this week focused on objects in the classroom. We learned the phrases:

אני ילד

אני ילדה

אתה ילד

את ילדה

הנה כסא

הנה שלחן

מה זה? זה שלחן אדום

מה זה? זה שלחן כחול

מה זה? זה שלחן צהוב

מי אני?

מי אתה?

The children really enjoyed learning about farm animals. In the final week of our unit, we have become very familiar with the Hebrew names of the many different types of animals that live on a farm.

NURSERY – MORAH SUSAN

We have really enjoyed all of our Music Month activities. In the concluding week of our unit on music, we have become real musicians. The class practiced marching with several different kinds of musical instruments. What an exciting time they had as they marched around the playground playing their instruments and singing songs.

We listened to the stories Meet The Orchestra by Ann Hayes and Arroz Con Leche by Lulu Delacre.

We also listened to the CD that accompanies the story Arroz Con Leche and danced as we held maracas and tambourines.

Our artistic skills were in full force this week. The children mixed paint to create many different colors. Beautiful paintings of rainbows, musical instruments, flowers and people are on display in our classrooms.

The Nursery class really enjoyed acting out the poem "Walking Walking."

Walking, walking

Walking, walking

Hop, hop, hop

Hop, hop, hop

Running, running, running

Running, running, running

Now I stop.

Now I stop.

This activity helped to develop the children's gross motor and listening skills.



PRE-KI & II MOROT HEIDI & NECHAMA

In Parashas Chayei Sara, we were introduced to Rivka Imeinu. Rivka demonstrates to us the middah of chessed. This is seen when she gives water from the well to Eliezer and his camels. We discussed how we are going to try and do many acts of chessed this week. We also learned about the three nissim which occurred **in Sara's tent**-the cloud of glory over her tent, the bracha of the dough and the candle which stayed lit from one Erev Shabbos to the next. When Sara died, these nissim left but when Rivka entered the tent, these three nissim returned. We hope that you enjoy the delicious **challah that your children baked in honor of this week's** parsha.

Our Hebrew letter this week was ד. Some vocabulary words that we learned were:

דף
דוב
דבש
דג
דגל
דם
דבורה
דם

Our Hebrew unit focuses on Hekerut– getting acquainted with objects in the classroom such as:

מה זה?
זה שלחן
מה זה?
זה כסא
מה זה?
זה כדור

PRE-KI & II– MORAH JUDY

This week in our Music month unit, the Pre-K children were introduced to the woodwind family of instruments. Some of the more well known woodwind instruments include the piccolo, the organ pipe, the recorder, the oboe, the trombone and certain bag pipes. Many of these are instruments that the children heard in **the musical story of "Peter And The Wolf."** We played and acted out the story again this week. Books read this week about woodwind instruments were Woodwinds by Dee Lillegard and The Magic Flute An Opera by Mozart by Kyra Teis.

Our letter of the week was the letter "Aa." Each week we welcome a new letter in the form of a character. The Pre-K children sounded out many words that begin with the **"Aa" sound such as alligator, apple, art, astronaut and ant.** Another favorite Pre-K word was agenda. **Pre-K friends that begin with the letter "Aa" are** Avi, Ari, Adina, Avital, Asher, Aharon Leib and Atara. It would be fun for the children to recognize items around **your home that begin with the letter "Aa".** They also like to talk about relatives whose names begin with the letter "Aa".

Thanks to the Goldsmith family for bringing letter **"Aa" items to the Pre-KI class.** The letter **"Aa" bag** contained: alligator pictures, a big letter A, an arrow, an anchor, a picture of an ant, an animal baby book, an airplane collection, arms in a Mr. Potato Head, an apple letter game, an Angry Birds toy, an American flag and a puzzle of America. Mr. Goldsmith also showed the children air conditioning pictures and tools including aluminum tape, air ducts and air pressure valves.

Favorite books read this week were Angelina Ballerina Katharine Holabird and Aeroplane by Macdonald London. A favorite counting book was Count With Me by Catherine Anholt.

KINDERGARTEN I, II, III & IV
MOROT BAYLA, HEIDI & RENA

Mrs. Funny Face came to kindergarten this week. She told us a humorous story about how she met Dr. Nekudos and how he helped her get the special features on her face. The first nekudah- the patach was taught this week. We learned to blend the patach with the letters Alef through Dalet. Please make sure to sign and send back the review sheets. We are very excited about learning to read.

Parashas Chayei Sara was the focal point of the week. We learned about the death of Sara Imeinu and discussed the many maasim tovim that she did throughout her life. We learned about the purchase of Mearas Hamachpela, which is still prominent in our hearts and minds today. We also compared the character traits of Avraham Avinu and Efron Hachiti.

Doing chessed was emphasized this week in our classroom. We learned this from the way Eliezer chose a proper wife for Yitzchak. We enjoyed listening to the story Kind Little Rivkah by Dina Rosenfeld, which was also featured in our listening center. We acted out the scene of Rivka selflessly giving of herself to make Eliezer and the gemalim more comfortable. We felt first hand that this was not an easy task.

We also discussed the three simanim which left Sara's tent when she died and returned when Yitzchak married Rivka. These signs showed that she was a tzadekes. We made a beautiful Hadlakas Neiros picture frame and baked challah as well in honor of this week's parsha.

Our Hebrew language program is lots of fun. It is incorporated into all of our units. Some new Hebrew phrases that we learned were:

יש לי נייר
יש לי ספר
איפה הספרים
אני אוהב לצייר
אני אוהבת לצייר
אני יושב במעגל
אני יושבת במעגל
יש לי עפרון
איפה הלוח

Project Derech taught us that it is a mitzvah not to sit in a parent's place.

KINDERGARTEN I, II, III & IV
MOROT BERNEY, PEARLY & TALIA

Music Month has come to a close with a crescendo of musical activities!

The last instrument family that we explored was the woodwind family. We learned that all woodwind instruments such as the flute, bagpipe and harmonica are made out of wood, fabric or metal.

We reviewed the other three instrument groups and discussed how to classify each instrument. In review, percussion instruments are instruments that can be hit, shaken or rubbed such as a drum, piano or tambourine. String instruments are instruments that have strings that are strummed or plucked such as the guitar, violin and cello. Brass instruments are all made out of brass and have a mouthpiece.

We also reviewed the lives of famous composers such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Johan Sebastian Bach and Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Each child made a pan flute and listened to the story of "Peter and the Wolf."

We started our "Aa" book this week and reviewed the letters and sound of "Cc", "Oo" and "Gg". In addition, we learned that every word has a beginning, middle and end sound. We practiced listening to the beginning, middle and ending sounds in words. We reviewed upper and lower case letters and continued writing in our October Journals. **This week's sight word was "the."** We reviewed our old sight words and continued writing sentences using our sight word vocabulary. So far **we have learned the words "a", "I", "am" and "the."**

In math, we sorted, classified, counted and worked on one to one correspondence with the numbers one through five. We learned the concept of the number zero as well as number sets.



Erev Shabbos Parashas Chayei Sarah 5774

Dear Parents,

Most thoughtful parents give a great deal of consideration as to how to educate and train their children about money. There are many facets to this question, and in fact, a lot does ride on taking the proper approach.

The beginning of this week's *Parsha* offers us a valuable insight into the proper Torah attitude towards money. When *Avraham* agrees to purchase the *Meoras Hamachpeila* from *Efron* as a burial plot for *Sarah* for an exorbitant sum, the *Ramban* describes *Avraham's* response to *Efron's* stipulation as *Nedivus Lev – Generosity of Heart (Bereishis 23:15)*. Our *Rosh HaYeshiva, HaGaon HaRav Alter Chanoch Henach Leibowitz, zt'l*, asked: Why is the *Ramban* describing *Avraham's* acquiescing to pay 400 *Shekels* for the *Cave of Machpeila* an act of generosity? It was a business deal! *Avraham* had no choice but to pay such a large amount because he wanted a specific piece of real estate, *Efron* was the sole owner of the desired property, and he could and did charge what he wanted. Generosity is usually a description of an act performed when one could choose to give less – there was no such option for *Avraham* in this transaction.

The *Rosh HaYeshiva zt'l* answered that in truth, the *Ramban* is referring to *Avraham's* attitude. *Avraham* didn't get upset at *Efron*, or grow frustrated over the poor deal he transacted. Money is a tool to achieve a desired result. If it takes less money to achieve it, that's nice, but if it takes more money, so be it. *Avraham* focused on what he was getting, in this case an eternal heritage for the Jewish People, and not on the particulars of the means to achieve it – the transaction with *Efron*. With this in mind, *Avraham* was able to hand over such a large sum of money, once he was convinced of the fact that there was no other option, with a generosity of spirit – he used the amount of money necessary to purchase what he needed and he was most pleased with the successful conclusion of the arrangement.

This attitude is the key to a proper relationship to money. As *Rabbi Noach Orlowek, Shlita*, says – **money is technical, not emotional**. People's problems with money stem from ascribing additional meaning to money. Money, they think, is status, power, prestige, self-image. People determine their self-worth by how much money they have, which explains the deep emotional distress that occurs when people lose much of their money. However, money is not you! A person's intrinsic worth has nothing to do with the size of his or her bank account. Money is a tool for acquiring what you need, for fulfilling your life's mission. If you have more of it, you are able to acquire more of your wants and needs. If you have a small amount you either take action to get more money (legally, of course), or figure out how to do with less.

Effective, positive *Chinuch* about money follows this guideline. A weekly allowance is a good idea, because a child gets used to the idea of how money can be used, managed and protected. Birthday money can be targeted towards purchasing a long sought after item. Starting a savings account is always a good idea, as long as it doesn't get too much attention or prominence in the child's life. Of greatest importance is the parents' role modeling. They should not dwell on what wealthier people have or have just acquired, conveying a sense of jealousy or deprivation. If money is tight, they should not give off a sense of fear or foreboding. Children pick up non-verbal body language very strongly, even when nothing is actually said.

Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky, zt'l told his students that when he was raising his family in Europe and living in what we would call poverty, he never told his children they could not afford something. If there was an item they wanted or thought they must have but could not afford, his message to his children was – we don't need it. The *Kamenetsky* children did not grow up feeling they came from a poor family – they always had everything they needed!

Generosity is not limited to sharing your wealth with others. It starts with the attitude that *Hashem* looks after me and has blessed me with enough money to take care of myself and my family so I can then move on to focus on the really important things in life – *Torah, mitzvos, chesed* and raising our beautiful children to follow in *Avraham Avinu's* footsteps.

Have an enriching, satisfying *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann
Principal

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

Bais Medrash Zichron Ezra Dr. Abe Chames High School Rohr Middle School Klurman Elementary School Early Childhood Division

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary
is pleased to announce its
Annual Dinner Journal Campaign

Guests of Honor
our

Rosh HaYeshiva and Rebbetzin

Rabbi Yisroel Y. and Rochel Niman

Parents of the Year Award

Mr. and Mrs. Seth and Esther Entin

Let's meet the Entins....

Seth, sometimes known around town as "Shlomo", and his wife, Esther, have been involved with Toras Chaim Toras Emes since 1998. Together with their four children, Yaakov, Yitzi, Shmuel and Meira, they have been, and continue to be an integral part of the YTCTE family.

Born and raised here in South Florida, Seth attended the RASG Hebrew Academy and Talmudic University, after which he graduated with highest honors from the University of Miami Law School. An active member of our Board of Directors, Seth provides invaluable advice and guidance to our school. As a native Floridian, Seth can certainly attest to the enormous Torah growth he has witnessed over the years in our community. Besides being a long standing member of Young Israel of Greater Miami, Seth has set aside a daily commitment to learning in the NMB Community Kollel.

Seth is a Shareholder at the law firm of Greenberg Traurig PA, and practices in the area of international tax law. He has been awarded "top attorney in his field" by many prestigious legal publications and is a renowned speaker at tax conferences worldwide.

Esther's name has been synonymous with PTA activities in every one of our divisions. From her early years as an assistant in the Toras Emes Preschool, to president of PTA, Esther has taken great pride in being an active participant in all areas of her childrens' education. From mother/daughter luncheons, to Scholastic Book Fairs, there was no task too small or too great to tackle.

The Entins are prime examples of active parents who put their childrens' chinuch first and foremost on their list of priorities. As their children progress, Yaakov, in Ner Israel, Yitzy, in Keren BeYavne, Meira, in Bais Yaakov, and Shmuel, who is currently attending DACHS, we wish them continued growth and nachas from all their children.

Your generous response will make this our most successful campaign ever!