

Early Childhood Newsletter

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

Parashas Tazria
Parashas HaChodesh

March 28, 2014
Candle Lighting 7:17 P.M.

MAZEL TOV:

Rabbi Peretz and Tamar Goldenberg on the birth of a son

CALENDAR NOTES:

Pesach Vacation— Thursday, April 10— Wednesday, April 23

School Resumes— Thursday, April 24

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION **PICTURE DAY**

A photographer will be in school on Tuesday, April 1 to take individual graduation pictures. Please make sure that your child is in school no later than 9:00 a.m.

Exciting Spend and Raise News:



We now carry Wal-Mart cards!!! Cards come in \$100 increments. They are available for purchase with cash or check only.

Please call or email the school office to order your cards.

Due to popular demand, we have decided to extend the deadline to order Pesach gift cards for one more week. The last day to order cards is Monday, March 31 for pickup/delivery by Friday, April 4. This will be the last time that you can order these specialty cards. You can order online anytime at www.ytcteam.org/scrip or call the Yeshiva office to place an order by phone 305-944-5344 ext. 201. All purchases will be applied to your family obligation on \$5,000.

MODEL SEDARIM

Children should be dressed in Shabbos clothing. We need parents to help prepare and serve the food for the model sederim. Please call the school office if you are able to volunteer. Nursery parents should send in the food items requested for the Model Seder by Friday, March 28, Pre-K by Monday, March 31 and Kindergarten by Tuesday, April 1.

Nursery Classes.....Tuesday, April 1

Pre-K.....Wednesday, April 2

Kindergarten Classes.....Thursday, April 3

LEAVING EARLY?

PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU WILL BE LEAVING TOWN BEFORE PESACH VACATION BEGINS SO THAT THE TEACHERS CAN PREPARE THE BROWN BAGS



NURSERY – MORAH TAMI

One morning when Paroh awoke in his bed
There were frogs on his head
And frogs in his bed
Frogs on his nose
And frogs on his toes
Frogs here, frogs there
Frogs were jumping everywhere.

Singing about the second makkah was our favorite activity this week. We pretended that we were frogs as we acted out this delightful song. **We also added a "frog page" to our Haggados.** Wait till you see those frogs jumping out from the Haggados.

We enjoyed learning the story of Yetzias Mitzrayim. It was amazing to see how much the children had remembered from the parshios of Shemos and Vaera.

We have been very busy learning about the many different aspects of the seder. The yeladim know that on Shabbos we use two challos, but under the matzoh cover, we have three matzos; one for the Cohen, one for the Levi and one for Yisroel. We have discussed the many types of foods that we eat during the Seder and learned the significance of each food found on the Seder plate.

We listened to many different Pesach stories. Our favorite was The Mouse In The Matzo Factory by Francine Medoff.

Have your children started singing the Mah Nishtana yet at home? We learned the first question this week. (Mommy, will you please practice it at home with me so that I will really know the Four Questions by the Seder night?)

For Parashas Tazria, we learned about the mitzvah of Bris Milah. We also learned how important it is not to talk Lashon Hara. We listened to the story about Lashon Hara entitled Yettele's Feathers by Joan Rothenberg.

NURSERY – MORAH SUSAN

This week, we continued our unit on insects. Our art projects included making caterpillars and fireflies. We also used pretzels and chocolate chips to create "ants sitting on a log." A new song about bumblebees was taught to the children.

Bumblebee, bumble bye
Bumble around the great blue sky
Bumble bee keep away from me
I remember what you did
When you flew into town
I let you sit upon my knee
And when you sat down –OW!

We read a lot of interesting and exciting books. Our favorites were Fireflies, Fireflies, Light My Way by Jonathan London, Ugh! A Bug by Ned Crowley and the Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

PRE-KI & II MOROT HEIDI & NECHAMA

This week, we learned about Parashas Tazria. We spoke about being very careful not to speak Lashon Harah. We also learned about the mitzvah of Bris Milah.

The children are busy practicing the Mah Nishtana and have been singing many songs about Pesach! They have been learning about the Simanei HaSeder and they are making beautiful Haggados in class. We also have been reviewing the names of the 10 makkos and learned about bedikas chometz.

We reviewed last week's Hebrew phrases and added the following:

מתי בדיקת חמץ?
בדיקת חמץ בלילה
מתי ביעור חמץ?
ביעור חמץ בבקר

Pesach stories that we read this week included Everything Is Changing, It's Pesach by Julie Jaslow Averbach and Sammy Spider's First Passover by Sylvia A Rouss.

PRE-KI & II- MORAH JUDY

The Pre-K children were excited to continue their "Around The World" Unit. This week, we started to prepare for our performance by learning songs and dances in several different languages.

The letter of the week was "Ss." The class came up with many "Ss" words such as seal, seven, seventeen, sit, story, shells, sing, sandwich, sad, soup, spoon, super and salad. They sounded out their friend's names- Sara and Shaina. The children enjoyed listening to the books Chicken Soup With Rice by Maurice Sendak and Sourpuss And Sweetie Pie by Norton Juster. They also enjoyed a snack of spaghetti and sauce.

Thank you to Mrs. Ruck, Yirmi's mom, who visited Pre-KI to represent the letter "Rr". She spoke only in rhyme. The children were entertained by her jokes and stories.

The children in both Pre-K classes continued using their imaginations and explored creative ways to be inventors. They put together a real race car made out of wheels, a chair and a tire. They made a huge airplane that hangs from the ceiling. The Pre-K children worked together on their creations and learned all about teamwork.

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

As the Yom Tov of Pesach comes closer, the excitement in the Kindergarten class continues to grow. We have been very busy working on our Haggados and through stories, songs and arts and crafts, we have **been learning the "Simanei HaSeder."** We discussed the many types of foods that we eat at the seder and learned about the three matzos for the Cohen, Levi and Yisroel. Of course, we have been practicing the Ma Nishtana and we know how proud our Abba and Imma are going to be when they hear us on the seder night. We know that our abba reclines at the seder so that he will feel just like **a king. We learned the song "Avadim Hayinu"** and talked about what it would be like to be a slave. The yeladim were fascinated to learn **that this Yom Tov is also called "Chag HaAviv".**

In our listening center, we heard the story Baruch Learns About Pesach by Shmuel Kunda.

Our new nekudah this week was the cholam. We are all so busy saying OOH! to help us master the sound of the cholam. The yeladim are really advancing beautifully in their reading skills.

This week, we will all be listening very carefully as we say the tefillah for the month of Nissan as well as reading Parashas HaChodesh!

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

We hope that your children have received their pen pal letters and enjoyed reading them! The students took part in every step of the process. They wrote the letters, labeled the envelopes, placed the stamps on the envelopes and put the letters in the mailbox. You can find the name **and address of your child's pen pal on the reverse side of the letter they received.** Please encourage your child to write back to their pen pal. The children were very proud of their letters and very excited about the exchange.

This week we worked on the letter "Vv" book. We continued working with Venn Diagrams, as the **focus was on the letter "Vv".** Last week, the children sorted the letters of their name into 3 groups, letters with straight lines, curved lines or both type of lines. This week, the children sorted the numbers one through twenty on the Venn Diagram into the same three categories: numbers with straight lines, curved lines, and both straight and curved lines. Our new sight word for the week is "you". **We have been practicing reading all our sight words and using them in sentences. It's amazing how big our sight word vocabulary has grown.** We hope your child is enjoying the sight word games they made.

This week the Kindergarten children worked very hard on addition. They learned that addition means putting together two or more numbers to find the total, which is called the sum. The children worked with snap cubes to help understand the concept of addition. They put two groups of different colored snap cubes together to create a specified sum. To make the number 8, they put four red cubes together with four blue cubes. They then made the number 8 by putting 5 red cubes with 3 blue cubes, and continued to discover various combinations that can achieve the same sum. The cubes helped them see how addition works in a concrete way.



Dear Parents,

The theme running through the entire observance of Pesach is the expectation that we view ourselves as having experienced personally the salvation from Egypt. Undoubtedly, the days and weeks leading up to the moment of freedom 3300 years ago were filled with stress and anxiety. However, nowhere is it written that we are obligated to re-experience their high stress levels in the lead up to Yom Tov!

Far be it from me to lecture anyone concerning how to prepare properly for Pesach. While we all have our role, let's face it – the womenfolk are the most likely to re-experience pre-holiday stress! What I will do, is quote and paraphrase liberally from a letter from Mrs. Perl Abramowitz of *Tiferes* entitled "Purim/Pesach Parenting Pointers." She addresses the challenge of maintaining calm.

Despite all the efforts to make our home an island of calm, where peace reigns, and our attempts to focus on preparing for and bringing the Geula, the final redemption, we may find ourselves ready to explode. We've put so much effort into building our homes, and now we seem poised to tear it down, in one, full, sleep-deprived swoop of anger.

Mrs. Abramowitz advises, "*Don't think of everything you have to do. Don't think of tonight, tomorrow or even five minutes from now. Stay in the moment. For a moment you can control yourself. Then, when you've held yourself back for just a moment, when you stifled the yell that was about to erupt, congratulate yourself. In just one moment, you are giving yourself and giving your children as well, the ability to succeed in maintaining self-control.*"

Mrs. Abramowitz provides practical suggestions. *When necessary to critique one's child:*

1. *In private*
2. *In a low voice*
3. *With love in your heart*
4. *Only if the child knows you love him/her*
5. *With a solution in mind*
6. *For something he/she is capable of changing*
7. *For a trait you yourself overcame*

Getting our children to cooperate without negativity:

1. *State rules in 30 seconds or less*
2. *Speak in a firm, matter-of-fact way*
3. *Connect before you direct; bend down to eye level*
4. *Address the child by name*
5. *Use the "I" message*
6. *Say please and thank you*
7. *Make it light*
8. *Talk the child down; the louder the child yells, the softer you respond*
9. *Give advance notices*
10. *Give choices*
11. *Ask your child to repeat the request back to you*

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

Principal
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So many of our challenges in personal growth, come from focusing all our attention on the details of the task at hand, and losing sight of the big picture. Pesach is the glorious celebration of being a Jew, taking pride in being a part of the Jewish People and appreciating to the very depths of our being the fact Hashem intervenes in the affairs of mankind for our ultimate good. What will enhance that celebration more – removing that last (non-chometz) streak of dirt from our front window, or maintaining our equilibrium with our spouse and children for even one more moment?

May Hashem grant you the strength to persevere, the fortitude to keep smiling and the patience to enjoy your children throughout your upcoming exodus experience.

Best wishes for a peaceful Shabbos, and a month of well-earned personal victories



Rabbi Kalman Baumann