



ASHREINews



Menahel's Message "Always Grateful, Never Satisfied"



In describing the birth and naming of Yehudah, the Torah records Leah's immense gratitude to Hashem- gratitude that manifested itself in her choice of a name: "ותאמר הפעם אודה את ה', על כן קראה שמו יהודה". Leah's fourth son was named Yehudah for the express purpose of eternalizing her *hakaras ha'tov* towards Hashem, an obviously noble gesture.

Yet note the words that immediately follow the naming: "ותעמד מלדת". Leah was (temporarily) denied further children, and through no coincidence. Having successfully given birth to a fourth son, explains the Chiddushei HaRim, her gratitude knew no bounds, as reflected in her choice of a name. Besides being grateful, however, she was also *satisfied*; satisfied with her blessings to the point of no longer

being desirous of further *beracha*. And when one no longer years, the *berachos* cease as well.

There is a very fine line between contentment and satisfaction. Being content and happy with one's lot - *שמח בחלקו* - is fine, and in fact a goal. Being satisfied and complacent is not.

The Mishnah at the end of Berachos succinctly captures what Chazal deem an appropriate balance. Upon entering or leaving a new town, "נותן הודאה על העבר וצועק על העתיד". We thank Hashem for past benevolence, but simultaneously cry out for further providence: always grateful, but never satisfied!

Shabbat Shalom!
- Rabbi Ari Jacobson
Menahel/Dean

Chai Lifeline Toy Drive

We are collecting brand new toys and games.



Help us send Chanukah presents to sick children.

Place the toys in the box outside the front office



Our 7th Grade Girls are running a toy drive. Show them your support and send in a toy!

Mazel Tov!



Ari Blachorsky (7B)
on his Bar Mitzvah

Mrs. Ora Koenig
on the upcoming wedding of her son Avi

Naomi (NC) and Aron Shai Katsof (KA)
on their new baby brother

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

***As per current New York State guidelines, all students and staff who travel out of the tri-state area for over 24 hours must quarantine for three days upon their return to New York, and then take a COVID-19 test before returning to school. Only after producing a negative result may such students and staff return. If you are travelling, do not send your children to school next week before forwarding a negative test to forms@ashar.org. ***

Important Upcoming Events

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26-29
No School Thanksgiving

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
Parent Teacher Conferences

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
12 noon Early Dismissal Chanukah

SUNDAY-MONDAY, DECEMBER 13-14
No Sessions Chanukah

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
No Bus Transportation

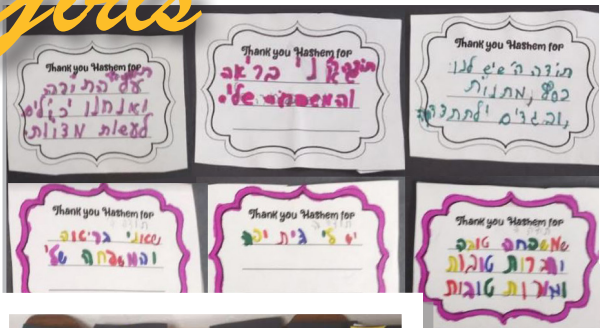
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
1G Siddur Play 9:30 AM
1B Siddur Play 12 noon

MOTZEI SHABBOS, JANUARY 9
General Parent Meeting

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Sessions Resume

Girls



Thank you to the Cohn and Hala Families for the special treat!

After completing their JSAT High School entrance exams, 8G shows their gratitude to the Hala Family for sponsoring a celebration. They enjoyed decorating locker signs too.



Mazel Tov 4G on receiving their neviim this week! The girls also practiced their Hebrew literacy while decorating cards to say what they are thankful to Hashem for.

Thank you HASHEM!

Boys

2B celebrated their chumsha mesiba and told their Rebbe what they are thankful to Hashem for...

- ... giving us food and drink -Isaac Greenstein
- ... creating the world -Uriel Hamerman
- ... giving me good parents -Shlomo Walter
- ... having a family -Tzvi Fuerst
- ... creating me -Shmuel Yaniv
- ... my house -Nash Follman
- ... making me healthy -Shmuel Samuels



3B reinforces their writing skills while being grateful

Although I am thankful for many things, these are my favorites, to begin with I am very thankful for school because I get smarter. Next my teacher who helps me learn. Best of all I am thankful for my family who are my friends. All in all I am very thankful.

By: Naftali Cohen

Name: Menachem Herman
There are many things I am thankful for. First of all, I am thankful for life, because it is beautiful. Next I am thankful for food. Because it is yummy, also I am thankful for movies. Because they are cool and I love them. As you can see there are many things I am thankful for. My family.

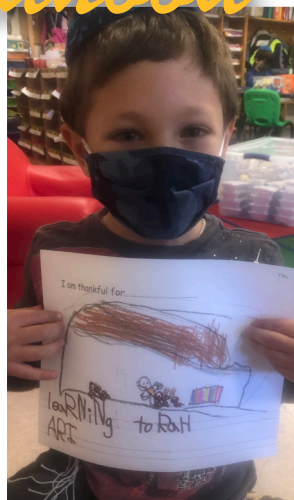
By: Menachem Herman

Name: Daniel Lazarus
Although I am thankful for many things, these are my favorites. To begin with, I am thankful for my family because it is warm. Next I am thankful for my friends. Because they make me feel happy. I am thankful for my family because I love them. Clearly, I am thankful for a lot of things.

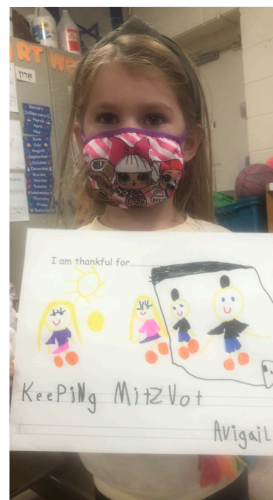
By: Daniel Lazarus

Early Childhood

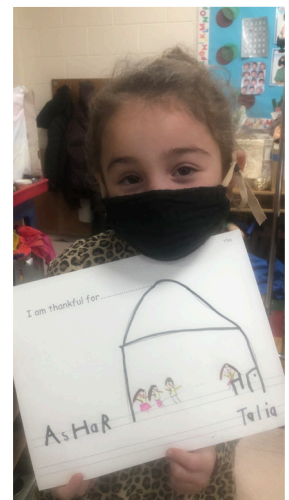
One key component of teaching a unit in ASHAR's Early Childhood program is connecting the unit and lessons to our everyday lives, thereby making the lessons meaningful to the children. The connection here was very simple. Thanksgiving is not only a story from many years ago, it is a story of our grandparents' and great grandparents' journey as Pilgrims to America, as well. This is a very important aspect of Thanksgiving, an American holiday that relates to us as Jews. The teachers implemented this meaningful approach to their lessons to make the connection comprehensible and relevant to the children. We are thankful to live in a country that allows us to live as frum Jews. Here is what they are thankful for!



"Learning Torah"



"Keeping Mitzvot"



"ASHAR"