

## TASHBAR SEPHARDIC YESHIVA KETANA

Candle Lighting: 4:43

Shabbat Ends: 5:44/6:15

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

פרשת ויחי

## MESSAGE FROM THE MENAHEL



Dear Parents,

Please enjoy this beautiful message from Rabbi Yissachar Frand.

In this week's Parasha, the beracha given to Yehuda reads- "יהודה אתה יודוך אחיך"-Yehuda- your brothers will praise you. This is the simple translation of the pasuk, that the word יודוך comes from להודות, meaning to thank or to give honor.

However, the Daat Zekeinim m'baalei HaTosfot bring an alternative interpretation of these words. They say that the beracha of Yaakov was that "All Jews will be called after your name" — i.e. Yehudim from Yehuda.

As we all know, this is true in many languages. The name for Jew in German, which unfortunately was rubbed in our faces, is Jud- from Judah. The name 'Yid', is from Yehuda. The name 'Jew' is from Judah, as well.

The question, however, is: why? What is it about the name Yehuda, and the nature of this name, that it should be chosen to define what the essence of a Jew is for all eternity?

If we look in Parashat Vayetze when the shevatim were born, the pasuk says 'ותהר עוד ותלד בן ותאמר הפעם אודה את ה' על כן קראה שמו יהודה

Rashi asks, "What does Leah mean, 'הפעם אודה את ה' -'this time let me praise Hashem'?" He explains that she received more than her "fair" allotment of sons. If the twelve shevatim were destined to descend from four imahot, based on an equal share basis, each mother would have had 3 sons. Leah, who was already the mother of Reuven, Shimon, and Levi said that with the birth of Yehuda, "I now have more than my share."

The Chidushei HaRim says that the statement, "I have taken more than my share," sums up the Jewish attitude to life. "I have more than I deserve" is the essence of what a Jew is supposed to be. That is why we are called by the name Yehuda.

Esav said ויש לי הרבה. That means there is always more to have. The philosophy of Yaakov is ויש לי הכל have everything. If one has everything, there is nothing more to have. This is the Jewish philosophy- I have more than I deserve; I don't deserve even this. That is why we are called by the name Yehuda.

May we merit to raise our children with the understanding that everything they've been given in life is a gift from Hashem. Children who grow to be true יהודים-living with a constant appreciation of everything they have!

Shabbat Shalom!  
Rabbi Moshe Abady

Mazal Tov to the Farzam family on the birth of a baby boy!  
Mazal Tov to the Baez family on the birth of a baby girl!

## MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL STUDIES DIRECTOR



### Finals or Finale?

Next week our junior high students will take their first semester final exams. Students often assume that the sole purpose of finals is to show off the knowledge they have stored up over the semester. The test may include questions about key facts and concepts, but much of the final exam will provide a format for the students to apply what they recall. Reviewing the students' ability to synthesize what was taught over the course of several months gives the teacher a better assessment of their academic growth.

Preparation is an integral part of this process. Teachers spend time in class reviewing ideas and clarifying concepts. They encourage their students to ask questions and make sure they have all necessary materials to study.

Students receive study guides to make their preparation at home more efficient. This is not meant to be a list of questions and answers to memorize. The purpose of the guide is to *guide* students through their review. Study guides lead students through the major points that will appear on the test. Using a study guide helps students focus on the key elements that were learned.

How can parents help? Pacing is often a challenge. Look at the exam schedule and help your child decide which exams they need more time to study for and which exams require less. Map out a plan. Remind them to bring their materials home and help them set up a time to study. Previously graded tests can be great study tools!

Rereading notes should not be the focus. Ask your child to write down some questions (based on the notes or study guide) that they think may be on the exam and then have them write the answers. Encourage your child to study with a partner so they can quiz each other and discuss the information. Flash cards are great for self-testing. Use them for vocabulary definitions, math and science formulas and important dates in history.

Remember, a final is not a stress test! Think of it as a finale!

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

The past two weeks we have been learning 'All About Me' and 'Mitzvot we do with our Bodies'. It's wonderful to see how our Morot have been incorporating these themes into their centers with fun and exciting activities. Our Kindergarten classes worked on an All About Me books with Morah Sara B., and learned all about a בית יהודי with Morah Leah Jaeger.

In Nursery and Geshher our cuties are learning about their body parts and the different mitzvot they can do with their bodies. We read the book 'All About Us' by Dina Rosenfeld. You can check out this great book from our Tashbar Library! Our Geshher class enjoyed playing with puzzles of their own faces. It was so cute to see how excited they were to recognize themselves in the puzzle pieces!

In conjunction with עשרה בטבת all the classes learned the importance of doing mitzvot and working on our אהבת ישראל so we can see the בית המקדש be rebuilt בימינו! Come check out our טבת hallway bulletin boards.

חזק חזק ונתחזק we finished חומש בראשית and our kindergarten classes baked mini cupcakes for their completion of the חומש!

Next week we will be learning all about WINTER! We are so excited for snow, mittens, scarves, boots and hot cocoa! Looking forward!!

-Morah Chaya Motamedi

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

Kita Bet is diving right back into learning after our fun filled Chanukah! We are enthusiastically learning new Chumash skills every day. We have passed the "novice" level and are now up to Level 2-almost becoming experts!!!! In addition, the past few weeks we have been learning an important life lesson, our new refrain is "if you have nothing good to say, say nothing." In Parasha the girls are enthralled as they travel back in time to the story of Yosef and his brothers in Mitzrayim. Ask them all about it! May we continue seeing nachat from our amazing Kita Bet!

Shabbat Shalom!

-Morah Tehilla Shirken

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

In second grade we continue to learn new things. We are reading stories from our Open Court Kindness Unit. We have read fiction and nonfiction stories where characters show kindness to one another or to nature. In Math, we learned that multiplication involves equal groups and we know how to find the answers to multiplication problems by skip counting. We also know all the parts of a friendly letter: the heading, greeting, body, closing and signature. For our book report project for this month, we will be writing a letter to the author of our book! Looking forward to continued learning and growth!

- Mrs. Verastegui

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

1<sup>st</sup>-Odelia Gidianian

2<sup>nd</sup>-Shaindel Rivka Harrison

3<sup>rd</sup>-Eden Masjedi, Chana Talia Askarinam

4<sup>th</sup>-Hodaia Benlulu

6<sup>th</sup>-Tehilla Motamedi

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>**-Mid-Winter Vacation

**January 27<sup>th</sup>**-First Day of Second Semester

## LUNCH MENU

**Monday**-Baked ziti, salad

**Tuesday**-Roast chicken, red rice with green beans, salad

**Wednesday**-Chicken burger, roasted potatoes, soup, salad

**Thursday**-Red stew, rice, salad

**Friday**-Pizza, salad

## PARASHA TREAT!

This week's parasha treat was sticky hands...

Ask your child to tell you why!

## ELEMENTARY GIRLS PROGRAM-ASARA B'TEVET

This week we had a Chodesh Tevet program. In preparation for Asarah B'tevet, the girls sat around in a circle and sang songs of longing for the Bet Hamikdash. The feeling of achdut, and inspiration echoed through our mini concert. Delicious edible brick chocolate chip cookie squares were given out to enjoy and the monthly program was introduced! Throughout the month the girls will fill out bricks of actions to build the bet hamikdash. Increasing ahavat yisrael, longing for the geulah, and recognizing Hashem in everything, are some of the ways we could bring moshiach closer! Tashbar will help bring the GEULA!!!

-Morah Abady

## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES...



## Tevet Program!



This Tuesday on Asara B'tevet, the girls did not receive tickets for their excellent ברכת המזון; rather, they said ברכת המזון just to make Hashem so proud of them, and it was the most beautiful ברכת המזון of the year! Kol Hakavod!

## HELP YOUR SCHOOL!

**AmazonSmile is now available on the Amazon app for Android (coming soon to iOS)! Upgrade your Amazon app to include AmazonSmile and search for Tashbar Sephardic Yeshiva Ketana so that 0.5% of your purchases of eligible products will be donated to help our school!**

Tashbar Sephardic Yeshiva Ketana is enrolled in the Box Tops for Education program! You can start collecting and submitting Box Tops at any time.

The school's ID number is 9683158. Box Tops are easier to submit than ever before! Parents can download the Box Tops app on their phones and scan eligible shopping receipts and the school will receive the profits!