

## Inside:

- Costumes and Customs
- The Mitzvos of Purim
- Dvar Torah
- Rohring With Laughter
- Usher's Student Guide
- Facing The Heat
- Purim Minhagim You Have Never Heard Of
- Q&A Today
- RMS Shoe Contest

Editors:

Students: Eli Sitbon, Binyamin Rabovsky  
 Staff: Mrs. J., Mrs. Berry, and Mrs. Goldglanz



2

**COSTUMES AND CUSTOMS**  
 BY: SION HADAR



5

**PURIM MINHAGIM YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD OF**  
 BY: CHANOCH SHAFFREN



3

**DVAR TORAH**  
 BY: DOVID FRIED

**For Purim The Cover Is.....**

**SDRAWKCAB**  
 BACKWARDS

## The Mitzvos of Purim

By: Dov Ber Shapiro



There are four amazing Mitzvos of Purim. I decided to write about these things, as they are the basis of Purim. The first Mitzvah we have is the Mitzvah of Mishloach Manos, or giving Shalach Manos to people. Just make sure you give to at least one person, with two things but they CAN be the same bracha. The second Mitzvah is giving Tzedakah to the poor people. This includes giving any charity donation, whether to the poor or not. The amazing thing about giving Tzedakah to the poor people is that you are helping people in need. The third Mitzvah of Purim is the Seudah of Purim. I love the Seudah of Purim because you get to eat yummy and delicious foods with all your family and friends. The fourth and final mitzvah is the mitzvah to hear megillah. We have the mitzvah to hear the megillah at night and during the day. We also make a lot of noise when Haman's name is mentioned.

These mitzvos are all very important and relate to purim and everyone should do them. These mitzvos are also very important because they teach you to think about others and create Achdus. These mitzvos are the very essence of Purim. I hope you all have an amazing Purim!



## Costumes and Customs

By: Sion Hadar



Purim is the story of the hidden. We read the Megillah, which is called Megillat Esther, and we say that it is really called 'Megilat Hester' - meaning the scroll of the hidden. The whole story is about how Hashem saved the Jews in a hidden way. It doesn't say anything about Hashem saving the Jews in the Megillah, but it is clear that it's all from Hashem. We also see the idea of hidden when Esther does not reveal where she is from.

This hidden aspect of Purim is reflected in the custom for many people to wear costumes and masks (not Covid masks) on Purim. We hide ourselves and we display that the world and life have a hidden aspect. When we cover our faces with masks we are saying - look below the surface.

It is also a custom to eat the hamantaschen which signifies hiding the jelly in the dough. Another food that the Sepharadim eat on Purim is special 'bourekas' with meat inside a flaky (and sometimes hard) dough. This is also the idea of showing the hidden side of Purim.

At my Sephardic synagogue, there is another custom to give out coins to all the kids on Purim. That does not mean the 'half shekel' or half dollar - and it also doesn't mean the money we give to the poor for charity with the mitzvah of 'matanot l'evyonim'. Rather this is a different custom where the kids each get coins. Part of the reason for the custom is that we are so happy for Purim that we just get gifts. Another idea is that there are two sides to every coin. This signifies the idea that there are two sides to every story. There is a side you see and a side you don't see. There is the hidden side - that hidden side of Purim.



I love all these customs. I love the masks, the costumes, the coin gifts and the very tasty Bourekas and Hamentashen! I also love one other thing that shows something hidden. That very cool thing that I like is seeing the megillah that has special writing where the megillah is written in a way that the word 'HaMelech' - the king - is written on the top of every page scroll. This shows that the real story is about the king...not King Achshverosh, but instead the real king - Hashem.

I hope everyone has the chance to do all these fun and interesting customs and to see the hidden part of the holiday of Purim! Happy Purim! Purim Sameach! A Freilichen Purim! Purim Alegre!

**" I LOVE THE MASKS, THE COSTUMES, THE COIN GIFTS AND THE VERY TASTY BOUREKAS AND HAMENTASHEN!"**

## Dvar Torah

By: Dovid Fried



On Purim, which we are just about to celebrate, we wear costumes and the idea is to reveal the hidden identity of the person behind the mask (Purim masks) or costume. In fact, every single thing that we do on this day is connected with this theme – ‘revealing the hidden.’ We give Mishloach Manot, baskets of food to friends, and Matanos L'evyonim, charity to the poor, and in this way, we reveal our feelings of warmth and of friendship that we have for others from which we may have not had before. We also drink more than we usually do.

You know, they say that there are three ways in which you can really tell the true character (middos) of a person and that is ‘Kiso’ (his pocket), ‘Kaaso’ (his rage) and ‘Koso’ (his cup which in this case it means wine): Kiso, ‘his pocket’ – how he gives to (charity) Tzedakah. Kaaso, ‘his rage’ – how he conducts himself while angry. And Koso, ‘his cup’ – how he behaves while under the influence. Sure enough, it reveals all that which is hidden.

Masks in particular relate to *this* Purim since we wear masks every day in yeshiva. In wearing masks, we are faced with the challenge of not only hiding our full smiles but also hiding our full potential. However, we can overcome this challenge by not focusing on the masks and instead focus on what is temporarily hidden. With this, may we be zoche to see everyone’s smile and see the coming of Mashiach B’Mharah Byamaynu Amen.



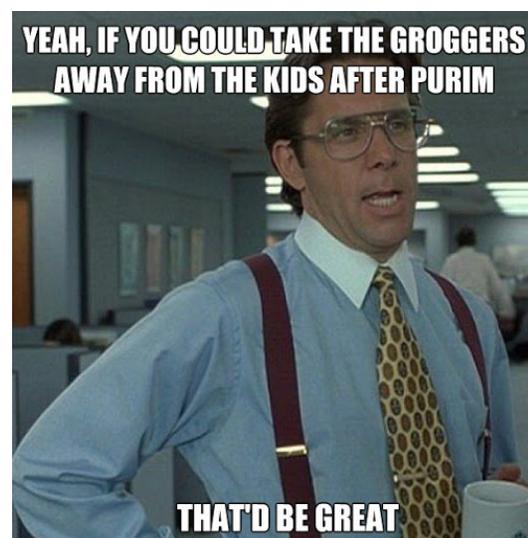
## Parsha Riddles

### Questions:

1. What two precautions were taken to assure the purity of oil for the menorah?
2. The stones of the ephod bore the inscription of the names of the sons of Yaakov. Why?
3. In which order were the names of the Tribes inscribed on the ephod?
4. What was lacking in the bigdei kehuna in the second Beit Hamikdash?
5. Name the eight garments worn by the kohen gadol.

1. Answer: The olives were pressed and not ground; and only the first drop was used.  
 2. Answer: So that Hashem would see their names and recall their righteousness.  
 3. Answer: In order of birth.  
 4. The Urim V'Tumim - the "Shem Ha'meforash" placed in the folds of the choshen.  
 5. Choshen, ephod, me'il, ketonet, mitznefet, avnet, tzitz, and michnasayim.

### Answers



# Rohring With Laughter:

Jokes and Riddles All Around The Lion's Den

## Fun Facts

1. North Korea and Cuba are the only places you can't buy Coca-Cola!
2. Hot water will turn into ice faster than cold water!
3. The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows!
4. Every 'c' in Pacific Ocean is pronounced differently!

## Would You Rather?

- Would you rather go into the past and meet your ancestors or go into the future and meet your great-great grandchildren?**
- Would you rather have more time or more money?**
- Would you rather have a rewind button or a pause button on your life?**
- Would you rather be able to talk with the animals or speak all foreign languages?**



## Jokes

1. Why do we tell actors to "break a leg?"  
Because every play has a cast.
2. Did you hear about the claustrophobic astronaut?  
He just needed a little space.
3. Why don't scientists trust atoms?  
Because they make up everything.
4. What did the left eye say to the right eye?  
Between you and me, something smells.



1. I shave every day, but my beard stays the same. What am I?
2. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?
3. David's parents have three sons: Snap, Crackle, and what's the name of the third son?
4. I follow you all the time and copy your every move, but you can't touch me or catch me. What am I?



## Usher's Student Guide

### Chapter Four: Touchdown Town

By: Eli Sitbon



Usher Feingold wasn't quite sure where he was going. He only knew that he had stolen the soda of a boy who had stolen his, marking himself a sure enemy. Jacob would try to get back at Usher, even if it wasn't Usher who had started it. And if Usher just ignored him, Jacob would just get more angry at him.

Usher walked around a bit, but not wanting to get into trouble with Rabbi Gold again, decided to stick a little close to the Restaurant. Finally, lunch was over. However, he couldn't get the thought of Jacob out of his head. He was obviously angry, and Usher was just glad he didn't have any classes with him. However, as they were going to Rabbi Goldberg's class for their Friday second period, Usher saw Jacob. Jacob didn't see him yet, which was a relief. In class, Usher tried his hardest not to be seen, hiding behind his science textbook, taking someone's seat so he could sit in the back, far away from Jacob. How did you never notice this new kid in your class! Usher thought to himself. Then he realized it was only the second day of school, and the day before, he was busy thinking about getting busted by Rabbi Gold, and busy being angry at Yoav. And now, he was sure that Jacob had it out for him.

However, the day was finished. And Usher was still in one piece. The next Sunday, Usher was beyond nervous. He was relieved to find out that Jacob was absent that day, but noticed Yoav looking at him strangely, and occasionally heading towards Usher, but then quickly walking right past him.

On Monday, Usher tried hard to pay attention in class, but it was hard, because he was worried about what the day would bring. He ate in the art room with Mrs. Markowitz, Ahron Raab, and Eli Sitbon. As he ate his peanut butter sandwich, he noticed Eli looking at him while he typed, with Ahron looking over his shoulder.

"What are you looking at?" asked Usher with a frown.

"Sorry," said Eli, looking away, "I was just writing my story for the newspaper."

"We have a newspaper?" asked Usher, "And what's the story called?"

"This is for the first newspaper, and the story's called Usher's Student Guide."

"Wait... what?"

"Never mind."

Usher shook his head. Some people sure were weird. During P.E, Jacob didn't seem to be paying any attention to him. Usher soon forgot about Jacob, not noticing him occasionally staring at Usher.

The game continued, and Usher was having fun, more fun than he had ever had playing Football. On fourth down, though, things were looking down for Usher's team. The QB, Yonatan Azoulay, ended up having to throw short, because he was blitzed by Shua Jaski and Yehuda Levy. Usher caught the ball, and nearly made it to the endzone, when suddenly, he was hit. He fell, the ball promptly dropping out of his hand. Usher's side hurt. He looked up to see Jacob staring at him, a smile on his face.

"Hey!" shouted Moshe Grossman, "No tackling!"

"Yeah, this isn't tackle football." added Noam Yenter.

Jacob turned his head away from Usher and towards the group of angry students who were telling him he shouldn't have tackled.

Jacob put on an innocent face and said, "I didn't know! At my old school, we always played tackle football!"

"We've been playing regular football since the first day of school!" sputtered Usher, holding a hand to his side as he stood up.

Jacob claimed he didn't notice, or was distracted during the first couple games they played. Usher just shook his head. After the bell rang, he headed back upstairs. But suddenly, out of the corner of his eye, he noticed Yoav approaching him. And Usher froze. He didn't know where to go, or what to say. But Yoav said it for him.

"Usher... if you don't want to be friends, why didn't you say something? What did I do to make you so angry?"

And Usher himself had never been so mad.

## Purim Minhagim You Have Never Heard of



By: Chanoch Shaferen

There are many different minhagim for many different Yomim Tovim. Did you know that there are even some for Purim? Here are some you might not know. In Yerushalayim, brides send their grooms elaborate Mishloach Manos with cakes, cookies, and candy, but in Persia, the groom send the brides the Mishloach Manos with all the cakes and cookies. Did you know that Moroccan Jews send Mishloach Manos that include jewelry or perfume? To commemorate Queen Esther's vegetarian/kosher diet in Achashverosh's palace, many urim seudos include a variety of nuts and seeds. Fun fact: the original graggers were stones! French children would write "Haman" on a pair of rocks and smashed them together when the villain's name was read. Jews of Babylon and Elam would put a haman dummy on their roof and on Purim they would throw it in a bonfire while jumping through it themselves. In the 1800's, Yemenite boys hung up a human puppet and threw stones and arrows at it. Did you know that even dressing up for Purim is a minhag (one that many people follow)? Now you know what type of minhagim there are on Purim, and maybe you should try doing some.



## Q & A Today

By: David Gluck



Bonjour (hello)! Guess what? We have a new name! Anyway, Purim is on the way. If you read my article before, can you guess what the question will be? Correct! Read on for the answers.

QUESTION: What is your favorite thing about Purim?

ANSWERS:

Ilan Goldsmith (6th grade): "My favorite thing about Purim is all of the fun parties."

David Gluck (6th grade): "Costumes"

Yehuda Gluck (3rd grade): "Mishloach Manos"

Eli Sitbon (7th grade): "Mishloach Manos that are in the same theme as the Costumes"

Binyamin Rabovsky (7th grade):  
"Giving Mishloach Manos and having a break from school"

What is your favorite thing about Purim?

Write your answer here:

Enjoy your Purim break!!!



## RMS Shoe Contest

By: Ilan Goldsmith



Most of you know that we had the shoe contest. In art class with Mrs. J, many students participated in making clay shoes that would be entered into a contest. There was a big variety of different shoes that students in RMS chose to make. Some people found a real shoe and copied it, and some people came up with their own design. People made Jordans, Nikes, Adidas, etc. Once everyone completed their shoes, the contest happened. Everyone was able to vote for their favorite shoe, including the people who took part in the competition. Everyone who passed by voted, including teachers from the elementary school. Once the voting was complete, Mrs. J counted up the votes, and the winners were announced the following day.

Rafi Breier won first place with his interesting shoe. The front was ripped open with toes sticking out. The rest of the shoe had little rips and was completely, awesomely disgusting, as it should've been. His shoe was created on his own, not a real shoe that was copied. In second place was Eliyahu Badgadi who made a shoe with wings on the back. It had cool and interesting colors and was a great shoe, as well. The third place winner was Daniel Cohen. Not only did it look very nice, but it was made very neatly. The shoe that won most creative was made with a palm tree and a sunset painted on it. It had blue laces and a nice combination of white and red. It was made by Evyatar Cohen. Finally, the shoe that won best technique was made by Binyamin Rabovsky. It was all white, but had so many details. There were lines made with different layers to make it look more realistic.

Even if you didn't win, but you participated, you did an extremely great job. All the shoes in the contest looked spectacular!



# Facing The Heat



By: Binyamin Rabovsky

We know that this year is unlike any other. The whole world has changed drastically. We are forced to wear masks, social distance, and just be safe with Covid. However, through it all we always have to keep our belief in Hashem that He is in control and runs the world. We need to keep going even if things are hard and always push through.

As you know the NBA season is in full swing. We are almost midway through the season and are about to have the all-star break. However, a couple weeks ago the Miami Heat were faced with a huge challenge. Covid! When one of the Miami Heat guards Avery Bradley tested positive for Covid it caused a big mayhem. Players had to quarantine and everything was crazy. Besides that, some players were getting injured and the Heat played some games with only eight players, which is the minimum. For a couple of weeks the Heat players were off and on with injuries and Covid but the Heat endured. They kept playing and got a couple wins. This can show us an incredible lesson.

We must always keep going. We always have to endure with everything we go through. We can see this from Purim, when Haman was trying to exterminate the Jews they kept davening and endured. We should always keep trying to endure and even if it's hard we always must try.



# PURIM

W B K V G V N C X T Y W H D I C S  
 A N F A U J L E B J P L C E A U O  
 S W O L L A G A S W T A O Q H R R  
 U S M J D E M M T Y V Y N V C S N  
 A I F Z Z S M P D H W O R P E F K  
 C E M D N E R A A S Y R E U D E G  
 H W I N X V O W F I B V R R R A W  
 A F R J J N J D X W U A T I O S U  
 S E V A S H T I R E B K N M M T V  
 H Y R M D J G R S J L I I Q Z P A  
 V G V E E M T H A L D N Q G U B S  
 E N K Y Q G U V F D N G G U B E B  
 R I A X I S I L R I A S M E E Z T  
 U T E N H B Y L R V M V W S C E H  
 S S O A C S T G L H A H O R S E N  
 H A N Z R A P L O A H S O K W T H  
 L F R E H T S E R T H B J T I F F

Banquet

Amelak

Adar

Shushan

Royal

Horse

Feast

Fasting

Gallows

King

Jewish

Achashverush

Vashti

Esther

Mordechai

Haman

megillah

purim

Queen

Riddle Answers  
 1. A Barber!!!  
 2. Footsteps  
 3. David  
 4. A Shadow