

# שבת קודש פרשת שמות



## B'CHADREI CHADORIM

י"ז טבת תשע"ד

December 20, 2013

הדלקת נרות: 4:13

Volume 1, Issue 7

Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar, Dean

Mrs. Rivkah Isaacs, Early Childhood Director

Mrs. Odelia Schlisser, General Studies Principal

### “Weather” or Not, Here We Come!

“Wow! That’s all I can say.” “That was sooo nice!” “Thanks so much

Rabbi and Mrs. Lazar and family spent in the Passaic community.

After dessert, the Lazars headed over to a hartzigeh Oneg Shab-



for being here with us.” “My kids loved it.” ....

These were just some of the many comments the Cheder received following the Shabbos

The cold Shabbos Extravaganza began with an elegant and delicious Friday night “Break-fast” Seudah at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Gedzelman.

bos hosted by Rabbi and Mrs. Menachem Wiederman. Well attended by both fathers and sons (and even

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#### CALENDAR

**Wednesday  
January 1st**

Staff In-Service Day  
Legal Holiday  
12:30 p.m. dismissal

**Thursday  
January 2nd**

Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat  
“They Did it for Us”  
Women’s Shiur  
by Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar  
10:30 a.m. at Prima Pizza

**Motzei Shabbos  
January 4th**

Elementary Boys’  
Grandfather-Father-Son  
Melaveh Malkah  
(details to follow)

**Sunday  
January 5th**

Post Melaveh Malkah  
10:00 a.m. start

**CHEDER**

CLIFTON CHEDER  
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CLIFTON, NJ 07012  
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## “Weather” or Not, Here We Come! (continued from page 1)

some mothers who braved the cold) the mood was uplifting. Rabbi Lazar shared a beautiful דבר תורה about the connection between ברכה's יהודה and the meaning of שבת. After playing, eating and more eating (Mrs. Wiederman's cholent is delicious!), the fathers and sons joined together in spirited singing topped off with even a little dancing. Everyone seemed to have a great time and the boys didn't want to go home.

Before שחרית the snow began to fall. But that did not stop many Cheder families from joining the main Minyan at The Ahavas where many of our Rebbeim and parents received כבודים and Rabbi Lazar delivered the דרשה before מוסף.

The questions were thought provoking: Were the messages that יעקב gave to each of his sons all ברכות? Some sound quite harsh to be a blessing.

When יצחק was ready to give ברכות to his son, why did he want to give the ברכה to עשו? Doesn't עשו represent so much of what is evil?

In שמואל, why was שאול adamant about killing דוד? Doesn't דוד represent so much of what is special?

The answer offered was that יעקב was helping his sons understand who they were, what were their character traits, what made each of them unique.

Providing a child with this all important and foundational knowledge is the greatest ברכה possible.

יצחק saw in עשו the chance of becoming a דוד - and שאול saw in דוד the making of an עשו. They shared the same spiritual DNA

and had similar potentials. History is 20/20 that each chose to use their potential differently, with עשו becoming a רשע and דוד the נעים זמירות ישראל who will be our link to משיח.

The D'rasha ended with a powerful story from the great בני יששכר, underscoring the uniqueness of each of our children.

Getting to know our children as individuals is our obligation. Helping them to see who they are is itself the greatest ברכה.

Davening was followed by a lovely hot Kiddush sponsored by a number of Cheder families spearheaded by Mrs. Tova Wellikoff. It gave a chance for the Lazars to meet many outside families who are getting a taste of the current Cheder leadership.

Mr. and Mrs. Menachem Zarkhin hosted the Lazars for an enjoyable סעודה; the seemingly endless courses were just outdone by the many places the families found in common, from Sunnyvale, CA to Yeshivos and Kiruv programs in the former Soviet Union.

Following מנחה Rabbi Lazar joined Rabbi and Mrs. Yitzzy Kagan for סעודה שלישית where Rabbi Lazar got to tell the Kagan boys stories of their Los Angeles Zaidy, Rabbi Shlomo Goldberg. Mrs. Kagan even remembered Purim with Rabbi Lazar dressed as מרדכי in the King's clothes, being paraded by "המון" through the Los Angeles streets on a giant white horse!

Following מעריב where Rabbi Lazar finally got a chance to meet his namesake, "the other" Rabbi Yonah Lazar in Passaic, he

returned to his hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Tzvi Bogachkov where the accommodations and efforts to make his family comfortable were in place from ערב שבת through הבדלה.

By this point the snow was coming down harder and harder, the roads were slippery and it looked like Avos U'banim needed to be cancelled. Lo and behold, The Agudah Shul began to fill up with fathers and sons who begin their week with תורה "weather or not."

The 100 boys and their fathers were treated to an amazing story about Rav Chaim Avrohom Klein זצ"ל who was an American Rav for over 60 years. He spent the final years of his life right here in Passaic in his daughter's home at 290 Passaic Avenue—even serving as the סליחות חזן at the Tifereth at age 97!

Rabbi Klein was נפטר in a leap year, with his לוי' being on פורים קטן. Without the possibility of saying the highly deserved praises at his הספד, those gathered, including the Rosh Yeshiva, Rav Meir Stern שליט"א, said תהילים instead.

5 months later, after visiting Rabbi Klein's daughter's house in Passaic his grandson was given some of his Zayde's ספרים. When flipping through a קיצור שו"ע out fell a handwritten צוואה - a spiritual will! Believe it or not the will read in part (translated): "And even though I know that you wish to honor me with praises please do not do so. I am not deserving. It is sufficient to say תהילים instead!"

In case the boys or their fathers wondered how Rabbi Lazar

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# The Many Faces Of Early Childhood



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## Teaching “Smart” = Not “Bored”

The days of boring classroom lessons are over. Interesting lessons and advanced technology keep students thirsty for learning in Mr. Fogel's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Mr. Fogel is a highly educated teacher with an eye to the future. He recognizes that Smart Boards have many advantages in the classroom. Our students enjoy his interactive Smart Board Math and Science lessons because the subjects come alive. In today's fast paced media age, this fun and engaging tool makes school work that much more sophisticated and interesting to our students..

Mr. Fogel's lessons expand far beyond the scope of the textbooks. This teaching style pro-

vides a means of learning for all students, including students with different learning styles. Tactical learners can use the screen and learn by touching and marking at the board, audio learners can have a discussion and visual learners can observe the teaching on the board. Also, students of every level show increased motivation and enjoy the interaction that the technology offers. Now they are actively involved in lessons, and feel more confident about presenting information.

All forms of media – videos, photographs, graphs, maps, illustrations, games, etc. – can be used on the board, making it a dynamic teaching tool. This greatly

increases the range of content used for instruction and the presentation of new information.

Mr. Fogel is also able to gauge student progress and understanding in real time and he tailors the lessons accordingly. Most students learn by actually doing and physically interacting with a medium, so Smart Boards give our students the opportunity to explore and manipulate the varied concepts of a lesson.

Mr. Fogel's use of technology in the classroom is propelling the Clifton Cheder into a more advanced mode of classroom learning, and is the face of tomorrow's education.

## Putting a Parsha in Perspective

We are so proud of Rabbi Lane and his second grade talmidim who completed Parshas Lech Lecha!

In order to reach this milestone the talmidim learned 126 pesukim. Being that they always prepare the pesukim during work session at least 4 times, learning them in shiur at least 2 times, doing chazarah on them at least 4 times (besides their homework review) the talmidim were amazed to realize that they have learned a staggering 1260 pesukim each!!

However, Rabbi Lane still wanted to “pull it all together” by putting the entire Parshas Lech Lecha in perspective. The talmidim were given handouts (plus a

color poster on the wall) summarizing in a word or short phrase the main topic of each of the 6 perakim in the Parsha, and the



main points within each perek. Secondly, the talmidim were given 26 events that happened in the Parsha and were asked to

write the perek in which the events occurred. Thirdly, the talmidim were given a written summary of the entire Parsha, with key words missing for them to fill out. Last but not least, was the class' "GCG" or "Great Chumash Game". The talmidim were divided into teams, and with great intensity (but also with an eye on their middos) had a very exciting game reviewing the Parsha.

WOW! No wonder they are becoming such great talmidei chachomin. Of course a delicious siyum was served to celebrate this great accomplishment.

## We Love Books!

By Morah Rivkah Isaacs, Early Childhood Director

Our Jewish Book Fair was a great success, both for our parents and for our school. Our parents were able to provide their children with quality literature to nurture their yiddishkeit and help develop their already wonderful middos. **Concurrently, we earned close to \$400 worth of books for our classroom libraries.**

Additionally, parents kindly donated books to the classroom room libraries, a tremendous Yasher Ko'ach to them.

I wish you could have seen the joy on our teachers' faces as they chose which books that they wanted to add to their classroom libraries. These books will surely enhance your child's curriculum.

It was a win-win situation for everyone involved.

ryone involved.

Thank you to all, especially to Mrs. Carol Gonsler for organizing and coordinating the event.



## Parent Teacher Partnership

The two greatest influences in a child's socialization process are the home and the school he/she attends. The professional research on this topic supports this view, and specifies that it is in these venues that a child gains information and knowledge, lessons regarding right and wrong, and how to interact with others. More importantly, a child learns invaluable lessons about themselves, their strengths and challenges, and (hopefully) how to overcome obstacles.

It is for this reason that the school and teachers your child has, need to be of high caliber, integrity, and have the proper hashkofa. Other than parents

and peers, teachers are the most important figures that children are influenced by, and model their behaviors after.

It is best when the expectations that parents have of their child are in synch or compliment those of the school. In order to achieve this goal, it is important that parents and teachers communicate with one another. A child will recognize the different yet supportive role that his parents and educators play in his life when the joint message is one of care and concern for the whole child.

We at the Clifton Cheder believe that a child's academic success requires a partnership

relationship between parents and teachers. We appreciate the efforts on the part of both parents and teachers alike that trekked out in the snow to meet and touch base regarding the children's progress at our recent Parent Teacher Conference Evening. Baruch Hashem the system worked with great efficiency, and the energy in the school pulsed with positivity and productivity.

We hope that you will continue to communicate with us, as we plan to do with you. We thank you for entrusting us with your precious children and we look forward to our continued partnership.

## Thank You To..

- the Plym family for sponsoring a day of learning on Tuesday, December 17th, in honor of Rabbi Lazar for all his dedication and devotion to the תלמידים and staff
- The Weitzman family for donating a book to the Toddler class
- The Frenkel family for donating books to the Kindergarten and Pre1A Boys classes
- The Shapiro Family for donating a book to the Pre1A Girls class
- The Wiederman Family for donating a book to the Kindergarten class



## A Warm Welcome

Welcome to our newest student who has recently joined our Cheder: Tzvi Rapp (4th grade).



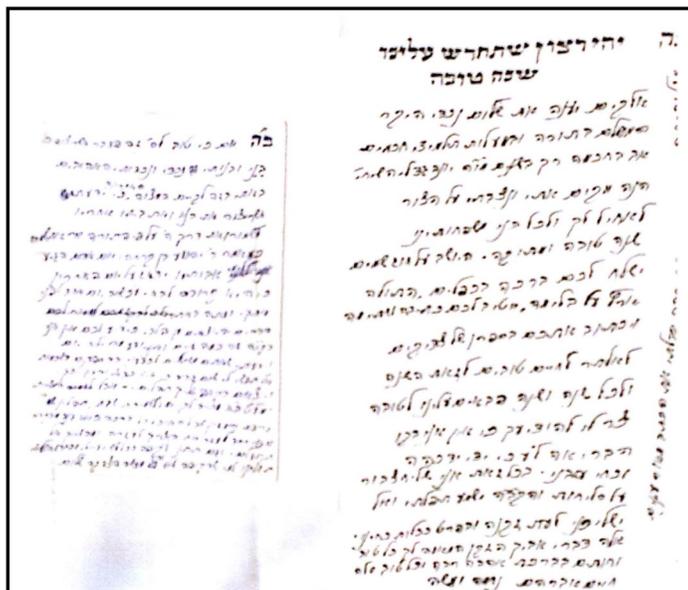
## Mazel Tov To..

- Morah Rebecca Magid (Toddler Teacher) on the birth of a baby girl
- Mr. and Mrs. Marc Berenson on being honored as Avodas Hakodesh Awardees at P.T.I.'s 18th Annual Dinner

“Weather” or Not, Here We Come! (continued from page 2)

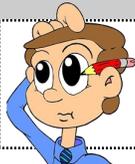
knew the accuracy of this story, he surprised them by pulling out a copy of the card sized צוואה, as Rabbi Klein זצ"ל was the father of Rabbi Lazar's father's mother. There were even 3 boys at the learning program who are great-grandchildren of this special man!

It's true that the weather was not sunny and clear and not even cool and brisk, but as the Lazars carefully drove back to Monsey on the unplowed highways, the “warmth of the Passaic community” made it all worthwhile.



Sheilas Hashavua:

There is a מצוה to review each פרשה twice along with the תרגום (and if possible רש"י). How is this hinted to in this week's פרשה?



Reminder: All correct entries will be entered into a monthly raffle. Additionally, all correct entries will be entered into a twice yearly grand raffle.

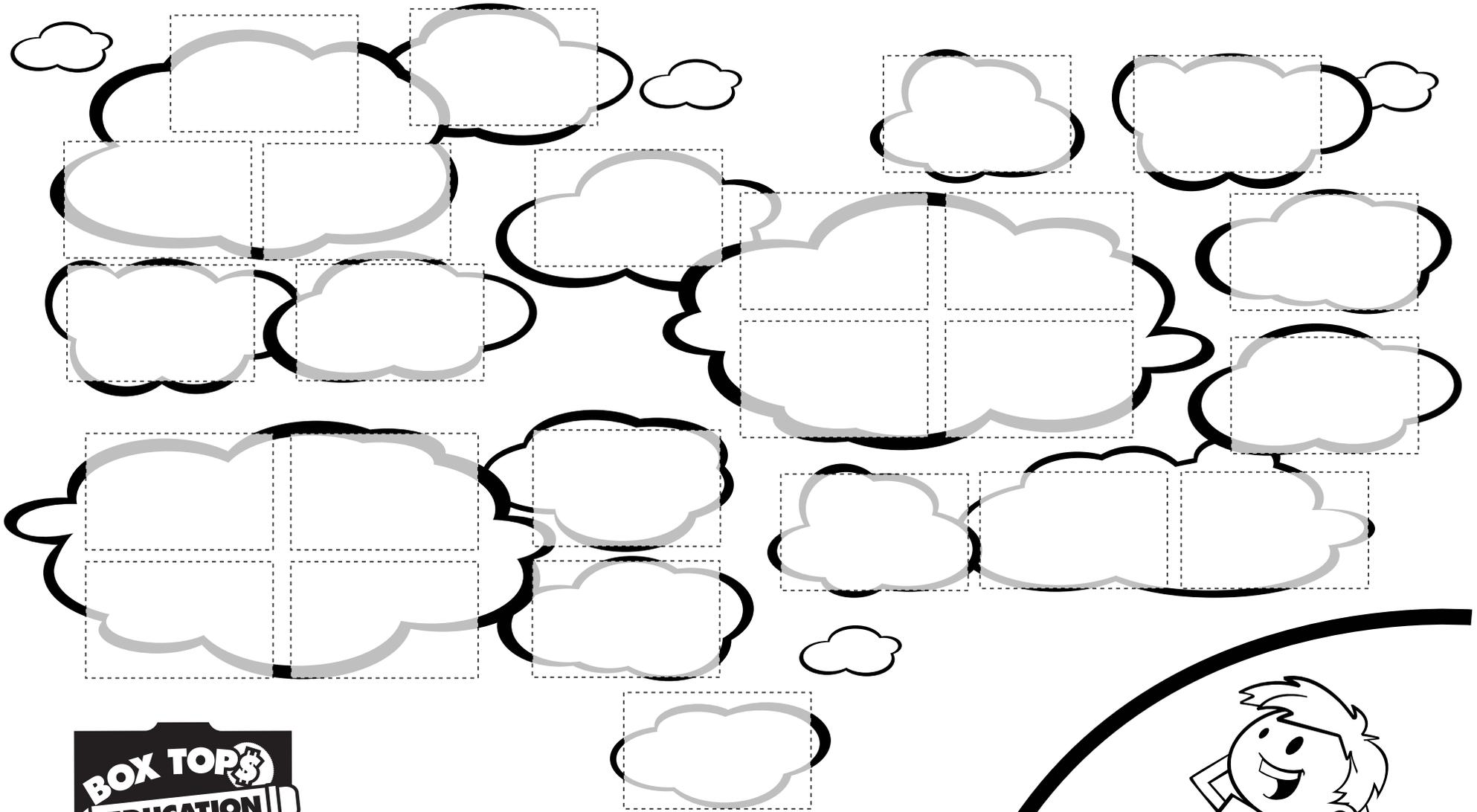
Last issue's question and answer:

Q: The long, the short, the black, the white, the his, the hers, and the theirs. Which seven days in the Jewish calendar does the above phrase refer to? In your answer, explain each part of the phrase.

A: Fast days: The long: 17 Tamuz, the longest daytime fast. The short: 10 Tamuz, the shortest fast. The black: 9 Av, day of mourning when we sit in the dark. The white: Yom Kippur, when we wear white and cover the Aron Kodesh and Sifrei Torah with white. The his: 3 Tishrei, Tzom Gedalia. The hers: 13 Adar, Ta'anis Esther. The theirs: 14 Nissan, Ta'anis Bechorim.

Sheilas Hashavua form with fields for Name, Rebbe, Grade, Answer, and Assistance given by. Includes a reminder: 'Reminder! You may receive assistance from anyone who is not a student or a staff member at the Cheder!'.

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