

## 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 I have a lot. That means there is always more to have. The philosophy of Yaakov is ויש לי הכל I 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 the 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 Gesher 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 Gesher 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 בראשית חומש and our kindergarten classes baked mini cupcakes for their completion of the חומש!

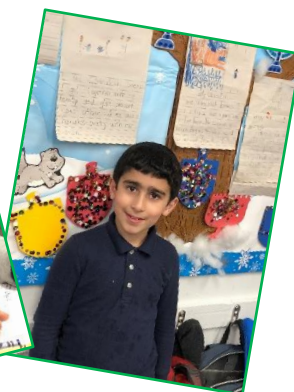
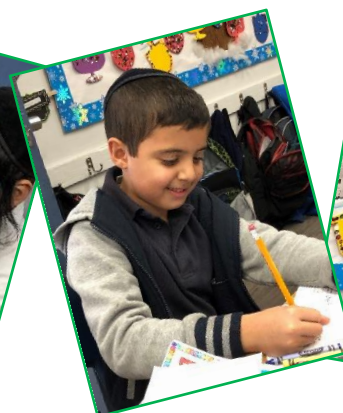
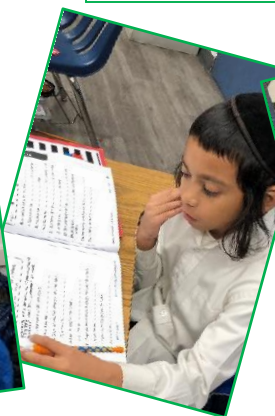
Next week we will be learning all about WINTER! We are so excited for snow, mittens, scarves, boots and hot cocoa! Looking forward!!

-Morah Chaya Motamedi

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

Our classroom is a powerhouse of Torah and Tefila Baruch Hashem! We are well on our way to finishing our second parasha of the year. We already finished Vayera and we are almost towards the end of Chaye Sara (with multiple Chazarot, by the way). The boys are not only memorizing translations but also learning actual skills-identifying prefixes, suffixes and shorashim (amazing for second grade!). You may be asking yourselves how do we get these boys to learn so much? Well, first of all, these boys are super excited about learning in general! Literally begging for more and more pesukim to learn! And it certainly helps that we have an amazing program in place in our classroom. We have made our own currency, only for second grade, and the boys get cash for learning (isn't that the best ever? You learn and you get paid for it!) which the boys get to spend in our second grade superstore. This is just one out of many exciting things that happen in our classroom. Tashbar Second Grade Boys-it doesn't get better than this!

-Rabbi Amar



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

The Second Grade Boys continue to progress in all areas! Some of the topics they have covered the past couple of months are:

**English-** The boys have been writing in their Caption Booklets. The love to write captions for pictures. They have also written various stories, which go into their writing binders. Aside from writing, the boys have also learned how to use commas properly, elaborate sentences, use capitalization, time and order words, use quotation marks, underline titles, and the structure of a letter.

**Math -** The boys completed Unit 2 and are now learning multiplication. Math sprints are done daily as a warm up prior to beginning the concept of the day.

**Spelling/Vocabulary -** We have learned the short vowel a sounds and base word families, short vowel e with CVC & CVCC spellings, short i sound, short o and u sounds, final en, in, on, homophones and homographs, as well as vocabulary words of the week.

**Reading-** The boys are completing U2 L7 this week in their Open Court Reading Program. The Open Court program includes skills in Spelling, Vocabulary, Reading Fluency, Reading Comprehension, Language Usage, and Writers Craft as well!

**Social Studies -** We are in the process of finally completing our Family Tree. It took a while to collect all the necessary information, but it is coming to a conclusion, B"H.

What a wonderful group of students I have! B"H! I look forward to continued success!

-Mrs. Mizrahi



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**1<sup>st</sup>**-Yair Dozetas, Yaakov Nachman Noubaharestan

**2<sup>nd</sup>**-Moshe Hadjyan

**3<sup>rd</sup>**-Elisha Lahiji

**4<sup>th</sup>**-Aharon Ben Yehuda

**5<sup>th</sup>**-Avraham Cavalier

**6<sup>th</sup>**-Malkiel Shlomo Abady

**7<sup>th</sup>**-Eliyahu Shans

**8<sup>th</sup>**-Yehuda Gidanian

## 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

## MAFTIR READERS

**Meir Gabaie**

**Aharon Farzadfar**

**David Zvi Refua**

**Moshe Sakhai**

**Elchanan Shamounpour**

**Eliyahu Yaghoubi**

## PARASHA TREAT!

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

Ask your child to tell you why!

## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES...



Rabbi Abady's presentation to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade on the Torah perspective on evolution and the age of the universe.