

שבת קודש פרשת בשלח שבת שירה



B'CHADREI CHADORIM

ט' שבט תשע"ד

January 10, 2014

הדלקת נרות: 4:30

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Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar, Dean

Mrs. Rivkah Isaacs, Early Childhood Director

Mrs. Odelia Schlisser, General Studies Principal

Learning Comes Alive at Clifton Cheder

Together with serious and mastery of challenging סוגיות Rabbi Salzman, our masterful 6th grade Rebbe always seems to find a creative way to bring Torah learning alive.

In the class' studying of משניות שבת they found themselves learning about מלאכת אורג—

weaving, something not commonly done in todays day and age. But תורה must be mastered so Rabbi Salzman assisted the boys in a hands on les-

son of how to perform this מלאכה. From the fact that the תלמידים even spent recess time figuring this complex מלאכה out—it was proof



again that when students experience what they are learning there is no limit to how far their interest can take them. Of course the boys were happy that

they live post the Industrial revolution and nowadays weaving is done via machinery!

In הלכה the boys were studying the laws of

בישול, cooking on שבת, including the complex הלכות of the Halachik differences between

using a כלי or כלי שני, כלי ראשון שלישי.

To demonstrate these details, the boys were presented with a

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CALENDAR

**Wednesday, January 15th
– Monday, January 20th**
Mid Winter Break

**Sunday
January 26th**
Open House
8:00 p.m.

**Motzei Shabbos
February 2nd**
Elementary Boys'
*Grandfather-Father-Son
Learning and
Melaveh Malkah*
at The Adas 8:00 p.m.
(Invitation to follow)

**Sunday
February 3rd**
Post Melaveh Malkah
10:00 a.m. start

CHEDER **חדר**

CLIFTON CHEDER
123 INDUSTRIAL EAST
CLIFTON, NJ 07012
(973) 472-0011

Training in Attachment and Emotional Attunement

On January 1st, when the children were dismissed early, our Early Childhood and General Studies teachers "went to school". The speaker was Miriam

and practices in New Jersey.

She conducted a workshop on Behavioral Issues, their biological bases, and techniques for helping students in the classroom.



She provided training to better understand students' normal developmental processes, and choose activities that encourage and nourish development.

This interactive workshop demonstrated practical activities to implement that are proven to be effective in helping struggling children.

Since her approach to therapy is attachment based theory, she extended the primary attachment role, the parent, to teachers as alternate attachment figures during school hours. A major thrust of the session was for the adult to self regulate his/her emotions and that of mindfulness. This is particularly important considering that children are highly sensitive and reactive to our emotionality. Additionally, she provided techniques to help the child experience affect validation, so they know their concerns are taken seriously.

We all know we need to model healthy coping mechanisms for our children. We all know the importance of validation, yet statistically the average good

parent only manages to be in synch with his child 30-35% of the time.

Sometimes the profoundest of insights are the ones we inherently know, but somehow overlook in the hum drum of our busy daily existence. Let's remember to "gleam and beam" when we greet our child, and communicate how happy we are to see him. When interacting, let's look him in the eye, really look into "the windows of his soul" and respond with connection and compassion. Let's remember how important it is to give him a pat on the back, and say "I like the way you are trying". And when he is upset, let's validate his feelings by responding with an equal level of affect intensity. When we need to discipline, let's avoid generalization (i.e. "You never clean your room"), and allow the child to experience natural consequences without anger (i.e. "It's hard to find things when they aren't put in place"). Let's help our children learn to regulate their own emotions by having the security of our presence and our attentiveness in modeling and co regulating along with them.

At the Cheder we pride ourselves in having an educated staff that engages in continuous training to keep up with the research and new innovative ways to reach our students and educate the *whole child*. We appreciate our partnership with the parents in care giving to the children.

Manela, OTR/L a licensed occupational therapist specializing in attachment theory and regulation in the developing child. Miriam is a graduate of Kean University and currently resides



Ever Student—Every Day

Clifton Cheder Rebbeim were enlightened and enthralled to spend quality time with a noted Mechanech par excellence, Rabbi S. Binyomin Ginsberg שליט"א on their In-Service Day.

Rabbi Ginsberg wears many hats. He is a former Menahel, a much sought after teacher trainer, and acclaimed Chinuch author whose published works include: A Principal's Principles, You Asked: Chinuch Questions and Sensitive Answers, and Today You Will Learn: Preparing and Teaching Masterful Lessons. Rabbi Ginsberg is also the Editor in Chief of an outstanding, cutting edge set of textbooks, entitled The Living Legacy Yahadus Series (with 3 volumes published and Books 4-6 in production) to

Mitzvos in a beautiful, educational and creative fashion.

Rabbi Ginsberg's workshop entitled Every Student-Every Day provided concrete suggestions for how our Rebbeim can help learning come alive and enter the hearts along with the minds of our students.

Discussions about what knowledge every ערהלענע איד (loosely translated as a "good Jew") should have ensued. For example, not every Jew needs to know how to write a מזוזה but every Jew does have to know that a qualified Sofer is needed to do the writing.

Rabbi Ginsberg discussed creative ways of teaching children necessary skills of how to per-



children understand why they perform the מצוות that they do—connecting them—hopefully for a lifetime of שמירת התורה.

Rabbi Ginsberg also brought home the necessity and effectiveness not only of having a clear objective for each lesson (i.e. today we will learn 6 new פסוקים and highlight 14 common words found in them vs. today we are learning more חומש) but of a) sharing the objective with the students at every age level. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly b) the importance of telling the students how they will demonstrate their mastery of the lesson upon completion, (i.e. when we finish the פסוקים you will be asked to list 12 out of the 14 new words and along with your learning partner, test each other on those 12 words with 90% accuracy.)

Both Rabbi Lazar and the Rebbeim came away with refreshed excitement for our Kodesh lessons and חיזוק that Clifton Cheder is currently on the road to doing what we need to do to make learning dynamic and pertinent for our תלמידים.



familiarize Elementary School talmidim with all of the Taryag

form מצוות.

Nevertheless, the main thrust and most important part of his discussion focused on helping

Happy Sh'vat!

This past week we celebrated ראש חודש שבט! At the assembly our nursery children sang about the long winter ahead. We learned that in Eretz Yisroel there is a special tree that grows and lets everyone know that even when it seems like we are still in the midst of winter, spring is on its way. This is the almond tree, the "shekaydiyah" that brightens up Eretz haKodesh with its beautiful and sweet-smelling white and pink flowers. Many of the children remembered learning the Shekaydiyah Song from last year. **We also are pleased to give a huge Yeshar Koach to the Pre1A girls, who put on a play about שבועת המינים.** The play was in Hebrew with English subtitles, so not only did we learn about the names of the minim in English but in Hebrew as well! At the end of the play each child received a wonderful Rosh Chodesh treat,

their own fruit scented bubbles! Thank you Rabbi Lazar!



In the month of שבט, our whole preschool focuses on learning about ברכות, healthy eating

habits and where our food comes from. To support this, *many of our classes will be visiting the bakery!* A special thank you goes out to the Mittel family for once again opening up their hearts and their bakery to many of our preschool classes. Our children will be making חלות and cookies. Yum! We cannot wait.

This month we also had a special Morah for music and rhythm. We sang about the trees, Tu Bshevat and winter! We danced and moved like the wind, the rain and the snow in order to experience winter. Our favorite activity was the shamayim parachute that we filled with "snow"; when we shook it, it "snowed" all over the multi-purpose room!



Science and the Senses

In a multiage learning style, the second and third grade joined together for a lesson on weather cycles. Mrs. Spitzer and Mrs. Goldberg planned this experiential lesson for the children. First the concepts were taught and demonstrated on the board with illustrations. The boys learned about evaporation- condensation and precipitation. Then each boy was able to blow va-



chondria (licorice comfits), Lysosomes (candy lentils). The boys are currently studying the role of each part of the animal cell, and how each contributes to the cell functioning. This educational, tangible treat was enjoyed by all.



por on a mirror and see how the mirror fogged up. Next the boys were divided into groups that contained both second and third graders, and completed a

packet with different questions and activities. Each group examined water in different states, including watching puddles evaporate and touching the condensation that formed on the outside of a glass bucket filled with ice.

In Mrs. Gutstien's fifth grade, the students studied animal cells. The boys created their own models of cells using chocolate brownie cake (the cell), icing (cytoplasm) and jaw breakers (nucleus). The edible cell also had ribosome (sprinkles), vacuoles (jelly beans), Golgi apparatus (sour belts), Endoplasmic Reticulum (sour sticks and Twizzlers), Mito-



Thank You To..

- the Kramer family for dedicating a day of learning on January 2nd, ראש חודש שבט, לזכות רפואה, שלמה for Mordechai Hillel ben Shoshana.
- the Wilk family for dedicating a day of learning on January 5th, ד' שבט, לעלוי נשמת, Yehoshua ben Shlomo ע"ה.
- the Sukenik family for donating a book to Morah Tova's Kindergarten Class in honor of Aryeh's 5th birthday.



Mazel Tov To..

- Rabbi and Mrs. Lane (2nd grade Rebbe) and Yerucham on the engagement of their son/ brother, Shali, to Hindi Hirsch (Lakewood).



Refuah Shleima To..

- Azarya Kramer who tripped during recess and broke his arm.

Learning Comes Alive at Clifton Cheder (continued from page 1)

choice of tea, coffee and hot cocoa with hot cocoa winning hands down. In terms of preparing a drink in a כלי שני, coffee would have been a better choice as milk, coffee and sugar have all been pre-cooked and can be put in a כלי שני. But what is the הלכה with cocoa? The class called Rav Shmuel Dovid Beck, a prominent פוסק in Brooklyn, with the question and he told the boys that cocoa beans undergo a roasting process but not a cooking process. Being that יש בישול אחר צלי, the boys understood that their hot cocoa (or not-so-hot cocoa) can only be made in a כלי שלישי! In addition to learning הלכות בישול the talmidim learned that a Rav is the place to turn in these questionable situations!



Children's Safety



Safety at Clifton Cheder is of utmost importance. Student safety is closely connected to adult supervision. It is for this reason that our Elementary Rebbeim are contracted to be at school at 8:40 a.m., 20 minutes before classes begin at 9:00 a.m. to watch the early arrivals.

Please make sure not to drop off your Elementary school child before 8:40 a.m., unless he is enrolled in the Pre Care Program, as there is no one in the building supervising him.

Thank you for keeping our children safe.



Sheilas Hashavua:
 Can you list at least 3 English words that trace their origin to לשון הקודש? (Example: fruit from פירות)



Last issue's question and answer:

Q: There is a מצוה to review each week's פרשה twice along with the תרגום (and if possible רש"י too).

How is this hinted to in this week's פרשה?

A: The opening words, "ואלה שמות" are ראשי תיבות for

וחייב אדם לקרא הפרשה שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום

or "ואלה שמות בני ישראל":

ואדם אשר לומד הסדר שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום

בקול נעים ישיר יחיה שנים רבות ארוכים לעולם



Sheilas Hashavua

Name: _____

Rebbe: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____

Assistance given by:

Reminder! You may receive assistance from anyone who is not a student or a staff member at the Cheder!



ט' שבט תשע"ד / January 10, 2014

Dear Parents שיחיי,

We hope this letter finds you well, safe, healthy and staying warm!

Boruch HaShem, we are happy to report that our Cheder is having an exceptional year.

Thanks to the highly professional leadership of Mrs. Isaacs and Mrs. Schlisser together with the hard work of our teachers and office staff, we can say with confidence that the Cheder is on track toward fulfilling its mission providing high-quality chinuch, where skills and enthusiasm go hand in hand. Our children are striving to learn to their fullest, mastering a rigorous academic curriculum in an atmosphere that fosters social and emotional well-being.

Nevertheless, there are many families in our community – including our friends and neighbors - who are looking for an alternative option for their children but don't even know the Cheder exists. Other families may simply be apprehensive to give the Cheder serious consideration because of the numerous transitions the school has experienced over the past couple of years.

We have been working diligently to restore the shine of the Cheder as a place where parents are treated as partners, teachers care about every child, and students are held to a high standard of academic achievement and responsible behavior. As a parent you should be very proud of your school. Please feel free to ask for an appointment with our department heads should you want to discuss something specific.

The Cheder will be holding its open house on Sunday, January 26th at 8:00 p.m.

This is a great chance to tell our story and share what the Cheder has to offer with the broader Passaic/Clifton community. The Cheder is a small school where each one of our children can be given the attention they deserve. At the same time, we need to reach out to our friends and neighbors and encourage them to come to the open house to enable our school to grow.

Let them see for themselves that the Cheder is an excellent option for discerning parents.

Please take the time to call or E-mail our Open House Chairlady, Mrs. Lara Gedzelman if you have a specific suggestion or can offer your assistance in any way. She can be reached at 347-886-3803 or gedzelmans@gmail.com. If each parent could ensure that ONE new family attend the Open House we can א"י significantly increase enrollment.

As an added incentive to bring families to the Open House, we are raffling off one free 2014-15 registration fee (\$500 value). When a prospective family comes to the event we will ask them which current Cheder family referred them. The family they mention will be awarded one ticket into raffle. The more families you bring the more chances to win!

With appreciation,

Rabbi Lazar and the Board of Directors



Come and meet our
NEW ADMINISTRATION

at our

Open House

and discover firsthand why

CLIFTON CHEDER

has become an excellent choice
for the discerning parent

Sunday, January 26th

כ"ה שבט תשע"ד 8:00 pm

CHEDER **חדר**

123 Industrial East, Clifton, New Jersey

CLIFTON CHEDER WHERE...

- ✓ ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS PURSUED
- ✓ THE WHOLE CHILD IS NURTURED
- ✓ HIGH BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS ARE THE NORM
- ✓ EVERY CHILD CAN BELONG
- ✓ STAFF IS DYNAMIC AND DEDICATED
- ✓ LEARNING COMES ALIVE
- ✓ INTELLIGENT THINKERS ARE DEVELOPED
- ✓ CHILDREN LOVE TO COME TO SCHOOL
- ✓ PARENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS ARE PARTNERS
- ✓ OUR GRADUATES HAVE GONE ON TO TOP MESIVTOS
- ✓ SKILLS AND CHESHEK GO HAND IN HAND

*Over 60 years of combined
chinuch experience!*

Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar [DEAN]

Mrs. Rivkah Isaacs [EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR]

Mrs. Odellia Schlisser [GENERAL STUDIES PRINCIPAL]



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