

Early Childhood Newsletter

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

Parashas Tetzaveh

February 6, 2014
Candle Lighting 5:50P.M.

PRE-K TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE

At the Museum of Discovery and Science this Tuesday, the children visited the Discovery Zone, the Coral Reef Exhibit, went on an "airboat" ride, saw the sea otters and looked at simulated hurricanes. Thank you to the parents who accompanied the children on this trip:

Mrs. Daisy Chocron, Mrs. Joanna Dennis,
Mrs. Nathalie Nahon, Mrs. Beth Ruck and
Mrs. Yael Simkins

MAZEL TOV:

Rabbi Yossi and Bayla Biston on the birth of a grandson to their children Rabbi Mendy and Esti Gutnick

Rabbi Yossi and Bayla Biston on the birth of a granddaughter to their children Rabbi Tzvi and Shana Dechter

Mr. Isaac and Jennifer Kasztl on the birth of a son

SCIENCE MONTH

A four week science unit was started this week in the early childhood program. The Nursery classes will be learning about the Five Senses. The Pre-K children will be studying the Properties of Air and the Kindergarten children will be studying the Properties of Magnets. We would appreciate it if parents would send in books from home or from the library on any of the above topics.

Calendar Notes:

February 7– Rabbi Yossi Heber Day.
No School

February 11– Fire Truck Demonstration

February 17– Presidents Day.
Dismissal at 12:00 noon



NURSERY – MORAH TAMI

I see two candles, two long white candles
On my Shabbos table
The clock says tick, the clock says tock
Hurry as fast as you're able

To shul goes my abba
And here comes my ima
Shh..quiet we must be
She lights the candles
And says Shabbat Shalom to me
Tick, tock...

The children enjoyed learning this delightful song as a part of their unit on Shabbos. They also talked about how they get ready for Shabbos and created a list of all the things that are on their Shabbos table;

כוס קדוש
בקבוק יין
שתי הלוח
מלח
צלחות
מפיות
כוסות

We discussed how the yeladim enjoy going to shul with their parents and sitting and davening nicely.

For Parashas Tetzaveh, we looked at pictures of the bigdei kahuna that were worn by the kohanim who worked in the mishkan. We also talked about the choshen and how the twelve stones in the choshen represented the twelve shevatim.

NURSERY – MORAH SUSAN

We started a new science unit on the topic of the Five Senses. The Sense of Hearing was featured this week in the Afternoon Nursery. The children enjoyed decorating an ear and making a hearing device out of plastic. They listened to many different sounds and tried to identify them. Each child played a musical instrument as they marched around the room. We listened to the stories Sounds All Around by Jane Belk Moncure, The Five Senses: Hearing by Maria Ruis, You Hear With Your Ears and Your Five Senses both by Melvin and Gilda Berger.

Singing and dancing is always part of our Nursery curriculum. This week, the children listened to the story Arroz Con Leche by Lulu Delacre and had a wonderful time learning the songs featured in this book. Their favorite songs were "Orange So Sweet" and "The Fountain."

As part of our unit on the Sense of Hearing, we learned the song "Do Your Ears Hang Low?"

Do your ears hang low (2x)
Do they wobble to and fro
Can you tie them in a knot
Can you tie them in a bow
Can you throw them over your shoulder
Like a Continental soldier
Do your ears hang low?

Outdoors, the children flew the kites that they created. The numbers one through ten were added to the kites so that the children could review the numbers

PRE-KI & II MOROT HEIDI & NECHAMA

For Parashas Tetzaveh, we learned all about the different Bigdei Kehuna that the Kohen Gadol wore. We listened to the story The Key Under The Pillow by Pearl Shollar which is about Dama Ben Nesinah who excelled in the mitzvah of Kibud Av. Even though Rabbis from Yerushalayim came to his house and offered him many gold coins to purchase a precious stone, Dama Ben Nesinah would not wake up his father.

In conjunction with our unit on Shabbos, the following phrases were taught:

נרות על השלחן
חלה על השלחן
יין על השלחן
אבא אוכל חלה
אמא אוכלת חלה
אמא מדליקה נרות
אבא עושה קדוש
אבא שותה יין
אמא שותה יין
על השלחן חלה

We listened to the stories Lost In The Zoo On Erev Shabbos by Devorah Leah, Let's Go To Shul by Yitzchok Kornblau, Peanut Butter And Jelly For Shabbos by Dina Rosenfeld, Shabbos, Shabbos I Love You by Naomi Liberman and Shabbos Treats That Grew by Mayer Bendet.

PRE-KI & II- MORAH JUDY

Our science unit in Pre-K this week focused on the Properties of Air. The children were surprised to see how air takes up space such as in a ball or balloon. They were able to see how the force of air can push objects away. We will continue to do more hands-on air experiments.

We also continued our "Under the Sea" unit. The children were mesmerized by the many exhibits that they saw at the Museum of Discovery and Science, including the sea otters and the stingrays. Back in the classroom, the children created their own under the sea "creatures". They also enjoyed listening to the book Undersea Animals by Jane Buxton.

Our letter of the week was "LI". The children were able to sound out words that begin with the letter "LI" such as lemon, light, lion, llama, little and list.

As a letter "LI" activity, the Pre-KII class enjoyed serving fresh squeezed lemonade to the Pre-KI and Kindergarten children as well as to many staff members from their very own lemonade stand. The Pre-KII children gave out tickets for the lemonade and afterwards counted out how many cups were "purchased" with those tickets and can you believe it? They "sold" fifty cups of lemonade!

Books read to the children this week included Squirrel's Special Nest by Claude Clements, One Lonely Sea Horse by Saxton Fregman, The Wind Blew by Pat Hutchins, Amazing Air by Henry Smith and Undersea Animals by Jane Buxton.

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

The letters Mem and Mem Sofis were introduced this week. We added many new words to our vocabularies and were amazed to see how many words start with the letter mem such as:

מים
מנורה
מצה
מלכה
מלך

We continued our unit on Shabbos. We discussed all of the special things that we do on Shabbos and reviewed the new sentences that we learned this week:

אמא מדליקה נרות
אבא עושה קדוש
חלה על השלחן
אבא אוכל חלה
אמא אוכלת חלה
אבא שותה יין
אמא שותה יין

We learned about Havdalah and made beautiful Havdalah sets. We listened to the stories Fishy Friday by Sashi Fridman, Here Comes Shabbos by Ilana Keilson and Hanna's Sabbath Dress by Itzhak Schweiger.

For Parashas Tetzaveh, we discussed the bigdei kehuna. The children were fascinated to learn about the different clothing worn by the kohen gadol and the kohen hediot. They were amazed to hear about the bells on the me'il and learned that we should always knock on the door before entering a room just as the kohen announced himself with the bells before entering the mishkan.

Project Derech taught us that it is a mitzvah to stand up for a talmid chochom when he enters a room.

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

This week, we started a unit on magnets. We focused on finding and understanding what makes an object magnetic or not. Magnets are metals that attract (stick together) or repel (push apart). Opposite poles of magnets will attract (pull towards each other), while like poles will repel (push away from one another). After the initial introduction to the study of magnets, the students explored the room with magnetic wands to discover which classroom objects are magnetic and which are not. To better understand what a magnet is and how it works, the students listened to the story Mickey's Magnet, and made predictions about each object that Mickey tried to pick up with his horseshoe magnet.

This week, we started letterbook "Bb". We reviewed the letter and letter sound. The children came up with a big list of "Bb" words and identified and practiced writing lower case b's and d's. Our new sight word was "go."

In math, we continued reviewing the concept of addition. We discussed the meaning of the word "add" and practiced adding in many different ways. The students understand that when you add, you join two sets to make one bigger set. We also practiced applying our skills by writing out addition sentences with a + sign and an = sign. We used different math manipulatives to practice our addition skills.

Next Thursday is the 100th day of school and the children are looking forward to the exciting day! They have been counting by ones, fives and tens all year to get to this day. We cannot wait to celebrate!



Dear Parents,

Elementary and Early Childhood students are not coming into school on Friday, because of a “professional growth” day for the teachers. It is common practice in *Yeshivos* to have at least one less day of learning during the school year, in order for the teachers to become even better teachers, by learning new techniques and developing even more positive mindsets towards their students.

Roshet HaYeshiva
Rabbi Benyamin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Nissan
Rabbi Meedechai Falgon
Founding Rosh HaYeshiva
Rabbi Bentzion Chait

Principal
Rabbi Kalman Baumann

Director
Mrs. Naomi Bloom

Assistant Director
Mrs. Talia Levine

President
Dr. Allan I. Jacob

President
Dr. Jonathan Rubin

Vice President
Rabbi Moshe Lehrfield

Let’s analyze why this justifies the *Bitul Torah* and interruption in the children’s routine. When a person is involved in a helping profession, such as teaching, or nursing or mental health services, he or she can become emotionally involved with the people with whom they are working. Burn out is potentially a real problem, and those in the helping professions require renewal to avoid such an outcome. When working with others, and when trying to improve one’s skills or develop better attitudes and new ways of looking at things, different techniques need to be mastered. And, as is common in almost all professions and industries, the teacher needs to remain current with new ideas, new suggestions of approaches that work, be they for the individual or the group. Time and energy needs to be focused on achieving these three goals of emotional support, improved attitude and learning new skills. The children are clearly the beneficiaries in this process.

What about “professional growth” for parents? Are we really providing our children with the best parents possible if one day follows the next and we don’t attend to our own emotional needs and potential burnout? Do we possess an attitude that is positive, do we see misbehavior as a learning opportunity to guide our children on the proper path? Can we keep our spirits up and our voices down after our three year old spilled his third cup of the meal, the six year old is crying about her homework, and the nine year old is wailing she has nothing to wear? (We haven’t even mentioned teen aged children!) Do we have the skill to navigate a child’s social difficulties, sibling rivalries, academic challenges, bedtime nightmares (for the parents)?

Who more than parents need “professional growth” opportunities? You owe it to yourself, your spouse and your children to find and take advantage of opportunities for enhancing your strengths in all these areas. Make sure you have some time away from the ‘war zone.’ Learn *Mussar*, exercise, go to *Shiurim* and find support groups to keep your body and mind strong and vibrant. Read parenting and relationship books, find and attend parenting classes and cultivate relationships with veteran parents (could be your own!) who can offer sage advice and guidance for specific issues with your children.

Parenting is not a profession, but it should be a calling and a passion that deserves every bit of focus, skill-building and enhancement as any career, technical skill or academic discipline. The rewards to you and your family will be eternal.

Best wishes for a wonderful, growth-filled *Shabbos*

Rabbi Kalman Baumann