

## TASHBAR SEPHARDIC YESHIVA KETANA

Candle Lighting: 7:30

Shabbat Ends: 8:31/9:01

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

פרשת בהר-בחוקותי

## MESSAGE FROM THE MENAHEL



Dear Parents,

This year's Lag Baomer felt more meaningful, more joyous, than I can remember feeling in previous years. Maybe it was the burst of joy and celebration that comes from music while we're in this challenging time of הסתר פנים together, or perhaps it was the depth of the message that Lag Baomer was teaching all of us.

Rabbi Akiva had every reason to feel despair. Can you imagine? Throughout his life, he had put all of his efforts into teaching Torah to the masses, culminating in the enormous accomplishment of building 24,000 תלמידי חכמים—leaders of future generations. And then, over the course of a short period, he lost everything. He should have thrown in the towel and given up, and he would have been justified. But he didn't. Rabbi Akiva's greatness shined bright and he picked up the pieces of his life and started teaching all over again. 5 Talmidim. And they became the future תנאים that all of mishnayot and gemara are based on.

Rabbi Akiva taught us that even in times when things seem so dark and the future is so unclear, we must never give up! Things will get better. גם זה יעבור. And when it does, the seeds that we plant today will provide the foundation for the future years and even generations. This Covid-19 will eventually pass. And when it is over, we will look back at this unique time in our lives.

Will we look back with regrets? I don't know. I know that with all the stress, pressure, and confusion, it's not easy. But I also see a tremendous opportunity. Just like Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai utilized those 12 years when he was "quarantined" in the cave and turned those years into transformative years to grow in levels in Torah and עבודת ה' that couldn't have been possible under normal circumstances, so too we can utilize this unique period to build ourselves, our homes, and our families. We can grow in Torah and tefilla in immeasurable ways. Before we know it, this will all be over. And when it is, let's plant those seeds now that will allow a beautiful garden to flourish for years and decades to come.

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Moshe Abady

# MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL STUDIES DIRECTOR



Parents: Welcome Back to School!

For many of you, the past two months have made *you* feel like *you* were back in school. While it's not homeschooling, schooling at home has changed the educational picture for everyone. Your patience has been amazing! Keeping track of the constant rush of texts, WhatsApp messages and emails has become *your* homework! Keep it up. Checking these messages will keep you updated with information about schedules, homework and assignments.

It's unbelievable to see how much our teachers and students have accomplished despite computer glitches, Internet issues and shortages of devices! When I visit the Zoom classes I see children reading, writing, learning math, discussing current events, doing science experiments, enjoying Library Story Time, and even participating in PE and art. Several classes have even gone on "virtual" field trips. It feels like school. All in all, we've settled into a routine, Baruch Hashem.

Encourage your child to be as independent as possible during class time. Backpacks should still be in regular use. Having books, writing supplies and other materials in one place saves a tremendous amount of time before, during and after class. Check and refresh supplies regularly. (This may include paper and ink for the printer, too.)

You've probably noticed that teachers have not lowered their standards because of this shift. Homework and classwork that are assigned are expected to be completed and returned. Remember, don't ask, "Do you have homework today?" Instead say, "Show me your homework." It's important for us all to maintain our routines. Make it part of your routine to praise your children for their hard work and perseverance! They're doing great! And you are too!

-Rabbi David Miller

## PRE1 NEWS-KODESH

Rabbi Shasho's Pre 1 boys are still learning strong. We are almost finished the Keriah Neima reading Sefer and the boys are reading really big words. We try to come up with creative and fun ways of learning with bingo and pictures to go along with Parasha. We are making the most of our distance learning and the boys are doing an excellent job keeping to the schedule. Keep up the great work! May we merit to once again join together in our classrooms and continue to grow! Amen!

-Rabbi Shasho



## PRE1 NEWS-GENERAL STUDIES

Who said Zoom learning is "distance learning"? They clearly haven't been in the Pre1 Boys classroom at Tashbar! If anything, we've gotten closer. Dance parties at recess, frequent visits by siblings, naming stuffed animals, it's all happening in real time!! Lest you might think that we might not be covering the same amount of ground, the boys have plenty of work to show you otherwise!

For English and Language Arts we are beginning to write full **paragraphs!** You read that right, paragraphs! We're still in the early stages, but these boys sure do work hard! They are reading short stories each and every night and answering brief comprehension paragraphs as well. Our literature unit has given us opportunities to explain what a patriot is, what resources are the most valuable in terms of surviving, etc. The boys have made some very inspiring projects, especially the one entitled "Patriots of Tashbar." Oh yeah, don't forget to stop by for our exercise

In math, the boys are "building" their number awareness and addition skills one tower design at a time! We're literally bonding with numbers! Don't forget about numbers Bingo, the game where the students get to take Mr. Sullivan's money! Unbelievable!

Can't wait to see all of you!

-Mr. Sullivan

## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE NEWS-KODESH

Last week in Chumash we learned how Hashem commanded Noach, his family and all the creatures to leave the teyva after the mabul. The mifarshim tell us that Hashem told Noach to leave the boat but Noach didn't want to. We know that Noach didn't have the most relaxing time on the boat. Actually, on the contrary, he was very busy day and night feeding all the animals and cleaning up after them. One time Noach came to feed the lion a little too late, the lion was very mad at him and wacked him so hard that Noach was limping for the rest of his life! If so why didn't Noach want to leave the teyva? Noach said to Hashem-I know that my children will not be perfect and sin again, if you will bring another flood I will have to go back to the boat anyway. Hashem brought a rainbow and promised never to bring another flood.

We also discussed the story of Rebbi Akiva and his 24,000 students, and Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai who lived with his son in a cave for 13 years. The boys really enjoyed the stories we discussed on Zoom לבדוד לג בעומר. This week and next week we are learning all about שבועות and מתן תורה! Looking forward!

-Rabbi Iskhakov

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE NEWS-KODESH

A little peek at our zoom classroom:

We try to make our classroom look as real as possible. That's why Rebbe likes to host all our Zoom sessions from school! Sometimes we even use the classroom board. We are managing to learn quite a bit. We are happy to announce that we are very few pesukim away from finishing Parashat Toledot! We are even trying to figure out the logistics for a sizoom (siyum through Zoom). Then we have our regular class work where we do Beur Tefila, dikduk, writing, rashi, halacha and parasha! The boys are learning beautifully and participate enthusiastically BH. All of it while we pray fervently that Hashem should grant us to come back to our beloved "real" classroom soon!

-Rabbi Amar

## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE NEWS-GENERAL STUDIES

First grade is working very hard and having fun in the Zoom classroom. Every day we listen to a new book and work on our listening and comprehension skills. Along with working on our reading and math skills, we took a virtual field trip to a California dairy farm. While visiting we learned all about where our milk comes from and how it is processed. It was a very fun field trip minus the smell. We hope to go on many more virtual field trips before the year is over. Keep up the great work!

-Mrs. Goldstein

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE NEWS-GENERAL STUDIES

WOW, is what I have to say! It has been an amazing and challenging last few weeks-with all the Corona news and getting to know Zoom! B"H! I can definitely say that Hashem was with us through this whole ordeal and continues to be! The boys are fabulous! They are resilient, and continue to grow and learn as if they are still in the classroom. B"H!

We are continuing to learn from our Open Court program. We are now about to complete Unit 5 in Reading, Spelling, Vocabulary, and Language. Next week we will begin assessments. We will then begin the final unit, Unit 6. The boys are also continuing with Oral Language and story writing.

In Math, we finished the first book and are in book two! We are reviewing addition and subtraction of double and triple digit numbers before we head back into higher multiplication equations.

The boys are continuing to record the weather on a daily basis to identify a pattern in the weather system. They also enjoyed creating a birdhouse this past week, for a possible habitat for local birds, and as a Mother's Day gift. I hope all the mommies enjoyed it!

Despite the challenges, we continue to cover as much as we can. In addition to our regular classroom learning, the children also receive library time and P.E. once a week. There is still so much more coming so stay tuned!

All the best, for a wonderful rest of the year.

-Mrs. Mizrahi

## 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE NEWS-KODESH

The third grade Talmidim have done an amazing job transitioning to the online learning by keeping up their system going as strong as always. Baruch Hashem we just finished the fifth Perek of Mishnayot Berachot. In Chumash we are up to the exciting part of Birkat Yaakov in Parashat Vayechi. I am proud of my young budding Talmidei Chachamim! Keep it up!

-Rabbi Segan-Kohanim

## 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE NEWS-GENERAL STUDIES

I'm having too much fun with the third grade! The term "distance learning" just doesn't seem to apply to the type of environment these boys have helped generate!

For English and Language Arts, we've been working on tall tales in honor of our reading of "Johnny Appleseed". We've learned songs about Paul Bunyan and his big blue ox Babe, as well as Shorty Smalls (who was actually very tall). As this newsletter is being published, boys will be turning in their final drafts, something you won't want to miss! Call a 3rd grade family friend to hear about extraordinary people in our students' lives!

In Math, we've been converting with measurements in weight and capacity. Quick, how many quarts in a gallon? How many pints in a quart?

As always, News on the Run is keeping our boys up-to-date on current events, and our tall tales have introduced key concepts of how "The West" was settled, and the obstacles pioneers had to overcome.

Can't wait to see all of you!

-Mr. Sullivan

## APPRECIATION...FROM OUR INBOX!

Wow!!! Amazing!!!!

Honestly, Tashbar has done the best in virtual learning! We are so impressed by the amount our kids are learning and thriving!!!

We are so blessed to have such an amazing Sephardi school for our children!!!

Thank you for all your hard work!!

Unreal!!!! Wow! Wish I could give my thanks to all those involved! Kol hakavod to all those involved in creating such a wonderful package. My children were thrilled to see this!!!

Thank you! Our school warms my heart!! So touched!!

The things you guys are doing are amazing!!! Unheard of in any other school!!!!

Thank you so much!

You are constantly going above and beyond for the kids.

Thank you for the new Kosher tablets for our boys, thank you for the Tashbar lag baomer extravaganza that is planned, and thank you for the wonderful deliveries to each child!!!

Really appreciate it. Really over and above any expectations!

## PTA UPDATES

Teacher Appreciation Week was this past week and we can't express enough our appreciation for all the staff's extra care and time going into changing the entire curriculum and adapting so quickly to this new way of learning. They are practicing so much love, patience and attentiveness every day with all our children. Every student was given creative range to express their appreciation during the week. The PTA provided a template questionnaire that the students could fill out to answer what they love most about their teacher, what they remember most about their class etc. Hopefully this highlighted many teachers' amazing qualities and made them feel extra special. On Thursday, we asked students to create a card, note, voice message, video or anything else of their choice to email, mail, or message to their teacher. In addition, all teachers received a gift certificate to enjoy a lunch on the PTA! We hope we were able to give back some of the love that they continuously show our children.

Mrs. Sara David

Mrs. Aviva Asaf

## TASHBAR LAG BAOMER EXTRAVAGANZA 5780

Lag Baomer is a highlight of the school year at Tashbar every single year and this year was no different! Nothing can stop us!! On Tuesday, we had our first ever Lag Baomer Extravaganza via Zoom!

The night before our extravaganza, our extracurricular director, Morah Abady, together with a dedicated team of drivers, dropped off individually wrapped packets for each student with a S'mores kit and a Bingo board.

On Tuesday, our program began with introductory words of inspiration from Rabbi Abady followed by an inspirational and meaningful speech from our guest speaker, Rabbi Ari Bensoussan. Next up we had a concert recorded exclusively for Tashbar by hit singer, Uri Davidi!!! Uri Davidi sang some of our favorite songs, including Tefila Sheli, the soundtrack for our last year's banquet video. It was a hit! Of course we had to watch our banquet video too! What wonderful memories! We ended off with an exciting and interactive Bingo game! Congratulations to our Bingo winners-Eliyahu and Aharon Farzadfar, Moshe and Yosef Sakhai, Orel Dayan, Moshe Hadjyan, Menashe Moran, Elisha Lahiji, Yaakov Moshe Panahi, Moshe Chaim Boukris, Ariel Shadaeei, Nerya Maman and David Zvi Refua! Congratulations! Your prizes are on the way...

Thank you to Morah Abady and all those who pitched in to make our extravaganza a smashing success!

