



ASHREINews

Chanukah Edition



Menahel's Message

Thanks for the Small Things



In a well-known comment towards the end of Parashas Bo, the Ramban explains that the purpose of a *nes nigleh*- an overt, "big" miracle- is to remind us of the ever-present hand of Hashem in every facet of existence. While the Ten Plagues and the splitting of the Yam Suf may have been spectacular, in truth these "big" miracles were no greater than the sun rising in the East and setting in the West, or any other phenomenon ordinarily associated with nature. Each is the product of Divine Providence and the constant handiwork of the *Manhig Olam*. Overt miracles only serve as an occasional wake up call to seek out yad Hashem more generally.

Perhaps the most famous question relating to Chanukah- and among the best known questions associated with any Jewish Holiday- is that of the Beis Yosef, who ponders why Chanukah was established for eight days if in fact there was enough oil found

to last for the first day. Only the last seven were a miracle; the first day's kindling was completely natural and not extraordinary in any way. In light of the above, the answer is very simple. Yes, only the last seven days were a supernatural *nes*; nonetheless, eight days were established to remind us that the first day was not fundamentally different in any way. Just as the *nes* was clearly produced by G-d, so too the "natural" tendency of oil to burn for even the expected duration.

The greatest *beracha* a human being can experience is the blessing of children. We always celebrate milestones and take note of "major" events in our children's lives. Chanukah teaches us to pause long enough to appreciate even the more mundane aspects of child rearing. Savor the "small" miracles of the daily grind, aptly referred to by Chazal as *tza'ar gidul banim*, and thank Hashem for His constant gifts, *nisecha she'bechol yom imanu*.

Shabbat Shalom and a Lechtige Chanukah!
-Rabbi Ari Jacobson
Menahel/Dean

For any students that are unable to attend school, we offer grab and go lunches. Pickup daily at the front door. Mon-Thurs 1:00-2:00 PM, Fri 12:30-1:30 PM



THE ASHAR PTA
WISHES EVERYONE
A HAPPY CHANUKAH!



Important Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
12 Noon Early Dismissal Chanukah
There is busing!

SUNDAY-MONDAY, DECEMBER 13-14
No Sessions Chanukah

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
No Bus Transportation

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
1G Siddur Play 9:30
1B Siddur Play 12 Noon

MOTZEI SHABBOS, JANUARY 9
General Parent Meeting

THURSDAY-SUNDAY JANUARY 21-31
No School - Mid Winter Break

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Sessions Resume

SUNDAY-MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14-15
No School President's Day



Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

Principal of Early Childhood and First Grade



It is the month of Kislev, and Chanukah is here,
"Chanukah is our favorite Chag!" all the children cheer!

The children learned all about this special holiday,
When Hashem performed miracles, and showed us His love in every way.

The children learned the story of Yehudah Hamaccabee,
And much, much more, as you will surely see.

Chanukah learning in progress, is our newsletter this week,
So into your children's classrooms, you will have a peek.

The children enacted the Chanukah story and made projects galore,
Dreidel people, menorahs, wrapping paper, and more.

They are excited to share their projects and knowledge with you,
So have a Happy Chanukah and a good Shabbos, too!



Dreidel Patterns



Button Chanukah Art



Candle making



Chanukah Bracha Plaques



Alef Bet Lights



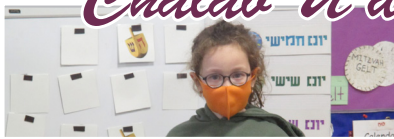
Spinning Dreidels

IMPORTANT CHANUKAH NOTICE:

We are entrusted with the all-around care and development of our children, which does not only include chinuch aspects, but the physical well being of the children as well. During the Yom Tov of Chanukah, we should take the following precautions:

- Cover all surfaces on which the menorah rests with silver foil or inflammable trays.
- Keep all candles, matches and flammable liquids out of reach of young children.
- Do not leave lit menorahs unattended.
- Closely supervise young children when they are lighting candles, and any celebrations or games should take place far from the lit menorahs.
- Ensure that smoke detectors are installed throughout the house, and check that fresh batteries are inserted.

Chalau U'duash



Music and Movement



Parsha



Alef Bet



I found the letter "Chet!"

ABC's

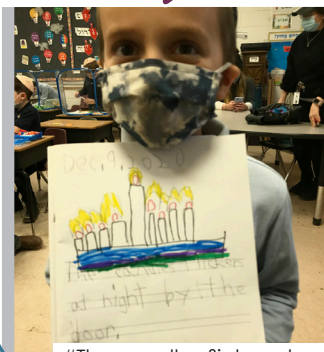


First Grade practicing for their upcoming Siddur Play. Save the date! Jan. 3

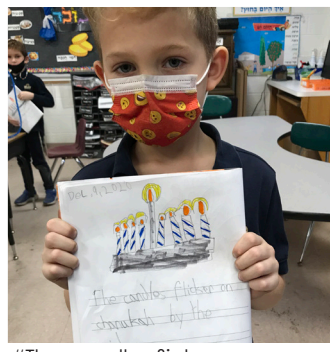


Letter "Q"

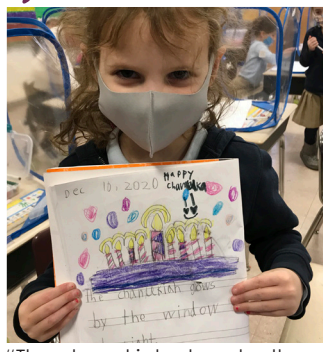
First Grade Chanukah Writing



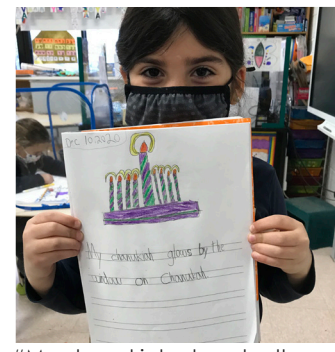
"The candles flicker at night by the door."



"The candles flicker on Chanukah by the window."



"The chanukiah glows by the window at night."



"My chanukiah glows by the window on Chanukah."

Brain Teasers

Mrs. Gordon's 6th Grade Math Applications class created brain teasers. See if you can figure them out!

By: Yakov Baltz and Benjy Guy

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cloud} + \text{Cloud} &= \text{Arrow} \\ \text{Arrow} + \text{Arrow} &= 240 \\ \text{Cloud} + \text{Candle} &= 700 \\ \text{Candle} + \text{Candle} &= \text{Cloud} \end{aligned}$$

Answer:
613 = 6 + 13 = 19
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613 = 6 + 13 = 19
613 = 6 + 13 = 19
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By: Chanan Seltzer and Gavi Lerer

$$\text{Cube} \times \text{Cube} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{Candle} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{11}{12}$$

$$\text{Donut} \times \text{Donut} = 144$$

$$\text{Gift} + \text{Gift} = 10$$

$$(\text{Donut} \times \text{Cube}) \times (\text{Gift} \times \text{Candle}) = \text{Candle}$$



Answer:
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By: Ezra Markowitz

$$5^3 = \text{Arrow}$$

①

$$\text{Arrow} \times \text{Donut} = \text{Gift}$$

$$\text{Donut} + \text{Arrow} = 127$$

$$\text{Gift} = \text{Arrow} \times (\text{Donut} \div \text{Arrow}) \div (\text{Donut} \times \text{Arrow}) = \text{Arrow}$$

$$\text{Arrow} \times \text{Donut} + \text{Arrow} + \text{Gift} = \text{Arrow}$$

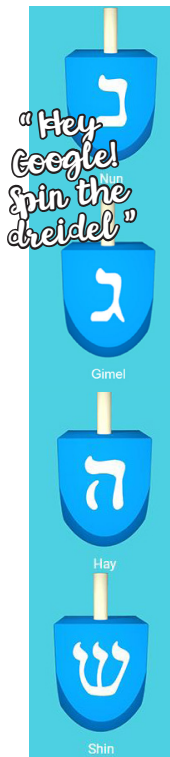
What is the word

- $6 \times 12 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
- $18 \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = 6$
- $0 \times 10 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
- $9 \times 3 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
- $\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \times 8 = 40$
- $56 \div 7 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
- $81 \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = 9$

8 | 90 | 19 | 91 | 87 | 54 | 45 | 9 | 3 | 15 | 96 | 10 | 72 | 0 | 27 | 80 | 6 | 5 | 62 | 20 | 7 | 16
A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V

4 | 1 | 18 | 100
W | X | Y | Z

By: Moshe Abboudi



By: Ezi Rudner

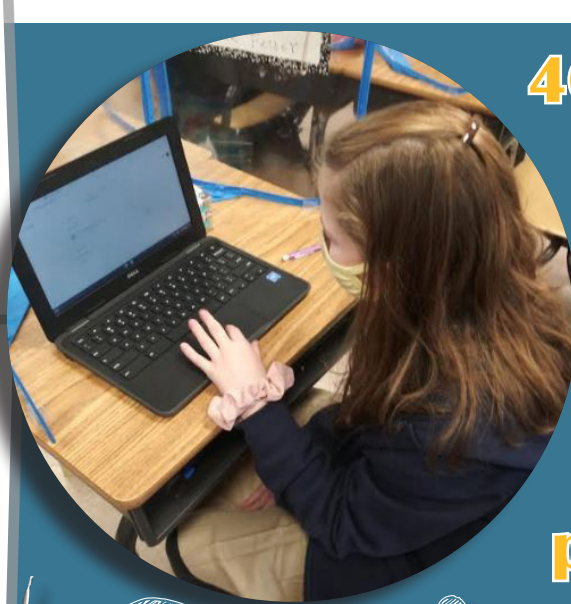
	2	3	7
1	4	3	7
5	Gift	Arrow	Star
10	20	Arrow	70

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Arrow} &= \text{Gift} \times \text{Star} \\ \text{Gift} &= \text{Arrow} \times \text{Star} \\ \text{Star} &= \text{Arrow} \times \text{Gift} \end{aligned}$$

Answer:



3G decorates their Chanukah booklet



**4G working
on their
component of
the Chanukah
Sparks
magazine,
a student
publication.**



By: Eli Sorotzkin

Getting Ready for Chanukah



Rabbi Auslander's 3rd grade Boys show off their creative Menorah projects. Each chanukia created by our students reflects hours of learning the halachas and meaning of our beautiful mitzvah.



By: Raizy Blachman





The ASHAR UNIFORM EXCHANGE IS IN NEED OF MORE UNIFORMS! WE HAVE MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE REACHED OUT AND ASKED FOR UNIFORMS!

uniforms@ashar.org

**Drop off at
5 Pearl Drive
with your name on a piece of paper.**

Mrs. Mindy Reifer

Director of Curriculum



Mrs. Jennah Schuh

Assistant Principal



Coming Soon!



**boom
writer**
learning

Grades 4-8
Writing
Competition
on Boomwriter.
Students
who want to
participate
should fill in the
[Google form.](#)

Mrs. Debby Jacobson

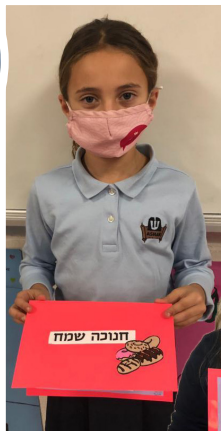
Principal of Girls Division



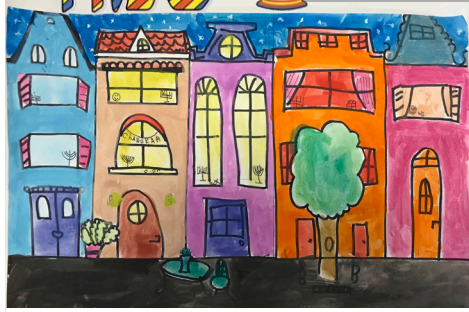
There have been many discussions as to why we celebrate the first night of Chanukah. If the oil was supposed to last for one night, there was nothing extraordinary about it.

The Jewish people suffered miserably under the rule of the Greeks. There was no reason to believe that they would survive. However, the Jews held strong to their emunah; they had the faith that they would survive. We celebrate the first night of Chanukah as recognition of our faith. Even in the darkest of times, the flame of the Jewish people will never be extinguished.

Throughout history there have been many times when Jews could have given up in despair, and yet they refused to accept defeat. They gathered what remained and rebuilt. From slavery in Egypt to Nazi Germany, Judaism has remained a *ner tamid*, the everlasting light of the world that no power on earth can ever extinguish.



חנוכה שמח



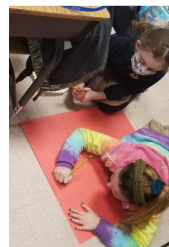
Artwork by: Rebecca Gruenebaum (8G)



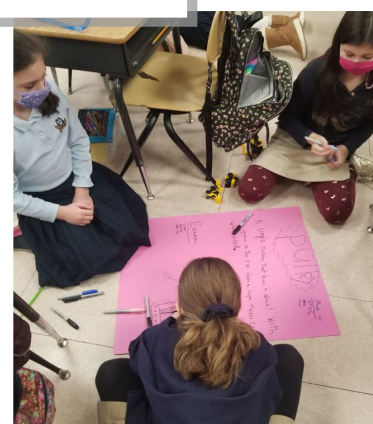
2G Kriah permeates the hallways with Morah Shevi Frank



4G working on Simple Machines Posters



Happy Chanukah to our Seniors, who just received their sweatshirts! They are so excited to wear them.



Mazel tov to our girls Torah Bowl team on making it to the top 3!



Riddle of the Week ? WHO AM I ?

I am 36, with service I am 44, 30 is my timing, I am hot.

Submit answer in your SMVT sheet for a chance to win a prize! - Last Week's Answer: Teiva



עֵינֵי הָעֵדָה Gedolim Cards



6B jumps for joy as they hear the winner of the עֵינֵי הָעֵדָה program being announced over the loudspeaker for an ice cream party! Mazel Tov!

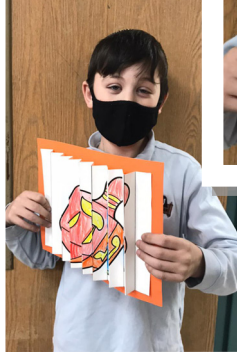
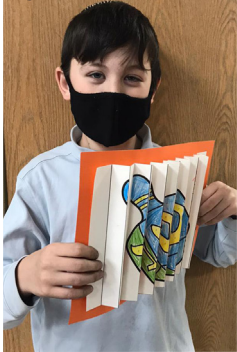


Over 500 cards have been received so far! Please bring in photos of you with a Rav or Rebbe that you personally know.

Mazel Tov 4B on finishing Parshat Vayetzei. The boys celebrated their siyum with a game of ball with Rabbi Braunfeld.



Agam inspired chanukah artwork



A group of students in grade 7 join our elite **Torah Bowl** Teams. Like any other "Bowl," competing in a Torah Bowl requires a tremendous amount of dedication. Throughout the "season," the students learn with their Coach, Rabbi Spivak overseen by the winning Coach, Rabbi Leible Chaitovsky, to study the material. Each year the material consists of a different one of the Chamisha Chumshei Torah, complete with an text and every Rashi!

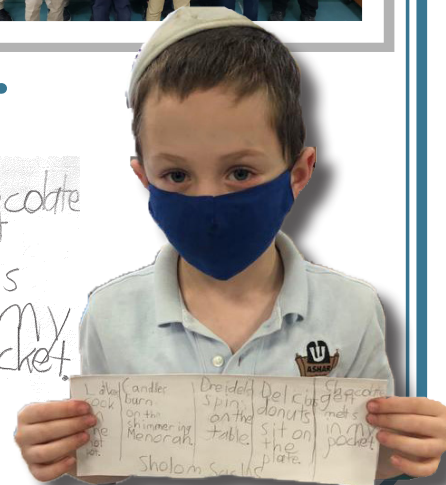
Torah Bowl

- We take tremendous pride in our Torah Bowl Teams who amass an unbelievable amount of Torah knowledge throughout the year.
- We take extra pride in the fact that our teams have won many division championships. They compete against other local schools. This year they competed with 20+ Teams and over 200 students on Zoom!



לֶחֱטוֹת לֶחֱטוֹת
Candles burn on the shimmering Menorah.
Dreidels spin on the table.
Delicious donuts sit on the plate.
Shepherds get mets in my pocket.

3B is learning how to write Barebones poems using "framing your thoughts." Sholom Sachs wrote about Chanukah.





Preserve the past, ensure the future:
Become a Parnas Hayom



כ"א - כ"ו כסלו ♦ December 7-13

This week's learning is sponsored by Mr. Howard Shapiro,

L'ilui nishmas

Tzvi ben Eliezer HaLevi z"l
Zlota Leah bas Yechezkal HaCohen a"h

Great-grandfather and Great-grandmother of
Daniella Shapiro, Class KB

May our children's learning serve as an aliya for their neshamas.



כ"ב כסלו ♦ December 8

Tuesday's learning is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Avi & Yocheved Goldberg

לע"נ

אסתר טיקא בת ישי ע"ה

Mother of Yocheved Goldberg
Grandmother of Asaf, Class KB; Chovav, Class 2B;
and Maor Goldberg, Class 6B

May our children's learning serve as an aliya for her neshama.



כ"ד כסלו ♦ December 10

א' דחנוכה

Thursday's learning is sponsored by Mrs. Sharon Freundlich Algarin

לע"נ

יהודה אריה בן משה יוסף ז"ל

Grandfather of Mrs. Algarin
Great-Grandfather of Adira, Class 6G and Elana Algarin, Class 8G

May our children's learning serve as an aliya for his neshama.



COVID-19

ASHAR's health procedures and guidelines are in place. Please make sure to fill in the daily health screening through ParentLocker.

- NYS has new covid-related travel guidelines. You can view them here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>
- If your child has tested positive for COVID, please be sure to keep your child home for 10 days following the positive test.
- If your child is not well, please keep your child home. This includes low grade fever, stomach issues, bad cold, cough, lethargy, etc.
- As per the Rockland County Department of Health's new order, all children over the age of 2 must wear facial coverings while indoors.



Mazel Tov!

Ayelet Myski (PKA)
on her new baby brother

Have any good news to share? email mgoldman@ashar.org



PLEASE JOIN:

The Asara B'Teves Tehillim Unity Event

AS A ZECHUS FOR THE SINGLES OF OUR COMMUNITY

Friday, December 25th • Asara B'Teves 5781 at 10AM
YOUR LOCAL TIME

HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

- Get your family, neighborhood, community, shul & school involved
- Share this flyer with your WhatsApp groups
- Follow @united_for_shidduchim on Instagram
- Make a Commitment - Set a Reminder
- Click [here to watch Rabbi Yissocher Frand's Words of Chizuk](#)

Join our global community for the third year in saying Tehillim (Perek [121](#), [128](#) & [131](#)) on Asara B'Teves on behalf of all our singles.

One who is Mesameach Chassan V'Kallah helps rebuild the Bais HaMikdash, one brick at a time [Brachos 6B]. May our tefillos help facilitate many shidduchim and the coming of Moshiach speedily in our days.