

THE
WEEK
IN
WORDS



December 25, 2020

5:19 PM

י' טבת תשפ"א

פרשת ויגש



Calendar Notes

Friday, January 1
Classes from
9:00-11:30

Please do not drop your child(ren) off before 8:45 AM
PM carpool will run from 11:15-11:45

Aftercare for those children already registered.

MAZEL TOV

Rabbi Moshe and Mrs. Devorah Shor on the birth of a
daughter

YAHADUS EXPERIENCE

In this week's Yahadus Experience, we focused on Chodesh Teves and the message of Asarah B'Teves. We talked about what happened on Asarah B'Teves and how we can show Hashem that we have Ahavas Chinam, that we are friends and nice to everyone even if they are different from us.

We played a game that involved giving a prize to someone else that they don't usually play with in class and as they gave it they said "I'm so happy that we are friends". The purpose of the activity was to foster friendship between every child in the class and create Ahavas Chinam. Some classes thought of ways they could be helpful to someone else and drew their ideas on brick shaped paper. The bricks will all be hung up together to form a Mitzvah wall. It was a beautiful and meaningful experience for all!



COVID CORNER

Please be sure to always send your child to school with a mask. ECE children are required to wear their masks to and from the carpool line and during any gatherings larger than just their class.



VALUES-BASED DECISION MAKING

Erev Shabbos Parashas Vayeeqash 5781

Dear Parents,

When the Coronavirus first appeared on our shores ten months ago, I mentioned how it is important to focus on facts, rather than predictions and opinions. You may recall the wild theories and misinformation that abounded in the early days, that stoked fear and confusion. We are now at the beginning of a new episode, that of the vaccine, and opinions and theories are almost limitless.

In this letter, I cannot offer medical advice, for I am not a doctor. I will not provide *Halachic* direction, as I am not a *Poseik*. What I can do is share an enlightening quote from one of the greatest *Talmidei Chachamim* of the past two centuries, which sheds light on the Torah attitude towards our situation. Once we have clarity about the values that our Torah espouses, we can more easily hone in on the proper approach to take practically.

The seventh *Mishna* in the eighth *Perek* (chapter) of *Maseches Yoma*, deals with potential life-threatening situations on *Yom Kippur* (similar to *Shabbos*), where some critical information is lacking. The issue is what life-saving measures can or cannot be done in those doubtful circumstances. In connection with that vexing question, when not every fact can be known clearly, *Rabbi Yisroel Lifschitz*, the author of the classic commentary *Tiferes Yisroel*, deals with a topic of relevance in his day (early 1800s). In the *Boaz, Os Gimmel*, he writes:

ומזה נ"ל היתר לעשות אינאקולאשיאן של פאקקען, אף שאי מאלף מת ע"י האינאקולאשיאן
עכ"פ שאם יתהוו בו הפאקקען הטבעיים הסכנה קרובה יותר
, ולכן רשאי להכניס א"ע בסכנה רחוקה כדי להציל א"ע מסכנה קרובה.

"From this it appears to me it is permitted to give an inoculation against (small)pox, even though one in a thousand will die as a result of the inoculation, nevertheless, if the smallpox is left untreated, the danger to life is much more imminent. Therefore **one is permitted to put himself in a distant (less likely) danger in order to save himself from a closer (more likely) danger** (emphasis mine)."

...in a world filled with risks, always go with the lower risk.

A vaccine against smallpox was discovered by Edward Jenner, a British physician, in 1796. The question the *Tiferes Yisroel* was confronting sounds very similar to what we are grappling with today. With no history of vaccines, one can only imagine the resistance faced by those urging mass vaccinations back then.

Apparently, based upon the consensus of medical experts in his day, the *Tiferes Yisroel* weighed the one in a thousand risk of dying by taking the vaccine, against an apparently significantly higher rate of death from untreated smallpox. His directive is clear – if the facts point to a greater amount of risk vs. a lower amount of risk, go with the lower amount.

Notice the *Tiferes Yisroel* did not say wait until there is zero risk. Nor did he say have *Bitachon* (faith) and ignore the question. He followed a logical line of reasoning, based upon the accepted medical expertise of his day. And he stated clearly – in a world filled with risks, always go with the lower risk.

Each individual needs to seek his own medical and Halachic guidance, for each person may have different facts surrounding his situation. If the medical guidance is not clear, one certainly needs to turn to his *Rav* to decide how to proceed in a circumstance of doubt. One may contest the presentation of facts or may doubt the credibility of the source of the information. At the end of the day, the lesson to be learned from the *Tiferes Yisroel* is we don't follow theories that have little or no basis in fact, nor do we rely on 'faith' when *Hashem* has blessed our times with advanced medical knowledge, and we do proactively seek means to protect our lives.

... may the creation, production and availability of the covid vaccine be a clear sign of His love for us.

May *Hashem* protect us all and may the creation, production and availability of the covid vaccine be a clear sign of His love for us. We look forward to a *Refuah Shelaima* to all and may our families, *shuls*, *Yeshivos* and community rebound and serve Him with greater devotion and commitment than ever before.

Best wishes for a healthful *Shabbos*,


Rabbi Kalman Baumann

JuNIOr Pre-K PRESSs

MOROT LINDSAY, NAOMI & RINA

This week in Junior Pre-K, we started our new unit on Shabbos and the Five Senses! First, we learned that there is something called the five senses and that we will be focusing on each one of them over the next few weeks. This week, we began exploring the sense of sight. To connect the sense of sight with the start of our Shabbos unit, we began discussing the different things we SEE around the house to prepare for Shabbos. We asked the children "what do you SEE in your house to know that Shabbos is coming?" The children were excited to share all the different things they do and see in their homes to get ready for Shabbos!

The highlight of the week was having a special Baruch Levine concert! We walked all the way across the street to the boys field where Baruch Levine performed for us. We enjoyed dancing and jumping around to the music!

In Parshas Vayigash, we discussed how Yosef finally revealed himself to his brothers. Being that Yaakov was an old man, they didn't want to scare him with the excitement of Yosef being alive. They had one of their daughters, Serach Bas Asher play a song with a harp to tell Yaakov the good news. The children each made a harp of their own which they can use to act out the Parsha.



PRE-K PAGES

MOROT NECHAMA, MIRIAM & MORIEL

This week we began a new unit on Brachos. We started with the Bracha of Hamotzi. The children listened to the book The Wheat Kernel by Esther Fingerer and Yussie Fingerer, which explains the process of how wheat is turned into bread, challah, bagels and all different Hamotzi foods. We also read the book Eli Learns About Flour by Reuven Gold. After focusing on the Bracha throughout the week through books, pictures and projects, the children were so excited to make their own Hamotzi sandwiches! Each child spread chocolate and marshmallow fluff on their bread and then made a loud and clear Bracha of Hamotzi before eating their sandwiches.

The letter ט was introduced this week. ט is open on the top and tips like a teapot. The שמילים we learned this week are: טלית, טל, טלפון, טוב, טבעת. We continue to review all the letters we've learned so far as well.

In Parshas Vayigash, we learned that Yosef revealed himself to his brothers and asked them to bring their father Yakov and all of their families to Mitzrayim. Serach played on her Kinor so Yakov could hear the news that Yosef was still alive in a soft and gentle way. Yakov and all the Shevatim and their families traveled to Mitzrayim. Yakov sent Yehuda ahead to build a Yeshiva in Goshen so they would have a place to learn Torah when they got there.

We discussed the fast day of Asara B'Teves that was on Friday. We learned that it is a sad day because King Nevuchadnetzar surrounded the city of Yerushalayim. He did not let anyone come in or leave and they were not able to get food or water.

Have a Good Shabbos!

MOROT ELYSE & YEHUDAS

What an exciting week we had!

This week we learned the letter O. We discussed different words that begin with the letter O, such as; oranges, octopus and otter. We learned that to make the letter O we need two big curves put together to make a big circle. We also learned how to differentiate between the number 0 and the letter O. For our letter craft books, we made oranges with orange tissue paper. Our letter craft books are filling up as we continue learning more letters every week.

The most exciting part of this week was beginning our author study. We started the unit by talking about Dr. Suess. We discussed that Dr. Suess is a pen name and his real name is Theodor Suess Geisel. We learned that Dr. Suess is a famous children's book author and he writes funny and interesting books with strange pictures. We also pointed out how all Dr. Suess books have rhyming words. The first book we listened to was The Cat in The Hat. We read this book first, because it is the first book Dr. Suess ever wrote. We had so much fun reading and laughing together while reading this book. As a follow up activity to this book, we played an alphabet BINGO game in the shape of a hat. We also played with red cups and white paper to build towers and tunnels.



Lastly, on Fun Friday we continued with The Cat in The Hat theme and put strawberry and marshmallows in patterns on a skewer. We really enjoyed making them and of course eating them!

We can't wait to have fun reading more Dr. Suess books next week!

KINDERGARTEN CORNER

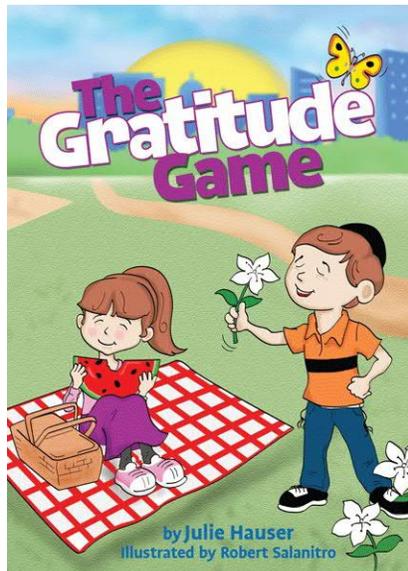
MOROT CHAYA, DEVORAH, ESTHER, ESTY & RENA

"Hamotzi, Mezonos, Hagafen, Ha'eitz, Ha'adama, Shehakol..." We began our exciting Brachos unit this week! The children were introduced to the concept of making Brachos before doing many Mitzvos that we do, including; shaking Lulav and Esrog, lighting the Menorah and putting on Tefillin. The most common Brachos that we get to make are Brachos on our food, both before and after eating. This week, we focused on the most important Bracha, which is Hamotzi. We know that we need to wash our hands and then make 2 Brachos; Al Netilas Yadayim and Hamotzi Lechem Min Ha'aretz before eating any kind of bread. We enjoyed coloring our book on how Hamotzi foods are made.

The letters Tzaddi and End Tzaddi were introduced this week. Some classes had a really great time making bird feeders to hang on an Eitz in the shape of an End Tzaddi. Some classes had a lot of fun spritzing, writing with chalk and playing Aleph Bais Tic Tac Toe games in our classrooms. Homework has now resumed in all classes. Please continue to review the Aleph Bais with your child and send the sheets back to school daily.

We listened to the book The Gratitude Game by Julie Hauser which teaches us to be grateful for all the good we have in our life. We learned the concept of Hakaras Hatov, recognizing the good that Hashem and people do for us. We made Thank You cards that are being stored in our Middos Tovos Books in school. They will be sent home at the end of the year IY"H.

Have a good Shabbos



MOROT MORAL, PEARLY & RACHELI

Last week, we began a new unit about OUR BODY. We started by talking about the skin and all it's wonderful qualities, such as; skin can stretch, it grows back and protects us from germs. We were amazed to learn that muscles grow on bones and that our entire body is covered with muscles. Muscles are like rubber bands, they stretch and shrink while we move and they get stronger when we eat healthy food and exercise. Did you know that there are 206 bones in our body? The biggest bone is the thigh bone called "the femur" and the smallest bone is in the ear called "Stapes". The bones protect our organs and some are connected to cartilage. We also learned about the function of the heart, the veins and arteries. The arteries carry blood that is full of oxygen around the body and then the vein takes the blood that has low oxygen to the heart. The heart pumps and cleans the blood, as well as moves the blood around the body. Ask your child what organ controls the body? We learned that the oxygen we breath goes down the trachea and into the lungs and that we have an esophagus where the food goes down. We need to be careful because food can get stuck in your trachea if you run around while eating.

In Math, we are practicing addition. Addition is finding the total or sum, by combining two or more numbers. We are using many strategies to solve addition problems. We are also working out how to identify the different parts of an addition sentence in both word and numerical problems. We continue reviewing the math concepts that we have learned so far.

In Foundations this week, we learned three sky line letters: Hh/hat//h/, Ll/ lamp//l/, Kk/kite//k/. We practiced writing the proper formation of these letters and also spent time learning the initial and end sound of a word.

The sight words this week are:

My By

Please review all the sight words with your child.

Have an amazing Shabbos!

LABEL YOUR “STUFF”

PLEASE BE SURE TO LABEL ALL
ITEMS THAT ARE SENT TO SCHOOL!
THIS INCLUDES:



. MASKS



. WATERBOTTLES

. LUNCHBOXES AND BACKPACKS



. SWEATSHIRTS



. YARMULKES



(AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU WANT YOUR CHILD
TO BRING BACK HOME!)

THANK YOU!



Help us reach our goal!

HONORING



RABBI & MRS. KALMAN & RUCHA BAUMANN

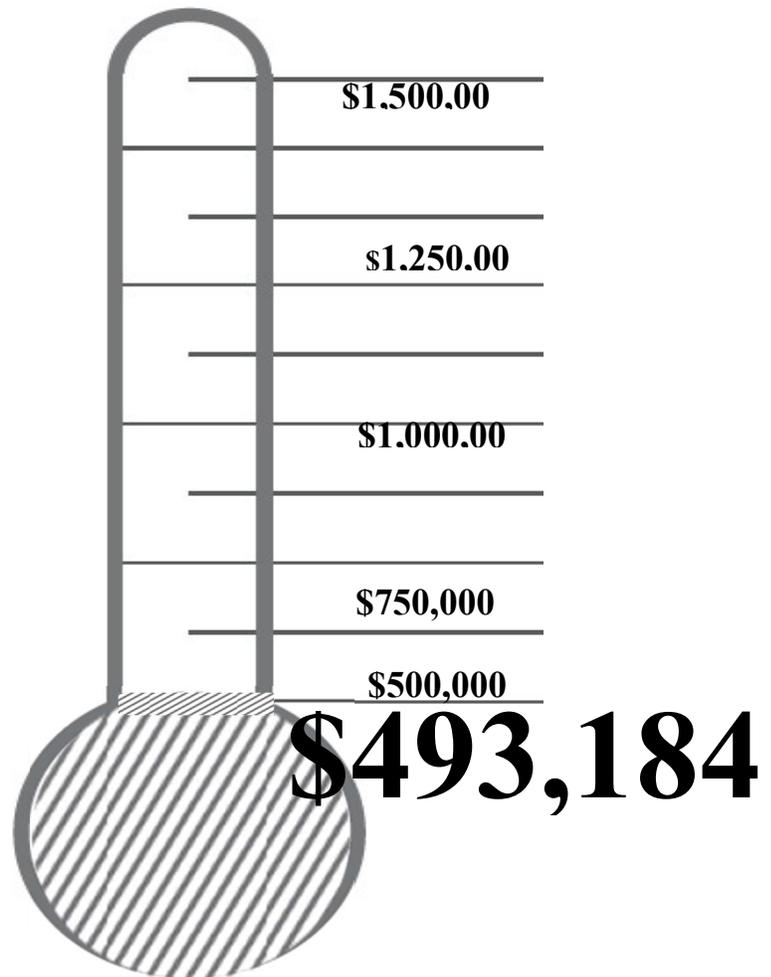


DR. & MRS. RICHARD & JODY BENNETT



MR. & MRS. AVROHOM ELIEZER & LEAH FRIEDMAN

who, along with our **Dedicated Faculty and Staff, Devoted Parents and Determined Talmidim and Talmidos**, have been at the forefront, ensuring that we can continue to provide our students with a Torah education, no matter the obstacles.



Thank you to everyone that has participated in our dinner campaign to date!

We encourage all parents to participate by placing your personal ad, or by soliciting ads/ pledges from friends, families and business acquaintances. Personal or solicited ads/pledges will be applied to your give or get obligation.

We look forward to having all our parents and friends at our virtual Dinner.