

# ASHREINNEWS

## Shmini



### Menahel's Message "Back to the Future"

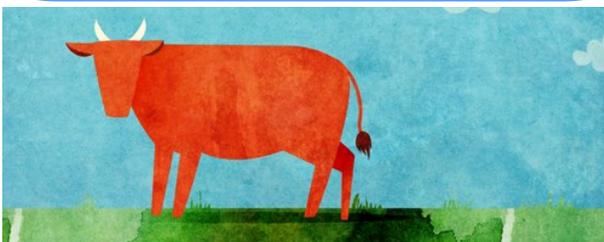
With the passing of Purim and Pesach preparations beginning in earnest, the school year enters its final phases. Second trimester report cards will be issued shortly, and excitement abounds as teachers and administrators redouble their efforts towards ensuring that the final months prove especially productive. With Hashem's help, we will strive to keep students motivated, focused and happy until year's end!

Rav Yoel Schwartz, noted author and Rav of the Nachal Chareidei Israeli military program, suggests that the criteria for kosher animals delineated in Parshas Shemini symbolize the desired balance between the past and future so essential for a healthy present. Kosher animals must be *ma'aleh geirah*- possess multiple stomach chambers that allow for swallowed food to be regurgitated and swallowed again. This process represents the past-recycling the old. Jews, both individuals and institutions, must always remain firmly anchored in the past. But there is a second *siman* required of kosher animals: split hooves. Split hooves make walking easier and thus facilitate more efficient and rapid forward motion. For an animal to be deemed acceptable, both criteria are necessary, because while we must always remain firmly rooted in our past, the past should never paralyze. A Jew must always look ahead, and have the courage to forge forward when prudent.

The incoming month of Nissan is a festive one, generally precluding *tachanun*, eulogies or other somber events. Many explain that the festive tone is rooted solely in the majority of the month hosting the millennia-old events of Pesach and the dedication of the Mishkan. The Arukh HaShulkhan, however, disagrees, postulating that not unlike kosher animals, Nissan in fact balances the past and future. While the earlier portion of the month celebrates Pesach and the Mishkan, the latter portion following Pesach stands on its own merit as the period most likely to usher in the penultimate future event: the arrival of Mashiach, *bimheira b'yameinu*.

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Ari Jacobson



### The Wheels on the Bus...

Mrs. Jennah Schuh: Assistant Principal, General Studies

As ASHAR educators we are constantly looking for ways for our students to connect real-life experiences with instruction and curriculum. To achieve this goal every school trip planned is linked to the topics introduced in class and becomes a multisensory learning experience.

Over the past few weeks, we have been venturing out of the building as we extend units of study to the real-world. Earlier this month, the fifth and sixth-grade classes went to the Liberty Science Center in conjunction with their science curriculum. Since the fifth-grade curriculum focuses on body systems, the Liberty Science Center was a perfect opportunity for students to participate in labs examining communicable diseases. The Liberty Science Center also allowed students hands-on experiences with all aspects of science topics, from optical illusions to demonstrations of how physical exertion generates energy. A highpoint of the trip was the IMAX planetarium where the students were able to take a tour through the night sky with all its features.

Earth science was brought to life this week, as the sixth-grade boys visited Sterling Mines in upstate New Jersey. The zinc mine-turned museum still allows visitors to travel through the tunnels as miners did for over a century. The boys were able to identify rock layers, minerals and geological features using knowledge learned in Mrs. Tencic's classes.

Over the final months of the school year, more classes will go on trips designed to match the curriculum of the particular grade. In many ways, these experiences are the ultimate assessment, since the students need to use all the information from class in order to truly understand and gain from the venture. One major trip in the works planned for the seventh and eighth grades is aimed at building compassion and understanding for people with disabilities while honing social and collaboration skills.

An added benefit of the ASHAR *curriculum extension trips* are the *soft skills* which are developed. Traveling on the bus is like returning to 1995. By adhering to the no-electronics policy, students find themselves talking to their friends, playing games, singing, and sightseeing. Students are rediscovering the world around them by looking out the windows, asking questions and getting excited by noticing sites like the Statue of Liberty and the World Trade Center Tower.

A publication of ASHAR

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**5-8 Yediot Klaliyot Test**  
**Next Week**  
**מי יודע ?**  
**Misparim**

<https://www.ashar.org/yediot>

**מתנת שבת**

**HASHEM'S GIFT TO US**  
 מתנה טובה של יי בנות גזר ו'שבת' ששה

**ותן בנו  
 יצר יצר טוב,  
 לעבדו  
 באמת וביראה  
 ובאהבה**

**BOYS**

# Riddle of the Week

(submit answer in your SMVT sheet for a chance to win a prize)

**Who am I?**

I was a mitzvah this week, I will kill you in the Bais HaMikdosh, I bring out your essence, I work like money and anger.

I am for food, Nowadays I am for phones, I could even be for a sheitel, I have many symbols.

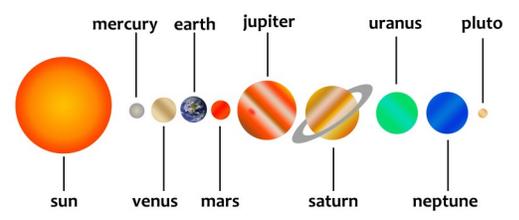
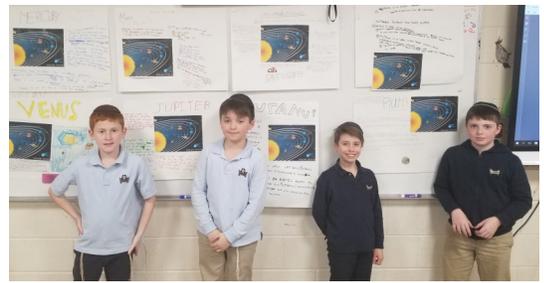
**Last Riddle:**

I was not born, I could not steal, I am named for my source, I was a person.

Answer: Adam HaRishon.

I am not a lien, I am for a korban, I do not give you the title Rabbi, Use all your weight.

Answer: Semicha



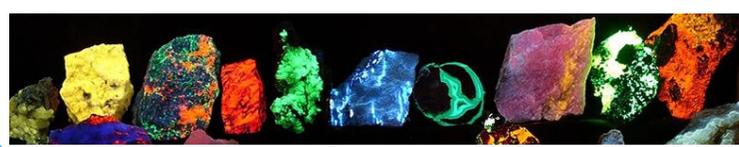
Earth Day unit starts off with a lesson in the solar system. (48)

**BOYS**

## Sterling Mines

In conjunction with their geology unit, 6B visited the historic Sterling Mine in New Jersey and experienced the joy of

**fluorescence!**



## ASHAR STARS



Nava Schechter (4G) donated her hair to Zichron Menachem!



Shoshana Bennett (6G) is preparing for an International Taekwondo this summer

**Do you do something outside of school that you would like to share? Send a picture to the office: [aruderman@ashar.org](mailto:aruderman@ashar.org) (boys are welcome to send things too!)**

**Congratulations to the girls who passed the orange belt test in karate!**



## GIRLS



### 7G Podcasts

In conjunction with their unit on overcoming challenges and disabilities, the seventh grade girls are creating podcasts in ELA class. Each student researched a disability and wrote a research paper on the topic. Next they developed interview questions based on their topic. In groups, the girls are creating podcasts. They are using new applications on their chrome books to create their final podcasts! Stay tuned for a link to the final product!



**3G creates incredible animal habitat dioramas!**

## KJ Poultry

The 8G class visits a poultry plant as part of their Chumash curriculum. Thank you Mr. Meni Bruk for arranging the visit.





**Morah Jackie Borgen**  
on the engagement of your son  
Avi to Abby Rubin!

**Aviva Taibe 6G**  
on your Bat Mitzvah!



Fulfill the mitzvah of  
Ma'os Chitim...look  
for an envelope in  
your child's back-  
pack next week

Thanks to all who registered! Looking forward to a great event!



65<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER

SOLD OUT!

IN SUPPORT OF THE ASHAR JEWISH EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sunday Evening • MARCH 31, 2019 • כ"ד אדר ב' תשע"א

OLD TAPPAN MANOR

137 Orangeburg Road • Old Tappan, New Jersey

COCKTAILS at 7:00PM • DINNER at 8:00PM

# First Grade

# 900

almost there..



Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.



**BOYS**



## WDS Feels the Bite!

The Sharks did it again. Winning against WDS on Sunday 3/24, 47-32 and again last night against MDS, 37-30.

The Sharks, together with Coach Doron Fetman and Coach Josh Friedman have become fierce competitors this JV Season.

Watch out Ramaz we are coming for you...

