



# ASHREINews

וירא



## Menahel's Message

### "Do I Have To?"

In his classic Ruach Chaim commentary to Pirkei Avos (5,2), Rav Chaim of Volozhin observes that when enumerating the ten generations from Noach to Avraham, the Mishna describes the latter as simply 'Avraham', while the very next Mishna refers to the ten *nisyonos* of 'Avraham **Aveinu**'. Rav Chaim suggests that the Mishna's emphasis on Avraham as a father specifically in the context of meeting challenges demonstrates that in matters of *nisayon*- confronting the most difficult of life's challenges- Avraham is truly the father of each and every Jew. By meeting their personal challenges, the *avos* and *imahos* impacted their descendants for posterity.

But what specific traits were instilled? The most obvious answer, of course, is self-sacrifice. Over the millennia, countless Jews of hitherto modest stature have somehow managed to muster the inner strength necessary to make the ultimate sacrifice and offer their lives *al kiddush Hashem* when summoned.

A novel interpretation of the Ran (Derashos Haran, No. 6), however, suggests that Avraham Aveinu's greatest legacy may have been establishing the basis upon which we more truly *live al Kiddush Hashem*:

Rabbeinu Nissim claims that Hashem could not have *demand*ed Avraham's only son, as doing so would have been a blatant violation of G-d's earlier promise of offspring. Rather, offers the Ran, Hashem *request*ed that Avraham place Yitzchak on the altar. This is why He uses the word **נא** "please"- when summoning Avraham:

"קח **נא** את בנך אשר אהבת"

"Please take the son that you love" (see *Sanhedrin* 89b.)

Hashem would not have punished Avraham had he refused to comply. By acquiescing, however, Avraham successfully met his ultimate challenge: to fulfill that clearly *desired* by Hashem despite not being specifically *required*. And it was this ability to fulfill *r'tzon Hashem*, the will of Hashem, in addition to that mandated, that would be incorporated into the very essence of Avraham's biological and spiritual progeny. (cont...)

## Sara's Tent

Mrs. Debby Jacobson, Principal, Girls Division

This week's parsha, פרשת וירא, begins with the encounter between Avraham Avinu and the three *malachim*. In their initial conversation, the *malachim* ask Avraham, ייאהיה שרה אשתך "Where is Sarah your wife?" Avraham responds ייהנה באהליי that Sarah was in her tent. How could it be that the emissaries of Hashem did not know where Sarah was? Why would they ask Avraham something so obvious? In *Bava Metzia* 87a, Rav Yehudah in the name of Rav states that the angels knew that Sarah was in the tent, but brought it to Avraham's attention in order to make her beloved in his eyes.

The Iyun Yaakov explains that the *malachim* wanted to remind Avraham of the deeds that Sarah did through which she merited the three miracles in her "tent," mentioned in *Bereishis Rabbah*. Her Shabbos candles miraculously remained lit from Erev Shabbos to Erev Shabbos. The challah dough in her tent remained fresh from week to week. The cloud of Hashem's Shechina hovered over her tent, always.

The *Bereishis Rabbah* continues by comparing these attributes of Sarah's tent to the holy *Beis HaMikdash* in Yerushalayim. In the *Beis HaMikdash*, a fire always burned on the *mizbeach*. The *Lechem Hapanim*, twelve loaves of bread that were continuously on display, were always fresh and warm. And, just as during her lifetime Sarah's tent was always graced with a Divine cloud, so too was the *Beis HaMikdash*.

What is the connection between the tent of Sarah and the *Beis HaMikdash*? What is the *Bereishis Rabbah* trying to teach us? When faced with the task of building a home, Hashem chose to use Sarah's home as a blueprint. The reason being that she understood that while building her home she could create holiness from the most mundane details; in her kitchen, in the playroom and in her everyday life. Sarah understood that *kedusha* can be found anywhere, you just need to look for it. (cont...)

**Picture Day! Tuesday and Wednesday**

# BOYS

## Riddle of the Week

### Who am I?

1. I am not Talmud Bavli. 2. I was turned upside down.
3. I was home to cruelty. 4. I was one of five

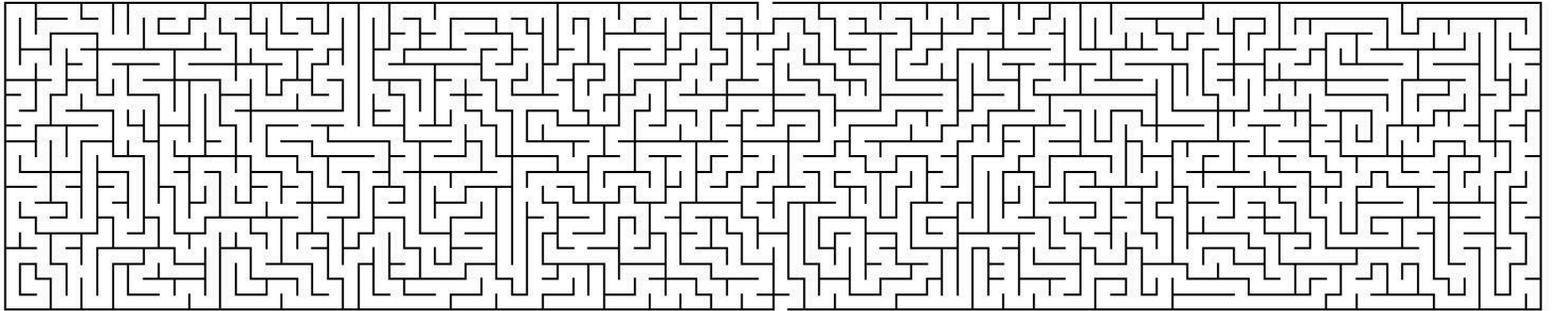
(Covenant Between the Parts)

**Last week's answers: Shem/Malkitzedek. Bris Bein Habesarim**

(My name is Name, I was a Rosh Yeshiva, I was king in Yerushalayim, I got a tenth.)  
(I was a bris. Yet I was not on the eighth day, I caused sleeping, I caused splitting.)



**Rabbi Rosenzweig's 6B Gemara class is rewarded for consistency in learning over Sukkos Vacation! Well Done!**



# BOYS

This poetry was inspired by last week's trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Writing poems challenges our students to relate to artifacts in a very personal way.

### Handwritten Haggadah

Written by hand from memory.  
Telling the story of how we became free.  
Used in secret during the Holocaust.  
At a time when all seemed to be lost.  
Unbearable working just like back then.  
Hoping for redemption once again.

By: Ilan Nissel

# GIRLS

### Striped Pajamas

Standing behind barbed wire  
Overflowing with sorrowful tears  
Tarnished with pain and fear  
Stamped with a label the J  
Defining Jews as victims  
Robbed of identity by the Nazis

By: Maayan Shucht

A labor camp uniform  
Lying on a skeleton-like body  
Covered with mud, dirt and sweat  
Worn by a scared, shivering Jew  
Assigned to every prisoner in the camp  
Ripping from grime and age

By: Shira Schuh



# GIRLS

## 2G Chumash Play

Thank you Morah Naomi Beller and Mrs. Esty Pels for a beautiful celebration! Mazal Tov 2G!



# Challah Bake

It was an evening of joy and achdus!

Thank you to everyone who made this incredible night possible!



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Sun: 3pm - 6:30pm & 10pm - 12am	Sun: 9:15am - 3pm & 6:30pm - 10pm
Mon: 12:15pm - 2:30pm	Mon: 9:15pm - 12am
Tue: 9pm - 12am	Wed: 12:15pm - 2:30pm & 9:00pm - 12am
Thur: 9pm - 12am	Motzai Shabbos: 1 hr after zman - 8pm
Motzai Shabbos: 8:05pm - 12am	

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**LET'S TAKE YOUR CHILD BY THE HAND.**

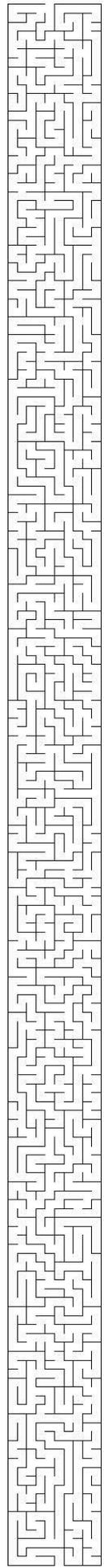
**KINDER 24/7**  
A DIVISION OF CHILD 24/7

Kinder 24/7 is a new NYS-approved provider of Early Intervention evaluations, service coordination and service provision. To help your child reach every developmental milestone, we bring together certified professionals from the local communities throughout Rockland County.

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The Early Intervention Program (EIP) is a public program for children under the age of three who are either suspected of having or at risk for developmental delays or disabilities. Potentially eligible children must be referred to the county program (Rockland County, 914-294-2222) to receive EIP services. EIP is funded by New York State and county governments. All EIP services are provided at no cost to parents. Health insurance may be used for approved services. A child's eligibility for the program can be determined only by state-approved evaluators under contract, and all services must be authorized by the county.



**מזל טוב**  
**Mazel Tov**

**Sima Bamberger (PKA)**  
on the birth of a boy!

**Morah Malky Lehmann (1B)**  
on the engagement of your son!

**Meir Glick (7B)**  
on your Bar Mitzvah!

**Zahava Lloyd (6G)**  
on your Bat Mitzvah!

**November 19**  
N - 1st, T and 8th

**November 20**  
2nd - 7th

**Picture Day!**

**Do I Have To?**

Effective parenting and *chinuch* entails modeling desired behaviors and outcomes, without necessarily always overtly demanding or requiring compliance. By allowing children to make positive, age-appropriate choices of their own volition, we afford them the opportunity to summon their "inner Avraham Aveinu" that instinctively draws a Jew to *r'tzon Hashem*.

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Ari Jacobson

**Sara's Tent**

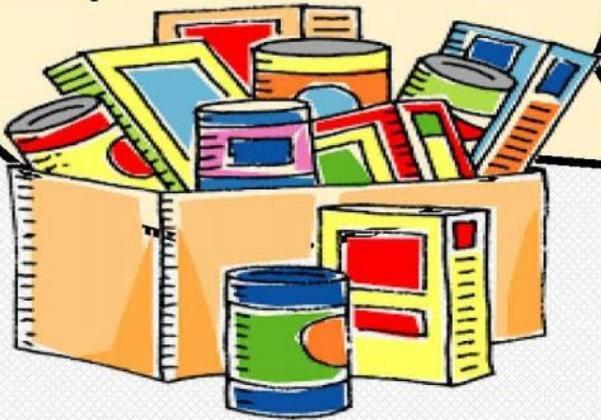
Sara Imeinu's tent was a home for the *shechinah*. Her home was a true microcosm of the *Beis HaMikdash*. May we learn from Sarah Immeinu and be *zocheh* to build homes where the *shechinah* can dwell, and merit seeing the *brachos* of Sarah Immeinu in our lives as well.



ASHAR is proud to once again partner with Tomche Shabbos in a Schoolwide Food Drive

# Cans for CheSED!

Fill the box in the back of your classroom with cans or boxes of nonperishable foods.



Tomche Shabbos assists 500 families with weekly food packages which are delivered discreetly to families who would not be able to prepare for Shabbos without them.

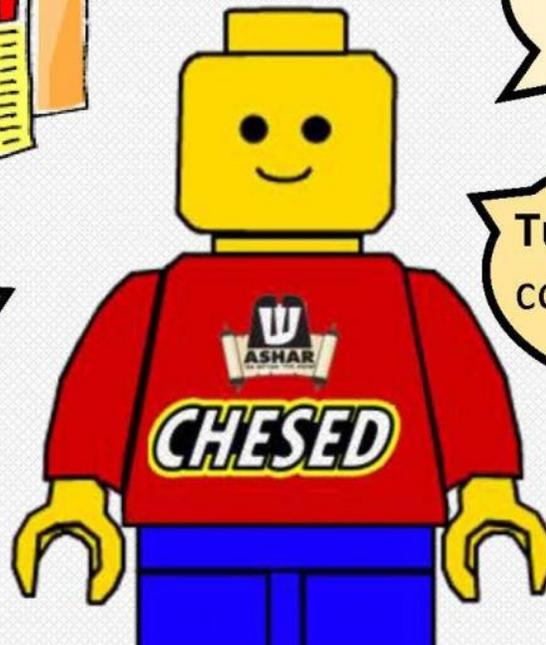


**Important:** All foods must have a proper hashgacha and be parve.

The class that collects the most items\* will get a pizza party!

\*The point value of packages with small items will be determined by a Rebbe.

**Tuna fish cans count double!**



**LAST WEEK!**

יבנה

חסד

עולם