



# Daf Kesher

October 28, 2011  
פרשת נח/ראש חודש

ל' תשרי תשע"ב  
Candle Lighting: 5:39

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**Message From Our Menahel**



In this week's Parsha, Noach sends the dove out three times to determine if the flood waters had subsided. Why the dove? Rav Menachem Ben Zion Zacks writes in his commentary Menachem Tzion that the Jewish people are compared to a dove. The verse in Tehillim (68:14) states in reference to the Jewish people in exile and under persecution: "כנפי יונה נחפה בכסף." - "you will be like the wings of a dove that is coated with silver." Says the Gemara in Berachot (53a), just like the dove is saved through its wings, so too the Jewish people are saved through their fulfillment of Mitzvot.

The Midrash further states on the verse in Tehillim (55:7) ואמר מי יתן לי אבר כיונה אעופה ואשכנה - "If I only had the wing of a dove, I would fly off and find rest." Why the comparison to the dove? Because when all other species of birds become tired they rest on a stone or a tree, but when the dove is tired from flying, it jumps with one of its wings and flies with one of its wings. All of the other nations exist on two wings, their homeland and their religion/culture. When they lose one wing, their national homeland, they also lose their religion/culture. However, the Jewish people are different. When they lose one wing, when they lose their homeland, they are still sustained by their second wing, their religion/culture - namely the Torah, which gives the Jewish people eternal life.

Through their learning at Yeshiva Har Torah, our students understand that we are like doves whose wings represent our Torah and our homeland, Eretz Yisrael. We recognize that the two are inseparable and see through Medinat Yisrael, the modern State of

Israel, the beginning of the fulfillment of our dream to have both wings reunited and flourishing. While I realize that it is a complex issue, whom among us was not moved by the return home of Gilad Shalit after over five years in captivity? The students and staff of our Yeshiva felt that our prayers were answered after we participated with thousands of other yeshiva students in an international day of prayer on Gilad's behalf just a few days before the announcement of his return. I could not help but feel blessed to be part of the Jewish people - ומי כעמך ישראל גוי אחד בארץ - "And who is like your nation of Israel, one nation on earth."

I am proud of the important life lessons our students are learning; lessons which will prepare them to perpetuate the future of our people.

Shabbat Shalom.

**Yeshiva Har Torah Open House**  
**Monday, November 7, 2011**  
**7:30PM**

**Please spread the word about our upcoming Open House!**

We are looking for parents to assist with our Open House this coming Monday and Tuesday and help beautify the building this Wednesday and Thursday.

We are also looking for parents to help prepare our Open House packets on Thursday or Friday.

Please email Morah Vivian Rosenberg (Vrosenberg@hartorah.org) or Yael Greenberger (Ygreenberger@hartorah.org) if you or anyone you know is available to help. Any time that you can help would be greatly appreciated!

## New Drop-Off Policy

For legal and safety reasons, it is very important that parents sign-in their children when bringing them late to school. You must walk your child into the school office and sign them in, where your child will then receive a late note and be sent to class.

## YHT Sick Policy

With the onset of the cold and flu season, please be aware that the YHT policy is that any child who goes home from school with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater must stay home fever free for a full 24 hours before returning to classes. Please remind your children that the best defenses against communicable diseases are to cover their coughs and sneezes, and to maintain good hand washing behavior.

Please call the school nurse at (347) 594-2418 if you have any questions.

## Junior High Elective Program Begins At YHT!!!!

With tremendous enthusiasm and excitement, our junior high students began their new elective program this past Thursday. With creative scheduling we were able to carve out a 45 minute elective slot in the middle of every Thursday to allow all 6th, 7th and 8th graders to explore new areas of interest, broaden their knowledge and skills, have the opportunity to highlight their unique, special talents and, at the same time, have a lot of fun!! The school year has been divided into 3 semesters (of 8 weeks each) to allow for maximum participation and the ability to experience more than one elective. Scattered around the school building and under the guidance of skilled instructors and facilitators (some from our own faculty and others brought in from outside), our students participated in such activities as: Lego Robotics, Cooking, Chess, Megilla Cantillation, Dance, Stock Market, Organizational Skills Workshop, Drama, E2K, Studio Art and Chidon HaTanach.

## Learning Hebrew with Morah Zahava (2M & 2J)

It is beautiful to watch how the students of second grade are excited to learn. Their faces light up as they learn all the new skills that will prepare them for Torah learning. This week we began learning פרשת בראשית. The students were very excited to listen to the CD and hear the בעל קורא from the פסוקים. We learned to appreciate and thank Hashem for the beautiful world he created on each day of the creation.

The students recognize words in Hebrew according to gender (Male and Female), and know to differentiate between single and plural. We play games where students match word pairs of male/female and individual/plural. The students also learned the meaning of action words and nouns so that they are able to incorporate their body movements into the meaning of the word. (For example, when I say the word jump, they jump).

We are about to start learning that Hebrew words can be divided into three parts like a puzzle. The 3 parts include: prefix, root and suffix. The students are starting to identify the roots of words.

We hope to grow in Torah leaning and we look forward to a fabulous year together.

## CLASS 5F HAS THE "WRITE" STUFF

The students in class 5F have been busily working on completing their first writing piece of the school year. The children were immersed in the authors' craft of writing about a topic that is meaningful and interesting to them and creating a fictional story based on that subject. The Writing Fundamentals unit that the children have been studying offered selections from great authors including Ralph Fletcher, Patricia Polacco, Douglas Wood and Cynthia Rylant to facilitate the development of voice, use of descriptive language, as well writing for a specific audience and purpose. Using the elements of the balanced literacy program, Mrs. Fenton has been modeling the

identification of the same features, as well as practicing active reading strategies during a read-a-loud of the story, *The Half-a-Moon Inn* by Paul Fleischmann and the children practice the skills in their writing journals.

Each child generated an "interest inventory" from which they selected the topic for their story. The children peer edit each other's work repeatedly, commenting on content as well as conventions, and many revisions take place before a piece is ready to be published. These are the story lines created by the children:

Yaelle Akhavan: My story is about a girl named Amanda who loves gymnastics and manages to convince her mother to allow her to take lessons.

Jonathan Benham: I am writing a story about super heroes named Jacob and Jonathan who find off invading androids.

Ariella Khalili: My story is about a girl named Kayla who doesn't know how to have fun but eventually learns how to enjoy herself.

Joshua Kass: The story I am writing is about a boy named Jacob who wants to become a baseball player.

Leah Goykadosh: The story I am writing is about twins, Jenna and Simon who wish that their rubber ducks could come to life.

Jacob Ebrahimi: I am writing a story about a wrestling tag-team called the Super Smash 2 that is trying to get ranked in the top 10.

Chaim Normatov: My story is about a boy who is drafted by the NBA and plays for the Miami Heat alongside LeBron James.

Shlomo Sarkany: The story I am writing is about the Evandars family who live in a computer and a virus is causing trouble for them.

Liviah Sobel: I am writing a story about two girls, Jaden and Clara who think they have nothing in common but then realize they do! It's music and it leads them to become "BFF's".

Yehoshua Auerbach: The story I am writing is about a boy named Jack who loves television.

Amanda Shirazi: My story is about 2 girls, Miya and Amanda who save another girl that is trapped in a mirror, and then become princesses.

Shimshon Balakhani: I am writing about a very smart boy named Sam who wants to become an astronaut.

Isaac Babaev: My story is about a boy named Isaac Chandler who wants to be drafted into the NBA.

Leah Marcus: I am writing a story about 2 girls, Rachel and Rebecca who love gymnastics.

Yoni Cohen: The story I am writing is about a boy named Tommy who didn't know how to play basketball well until one day when he went to the park.

Ariella Kohanim: My story is about a girl named Ashley who attends a ball, meets a prince and lives happily ever after.

Aeton Rabanipour: I am writing about a boy named Max who plays hockey for his school's team that goes on to win the championship.

Ethan Lavi: The story I am writing is about a boy named Max who doesn't know how to play basketball and gets great coaching from a man named Alex.

Aharon Cohen: My story is about a boy named Josh who struggles with math but eventually realizes he knows a lot about it, even more than his older brother.

## A Beautiful Hallel Ushers In Mar Cheshvan

It is a beautiful custom here in Yeshiva Har Torah for our fourth and fifth graders to come to the Beit Midrash every Rosh Chodesh to recite Hallel together. On Rosh Chodesh MarCheshvan, Hallel was capably led by fifth grader Shimson Balakhani. The Beit Midrash was filled with the sweet voices of the students reciting Hallel with great feeling. A very appropriate and meaningful D'var Torah were prepared and delivered by fifth grader Liviah Sobel. Rabbi Silverman addressed the students and praised them for their exceptional "kavanah" and enthusiasm for tefillah. Special thanks to Rabbi Rosenthal for preparing the 5th grade boys so well in Nusach HaTefillah and to Morah Stern for organizing the D'var Torah. We look forward to next Rosh Chodesh!!

## YHT'S PETTING ZOO

In honor of Parshat Noach we had a visit from Noach's animals. A petting zoo came to YHT and our Nursery - 2nd grades enjoyed petting many animals. We saw goats, sheep, llamas, large snakes and rabbits. We also enjoyed a hay ride. A great time was had by all. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this event!

## Mazal Tov!

Mazal Tov to...

Lisa & Stuart Appel on the birth of a granddaughter. Special mazal tov to Eliana(6) on becoming an aunt.

Tehilla & Noam Ben-Ari on the birth of a son.

Benjamin & Sarah Pomper on the birth of a daughter, Kayla.

Jules & Udi Winokur on the birth of a baby boy. Special mazal tov to big sister Emily (7) and big brother Alex (2).

Mitzvah cards can be sent "In Memory" or "In Honor" of any occasion. To send a mitzvah card please contact Mrs. Lisa Appel at LisaRobin@verizon.net.

## Yeshiva Har Torah Parnas HaYom

Today's learning is sponsored by Menachem and Vivian Rosenberg, in memory of the yehrtzeit of his mother, Lila Rosenberg, לאה חוה בת חיים יעקב.

*To sponsor learning at Yeshiva Har Torah for a simcha, yahrtzeit or any occasion, please call Beth at extension 2416 or email [BRifkin@hartorah.org](mailto:BRifkin@hartorah.org)*

## Important Notices / Reminders:

- October 28-29 - Eighth Grade Yachad Shabbaton
- November 2 - Yeshiva High School Information Night (8th Grade Parents) 7:00PM
- November 3 - Mishmar Begins
- November 6 - Daylight Saving Time Ends
- November 7 - Yeshiva Har Torah Open House at 7:30PM
- November 8 - No Sessions, JEP Professional Development Day (Election Day)
- November 10 - Regular sessions, no busing
- Picture Days:
  - November 4 - Eighth Grade picture day (Please note change in date)
  - November 15 - Picture day N-2 (Please note change in date)
  - November 16 - Picture Day 3-7 (Please note change in date)

## PTA Update

### Magazine Drive Update

All magazine orders have been submitted to QSP. However, it is still not too late to submit your order. Now is the time to order new magazines or renew existing ones, and at the same time feel good about helping the YHT-PTA. Please send in your magazine orders as soon as possible. All checks should be made out to "YHT-PTA". Contact Debby Spigel at 516-482-7997 for additional information.

### Chocolate Bar Sale

The Chocolate Bar Sale has begun and will run through Friday, November 11, 2011. On October 10, students in Grades 1- 8 received a box containing 50 bars of chocolate to sell on behalf of the PTA. Each bar of chocolate costs \$1.00. Additional boxes of chocolate are available in the school office. If you have a child in Nursery or

Kindergarten and want to participate or if you would like to sell additional box(es) of chocolate, then please instruct your child to go to the school office to pick one up. If you have finished selling your box(es) please don't forget to send in the money and your prize choice.

Thank you for your help in making this event a success. Thank you to all the parents who came to help make the distribution of the chocolate run smoothly. Thank you to Linda Alweiss, April Bernstein, Barabara Friedman, Bonnie Hazan, Julie Kalker, Rachel Levine, Judy Sobel, and Udi Winokur.

### **YHT School Directory Has Arrived**

Every year the PTA prints a school directory for its members. This year is no different.

The directory, which contains class lists and an alphabetical family listing, was distributed on October 11 to all PTA dues paying families. If you have not paid the PTA dues, then you did not receive a directory. If you are interested in joining the PTA, dues are \$40 for the year or \$250 to become a lifetime member.

### **Stop and Shop Update**

Link Your Stop and Shop Shopping Card to Earn Money for Yeshiva Har Torah!

Every time you go to the store you COULD be earning "FREE MONEY" for YHT.

However, if you haven't linked your card, we are missing out. As of Oct 27, 9 cards have been registered to benefit YHT. Surely, there are more Stop and Shop cardholders out there that could register their card to benefit YHT. Please be sure to register your card & those of your friends and family to benefit YHT.

Here's what you need to do:

Log on to [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) to register on-line

**OR**

Dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone -Yeshiva Har Torah ID #06001

## Eighth Grade Visits The Jewish Parker Geriatric Institute

Dear 8th Grade Parents,

Our 8th grade will be participating in an Intergenerational Program in coordination with the Long Island Jewish Parker Geriatric Institute. We will be visiting with the residents and participating in planned recreational activities under the guidance of the professional staff there.

We are excited to be part of this program. We have found it to be beneficial for both students and residents and we look forward to a productive and educational experience for all.

Please note the scheduled dates for visits and complete the permission slip below. Students will be transported to and from Parker Geriatric Institute by school bus.

SCHEDULED VISITS - Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 A. M.:

November 30, December 14, January 18, February 22, March 21, April 18, May 16

Please return the permission slip to your child's rebbe or mechanechet.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Gary Menchel  
Menahel

Rabbi Yisrael Silverman  
Assistant Principal

I give permission for my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in the Intergenerational Program at LIJ Parker Geriatric Institute on the dates listed above.

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_

## Book Fair

It is that time of year again. The school book fair will once again take place during parent teacher conferences.

**Sunday November 20th & Tuesday November 22nd**

In order for it to be a success, the PTA needs your help. Please let us know if any of these times are convenient for you to help. Even an hour will be helpful!

Wednesday November 16th 9AM-12PM for setting up  
Thursday November 17th 9AM-3PM children preview and wish list day  
Sunday November 20th 9AM-2PM book sales  
Tuesday November 22nd 2PM-11PM book sales and pack up

Thank you!

Barbara Friedman  
516-565-5083  
imaof6@gmail.com

Leah Fish  
516-485-1001  
lshanfel@yahoo.com

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**GIRLS Currently in Nursery - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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**FOR MORE INFO: 718-755-1299**



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**For info and to sign up:**

**Rachel Lunzer: 516-316-8690**

**Sarah Katz: 516-458-7321**

**[batmitzvahdance@gmail.com](mailto:batmitzvahdance@gmail.com)**

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