

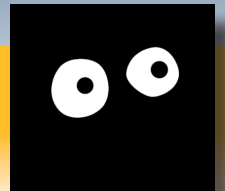


# ASHREINews



## Menahel's Message

*"Enjoy your Family!"*



My grandfather, Rabbi Ephraim Shimoff z"l, a distinguished Rav for four decades, was a capable and sought-after orator. He almost never refused a request to speak- with one notable exception. There was a time when "Friday night lecture series" were in vogue, and local communal rabbis often spoke on a rotating basis. My grandfather generally demurred: "Friday nights are family time." In his view, spending quality time with one's family was more important both to him and his audience than any topic that would be potentially addressed.

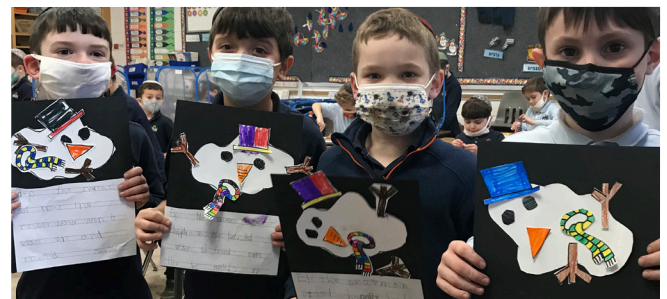
Commentators point to various aspects of Korban Pesach, the first individual *mitzvah* commanded at the time of the Exodus, as paradigms for all subsequent *mitzvot*. Most notably, this first *mitzvah* focused on the home: "seh l'veis avos, seh la'bayis." The Pascal lamb was to ideally be eaten in a *chaburah* comprised of immediate family members, and only if the family was too small would others be invited. All were required to remain inside the house for the entire night- "lo seitzu ish mi'pesach beiso ad boker." And the *korban's* blood was to be placed on the front doorway's *mashkof* and *mezuzos*- lintel and doorposts, all symbolizing the primacy of the home and family unit in serving Hashem.

When at one point, Pharaoh agreed to allow the Jewish men a furlough to worship their God: "Ichu na ha'gevarim, ki osah atern

m'vakshim," Moshe Rabbeinu answered with a statement that serves as the foundation of Jewish life for posterity: "b'na'areinu u'vizkaneinu nelech, b'vaneinu u'vivnoseinu...ki chag Hashem lanu". Pharaoh's offer was unacceptable, for Jews, young and old, will only serve and celebrate together with sons and daughters-as families!

*Have a safe midwinter break, and enjoy your family!*

-Rabbi Ari Jacobson  
Menahel/Dean



1st grade learned about cause & effect. They read *Sneezy the Snowman* & did their own original writing along with a melted snowman.

## Important Upcoming Events

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**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25  
**Friday Dismissal** Taanit Esther  
Grades N-PK 1:30, Grades K-8 1:45  
No Bus Transportation: East Ramapo

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26  
**No School Purim**



*Enjoy your*  
**WINTER  
BREAK**



\*\*\*Current New York State regulations require any individual traveling to any state other than New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Pennsylvania, or internationally, for a period longer than 24 hours must:

1. Take a negative COVID-19 test at your travel destination within three days prior to returning to New York, and
2. quarantine for three days upon return to New York, and then take a negative COVID-19 test. No child or staff member may return to school without doing so.

**If you are travelling, please remember to obtain copies of the two required COVID-19 tests, as all returning students and staff who have travelled internationally or out of state will be required to submit testing documentation to [forms@ashar.org](mailto:forms@ashar.org) before returning to school.**





**Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen**  
Principal of Early Childhood and First Grade

The Early Childhood Family would like to wish everyone a wonderful, relaxing and safe winter vacation.

Please be careful and stay well. We look

forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday, February 1st.

On Wednesday, Morah and Mitzvah Man met with the children to wish everyone a happy and safe vacation. We also discussed how important it is for us to make a "Kiddush Hashem" and show everyone how nicely Jewish children behave. Wherever we go and whatever we do, we will behave nicely and respectfully, and will make Hashem (and our parents) proud of us! We read a wonderful story to help us understand this important Mitzvah, "I Can Make a Kiddush Hashem" by Sara Blau.

*Over vacation*, please record details of how your child made a Kiddush Hashem. Please send the paper back to school after the break.

*I will read them aloud to the rest of the Yeladim!*

## Parsha



Making King Paroah covered in Makkot



## ABC



The Letter "B"



A baker learns the bracha Borei Minei Mezonot for the letter "B"



#6

## Math



#6



Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

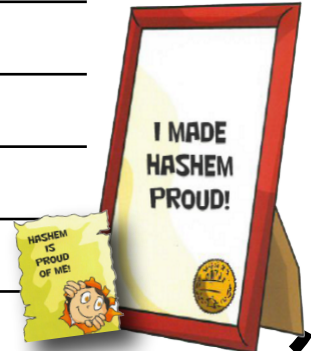
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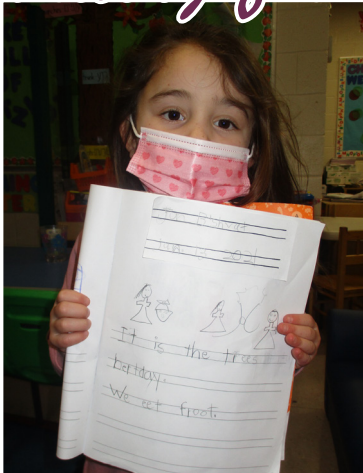
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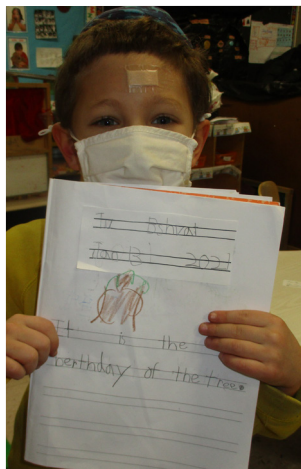


# Kindergarten Creative Writing for Tu B'shvat

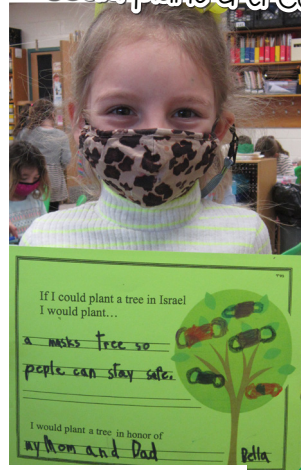
If I could plant a tree in Israel, I would plant a...



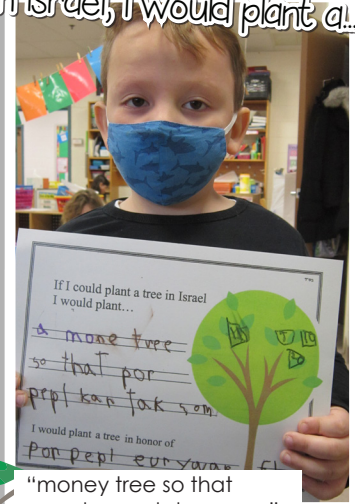
"It is the trees birthday. We eat fruit."



"It is the birthday of the trees."

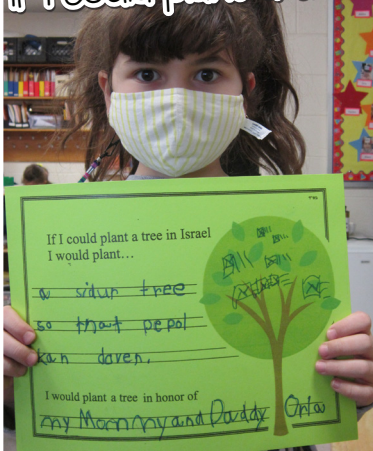


"mask tree so people can stay safe"

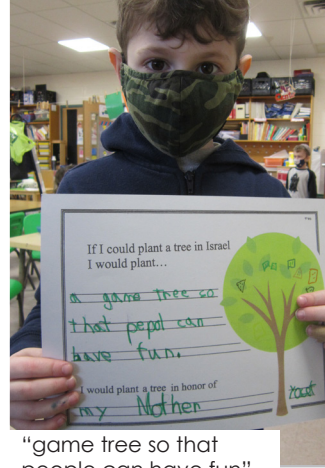


"money tree so that people can take some."

If I could plant a tree in Israel, I would plant a...



"siddur tree so that people can daven"



"game tree so that people can have fun"



Planting for Tu b'Shvat



My Tu b'Shvat fruit tree





## Mrs. Debby Jacobson

Principal of Girls Division



In an interesting article entitled, "Marbles Anyone? Traditional Games in the Classroom," Casberge and Kieff discuss the importance of games in education. They analyze the benefits of introducing formal play into the classroom. It helps children develop a more logical way of thinking and also promote better social skills and peer interactions.



importance of games in education. They introducing formal play into the classroom. It a more logical way of thinking and also promote better social skills and peer interactions.

Rosh Chodesh "Spirit Day" is one way for students to learn valuable lessons through fun and games. Children that don't normally shine are presented with different venues that will help them stand out. It also gives them a formal, supervised setting that will help interaction amongst peers without the hierarchy of classroom politics. As part of our Spirit Day program this past Monday, our first through third grade girls enjoyed a trip to the Amazon Rainforest.

ASHAR is known for the *ruach* and excitement that permeates its hallways. It is no wonder that our students not only love to learn but learn to love as well.



1G-3G visit a rain forest in Brazil for Spirit Day!



"Everybody makes mistakes. The important thing is to learn from them."

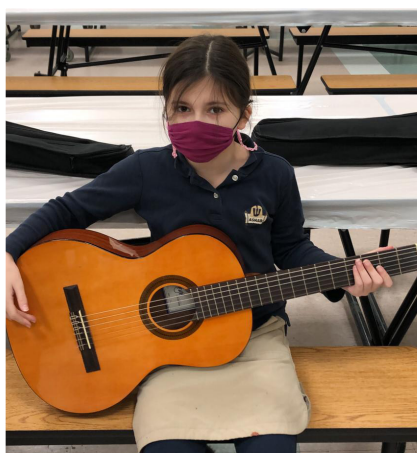
4G made a mistake tree after reading Because of Winn-Dixie



3G Zooms with a new friend from Brazil as part of their social studies unit in Brazil. Thank you to Mrs. Esty Pasternak for arranging the Zoom call with her family in Brazil!



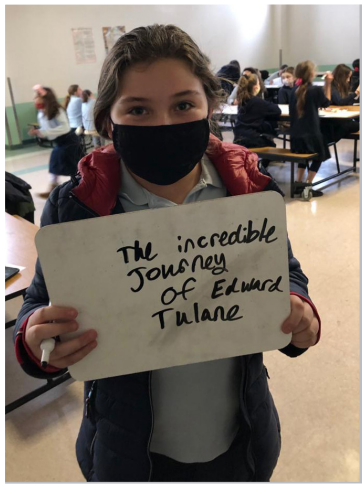
4G learns music



7G Lashon







"The more you *read*  
the more *things* you know.  
The more that you *learn*  
the more *places* you'll go.

-Dr. Seuss



# BATTLE OF the BOOKS

ASHAR  
ישיבת הדר אברהם צב

Grades 4-6 kicked off their Battle of the Books program. The girls were divided into teams and given their first books. They created posters featuring their team names and watched book trailers, attempting to pair book titles with trailers.

**4G is in the lead with 16 book reports submitted already!**



תודה  
**to all who  
donated coats  
to the Yad Leah  
coat drive.  
ASHAR collected  
176 coats!**

Thank you to our 6th graders for sorting the coats.



# Riddle of the Week ? WHO AM I ?

I am number 8, not 4; I was in a pickle, I defined the borders; we finished the leftovers.

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



## Tu B'shvat Pirkot Tish

והיה כעץ שתול על פלגי מים;  
אשר פריו ימן בעתו, ועלהו  
לא יבול, וכל אשר יעשה יצליח



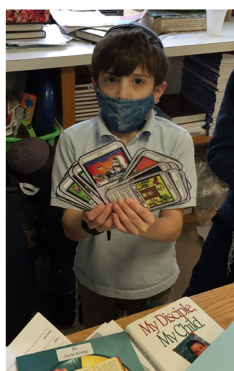
5B is learning fractions in Math Applications



3B is studying Brazil in social studies. Naftali Cohen brought in his parakeet, the class Zoomed with a new friend from Brazil, and the boys made rainsticks.



3B is learning Rashi!



## Our minyanaires

5B

Daniel Mordechai Frankel  
Yisroel Kaller  
Yisrael Levin  
Chaim Schuh  
Zev Taub

Chanan Seltzer  
Moshe Abboudi  
Benji Guy  
Ezi Rudner  
Gedalia Siklos

Dovy Schreiber

8B

Avi Bunick  
Elisha Dear  
Aaron Judkin  
Meir Kaller  
Yisroel Koenig  
Moshe Neumann  
Kedem Friedman  
Avi Fonfeder  
Max Fetman

7B

Moshe Baitz  
Ari Blachorsky  
Ari Frankel  
Ephraim Jacobson  
Ezra Katz  
Gavriel Laster  
JJ Schiller

6B

Yakov Baitz  
Gavi Lerer  
Ezra Markowitz  
Shlomo Reifer

ASHAR's Minyanaire program incentivizes our boys to daven with a minyan. Each week there is an honor roll system for our top daveners.

Daven with a MINYAN





**Mrs. Mindy Reifer**

Director of Curriculum



**Mrs. Jennah Schuh**

Assistant Principal



## Contest Winner

### I knew I should have worn a parachute this morning

By: Aharon Yaniv (6B)



It was a day like any other day. The sound of my alarm was blaring. I cracked open my eyes and looked at my clock. It was 7:07 AM and I had exactly 6 minutes to get ready for my bus. I quickly got dressed and darted down the steps like a NA-SCAR driver. As I headed for the front door I heard my mom yell, "Don't forget your lunch box."

"Okay!" I shouted back.  
"Don't forget your coat."  
"Okaaaaay, Mom!"

I was halfway out the door when my mom howled, "And don't forget your parachute." I came to a screeching halt. "Why would I need a parachute?"

"Just take it!" Mom responded.

"There's no way I'm taking a parachute," I said as I was closing the door.

In the distance I heard my mom yell, "You'll regret it!"

Later that day I found myself half asleep, drooling over my notebook as Mrs. Farfel was rambling on about the history of broccoli for the second time today. All of a sudden, I was jolted awake by the sound of the school alarm blaring. Mr. Wong was yelling, "Lockdown, lockdown, this is not a drill!" To my disbelief Mrs. Farfel was still rambling about broccoli.

Mrs. Farfel was shaking out of panic, Shnooky Cornblatt was crying and Yakov Kugelmyster was crouching under his desk yelling for his mommy.

My mind was flooded with crazy ideas. What if there was a terrorist running around with a weapon?

That's when I thought to myself I'll rise to the occasion and take charge. I instructed everyone to lock the door and move the desks to block the entrance. All of a sudden a big man with a black mask and a bazooka gun mounted on his shoulder burst through the classroom door and shouted, "I need to take someone hostage." My first thought was to offer up Mrs. Farfel but I realized that wouldn't be nice, so I volunteered myself. I figured being taken hostage would be more fun than class.

The terrorist grabbed me by my collar and ushered me out of the room. His hand was so large he could probably wrap it around a basketball.

A few minutes later, I found myself on the roof of Ashar. My stomach was growling. "Oh wait I need to grab my lunch box," I blurted out.

"We're in the middle of a terrorist attack and you need your lunchbox?"

"But I'm so hungry," I pleaded. He reached into his pocket and tossed me a cholov yisroel candy bar that was half eaten and gooey. I was suspicious as to why a terrorist would have a cholov yisroel chocolate bar in his pocket. Something about all of this was very strange.

We were running through the building. The man stopped by Mr. K's office and ran out with a cup of coffee. Adults these days will do anything for a cup of coffee. But that too seemed suspicious.

We reached the back of the building. There was an old wood ladder that looked moldy and frail. "There's no way I'm going up here!" I thought to myself.

Finally, he shoved me up the old creaky ladder. When I got to the roof-top I couldn't believe my eyes. There were so many solar panels - as far as they could see. I can only imagine how much Ashar was saving on electricity.

But there in the middle of all the solar panels was a helicopter. This didn't look like an ordinary helicopter, it looked like it survived World War II. It also was missing all the glass in the front and one of the rotor blades looked like it was bent in half.

The terrorist opened the door to let me in. The door creaked really loudly. It sounded like someone was scratching on a black board.

I boarded the helicopter. I didn't even think it would be able to take off. Somehow the terrorist was able to get it to fly. At least that was something I didn't need to worry about.

As we wobbled up to an altitude of 6,000 feet I gathered enough courage to strike a conversation with the terrorist. "Why did you kidnap me?" I asked innocently. What he did next shocked me. He took off his mask and revealed his face. It was none other than Mr. Wong, our ASHAR administrator and Chief Yelling Officer.

"What did I do this time?" I thought. "Was I outside during davening talking to friends? Did I scribble on my desk? What could I have done to deserve this?"

Without my asking any questions Mr. Wong said, "This was a test to find out which students in the school were really brave... and you passed the test." I was a hero. I always knew I was a hero.

That's when things went from bad to worse. I heard the sound of gears grinding from the engine. GER GER CHKK CHASHLOP GZZZZZ GLUNK PSHBOYM and then BOOM! I knew I should never have boarded this helicopter. This could not be good news.

The helicopter started spinning out of control. I was getting dizzy and lightheaded. It was heading toward Ashar and there was nothing I could do. I heard Mr. Wong shouting Shema Yesroel... I was crying. This couldn't be the end.

I watched the helicopter gauge as the altitude dropped. The alarm in the cockpit was blaring. I could smell smoke coming through from the top. 100 feet, 50, 40, 30. As the helicopter plummeted I had only one thought. I knew I should have listened to my mother. I knew I should have worn a parachute today. Aaaaagh!

Then I woke up. It was just a bad dream!

It was 7:07 am. I was late. One thing's for sure. I think I'll wear my parachute today!



We take tremendous pride in our Torah Bowl Teams who amass an unbelievable amount of Torah knowledge throughout the year.

# Monday, February 8th

## Subject: Parshat Korach

ASHAR's boys division will compete at **12 PM** and the girls division will compete at **4 PM** for their eligibility in the Playoffs:



Moir Kaller **#3**  
Moshe Baitz  
Naftali Frank  
Yishai Werth

Ari Frankel **#3**  
Shaya Genut **#2**  
Ephraim Jacobson  
Chanan Seltzer **#1**

Gavriel Laster  
Moishy Steinhart  
Noey Taub  
Chanan Seltzer **#1**



Shoshana Bennett  
Leora Cohn  
Atara Friedman **#3**

Faiga Gordon **#1**  
Toby Kahn  
Shalva Laster

Rena Rosenberg **#2**  
Michal Benovitz  
Raizy Friedman

### Boys Playoffs March 9th!

They will compete against HALB, HAFTR, BPY and Yeshiva of Flatbush

### Girls Playoffs March 4th!

They will compete against Bruriah, Shulamith, North Shore and HANC

# Torah Bowl Round 2!



פרנס היום • January 18

Monday's learning is sponsored by Ayelet & Eli Mermelstein

לע"נ

## אהרן אשר בן משה יעקב ז"ל

Ariella Mermelstein's (5G) Great-Grandfather

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



פרנס היום • January 18-20

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday's Torah learning is sponsored by

Hershel & Lorna Levitin

for a complete *refuah shelaimah* for

## Ora (Claire) bas Miriam

Beloved Great-grandmother of Gavriel Salamon, 3B and Kayla Stern, PKA

May our children's learning be a merit for her a speedy recovery & good health.



# Mazel Tov!

Mrs. Naomi Beller  
on her son's wedding

Yoni and Tzvi Montal  
on the birth of a baby girl

Rabbi Chaitovsky  
on the birth of his twin  
granddaughters to Yishaya  
and Tzivi Kraines

Stevie Brinn (Class of '12)  
on his wedding

JJ Schiller (7B)  
on his Bar Mitzvah

Have any good news to share? email [mgoldman@ashar.org](mailto:mgoldman@ashar.org)



\*\*\*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\*\*\*