

## TASHBAR SEPHARDIC YESHIVA KETANA

Candle Lighting: 5:04

Shabbat Ends: 6:02/6:36

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

פרשת בא

## MESSAGE FROM THE MENAHEL



Dear Parents,

Imagine the scene.

The Jewish people have been stuck in Egypt for 210 years, suffering in slavery. Finally the redeemer comes, performs all the מצוות, and the day of their redemption is drawing near. But wait! They didn't have the זכויות to get out, so they were given two mitzvot- פסח-דם and מילה-דם-both extremely difficult.

The מדרש tells us that the ברית מילה was extremely challenging for many men, who almost refused to do it, even though it would mean being left behind in מצרים. But the קרבן פסח was the hardest of all. Not only was it dangerous, but it was a real sacrifice. We know from a מדרש by סוף ים קריעת ים סוף that בני ישראל also worshipped Egyptian false gods in מצרים. They were told to slaughter the very gods that they had once worshipped, making a statement that the only source of power is in the hands of the העולם והיה.

While we might think that idolatry has mostly disappeared, our בעלי מוסר explain that we all have our own idols that we worship. R' Wolbe writes that we all have priorities. Health, money, family, and happiness are some of the most common ones. But where does Hashem fit in? R' Wolbe says that Hashem must be at the top. If not, whatever comes above Him is our עבודה זרה that we are worshipping. Once all is said and done, we are עובדי השם first and foremost, for it is due to His kindness that we are all alive and that we have all those other gifts.

Let's not lose sight of this top priority. Let's talk about it openly with our children. And let us live our lives in sync with רצון ה' as best as we can!

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Moshe Abady

## MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL STUDIES DIRECTOR



### Even Teachers Are Students

One of our Schoolwide Learner Outcomes is to create lifelong learners. We want to ensure that Tashbar graduates have the necessary skills not just to learn successfully in high school but also the desire to continue learning for life.

We practice what we teach! General Studies teachers are constantly researching and learning about new innovations in the field of education. Throughout the first semester we had several opportunities for our staff to participate in professional development. These programs are intended to give the faculty the opportunity to evaluate what and how our students learn and what we can do to improve our educational program.

Dr. Elyse Sullivan, an educational consultant and a professor in CSUN, has been training our staff in "Writers Workshop," a writing program for students developed by Lucy Calkins of Teachers College at Columbia University. I spent a week at Columbia University in the summer learning about this program to increase our students' fluency in writing. Dr. Sullivan meets with teachers to assist them as they implement the program in the classroom.

Some of our teachers are teaching a STEM curriculum designed by CIJE (Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education). Their mentor, Dr. Katherine Owour, is a regular visitor at our school. This week she observed an engineering project in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The students designed and built bridges using only 100 wooden popsicle sticks and glue and then tested their strength by observing how many text books they could hold before crashing. (Ten books was the max!)

Our fourth and fifth graders are using a program called Eureka Math. Dr. Adrianna Glazener from Catapult Learning provides ongoing training for our teachers. Dr. Glazener meets with teachers one-on-one, observes lessons in class and then debriefs with the teacher and me to discuss the program.

Our teachers all agree. The most important thing that we can instill in our students (and in ourselves) is the commitment to being a lifelong learner!

-Rabbi David Miller

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Chodesh Tov!! It's been a busy week here at Tashbar!! On Monday we enjoyed our monthly Rosh Chodesh Sing Along with Morah Dani and her guitar. We sang Rosh Chodesh songs, Tu B'shvat songs and Berachot songs!

On Tuesday, we all enjoyed our biweekly music class with Morah Chaya Shapiro. The children dressed up as Moshe Rabbeinu, had a great time acting out some of the makkot and danced around with much excitement!

This week our preschool classes had our annual Abba's night! It was a big hit!! Thank you Abbas for coming out and joining us! The memories of this special quality time with your child will surely last a lifetime!

Rabbanit Mizrachi says the month שבט stands for בשורות טובות!  
May this month be filled with Besurot Tovot for all of Klal Yisrael!

-Morah Chaya Motamedi



## 4<sup>th</sup> GRADE NEWS-KODESH

The 4th grade talmidei chachamim are doing very well in all areas! In Chumash, we are in middle of פרשת וארא and have started the very exciting section of the עשר מצוות!

In משניות we have already covered the first three פרקים and are well into the 4th פרק.

We recently started a ביאור תפילה curriculum. Each day we cover the meaning of a piece of the תפילה. We have already finished ברכת השחר, שמע and we are in the middle of תפילת עמידה now.

Looking forward to a very productive second semester!

-Rabbi Segan-Kohanim



## 4<sup>th</sup> GRADE NEWS-GENERAL STUDIES

As we return to school from a rejuvenating Winter Break, we are delving right back into our studies with much new material to cover! Our reading in the Open Court text has led us to a keener understanding of the history of medicine. Several stories in the unit "From Mystery to Medicine" have allowed us to explore different aspects of doctoring, both in nonfiction and fiction. Because the students have showed such interest in the background of medicine and the individuals that discovered and contributed to its advancement, we have crossed over from reading stories to studying a more in-depth booklet called "Searching for Cures". This foray into the study of germs, bacteria, infectious diseases and their cures, as well as the men and women who made vaccines and remedies possible, has led to a unit in Science. Our motivated boys have created detailed posters in pairs, based on the short chapters from "Searching for Cures". They have enjoyed capturing the essential information from the booklet, illustrating and documenting the facts on a poster, and presenting their findings orally to their classmates.

Writer's Workshop is a program in which students can write freely, allowing them to become budding authors with limited restrictions. The boys will be recording in their composition books (which they will soon be receiving!) what we refer to as "small moments", short narratives based on events in their own lives. The goal is to then take something from these brief accounts and use it as a springboard to develop a fiction story. We are learning a sense of confidence in these boys about plot elements and characterization, utilizing that information on story structure to truly write creatively!

Math has taken us from place value and rounding numbers to learning formulas to compute area and perimeter. We began with basic calculations for solving simple measurement problems involving rectangles. The boys have now progressed to more complex multi-step word problems in which they calculate a figure's dimensions. They are challenged to figure out measurements of a rectangle's length and width when not all dimensions are given. Drawing pictures and diagrams helps to visualize the problem and aid in the solution. All the boys are determined to solve these problems, and they work relentlessly in pairs or groups until they are successful! It instills pride and a sense of confidence in these boys when they can correctly solve difficult problems.

There is much to look forward to as the year progresses. Since surprises are always fun, I will not disclose future projects, activities, and assignments. New topics and units for each academic subject are sure to keep the boys motivated and excited about school, as they anticipate what is coming next!

-Mrs. Palatt

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 17<sup>th</sup>-Legal Holiday  
Boys, Sunday Schedule**

## MAFTIR READERS

**Moshe Yehonatan Arfacohen  
Aharon Farzadfar  
Meir Gabaie  
Moshe Lahiji  
Yosef Chaim Mahgerefteh  
Yosef Sakhai  
Benyamin Valdez  
Yosef Yaghoubi**

## LUNCH MENU

**Monday**-Roast chicken, green rice, salad  
**Tuesday**-Lasagna, salad  
**Wednesday**-Kabob, rice, salad  
**Thursday**-Spaghetti with meat sauce, salad  
**Friday**-Pizza, salad

## PARASHA TREAT!

This week's Parasha treat was jewelry!  
Ask your child to tell you more...

Thank you to our 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys for the  
parasha treat suggestion this week!

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Pre1**-Natan Ouaknine

**1<sup>st</sup>**-Daniel Kohanpour, Moshe Farzam

**2<sup>nd</sup>**-Nachman Ben Yehuda, Yehoshua Moran

**3<sup>rd</sup>**- Moshe Sakhai

**4<sup>th</sup>**- David Zvi Refua, Yaakov Dozetas

**5<sup>th</sup>**-Eli Sabbagh

**6<sup>th</sup>**-Elchanan Shamounpour

**7<sup>th</sup>**-Yaron Vahedy

**8<sup>th</sup>**-Dan Haroonian

## PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

### Off to the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant...

We are planning a field trip for 6<sup>th</sup> graders to visit the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant in late February. This is the city's oldest and largest wastewater treatment facility. The field trip will complement the earth science curriculum that they study in class. We need drivers and chaperones! This will count towards your Parent Volunteer Hours!

If you are able to help (even if you do not have a 6<sup>th</sup> grader), please contact me at [rdmiller@tashbarsyk.com](mailto:rdmiller@tashbarsyk.com). Thanks!



Dear Parents, עמו"ש

An acquaintance asked Rav Gamliel Rabinovich, a renowned *Mekubal* in *Yerushalayim*, for a ברכה on behalf of an ailing relative. Part of his response was to tell the family to have the children (and adults) make ברכות out loud because “ברכות bring ברכות”.

Each year, there is a community ברכות program where the children can claim a prize in different stores after making five ברכות out loud each day for a week. The obvious goal is to have the children learn the importance of ברכות and to accustom themselves to making ברכות out loud, enunciating each word. As in all facets of chinuch, the greatest impact on a child is when the mitzvah or middah permeates the atmosphere. To this end, we are imploring all parents to help create this atmosphere at home. This “atmosphere” can be created by doing the following:

- Make ברכות out loud.
- Have your children answer אמן to **your** ברכות in addition to your answering אמן to their ברכות.
- When possible, make a ברכה אחרונה out loud. On שבת sing the benching with your children

By creating a “ברכות atmosphere” in your home, Hashem will אי"ה send His ברכות to you and your family.

Please email [outloudbrachos@gmail.com](mailto:outloudbrachos@gmail.com) for any questions regarding the program.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Moshe Abady  
Menahel