

YESHIVA
TORAS CHAIM
TORAS EMES
KLURMAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TEAM SPIRIT

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פרשת תזריע מצורע

Friday
April 16, 2021
ד' אייר תשפ"א

Through the
Classroom Door
Pg 4

מזל טוב

Miss Sora Chana Gruenstein on her engagement to Aryeh Linn.

Mr. and Mrs. Shimmy Levine on the birth of a boy.

Peanut-Free Zone

Please remember that we are a peanut-free facility. This means that NO peanut butter, peanuts, or products containing peanuts may be brought to school. Foods with the warning that

Stay Hydrated!

Water fountains have been replaced by bottle-filling stations. All children should bring a refillable water bottle with them to school each day



רפואה שלימה

Binyomin Simcha ben Adina Minya
Nechama Malka bas Blima
Yael Chana bas Sara
Yaakov ben Malka Rachel
Shmuel Yitzchok ben Zlata
Menachem Moshe ben Fraidel
Mina Yehudis bas Masuda Marsel
Refoel Dovid ben Etta Reva
Yehudis bas Chasiba
Yochanan Baruch ben Fruma Etta
Zisle bas Sarah
Miriam bas Rivka
Eliezer Yitzchak ben Sara
Yehuda ben Rivka Leah
Tinok ben Elisheva Miriam
Chava Leah bas Aida
Tinok HaCohen ben Miriam Chana
Aryeh Yosef ben Miriam
Aharon Shmuel ben Faiga
Yehudis Leah bas Sara Chava
Rivka bas Shoshana
Leah Bas Chava
Eliyahu ben Mazal
Meir ben Shaindel Ita Shifra



MAINTAINING PEACE

Dear Parents,

Erev Shabbos Tazria-Metzora 5781

“She likes me more than you.” “He told me he’s not really your friend anymore.” “___ won’t be my friend if I play with you.” When it is our own children’s mouths that these words are coming from, we may tend to regard these hurtful comments as just so much childish cluelessness. We’re not very 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 (Vayikra 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. If the recipient of the original comment reacts with vengeful words or acts of his own, why does he not share in the culpability of the original perpetrator? 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 properly, successfully and happily in the adult world depends on their ability to promote peace, and not destroy peace.

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

Rabbi Kalman Baumann

“...we may tend to regard these hurtful comments as just so much childish cluelessness.”

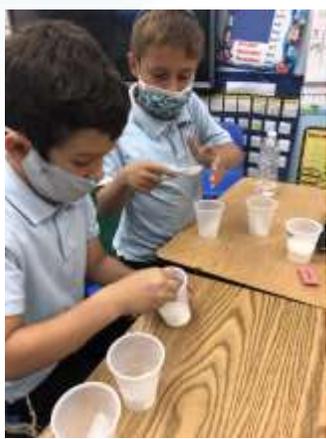
“...the very worst *Aveira* (sin) that leads to being afflicted (with *Tzoraas*) is *Mishloach Medanim bein HoAchim* – to sow discord among brothers.”

“Whenever we become aware of our children causing strains in their or others’ relationships, our ears should perk up.”

Through The Classroom Door

1B-1 Science Experiment

The boys in 1B used science to explore problems and solutions. They learned all about the problem of ice sticking to roads in cold places. They made predictions for how to solve the problem and then experimented with pouring sugar and salt onto different ice cubes to see what would happen! They watched carefully to see which ice cube melted faster.



4G-1 Playing Concentration to Learn Homophones





כבוד Connection



We are working on completing our section on Kibbud Morim—honoring our teachers and are looking forward to starting the next section of our Kavod Campaign which is Kibud Horim—honoring our Parents. Kol Hakavod to the girls listed below for showing exemplary Kavod this week. Keep up the great work!

Tova Alcabes	Hodaya Daniarov	Devorah Jacobson	Ahuva Rubin
Ella Amar	Oriya Dostov	Ayala Kaganas	Evelyn Saka
Rita Amos	Esther Dreyfuss	Allie Klein	Naomi Senderovitz
Tzivia Aroll	Rena Dreyfuss	Baila Klugman	Yaffa Serle
Lea Azra	Mimi Falber	Ella Lamet	Olga Shemaria
Avigayil Ben- Hanan	Aliza Feld	Ashley Landesman	Batsheva Slepoy
Molly Berg	Dina Fried	Gaya Langford	Adina Slepoy
Zissie Bergida	Batsheva Chana	Yael Langford	Leora Sokol
Bracha Berkman	Galandauer	Orly Leonoff	Rechi Stern
Rivka Boas	Leah Gil	Naomi Lipman	Tzofia Suissa
Dena Brown	Aliza Goldenberg	Aliza Mazurek	Aliyah Weiss
Sharon Bucay	Talia Handler	Michal Meiner	Alicia Weissman
Annael Busany	Tammy Hauser	Leah Naftali	Mazel Tov to Our
Ava Chames	Tova Hardy	Ilana Pesatty	Raffle Winners
Shira Cohen	Orr Ioffe	Nomi Pinhasov	Aliza Mazurek
Raffi Courchia	Shira Itshakov	Freda Roth	Adina Slepoy
			Aliza Feld

Eyes On Eretz Yisrael

KES students heard some fascinating facts and stories about Eretz Yisrael at today's Erev Shabbos Assemblies. Rabbi Baumann spoke to the Boys about our special connection to our land and shared inspiring stories of Rav Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld zt'l's amazing love for Eretz Yisrael. The Girls were treated to hearing from Morah Ioffe, who shared her infectious love and excitement for Eretz Yisrael through personal anecdotes and stories of Gedolim.

CHINESE AUCTION
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chosen words

Personal Growth

How High Can We Fly

When Hashem ordered a malach to split the Yam Suf, the malach protested. "These (the Egyptians) and those (the Jews) are both idol-worshippers." The Gemara teaches that, living among the Egyptians, the Jews had become much like them, descending to the 49th level of impurity. Why, then, did they deserve to be saved by a miracle?

Rabbi Dov Kushilevsky answers the question with a parable. There once was a chicken farmer whose whole life revolved around his farm. Beyond chickens and eggs, he knew little about anything. One day, he felt the urge to wander, and went for a walk in the forest. There, he found a recently hatched eagle egg, with the hatchling still inside. Never considering that it could be anything but a chicken, he brought it home and placed it in the coop.

The eagle, surrounded by chickens, learned to be a chicken, too. It strutted and pecked and never learned to fly. Then, one day, a hunter stopped at the farm and asked for a place to sleep for the night. He noticed the eagle, and confronted the farmer in dismay. How could he keep an eagle cooped up like a chicken? The farmer adamantly insisted that this was a chicken.

That night, the hunter crept into the chicken coop and rescued the eagle. He brought it to a mountain and set it free. There, the eagle began to flap its wings, at first achieving only short hops off the ground, and

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

Inspiration

Ideas

Excellence

Success

finally taking wing to soar among the mountaintops.

In the same way, the Jews learned lowliness from their surroundings in Egypt. But underneath, they remained Israel—the progeny of Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov. When we remember who we are and what we're capable of, we're not bound by the limitations of the world we live in. Seas will split and bonds will fall away. Then, we can soar.

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Better Relationships

Fellow Travelers

The Haggadah teaches that the splitting of the Yam Suf was actually comprised of 50 individual miracles. One of these was that the sea separated into 12 different tunnels, one for each tribe. In a further miracle, the walls between each of these tunnels were transparent, so that the tribes could see each other as they progressed together across the sea.

Why did they need to see each other? So that they wouldn't worry about the other tribes. The see-through walls were a message of Ahavas Yisrael, of caring about the progress of our fellow Jew. We don't just grab our success and run ahead, without concern for others who are struggling.

The question then arises: If Hashem wanted the tribes to see each other, why didn't He simply have them cross in one group? The answer is that we need our separate paths; our love and concern aren't limited to those walking the same path as we are. As long as we are all heading toward the same destination, our concern must extend to every Jew, no matter what path he pursues.

—CCHF

Effective Prayer

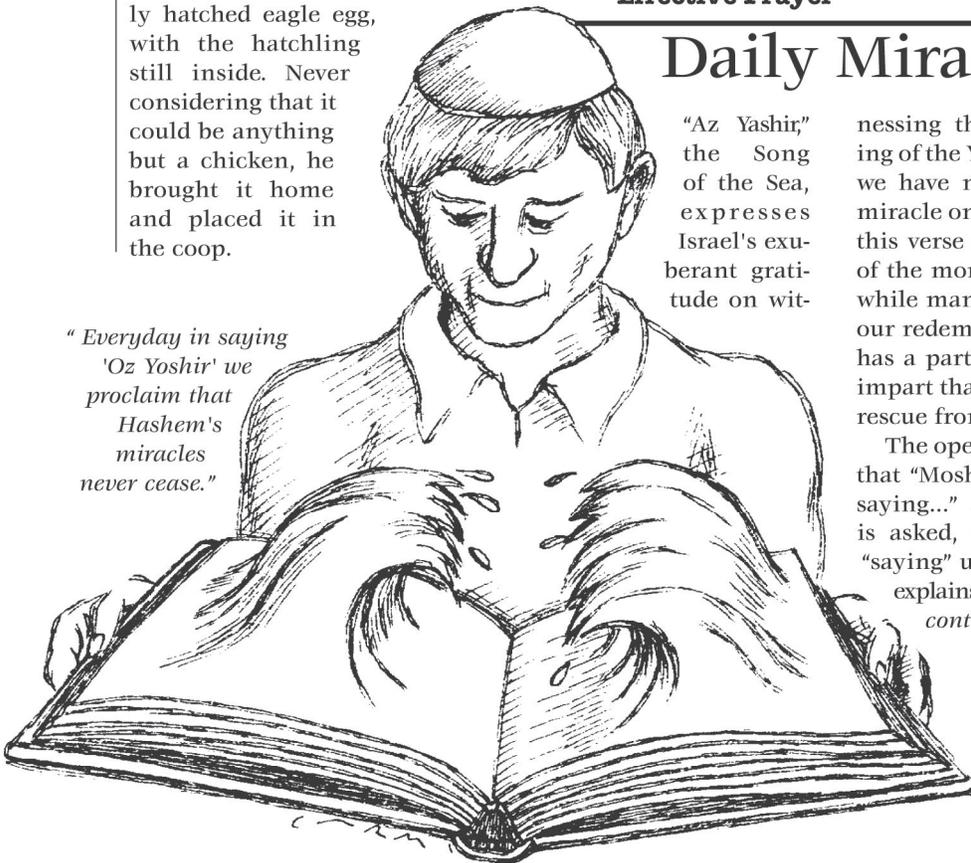
Daily Miracles

"Az Yashir," the Song of the Sea, expresses Israel's exuberant gratitude on wit-

nessing the dramatic parting of the Yam Suf. Although we have never witnessed a miracle on that scale, we say this verse every day as part of the morning prayer. And while many prayers refer to our redemption, "Az Yashir" has a particular message to impart that goes beyond our rescue from Egypt.

The opening verse tells us that "Moshe sang this song, saying..." and the question is asked, why is the word "saying" used? The Midrash explains it to mean "to

continued on back



"Everyday in saying 'Oz Yashir' we proclaim that Hashem's miracles never cease."



Free to...

On Pesach, we celebrate our freedom, and one fundamental of being free is the ability to choose your priorities in how you spend your time.

Chol Hamoad is one of the rare times of year in which most families have time to spend together. But how does it get used? Often, busy parents are happy if the children can just find ways to "keep busy," even if those ways are non-productive, or even destructive. Do the hours spent in front of a computer screen or video monitor reflect the value of this great gift of freedom?

Believe it or not, even when children say, "There's nothing to do," there really are many exciting, enriching options.

The group Parents Concerned With Media Influence ran a contest at Yeshiva Eitz Chaim,

Toronto, in which the students in each grade were challenged to come up with a list of things to do. The suggestions ranged from the simple (First grade: Have an indoor picnic, write letters to Bubbie and Zaidie) to the creative (Fourth grade: Put messages in balloons and send them into the sky), from the practical (Third grade: Water the plants) to the ambitious (Sixth grade: Learn a new language).

Any family can compile its own list of activities, with each member contributing ideas appropriate for his or her age. Then, when it seems

“Often, busy parents are happy if the children can just find ways to keep busy.”

“We’re keeping our hour as a z’chus for our aunt who needs a shidduch

 hour of caring

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A Garden of Gratitude

Rav Yisrael Gustman, zt"l, rosh yeshivah of Yeshivas Netzach Yisrael in Jerusalem, stood in front of his house one day, watering his garden. Several students walked by and noticed the rosh yeshivah busy with his task.

Eager to serve him, they asked if they could take over, but Rav Gustman replied that he preferred to water them himself. Several days later, the scene repeated itself. The boys wondered why this great talmid chacham would spend his time gardening, and finally, one boy asked him.

Rav Gustman explained that, during World War II, he had been forced to hide in the forest. Because he had learned how to live off the wild plants, he was saved from starvation.

"I feel obligated to show my appreciation to the plants that saved my life, and therefore, I water them personally," he explained.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

What good does it do to show thanks to plants or other objects?

Adapted from "Visions of Greatness," by Rabbi Yosef Weiss, with permission from C.I.S.

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there's nothing else to do but fend off alien invaders on a computer screen, a customized suggestion list is at the ready.

Gaining our freedom was the miracle. What we do with it is the challenge.

—CCHF

Daily Miracles

continued from front
repeat." The song should be repeated for all time, whenever Klal Yisrael or any Jew is rescued from distress. It should be repeated and proclaimed, to announce out loud to the world that our help comes solely from Hashem.

The Zohar adds that "Az Yashir" is part of our daily prayers because Hashem redeems us from trouble everywhere, every day. Our very existence is a continuous miracle, best expressed by the words the Jews sang as the seas crashed behind them and, filled with love and awe, they followed Hashem into the wilderness.

Adapted from "The Call of the Torah," by Rabbi Elie Munk, with permission from Mesorah Publications

How High

continued from front

Shabbos Table Discussion:

How does the Torah give all Jews the wings on which to soar? What are some everyday examples?

Adapted from "Shabbos Stories," by Rabbi Shimon Finkelman, with permission from Mesorah Publications

Dedications

This issue is dedicated in loving memory of our dear aunt, Mrs. Shoshana Schur, a"h, Chicago, Illinois

לעי
עשנה ריזעל בת אפרים ע"ה
נלב'ע כ"ה ניסן תשס"א
תנצב"ה.

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