

Our Cheder's VOICE



CHEDER CHABAD BOY'S DIVISION • PARENT EDITION

בס"ד

ו' טבת

December 30

פרשת ויגש

הדלקת נרות: 4:19

FROM *the* MENAHEL

Dear Parents,

In the first posuk of this week's parshah, Vayigash, we find Yosef in his highest position. Yosef is the leader of the world, and his family, even Yehudah, Patriarch of malchei Yisroel and the progenitor of Moshiach is subservient to Yosef. Yosef modeled a way of living that was the opposite of what Yidden did until then. In contrast to the Avos and the shevatim, Yosef led a public life surrounded by morally bankrupt people.

In contemporary terms, Yosef was a chassidisher Yid living in velt and hecher fun velt simultaneously.

In our lives, there is the silent majority of parents who desire and seek a 'more chassidische' environment for their children. They look around and see an ish mitzri c"v in their son's class, the possibility of boys who may introduce shtus to their child. They consider their child's environment below their standards. Needless to say, this is a painful way to experience our world.

The Rebbe teaches us to live like Yosef, to be a *משביר*, to position our children as promoters. Even introverted students can be influencers in their way. Rather than trying to fit into the loud minority, they learn to be leaders and influencers in the silent majority.

We should ask ourselves, where does my child look for validation, in chassidhiskeit and Yiddishkeit or in gashmiyus and shtus? Is it a pair of shoes, knowledge of professional sports, or showing his friends that he, too, knows about olom hazeh, where he finds validation? Or is it in being kind, knowing his learning, doing the right thing, and responding positively to mean treatment where he finds value and validation? This is our life on the ground. This is our responsibility as parents and mechanchim.

The entire cheder expresses deep thanks to the PTA and class mothers, Mrs. Thaler, Mrs. Setton, Mrs. Gaerman, Mrs. Litvak, Mrs. Frankel, Mrs. Ginzburg, and Mrs. Weingarten for sharing their time and creativity with us and enhancing our celebration of Hey Teves.

Wishing you a good Shabbos,

Rabbi Kaplan

SCHEDULE UPDATES



Monday, January 2, 2023

No transportation all districts
Dismissal at 4:10 for all grades

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

Friday Dismissal

Mishnah Beyodi Test II:

Live until January 8

Happy Birthday!

Yaakov Tzvi Vogel, Moshe Landa

Eliezer Roth

May you have a Shenos Hatzlochah!

TIP
OF
THE
WEEK

Let the school
know when you
plan to be out
of town

Our New Rebbies

With the expansion of Cheder, we are always on the lookout for chassidishe, learned, G-d fearing and talented yungeleit who would consider making the cheder their shlichus.

Throughout the year, we meet with potential rebbies, and following every lead, we ask Hashem to send us mechanchim that are the right fit for Cheder.

After many interviews and meetings with close to 20 yungeleit, we were fortunate to add four melamdin to our staff. That is 28% of our melamdin. After lengthy discussions, a cheder visit, discussions with references, and our own melamdin, they joined the cheder family. The Cheder prides itself in melamdin, who are committed to the success of our talmidim, looking to grow and learn the needs of the Cheder community. We wish our new and seasoned melamdin continued hatzlochoh.

Rabbi Shaw - Kita Beis

The organization and structure that allow for a successful classroom in the younger grades aren't easy to come by. Rabbi Shaw has been matzliach in establishing a great routine and a classroom from which the sound of Torah and tefillah pour out. The chassidishe atmosphere is palpable, and our talmidim are responding well.



Rabbi Weisberg

On short notice, Rabbi Weisberg stepped in to teach our fourth grade. The boys responded beautifully to Rabbi Weisberg's dynamic personality, talent, and scholarship. With a bright and lively kitah, under Rabbi Weisberg's guidance, they are learning and davening beautifully. Additional campaigns are in place to motivate the talmidim to undertake more significant learning achievements, with multiple perakim Mishnayos and many perakim Tanya.



Rabbi Carlebach

The bar mitzva age is a year requiring elevated learning, more outlets for high energy, and guidance in managing the balance between the simchas and seder. Rabbi Carlebach's dedication to high-level learning and his expectations in classroom decorum is having a profound impact on the talmidim. The level of learning and participation continues to grow, and the talmidim's appreciation is growing by the day.

Rabbi Carlebach also includes extracurricular projects to engage the talmidim and help build rapport.



Rabbi Cohen

The heightened importance of learning gemoro independently in the mechinah year, is strongly felt. As our talmidim plan for and think about mesivtah, their thirst for learning gemoro grows.

With our older grades bursting with students, for the first time, we have two tracks, providing a smaller setting to better the reach of our Rebbeim with the students.

Rabbi Cohen's approach and demeanor have proven very effective and we see the fruits of his labor with talmidim more fluent and comfortable with the gemoro.



[Link for Pics](#)

Dismissal

This year, several significant improvements have been made to the dismissal routine.

- 1) A printed list of bus routes and students is on hand for the staff conducting dismissal.
- 2) attendance is taken as students board the busses.
- 3) The playground area has been designated as the waiting area for the students who carpool. This allows the drivers to see them and keeps them safely enclosed, and no one is missed for being behind the building.
- 4) staff rotate for weekend/weekday, first/second dismissals focusing each staff member on their routines and helping them get well-acquainted with the students and bus routes under their supervision.
- 5) On rainy days, our new lunchroom serves as a dismissal area, with students dismissed one bus at a time once the bus arrivals are confirmed.
- 6) A new outdoor sound system and a set of walkie-talkies have been acquired, connecting the staff on the ground with each other and the office staff. Thank you, Rabbi Shaya Margareten, for conceiving and installing the system.

Thanks to all these improvements, dismissal time has been reduced by a third, with all buses out by 4:20 regularly and fewer students missing their ride. Thank you, Rabbi Silverstein, Rabbi Dovid Volfman, and Rabbi Shaya Margareten for your crucial role in dismissal.

New Video Display

The hallway walls received a facelift with a new monitor, which plays and features a constantly changing stream of content geared towards the chassidishkeit of our talmidim.

In addition to announcements and reminders, we try to feature videos in three categories:

- 1) the Rebbe's voice, either singing a niggun or speaking at a farbrengen or Rally.
- 2) Chassidische niggunim that are connected to the present. The niggunim may be part of a music video or an orchestrated Chabad niggun.
- 3) themes connected to the times. Chabad published videos about topics or themes related to the time, i.e., stories about the Rebbe's wedding, the arrest and liberation of the Alter Rebbe, Chanuka live, the story of Hey Teves, and the like.

This added touch has brought a constant stream of chassidishkeit to cheder. Students frequently stop to watch the videos upon arrival or during recess.

Thank You, Minyoners and Parents

Despite inadequate transportation for Seventh and Eighth graders, many talmidim come to minyan daily. The number of participants equals the number of past years.

I want to thank the parents for committing to do whatever it takes to have their son join the minyan at Cheder.

While we don't thank talmidim for coming to seder, we express our appreciation for the effort invested and the beautiful way they daven.

Needless to say, there is something special about davening at Cheder, where the bochurim are the gabboim, chazonim, and baalei Kore. The nice pace and the warm chayus exuded by the talmidim warm the heart.

You are welcome to join us when you have an available morning. We appreciate the participation of parents who join us occasionally, boosting our numbers and adding to the unique aura.



ART LESSONS FOR THE YOUNGER GRADES

★ The interest to provide our talmidim with creative outlets has always been there. However, an opportunity opened up when we recognized the artistic skill and gifted talents of one of our very own Title One instructor, Mrs. E. Jacobs.

★ Last year, Mrs. Jacobs piloted art lessons in two of the younger grades every month, and this year, we have expanded this program to include grades 1-4 bi-weekly.

★ The entire curriculum is beyond the scope of this write-up, but a few details are apropos. Based on age appropriateness and materials available, classes focus on hand-eye coordination, blending colors, and learning to use various mediums to draw. Oil pastels were the most recent addition to the mediums used.

Students also make crafts and, more recently, learned about patterns and made stamps using what they learned about paters as a backdrop for the activity.

Thank you to Mrs. Litvack for encouraging and supporting this effort. We are grateful when we have an opportunity to bring to fruition an idea that has been brewing.

Thank you Mrs. Jacobs, for undertaking this significant project, rotating from class to class, and working with over 100 students, enriching their artistic ability and creative expression.



Peek At The Week

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★ This short week was quite busy in First Grade! We reinforced our reading with the vowel "u" and learned how to identify rhyming words. We are becoming pros at our daily dictation as we are learning to read and write more words and sentences.

In math we learned how to add until twenty using a tens frame. We modeled with playdough and with chocolate lentils to understand the concept.

We completed our week by reading and discussing our News on the Run!

Mrs. Volfman - Grade 1B

It was a great week, observing the boys return to Cheder, after Chanukah, warmed-up and refreshed!! In math, we are learning to do addition with regrouping WITHOUT manipulatives or drawings. Following the steps taught, they are mastering this skill. Chazarah, Chazarah, Chazarah!! There will be a math test on Thursday. We introduced Verbs and Irregular verbs in our unit on parts of speech. Each boy listed ten of his favorite actions and had fun doing a word search finding many verbs. Winter is officially here!! We wrote a poem all about Winter and will be reading a story, "Sneezy the Snowman." Will fill you in next week. Till then, stay warm!! Gutten Shabbos!!

Mrs. Levin - Grade 2B

Welcome back from a rejuvenating Chanukah vacation! I would like to thank the parents for their generous Chanukah gift. This week we started division with double-digit divisors. We will be reviewing this all next week. After that, there will be a test only on division with single and double-digit divisors. Following the test, there will be a review of all the math skills taught this year. There will be a mid-term after the review. All math is cumulative so I find it important to review before we go on to fractions. We completed unit 6 in our Wordly Wise books and had a test. A new writing topic was introduced and we will be working on that for the next month. A big thank you to Chaim Krispine's mother for getting us viable eggs to put into our incubator. A quick peek at the structure of the egg tells us about the chasodim of Hashem. The chalazea- the white cord found in the egg- is there to prevent the yolk from sinking to the bottom. It helps keep the yolk (which is in essence the embryo) from sinking to the bottom and being malformed. Each part of the egg, from the albumin to the 7,000 porous eggshell has a role to play in producing a healthy chick.

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★ Mrs. Trieger - Grade 5