

ASHREINNEWS



נח



Menahel's Message The Right Message

It has become almost fashionable in some quarters to minimize the greatness of Noach. Though described by the Torah as a *tzadik*, and singularly worthy of salvation, Noach was a 'tzadik in peltz' - an insular *tzadik*, figuratively wrapped in a heavy coat. Rather than reaching out to his generation and attempting to encourage *teshuvah*, Noach focused on his own spiritual well-being and ignored those around him.

This approach is founded on several *midrashim* and a comment by the Zohar attributing the floodwaters to Noach's passivity, but, according to Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky z"l, fundamentally misunderstood. Noach *did* in fact attempt to encourage his generation to mend their ways. At issue was not whether he chastised them, but rather the content of his *mussar*.

"ריקים, אתם מניחים מי שקולו שובר ארזים, ומשתחוים לעץ יבש." (בראשית רבה ל"א, ג')

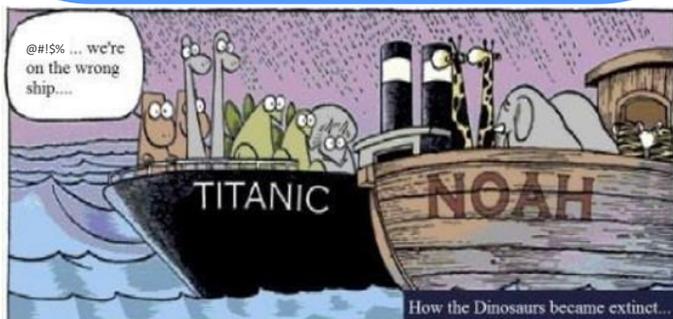
According to the Midrash, Noach rebuked his generation for the sin of idolatry: "Fools, why do you abandon the Omnipotent One whose voice shreds cedar trees and worship idols of dry wood?"

This, explains Rav Kamenetsky, was a mistake. While *avodah zara* is a cardinal sin and was certainly present at the time of the Flood, the Torah states that Hashem destroyed the world not because of idolatry, but rather due to the proliferation of theft and other forms of monetary injustice between man and his fellow: "כי מלאה הארץ חמס מפניהם." By focusing on *avoda zara* rather than theft, *gezel*, Noach's rebuke failed to address the generation's primary misdeeds.

When addressing behaviors, it is important for parents and educators to identify root causes and employ correctives that target the specific issues at hand. Interventions, including, on occasion, old-fashioned rebuke, are only effective to the extent they address the primary problem.

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Ari Jacobson



"G-d Himself Could Not Sink the Ship"

(-Walter Lord, *A Night to Remember*)

Mrs. Mindy Reifer, Director of Curriculum, General Studies

"Aren't humans considered animals?" a student asked me yesterday, indicating the response would promote her side of the debate in which she was engaged with a classmate. I responded with a brief scientific review of the kingdom animalia and then remembered that this student, of course, learned this already. I asked her why she was asking. She replied that she didn't understand why Noach and his family are discussed in the Torah as separate entities from the animals that entered the ark to be saved. I responded that a human possesses a G-dly *nefesh*, higher order intelligence and the ability to speak. Moreover, Noach lived several thousand years before Linnaeus created his classification system, but I was still impressed with my students' discussion. Applying scientific knowledge to the parsha is natural to them.

At ASHAR, our students do not learn general studies in a vacuum. They know that Torah is primary, and therefore all knowledge is primary, as everything relates to Torah and our religious heritage. There are no contradictions, only unanswered questions, and we encourage thinking and analyzing from a Torah perspective. As the 8th graders begin Names, Not Numbers® this week, this tenet of education becomes singularly important.

My 8th graders recently finished reading the classic *A Night to Remember* by Walter Lord. One of the chapters is titled "G-D Himself Could Not Sink This Ship" and the premise of the chapter is that the elite on the *Titanic* believed in the superiority of the technological advances of man to such an extreme as to deny the sinking of the ship until their perceptions could no longer deceive them. The lesson is strong: the will of G-d supersedes human accomplishments, even when the reason remains obscure.

As we begin to study the Holocaust in social studies and ELA, I know my students will have intense philosophical questions. They are lucky to be surrounded by Rabbeim and Morot who will hear their questions and guide them accordingly, even when there are no answers.

BOYS



2B loving the Torah!

See it live on Sunday morning when they receive their first Chumashim! 9:30 a.m.

Riddle of the Week

Who am I?

1. I may have been a window. 2. I may have been the first light bulb.
3. I did not need electricity. 4. Don't confuse me with the Zohar.

1. You sing about me. 2. I could be your name.
3. I was not swallowed by a fish. 4. I discovered dry land.

Last week's answer: Light.

(I am from the first day, I am not man made, speech caused me, I am not heavy.)

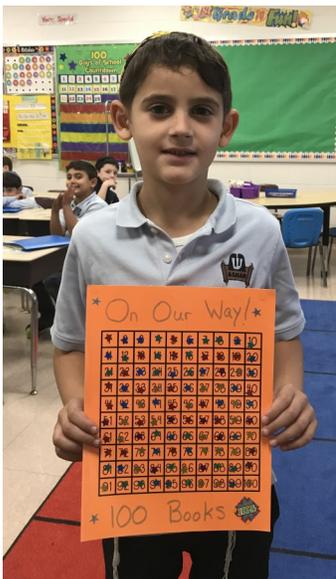


יהדות in all areas of ידיעות

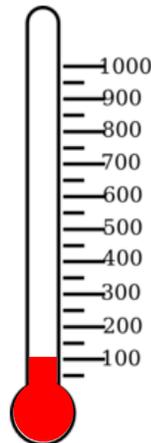
ASHAR launched an updated Yediot Klalot curriculum. Watch your inbox for study guides and test dates www.ashar.org/yediot

Cocoa Club

Boys who are ready for davening on time learn a little about Shemonah Esrei and enjoy a *cuppa* with Rabbi Freedland to start the day right!

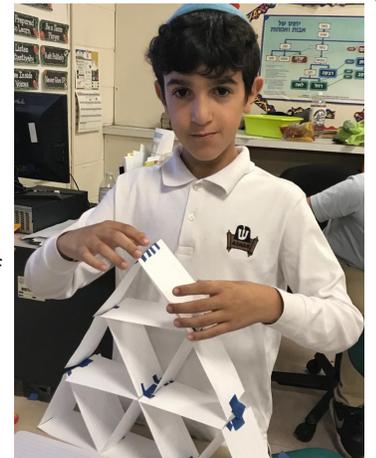


First Grade boys have read 100 books. Thank you Ze'ev Waldman for sharing your hundreds chart!



Can they build it? YES! They can!

4B split into teams and accepted the index card structure challenge! Each team was charged with building a structure made of only index cards and tape. The test came when Ms. Darcy checked its strength and stability with a weighty object.



GIRLS

Got Spirit?

Rosh Choshesh MarCheshvan Spirit Day was great fun! Big Sisters and Little Sisters teamed up to do a craft and create raincloud cupcakes!



Fun Fact: The Teiva would have stretched from the field fence until the first house on Beatrice! Wow!! Thank you 7G!

Mindy Benovitz brought in Shabbos Queen nosh to represent each of the 7 days of creation!



ASHAR students writing a letter in the "Sefer Torah for Am Yisrael" with *sofer* Rabbi Pressman. This Sefer Torah is being written by Jews all over the world, including our own ASHAR students, and will be housed at the Kotel!
Thank you to Rabbi Pressman and the Dahan family for organizing this beautiful opportunity.

פרנס היום

ט' חשוון ♦ November 7

לע"ב

אריה יואל בן חיים גבריאל

Mr. Lawrence Jacobson

*Grandfather of Moshe (Class of '17), Layla (Class of '20),
Yonatan (Class of '23) and Rafi*

Sponsored by Chaim & Jennie Jacobson



Needed!!

Paper towel tubes

Please bring into the front
office

supporting creativity!



PTA Chanukah Boutique

Motzei Shabbos, December 14

Vendors Wanted:

contact pta@ashar.org



**ASHAR's Torah Bowl Team traveled to
Westchester Day School this week.
Well done girls for winning 2 of 4 matches!**



Mrs. Ora Koenig

on the birth of a grandson!

Mrs. Naomi Beller

on the engagement of her daughter!

Mrs. Rena Kanarek

on the birth of a granddaughter!

Mrs. Chaya Moldaver

on the wedding of her son!

Mrs. Frieda Salb

on the birth of a granddaughter!

Tili Tsour

on her engagement to Jason Brody (Miami, FL) !

SANOFI GENZYME

“Our Heritage and Our Health”
Facts about Genetic Conditions among the Ashkenazim

A Sanofi Genzyme Educational Program

Kehillat New Hempstead

720 Union Road
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Wednesday, November 6th at 8:00PM

YOU MUST RESERVE A SPOT

PLEASE CONTACT: Shelley Karben at
skarben@yahoo.com

Presented by
Abbe Golding, MS, CGC
PEL Clinical Project and Resource Specialist

Join us to learn more about the Most Common Jewish Genetic Disease
Learning about your heritage is a beginning. All around the world distinct ethnic groups have been identified as having increased risks for particular genetic diseases. In the Ashkenazi Jewish population, several such inherited diseases are known. These include Gaucher disease, cystic fibrosis, Canavan disease, Bloom syndrome and others. Gaucher disease (pronounced "go-shay") Type 1 is the most common Jewish genetic disorder. Among Ashkenazi Jews, 1 person in 15 is a carrier for this disease, and approximately 1/850 has Gaucher disease. This event will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about genetic diseases among persons of Ashkenazi Jewish descent

Parshas Noach

ז	ג	ת	י	ש	ח	נ	ב	ט	ש	נ	מ
ה	ק	ש	ה	נ	נ	מ	ה	א	מ	א	ל
ע	י	מ	ם	י	ע	ב	ר	א	ר	נ	א
ג	ס	ל	ל	ם	ה	צ	מ	ת	ל	ע	ט
א	ך	ה	נ	ח	ד	ז	ל	ר	ו	י	ת
נ	פ	ם	א	י	ב	נ	ר	מ	ע	ת	ו
ר	י	צ	ק	ח	י	ת	ע	ד	נ	ה	א
מ	י	ר	י	ע	י	ב	ש	ה	נ	ו	ה
ן	ם	ר	נ	ו	ג	ם	י	ד	ח	א	ל
ה	ב	י	נ	ן	ר	ת	י	ר	נ	ש	ו
ח	ו	ה	ב	ח	כ	ל	ן	ר	ז	י	ח
י	ך	ל	ה	ח	ק	ל	ם	י	מ	ת	כ

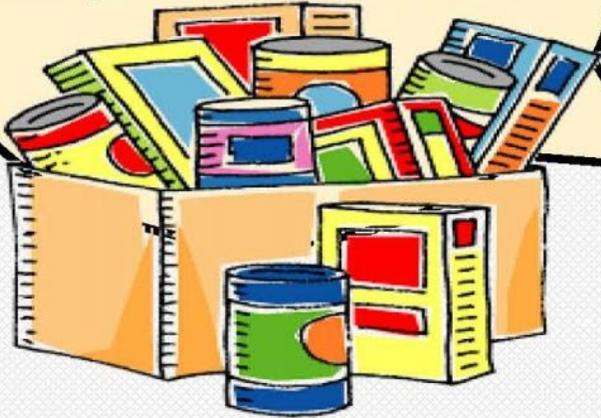
צדיק	מבול	ארבעים	שנים
יונה	שביעי	קציר	מזבח
ברית	שמלה	אחדים	אברם

Bonus: Of seven Mitzvos Bnai Noach, name one given to Noach.

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.



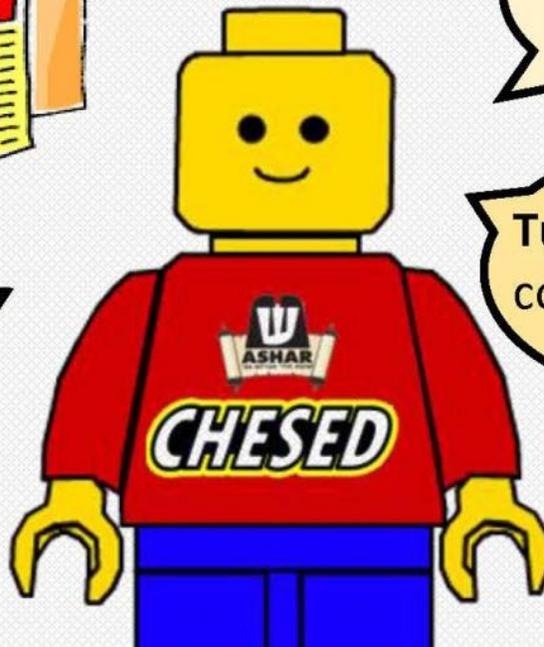
Important: All foods must have a proper hashgacha and be parve.

Tuna fish cans count double!



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.



CAMP REGESH!



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"that special feeling of summer..."

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TWEEN GIRLS DIVISION



Rakefet!

TWEEN BOYS DIVISION



ROMEIM
DIVISION

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