



YESHIVA
TORAS CHAIM
TORAS EMES
KLURMAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TEAM SPIRIT

Miami Candle
Lighting
5:18 PM

Friday
December 24, 2021
כ' טבת תשפ"ב
פרשת שמות

Through the
Classroom Door
Page 4-8

מזל טוב

To Ms. Yocheved Silverman on her engagement to Jason Shabatian.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Shmuel Chait on the birth of a girl.

To Mr. Yehoshua Jaroslawicz and Mrs. Nava Jaroslawicz and family on the bar mitzva of their son, our alumnus, Yonah.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dov Katz and family on the birth of a boy.

Needed for ART

Please send in as many empty toilet paper rolls as you have at home for an art project. Please drop the rolls off in the girls office.

Thank you in advance!

רפואה שלימה

Chaim Shmuel ben Leah Yocheved
 Rochel Leah bas Miriam Frumit
 Yehudis Leah bas Sara Chava
 Binyomin Simcha ben Adina Minya
 Mina Yehudis bas Masuda Marsel
 Yochanan Baruch ben Fruma Etta
 Yechiel Nosson ben Sara
 Ita bas Rachel
 Chaya Rus bas Masuda
 Rochel Malka bas Tzortel Sheindel

The Coming Week**REMINDER**

Friday, December 31st
 Classes 9:00 - 12:00

Covid Corner

We are experiencing an uptick in COVID cases in our school community. Please be mindful and do not send your child to school if they are experiencing symptoms. If there is someone in your household who is positive for COVID, your children **MUST** get tested with a PCR test regardless of symptoms, before returning to school. Please email safety@ytcte.org with any questions regarding COVID protocol. Thank you for your cooperation.

M.U.S.T. Event

Attention all mothers:

Register today!

For more information, please visit:
mothersunite4kids.org

Lost And Found

Please note that all unclaimed lost and found items in all KES offices will become hefker in a couple of weeks. If your child is missing a sweater, water bottle, lunch box, or anything else, please have them check in the office lost and found box for their items.



TRUE LEADERSHIP

Dear Parents,

With the beginning of *Sefer Shemos*, we are introduced to the greatest leader the world has ever seen. Was there a particular quality that *Moshe Rabbeinu* possessed that made him so worthy for and so successful in his mission of leading *Klal Yisroel*?

We read that *Hashem* revealed Himself to *Moshe* at the burning bush. The *pasuk* tells us *וַיֵּרָא ה' לְמֹשֶׁה לְרֵאשִׁית יָמָיו* "Hashem saw that Moshe turned aside to see" (*Shemos* 3:4). Many question; what is the significance of *Moshe's* turning to see the burning bush. Wouldn't anyone be curious about such an unusual sight? *The Medrash Rabba (1:27)* explains that *Hashem* was noting that *Moshe* had a special quality to turn and look as he did when he turned and saw the suffering of his brothers – *וַיֵּרָא בְּסִבְלוֹתָם* (*Shemos* 2:11) – what made an 'impression' on *Hashem* was *Moshe's* looking into the suffering of his fellow Jews in Egypt, many years earlier.

**Hashem saw that Moshe turned
aside to see**

This brings another question. What was so noteworthy about *Moshe* looking at their burdens? Many would be interested to see what is going on around them. A number of *Mefarshim* (*Seforno, Peirush Maharzu*) explain that *Moshe* looked deeper and saw something deeper. He understood and felt the depth of their pain and suffering. And why was that so special?

Let's remember who *Moshe* was. He was a favored prince living in the lap of luxury and already a powerful persona in *Pharaoh's* court. His life was on a trajectory of royal privilege and pleasure. What person in his position would give more than a passing thought to some lowly slaves struggling under their burdens? Even a compassionate person would likely give a sigh and move on. What does he need to get involved for? Just mind your own business and you'll be much happier.

**When he looked at people
and events around him, he
consciously focused on
their situation...**

That was not *Moshe* and that is why he was so fit to be a leader. He had the quality of genuinely caring about others. The fact that he was a king and they were lowly slaves made no difference to *Moshe*. He would not let his elevated status get in the way of having compassion for his fellow Jew. When he looked at people and events around him, he consciously focused on their situation and saw and felt the suffering that went into creating the scene in front of him.

Having compassion and empathy for others does not come easily to people in our generation. There is a lot of competition and great focus on self. However, don't we want our children to develop an elevated sense of compassion? How do our children react when they see a friend fall and are in pain? If a classmate's drink spills, do they laugh, or do they rush in to help and reassure their friend? If a teammate drops the ball and loses a point for their team, does our child blurt out a nasty remark, or do they say – "nice try, you'll catch it next time?"

True leadership means taking responsibility for others' wellbeing. It starts at a young age. In our (almost) post-Covid time, there appears to be more tension and frustration, perhaps leading to nastiness, rudeness and selfishness. Hurtful comments are being reported at a rate greater than I can remember. Teasing and even bullying is occurring in some cases. We all need to work together to redirect this behavior. We are privileged to have many new students in the Yeshiva. Welcoming them and making them feel part of our school and class community is a great opportunity for our young 'leaders'.

**True leadership means taking
responsibility for others'
wellbeing.**

As parents, we need to role model and teach our children to follow in *Moshe Rabbeinu's* ways. Having more money, being smarter, stronger, quicker, taller or more socially adept than others should not be reasons to become haughty, exclusive or nasty. They are gifts from *Hashem* that should elevate us to be true leaders – leaders in care and compassion for those with lesser or different gifts than we have.

We measure success in school and in life in many different ways. Let us place concern, compassion and support of others at the pinnacle of our children's goals and enable them to follow in the footsteps of *Moshe Rabbeinu* in *Torah, Yiras Shomayim* and deep concern for each other.

Best wishes for a caring and supportive *Shabbos*,

Rabbi Baumann

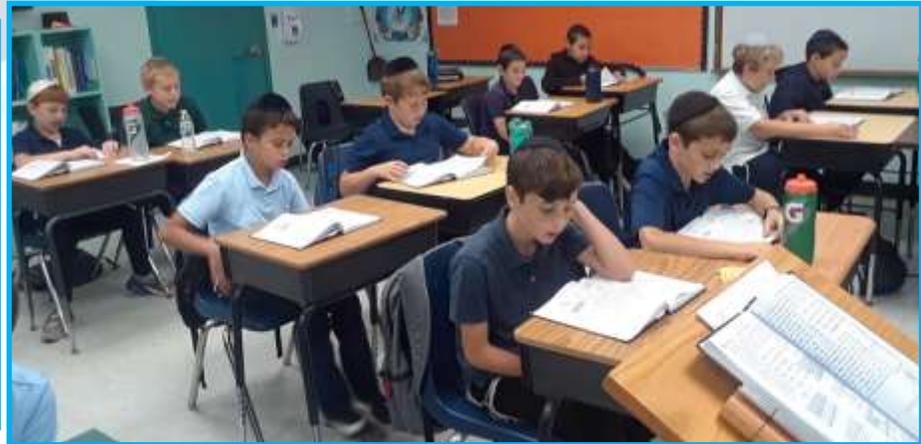
4th and 5th Grade Boys Mishnayos Event

This past Sunday the 4th and 5th grade boys enjoyed a special event with their fathers. The boys and their fathers began the program learning with their fathers in the Bais Medrash and then enjoyed a special shiur given by Rabbi Shnidman. Everyone then enjoyed a delicious brunch buffet and a special Shiur given by Rabbi Danziger. It was a special event for the boys to learn in the Bais Medrash and spend some quality time learning with their Fathers.



5th Grade Boys Learning

Rabbi Shnidman's class recently finished the entire second perek of Baba Metzia and were "farhered" by Rabbi Grossman.



First Grade Boys Learning Science

The first grade boys in Mrs. Waldman's class learned all about the scientific method. They asked the question: Can you make more bubbles when you blow soft or hard? They hypothesized, conducted the experiment, made observations and found a conclusion. They learned that the softer you blow, the more bubbles you can make!



Building Bitachon Bulletin

Last week, we introduced the next fundamental concept of Bitachon - "Ein Od Milvado" - there is no one besides Hashem that can help us. After more than a month of focusing on "Hakol Biydei Shamayaim", we discussed how even though we know everything is in Hashem's hands, it can be confusing because sometimes we do turn to human professionals or experts to help us in certain situations. We enjoyed a fun game where we divided into teams and listened to riddles and guessed which "messenger of Hashem" they were. In each case, we reiterated that although we turn to them for help, "Ein Od Milvado", it is really Hashem helping us through them. Ask your daughter what was in her Bitachon Bag last week and how it tied into what we have been learning. The girls are so excited to watch our special Bitachon slideshow. Thank you to everyone who participated!



Third Grade Siyum



Mazel Tov to Morah Ioffe's 3rd grade classes on their Siyum on a Perek of Chumash in Parshas Chayei Sara. The girls enjoyed a delicious Ice Cream Party to celebrate this tremendous milestone.



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chosen words



Personal Growth

'Helping' Hashem

Creating the universe in seven days and keeping it all going every moment since—it would seem like pretty hard work. That is, of course, if it weren't Hashem, whose power is without any limit, doing the work. A basic tenet of our belief is that Hashem needs nothing from Man. He may desire our service, but His will can certainly be accomplished without any input from us.

Yet we are told in the Gemara that "Supplying man with his livelihood is as difficult (for G-d) as splitting the Reed Sea." This is deduced from the words of Hallel: "Give thanks to Hashem...Who divided the Sea of Reeds into parts...He gives food to all living creatures." But how could anything at all be difficult for Hashem?

Rav Chaim Shmulevitz explained Chazal's statement. We see something as "difficult" when it requires the support of others. Even difficult solitary tasks like studying for an exam or perfecting a skill require those around us to facilitate our efforts. In splitting the sea, as in providing sustenance, Hashem

desired that Man's faith play that supporting role.

The Midrash teaches that in deciding to split the sea, Hashem said, "The faith that they showed in Me when they left Egypt—not asking Moshe 'What will we eat along the way?'—was enough of a merit for Me to split the sea open for them." He demanded our input before He would perform the miracle.



Effective Prayer

Human Nature

In the animal kingdom, man possesses one unique attribute—the ability to speak. And that is one central reason why prayer must be said out loud. When we stand before Hashem and speak to Him, we distinguish ourselves as members of humanity. We tell ourselves and Hashem that we are human beings, the only beings in all of Creation endowed with a neshamah and a spiritual capacity.

Torah Tools for Personal Growth

- Inspiration
- ▼
- Ideas
- ▼
- Excellence
- ▼
- Success

So, too, in the daily miracle of feeding every living creature, Hashem demands our faith. The Gemara says, "The rains do not fall except for the sake of the people of faith."

And without the faith, even if the sustenance is there, we cannot fully derive its benefit. The prophet Elisha once told a certain captain that a long, hard famine would suddenly end. The captain didn't believe him, and so Elisha promised that the captain would see the food, but never taste it. The next day, a windfall arrived from an abandoned enemy camp, and the captain was trampled by the *continued on back*

Better Relationships

The Lens of Love

The Kramer family specialized in a peculiar kind of accounting. They remembered every favor they had ever done, every favor they had ever received, every slight ever suffered. In their reckoning, they were always in the red. It seemed that human nature was terribly greedy and self-centered—take, take, take. Needless to say, the Kramers were not very fond of anyone other than the Kramers.

The Bloch family members, on the other hand, were sloppy accountants in this area. Mrs. Bloch was always lending out objects and forgetting to whom they had gone. When people handed her money they owed her, she was always surprised, having usually already forgiven the debt. It seemed to the Blochs that they knew the most remarkably kind and helpful people.

"Do not take revenge and do not bear a grudge...you shall love your fellow as yourself." These three mitzvos are linked together in one verse, and the Kramers and Blochs illustrate why. When one loves others, he doesn't begrudge what he gives them. *continued on back*

In light of this fact, our prayers take on a new dimension. They are not just an effort to open the channels of physical sustenance. We are looking for more than a full stomach and a roof over our head—even an animal can feel the need for that. We are looking for a connection to Hashem, for a way to use our uniquely human nature, our spiritual capacity, to its fullest. When we pray in spoken words, we show Hashem that we understand what we are and what we can become.

Adapted from "Growing Each Day," by Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, M.D., with permission from Mesorah Publications

"Because our capacity to speak is what lifts us into the spiritual realm, we pray in spoken words."



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 לזכר נשמת
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Wrong Way

The Igeres Haramban is a succinct and loving letter of advice from the Ramban to his son; it has long been treasured as a guide to developing one's character. This is one of a series based on its teachings.

Two young men were on their way to their friend's wedding in a town 125 miles away, and they were late as usual. Being young men, they determined that the best way to assure their timely arrival was to travel at just under the speed of light. So they flew down the highway, ten miles, twenty miles, fifty miles. But the landmarks they were looking for never appeared. They kept on going—sixty miles, eighty miles. Finally, one friend suggested that they stop and check their map. Apparently, they had been speeding along in the pre-

cisely wrong direction. Now they were 205 miles from their destination, and later than ever.

“The destination of a Jew’s life is menuchah.”

The destination of a Jew's life is the state of menuchah—a state of calm equilibrium. From a place of menuchah, a Jew can succeed in all his or her life's endeavors. Every spiritual goal, even every material goal, is within reach only from that location on the emotional map.

Ironically, anger is the common reaction when one's equilibrium is disturbed. Something or someone comes along to impede our progress or interfere with our self-image or upset

our plans, and rather than trying to stabilize our rocked boat, we rock it more. Like the young men on their way to the wedding, we zoom ahead blindly, with all the energy and power of our wrath, speeding away from our real destination.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

In the face of an upsetting situation, what thoughts can help you orient yourself toward menuchah and away from anger?

Adapted from “Reaching Your Highest Heights,” a recorded lecture by Rabbi Ephraim Wachsmann, produced by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

Lens of Love

continued from front

He doesn't feel taken advantage of or slighted when his expectations are disappointed. Viewed through loving eyes, others cannot arouse grudges or revenge.

Shabbos Table Discussion:

What might the proper reaction be if someone really does take advantage of you?

Adapted from “Kol Dodi on the Torah,” by Rabbi Dovid Feinstein, with permission from Mesorah Publications

‘Helping’ Hashem

continued from front

crowd rushing toward salvation. The lesson, in the most graphic terms: To the extent that we have faith in Hashem's bounty, we are able to enjoy it.

Adapted from “The Haggadah of the Roshei Yeshivah,” with permission from Mesorah Publications

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 ר' יהודה בן ר' ברוך ז"ל
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 ואשתו מרת שרה בת ר' צבי ע"ה
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 ת.נ.צ.ב.ה

We gratefully acknowledge our generous sponsors for making this publication possible.

Tuning In

Rav Shraga Feivel Mendelowitz, the founder of Torah Vodaas and Torah Umesorah, perfected in himself the ability to maintain a sense of Hashem's presence. This trait, he taught his students, was one that could be learned. He told the parable of twin brothers who were separated at birth. One was raised by a family of bankers, and the other was raised on a farm. Many years later, the two met on a busy street. As a lark flew by, the farmer found himself distracted by the sweet song, while the banker didn't register the sound. Then, someone dropped a coin on the street, and the banker turned to see. The farmer hadn't heard a thing.

The lesson, Rav Shraga Feivel explained, was that each heard what he had been trained to hear. By the same token, a person can train himself to see Hashem in every aspect of life—in every feature of creation and every event of each and every day.

To Do:

Take a backyard hike with your child, pointing out evidence of Hashem's hand.

Adapted from “Reb Shraga Feivel,” by Yonoson Rosenblum, with permission from Mesorah Publications

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✉ We welcome your comments!

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Rabbi Binyomin Gewirtz, Director

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