

THE
WEEK
IN
WORDS



YESHIVA
TORAS CHAIM
TORAS EMES
EARLY
CHILDHOOD



January 30, 2015

5:44

י שבת תשעה
פרשת בשלח
שבת שירה

CALENDAR NOTES



FEBRUARY 3 – KINDERGARTEN TRIP TO JUNGLE ISLAND

FEBRUARY 6 – RABBI YOSSEI HEBER DAY. TEACHER WORK DAY. NO SCHOOL.

FEBRUARY 10 – PRE-K TRIP TO YOUNG AT ART MUSEUM



Rabbi Yossi and Bayla Biston on the birth of a grandson to their children Shuey and Sarah.

Rabbi Yaakov and Chaya Bryna Kier on the birth of a daughter.



GOING, GOING, GONE!

We invite you to go through our lost and found to see if you can claim any item before we donate them to the local *Gemach* (The Community Closet). Please stop by before Friday, February 13 to claim your missing items.



We are very excited to announce a Tu B'Shevat project being done in our school.

Tu B'Shevat is a time of renewal for trees; we are now planting in our children the seeds for the future. Every student will be sending a personalized Tu B'Shevat magnet to their grandparents. It will be done as a project in school. Please fill out the form on the next page and send it back to school with your child on Monday.





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Director
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Early Childhood Consultant
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Please provide the addresses of your children's grandparents below so they can complete this project. (please print clearly)

My child has no living grandparents. I included the name and address of another close relative.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

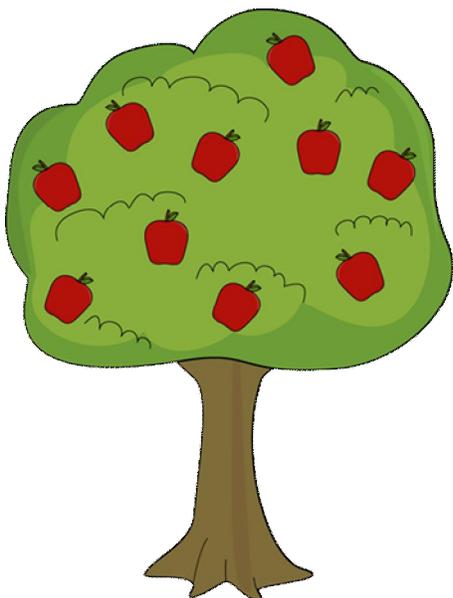
NURSERY NEWS

JUDAIC STUDIES— MOROT SHULAMIS & TAMI

Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees, was the focus of our week's activities. We began our week by learning about the different parts of a plant; the roots, stems, leaves and flowers. We learned that a healthy plant needs air, sun and water to grow. We also learned about the different parts of a tree; the trunk, the branches and the leaves. We sang the songs "How To Plant A Tree" and "Little Rain Little Sun". We listened to the story How A Seed Grows by Helene Jordan. The Hebrew vocabulary words taught this week were:

עץ
שורש
גזע
ענפים
עלים
פרחים
שמש
מים

For Parashas Besahalch, we learned about all the wondrous "nissim" which Hashem performed for Bnei Yisrael. The children were especially amazed to hear about the neis of Kriyas Yam Suf.



SECULAR STUDIES— MOROT SHULAMIS & SUSAN

A new unit on plants and seeds was started this week in Nursery. We listened to many stories, such as How a Seed Grows by Helene J. Jordan, Round the Garden by Omn Glasser and Look At this Tree by Susan Canizes.

As our art project for this unit, we transformed our handprints into fruit trees and colorful flowers. We also used our leaf collection to create "leaf people" and leaf rubbings.

The Nursery has grown their own garden! We planted marigolds, lima beans, parsley, green beans and radishes. We all took turns watering it and look forward to watching it grow.

At learning center, we are starting to work on the letter A. We discussed words that start with A and created a picture with apples and sponge-painted A's.

We learned a new action song this week, "The Children Plant the Seeds", to the tune of "The Farmer and the Dell".

The children plant the seeds, the children plant the seeds
Hi Ho the dairy-o the children plant the seeds
The rain begins to fall , the rain begins to fall
Hi Ho the dairy-o, the rain begins to fall.
The sun begins to shine , the sun begins to shine,
Hi Ho the dairy-o the sun begins to shine.
The seeds begin to grow , the seeds begin to grow,
Hi Ho the dairy-o the seeds begin to grow.
The plants grow big and tall, the plants grow big and tall
Hi Ho the dairy-o the plants grow big and tall!!!

How a plant grows from a seed



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PRE-K PAGES

JUDAIC STUDIES– MOROT HEIDI & NECHAMA

Learning about Parashas Beshalach was very exciting for the children. They were amazed to hear about the many nisim that took place during Kriyas Yam Suf. They learned that Hashem provided for Bnei Yisroel with the “Ananei HaKavod” and the “mun” as they traveled through the midbar. For Shabbos Shira, the children enjoyed making edible bird feeders. This week, we are learning the letters kaf, chaf and chaf sofis. The children were taught that the chaf sofis can only come at the end of a word. Some of the Hebrew language vocabulary words that were taught this week include:

כלב
כדור
כסא
כפה
כובע
כוס
כתר
כחול
כתום

Tu B'Shevat is next week! We talked about the importance of trees and plants and how we need to take good care of them. We listened to the stories, Growing With The Tree by Rachel Stein and, How A Seed Grows by Helene Jordan. We learned about the Shivas Haminim and looked at beautiful photographs depicting these foods. We also discussed how Tu B'Shevat is celebrated in Eretz Yisroel and learned a Tu B'Shevat song:

I wish I were an airplane I'd fly across the sea
I'd fly to Eretz Yisroel And there I'd plant a tree
For Tu, Tu, Tu B'Shevat (3x)
For Tu B'Shevat

The children also became familiar with the following phrases:

איפה הפרות?
הפרות על העץ
איפה העץ?
העץ על האדמה
הגשם יורד על האדמה



SECULAR STUDIES– MORAH JUDY

This week our Pre-K theme was RECYCLE. The Pre-K children joined together to learn how to, and why to, recycle. Our discussions were about the importance of keeping our world beautiful, especially because Hashem wants us to enjoy and care for the beautiful world we were given. There are many ways for children to respect the world they live in each day. One way is by making sure that trash is thrown into the right place, and when possible, to recycle. Pre-K children discovered many exciting ways to reuse items that may have been thrown out as trash. They decorated cereal boxes to create useful prize boxes, mail boxes, hobby boxes, and masks. Large boxes became fun playhouses. The children used shredded newspaper in their art projects. It was a wonderful experience for each child to use the recycled items creatively. Thank you to the many families that sent in recyclable items.

This week our NEWS was all about the snow storms on the East Coast. We read stories about snow and saw actual pictures of the snow that fell. Many new words and facts were introduced to the children. They were fascinated to learn that garbage pick up trucks transform into snow plows to help push away the piled up snow in the streets. They learned that a blizzard is a severe snow storm with lots of wind. Cars can become completely covered by snow. People wear snow suits, and ski masks, and mittens. Some of the children expressed concern about their own families in New York, but were relieved to hear that they were all fine and prepared for the snow. One child shared her thought that people in Florida would rather be playing in the snow in NY, and people in NY would rather be in Florida keeping warm! Great thoughts by Pre-K children! Aviva Rubelow's Bubbie was stuck in Florida when her flight was cancelled, which was our good fortune because she joined our Pre-K 1 class to read a story.

Thank you to all the Pre-K parents that bought our Pre-K 1 class a new set of Magna Tiles. The children are having loads of fun with their creations.

Please continue to listen to all the wonderful stories on the phone storyline. We have completed letters Aa – Kk so far.



KINDERGARTEN CORNER

JUDAIC STUDIES– MOROT BAYLA & RENA

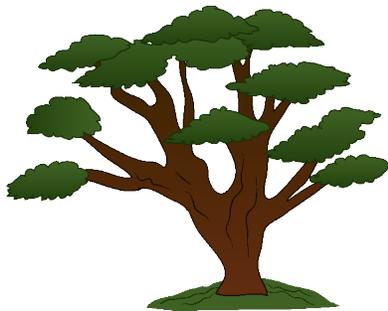
It was great seeing all of our friends and Morahs as we returned to school this week! We discovered that we are now in Chodesh Shevat, so we promptly began a unit on Tu B'Shevat. We practiced using the Hebrew phrases: kar bachutz, cham bachutz, hineh eitz, hineh eitz gadol. The yeladim planted seeds which they are watering and carefully nurturing as they anxiously wait for them to sprout.

For Parshas B'Shalach, we acted out leaving Mitzrayim with dough on our backs. We learned many beautiful midrashim of how Hashem took care of Bnei Yisrael as they crossed the Yam Suf and how Hashem provided the mun for them in the midbar. We also learned that we use lechem mishneh at our Shabbos table because of the double portion of the mun that was left for Bnei Yisroel on Fridays. This Shabbos is Shabbos Shira. We enjoyed making bird feeders as we discussed the importance of Hakaras Hatov.

This week we continued our unit of Brochos with the bracha of Borei Pri Ha'adama. After making the bracha, we were able to enjoy delicious, colorful, nutritious vegetables and fruit, and all from a little seed that is planted in the ground! Thank you to the parents who sent in the food for our ha'adoma snack.

We reviewed the osios aleph through lamed and then moved on to the letter mem towards the end of the week. Morah, mayim, and melech were just a few of the words that came to our mind as we were finding words for the letter mem. Thank you for constantly reviewing the Aleph Beis sheets with your child. Practice makes perfect.

In Project Derech we learned that it is a mitzvah to ask permission before leaving the presence of a parent.



SECULAR STUDIES– MOROT HEIDI & PEARLY

Welcome Back! We hope you had an enjoyable vacation. The children were so excited to come back to school and learn about the Superkids club. We learned that a club is a group of people who get together to do activities, such as play sports, play games or do a craft. The Superkids each have favorite items that they want to share with one another, all of which begin with the letter Bb. Some friends from the neighborhood had an old abandoned school bus that the Superkids wanted to use for their club. Together, they pitched in to clean the bus. They also cleaned bugs, flags, plants, and bags, which are items written in "plural" form which means "more than one." Each child read a story about The Big Bus and then answered yes/no questions.

In the new chapter of math, we learned that two tens frames equal 20, or that two sets of tens equals 20. We reviewed the concept of "greater than" and "less than." The children are practicing writing the numbers 11-20.

The theme for the next two weeks is plants and trees. We started discussing why trees are important. Firstly, trees produce oxygen, allowing us to breathe in clean air. They also give us wood for furniture, paper and fruits. They even provide homes for animals and make our world look beautiful. The children are working on creating a flower out of yarn. They will label the parts and write down what each part of the plant does. We did an experiment in which we planted seeds using different conditions, such as a lot of water, no water, in a dark place, in a sunny place, with soil and without soil. The children enjoyed making guesses about, and graphing, which plant will grow successfully. We can't wait to share the results with you!





Principal
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Erev Shabbos Parashas Beshalach Shabbos Shira 5775

Dear Parents,

A parenting skill that is both essential and exceedingly hard for some to master, is to catch a child doing something right. No matter how badly or how often they mess up (and consequences are appropriate at such times), when they actually do something properly they must be praised, and where appropriate, rewarded.

Perhaps if we were to realize that such an approach is not just a parenting/teaching technique, but a part of *Torah Hashkafa* (outlook) such a reaction to our children's behavior would become easier and more commonplace. *Rabbi Yehuda Leib Chasman zt'l* (elaborated in *Ohr L'Nesivasi* by *Rabbi Elyakim Rosenblatt, Shlita*) has a penetrating insight into a 'minor' event recorded in this week's *Parsha*. The very first *pasuk* (*Shmos 13:17*) states "And it was when *Pharaoh* sent (*Beshalach*) out the nation..." The *Medrash Rabba* (20:3) questions how can the Torah say *Pharaoh* sent them out – it was *Hashem*! How can it be that *Pharaoh* gets the credit? The *Medrash* answers that in this instance *Beshalach* means escorted. *Pharaoh* escorted, gave honor to the Jewish People as they left *Mitzrayim*. The *Medrash Tanchuma* adds that *Pharaoh's* reward for escorting *Klal Yisroel* was the command 'not to despise the Egyptian' that found expression in the permission granted to a 3rd generation Egyptian convert to marry into the ranks of the Jewish nation.

This is mind-boggling on so many levels. *Pharaoh* had cruelly and harshly perpetrated so much evil against the entire Jewish people for so long, had refused to let them leave Egypt until *Hashem* forced his hand and threatened his life through the plague of slaying the first-born, and yet he is singled out for praise and reward for one tiny act of taking a few steps in honor of the Jews?! Furthermore – the reward was not just for *Pharaoh* but the entire nation earned Divinely endowed protective custody. Egyptians would forever be protected even from feelings of animosity from Jews and gained potential entry into the ranks of the Jewish nation. In considering the larger picture of *Pharaoh's* and the Egyptian people's unmitigated cruelty to the Jewish nation isn't this reward entirely unwarranted?

We see from here the value the Torah places on every small act of goodness. It is never overshadowed or obscured by the total picture of who the person is. Every positive act performed by a human being is significant, is never lost and is remembered by *Hashem*. It is not *Batul B'Shishim* (nullified by the overwhelming percentage of 'not good' behavior). We also see the tremendous power of even a small act of goodness and how it is never lost even in a lifetime of negative behavior. This one act of accompanying the Jewish nation for a few steps, created a merit for *Pharaoh* and his entire nation that lasts forever.

In light of this lesson, it should come easier for us to understand why we should zero in on our child(ren)'s positive behavior and small acts of goodness. We not only will help habituate good behavior; we will be acting in accordance with *Torah Hashkafa* and *Hashem's* desire to magnify and glorify every act of goodness and kindness that one of His creations performs.

Best wishes for a most rewarding *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

