



YESHIVA
TORAS CHAIM
TORAS EMES
EARLY
CHILDHOOD



April 24, 2015

7:30

ו אייר תשעה

פרשיות תזריע מצורה

Dear Parents,

Effective Parent-Teacher communication is essential to ensure the success of our Early Childhood Program. We have therefore set aside two evenings for the teachers to meet with you to discuss your child's progress.

Conferences for the Pre-KI, KII & KIII classes will take place on Tuesday, May 5 from 6:20 to 9:00 p.m. Conferences for Nursery, Pre-KII & KI will take place on Tuesday, May 12 from 6:20-9:00 p.m.

Please see the next page with instructions to schedule appointments online.

Please note that appointments are scheduled at ten minute intervals. If you come late to your appointment, you will not be able to have additional time.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Talia Levine
Director, E.C.E



INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS

1) Go to address below into your browser window.

<https://customer.infograsp.com/apps/login.jsp>

2) Log in using the following information:

User ID: Your last name.Last 4 Digits of your **Home Phone#.ytc** (i.e: **Smith.1234.ytc**)

Password: ytc1836

3) Click on **ENTER** to go to the main screen.

GETTING STARTED:

Under CONFERENCES, select CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS. On the next screen, you will see a list of conference dates. In the SELECT column, click on the number (1 or 2) of your session. This will take you to the CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS screen.

TO RESERVE YOUR TIME SLOTS:

Your appointments for each session need to be made separately. Click on “reserved” of the desired time slot.

If you need to see more appointments - please increase rows to 100 - and then you will see what is available for the time slots that you are looking for. Your reservation will appear on top of the screen. When you have scheduled all your appointments for one session, and you want to make appointments in another session as well, go back to the CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS screen, select the other session and repeat the process for the other teachers' conferences.

If you select a teacher/time slot in error, go to the PARTICIPANT RESERVATIONS section and click on UNRESERVE to delete the appointment.

When you have completed the reservation process, click on RESERVED TIME SLOTS (across the top of the screen) to see a list of your appointments. If you do not see this menu item, click on HOME; then click RESERVED TIME SLOTS (under Conferences). Print your schedule by selecting FILE/PRINT, or by holding down the CONTROL and P keys at the same time.

If you experience difficulty while scheduling your appointments, or do not have computer access, please call Mrs. Roth in the ECE office at 305.947.4007 and she will gladly assist you in the process (with a smile!)

REMEMBER... APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS. THEREFORE, WE URGE YOU TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

NURSERY NEWS

JUDAIC STUDIES– MOROT SHULAMIS & TAMI

There are many new and exciting activities going on in the Nursery class. The yeladim had a wonderful time learning all about Eretz Yisroel. They learned that children in Israel speak Hebrew and that they are taught the Alef-beis instead of the ABCs.

כותל
מפת ארץ ישראל
ארץ הקודש
סבא
סבתא
אבא
אמא

are some of the new Hebrew vocabulary words that were introduced this week. We learned many new songs about Eretz Yisroel such as "Eretz Zavav Chalav U'Dvash," "We Have Our Own Jewish Country," "Am Yisroel Chai," "Oseh Shalom." and "I wish I were an Aviron." The yeladim sang the songs and pretended that they were avironim on the way to Eretz Yisroel.

The topic of Lag Ba'Omer was introduced to the yeladim with the song featuring the famous saying from Rabbi Akiva, V'Ahavta L'Reacha Kamocha Zeh Klal Gadol BaTorah.

We continued discussing Sefiras Ha'Omer. Each day after davening we added another circle on the path to Matan Torah on our Har Sinai bulletin board. We can hardly wait to reach the top.

The letter Alef was introduced to the nursery children this week. We learned the Hebrew words:

אבא
אמא
אווירון
אניה
אחד

and discussed the names of the children in the class that begin with the letter Alef like, Adina, Esther and Elisheva. We had lots of fun making a booklet featuring the letter Alef. We discussed the middah of emes and how important it is to always tell the truth.

For Parshios Tazria-Metzorah, we talked about Loshon Hara. We discussed the importance of being careful about the things we say because once we say something, we cannot take it back.

We Talked about Rosh Chodesh Iyar and learned that Lag B'Omer is celebrated during Chodesh Iyar.

SECULAR STUDIES– MOROT SHULAMIS & SUSAN

This week, we continued our unit on Our Neighborhoods. We talked about the concept of sharing. Some children share bedrooms with their siblings and others have their own rooms. The children also drew a picture of themselves sleeping in their beds.

During dramatic play time, the class put on many different costumes of people in the neighborhood such as, policemen, firemen, doctors, nurses, artists, dentists, and construction workers. They worked around the room and created their own Nursery Neighborhood!

The library center was the big hit this week! The class made their very own library cards and were able to visit and take out library books from the wonderful Early Childhood Library!!

This week we celebrated Earth Day on Wednesday, April 22. We talked about our garden which we planted and care for daily. The children love to water the plants and watch them grow. We created our own Earth picture using magic markers and water!!



PRE-K PAGES

JUDAIC STUDIES- MOROT HEIDI & NECHAMA

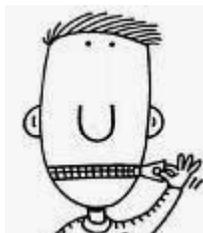
This week, we learned about Parshas Tazria and Parshas Metzora. These Parshiyos teach us about Lashon Hara. We spoke about being very careful not to speak Lashon Hara. We learned what would happen if tzara'as was in a Jewish person's home, and what the Kohen would have to check for. We reinforced the concept that Hashem gives us the opportunity to do teshuva. Some books we read about Lashon Hara include Yossi, The Boy Who Wouldn't Speak Lashon Hara by Phyllis Weinberg and Yettle's Feathers by Joan Rothenberg. We also learned about the Mitzvah of Bris Milah and sang Hamaloch Hagoel time to learn Torah.

We continued learning about Rabbi Akiva and his motto of "V'Ahavta L'Reacha Kamocho." The children were fascinated to hear that Rabbi Akiva did not start learning Torah until he was forty years old. We are also learning about the different reasons for Sefiras Ha'Omer. We are counting each day of the Omer in anticipation of the Yom Tov of Shavuot when Bnei Yisroel received the Torah.

We have been learning about the uniqueness of Eretz Yisroel-how very special and kadosh it is to all of us. The children have been looking at photographs, reading books and singing songs about Eretz Yisroel. We focused our attention towards Yerushalayim and discussed why the Kosel is so important to us. We learned about the high salt content in Yam HaMelach (that's why fish cannot live in Yam Hamelach), about the kibbutzim and looked at a map of Israel to locate the Negev, the Galil and the cities of Yerushalayim and Chevron. We welcome any books, music or other items from Israel that you would like to share with the class.

The letter Ayin was introduced this week. We learned many new words which begin with this letter such as:

עף
עינים
עט
עוגה
עוגיה
עפרון
עננים
ענבים



SECULAR STUDIES- MORAH JUDY

This week, the Pre-K children continued their unit, "AROUND THE WORLD." Our country this week was Israel. Of course, the children have so much information about Eretz Yisroel. We talked about the language that is spoken in Eretz Yisroel, which is Hebrew and sang Hebrew songs. The children were able to see Eretz Yisrael on the globe. We spoke about ways to travel to countries outside of the U.S, by airplane or by boat. One idea a child brought up was jet skiing to Eretz Yisrael. Although it is a water sport, it's just too far! A favorite book about life in Eretz Yisrael, read this week, was Chicken Man by Michelle Edwards. The story is about a man that works on a kibbutz, raising chickens.

Our letter of the week was "Ss". The children were able to make a list of many "Ss" words, such as, sun, sister, safari, snake, snack, sea, school and many many other words. Favorite stories read to the children included, The Surprise Garden by Zoe Hall, Splat Says Thank You! by Rob Scotton and Snow Rabbit, Spring Rabbit by Il Sung Na.

Sounding out simple 3 letter words has been an exciting activity in Pre-K. Words such as, bat, sat, cat, hat, rat and mat. We also sounded out words such as, hog, log, dog and fog.

The Pre-K children have expressed excitement in participating in our end of the year performance. We are planning an "Around The World" Performance. We will keep the families informed of dates and time.



KINDERGARTEN CORNER

JUDAIC STUDIES- MOROT BAYLA & RENA

The letter Koof was introduced to the kindergarten children this week. We put our heads together and came up with a list of Hebrew words beginning with the letter Koof. We had to make sure that the words didn't start with a kaf as it has the same K sound.

קדוש
קטן
קערה
קוף

were some of our Koof words.

Eretz Yisroel was the featured topic this week. We spoke about the holy land of Eretz Yisroel that Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov walked on and discussed the special beauty and kedusha that Eretz Yisroel possesses. We joined with another kindergarten class and sang songs and danced together as we hope to be back in Yerushalayim Habenuyah! We practiced saying the following Hebrew phrases:

אני אוהב ארץ ישראל
אני אוהבת ארץ ישראל

For Parshios Tazria and Metzorah, we talked about the importance of not speaking lashon hara. The children decided they are going to try to say only good things about each other. We enjoyed listening to the story The Boy Who Couldn't Speak Loshan Hora by Phyllis Weinberg.

In Pirkei Avos we learned a mishna from Perek Beis which says "Al tadin es chavercha ad shetagia limkoma' which means "Do not judge your friend until you are in his place."

We continued counting the omer in class. Each day we climb up our Har Sinai bulletin board a drop more. We hope that the charts are being filled in at home as well.

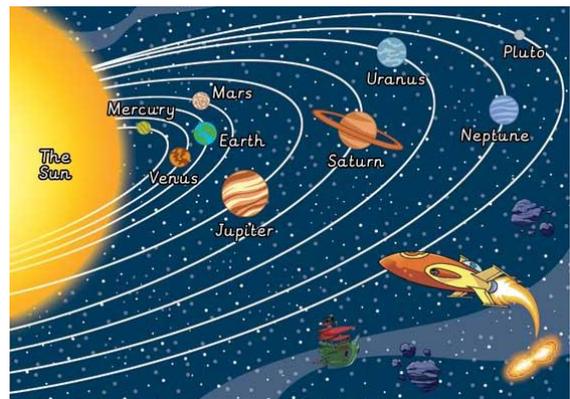
In Project Derech we learned that it is a mitzvah to stand up for one's teacher.

SECULAR STUDIES- MOROT HEIDI & PEARLY

The children are having a "blast" learning about planets. Did you know that Mercury is the smallest planet? Which planet is the biggest? Which planet has clouds around it and which planet has a big red spot? Ask your son/daughter, they know the answers. The children learned the order of the planets using a funny sentence: MY VERY EXCITED MOTHER JUST SERVED US NOODLES. Each child made an astronaut and wrote a fact about space. Then they painted planets using shaving cream, flour and even toilet paper. They had lots of fun. We are now working on a solar system kit which will include the sun, eight planets, a space shuttle and an astronaut. Each child will label and write information about each planet.

The last letter in the alphabet is the letter Zz. We are almost done with the Superkids book. In the last lesson the children enjoyed looking at the Superkids album and remembering all the fun they had, from fixing the school bus to all the great times they had being Supernoodles. We learned the difference between singular (one object) and plural (more than one). We also reviewed previously learned sight words and used them to write sentences. The sentences ended with a period, question mark or exclamation mark. Lastly, we learned the word opinion. An opinion is someone's thoughts or feelings about something. Each child had to write their opinion about different events that happened in the book.

In the last chapter of the math book, the children will learn to identify and describe three dimensional shapes or solid shapes. There are three dimensional objects all around us. The children will deepen their knowledge as they learn the names of the shapes, sort them according to their properties and compare them to two dimensional or flat shapes.





Principal
Rabbi Kalman Baumann

Director
Mrs. Talia Levine

Early Childhood Consultant
Mrs. Naomi Bloom

Erev Shabbos Parashas Tazria-Metzora 5775

Dear Parents,

“She likes me more than you.” “He told me he’s not really your friend anymore.” We may tend to regard these hurtful words of children as just so much childish cluelessness. We’re not really concerned that our children will take such crass, insensitive interpersonal behaviors into adulthood. Sorry to say, our optimism may not be so well founded.

There are behaviors of children, such as walking on furniture, that are clearly a function of immaturity. Your 18 year old will not be walking on your furniture, despite any other issues he or she may be facing. But other facets of childhood behavior, such as truth and honesty, are reflections of their inner character. Left without redirection and guidance, a pre-teen who has trouble saying the truth will probably grow up to become a dishonest person.

Where do the above friend-busting comments come out on the spectrum of childhood behavior? We have every indication from this week’s *Parsha*, that such comments are cause for serious alarm, now and for the long-term. The *Parsha* of *Metzora* speaks of one who is stricken with *Tzoraas*, a ‘spiritual’ form of leprosy. The *Midrash Rabba* (16:1) lists the various behaviors that cause one to be stricken with *Tzoraas* and states that the very worst *Aveira* (sin) that leads to being afflicted is *Mishloach Medanim bein HoAchim* – to sow discord among brothers. In fact, the *Midrash* considers it ‘*K’neged Kulam*’ – it outweighs all the other bad behaviors and traits, which include haughtiness, falsehood, *Lashon Hora*, contemplating sin, running to sin and (indirectly) causing the death of innocent people.

This begs a question. Sowing discord is something done by two people. Even if one makes remarks like the ones above, the discord depends on both people distancing themselves from each other. If the one hearing the negative comments would just follow the *Halacha* and not believe the *Lashon Hara* he’s been told, the discord would never take place. So, a person making demeaning comments about others can’t make the separation by him or herself. It can happen only if the other person gets into the act. The question therefore is – why is the “*Mishloach Medanim*” viewed so harshly?

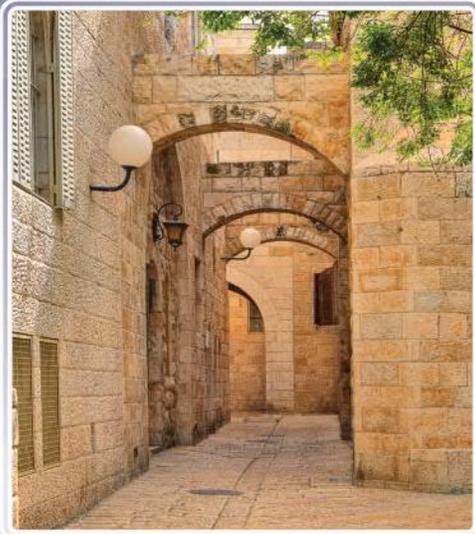
We see from here the incredible importance *Hashem* attaches to keeping people close. So much so that if a person goes and speaks negatively, he’s already responsible for causing a separation, even though that split is, in some cases, dependent upon the other person not following *Halacha*. That dependence on the other’s bad behavior does not exonerate the original speaker of the *Lashon Hara* or hurtful words. Creating a separation and distance between people is so terrible, that going through the steps of sowing discord makes one guilty, even if in the end his words alone did not result in a separation between people.

The lesson should be clear. Whenever we become aware of our children causing strains in their or others’ relationships, our ears should perk up. This is a potential character flaw that must be uprooted. It must be addressed. It cannot be ignored. Our children’s ability to function successfully and happily in the adult world depends on their ability to promote peace, and not destroy peace.

May your homes and children’s lives be filled with peace and harmony, this *Shabbos* and throughout the year,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

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