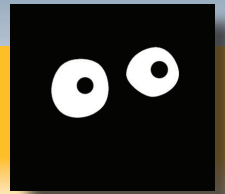




# ASHREINews



## Menahel's Message "Family First!"



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 atem 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 their sons and daughters. Family first, and family always!

**Shabbat Shalom!**

**-Rabbi Ari Jacobson**

Menahel/Dean

## Important Upcoming Events

MOTZEI SHABBOS, JANUARY 8  
**BINGO Parents Night Out 8:00PM**

MONDAY-TUESDAY, JANUARY 17-18  
**Midterms Grades 7-8**

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, JANUARY 20-30  
**Mid-Winter Break**

MONDAY, JANUARY 17  
**Nursery Tu B'Shvat Mommy & Me  
9:30AM**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19  
**PreK Brachot Fair 9:30AM**

MONDAY, JANUARY 31  
**Sessions Resume**







## Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

Principal, Early Childhood and First Grade

Enjoy the pictures from our busy week!  
Parsha, Brachot, Winter, Space, Aleph Bet,  
ABC's, math, and so much more!

Have a wonderful Shabbos!



### Parsha



### ABC's



### Aleph Bet



### Chalau U'dvash



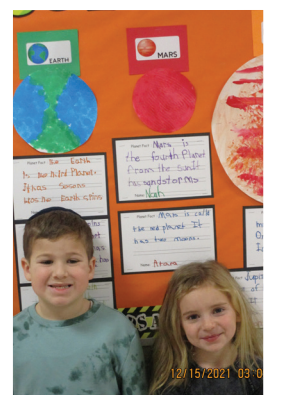
### Brachot Unit



### Winter



### Space Unit





# ASHAR GIRLS

## DIVISION

**Mrs. Debby Jacobson**

Principal, Girls Division



ASHAR prides itself on its extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Co-curricular refers to school programs that complement something that our students are learning at school. At ASHAR, we work with the whole child, providing an environment that connects *limudei kodesh* and general studies curriculum. Co-curricular activities enhance the intellectual, social and spiritual development of our students. By providing a full complement of co-curricular activities, we allow each child to excel in his or her areas of strength. This week our students celebrated *Rosh Chodesh Shvat* with a brand new writing project. Collaborating with their Morot and ELA teachers, the girls were challenged to list as many items as they could find relating to the number seven in Judaism. Based on the concept of *כל השבעין חביבין* and in conjunction with the mitzvah of *Shmita*, the girls will now write poetry based on these concepts. The girls were excited to get started. We can't wait to see their inspiring results.

Chodesh Tov!



4G Rosh Chodesh treat



First through third grade girls visited the ASHAR farm in honor of Chodesh Shvat



Place value game in 2G



Middle school girls enjoyed Rosh Chodesh Shvat by creating murals using beans and corn



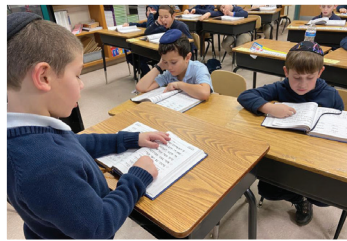
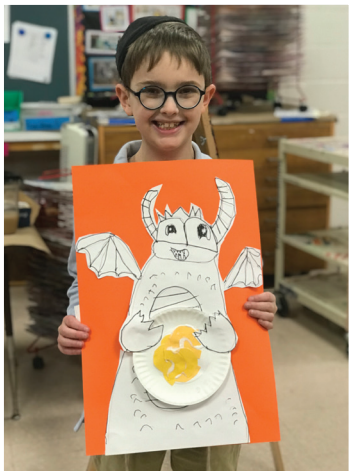




5B melave malka at Rabbi Hoffman's house



Extension activity for the poem "Shape of Things"



# 100 Brachos

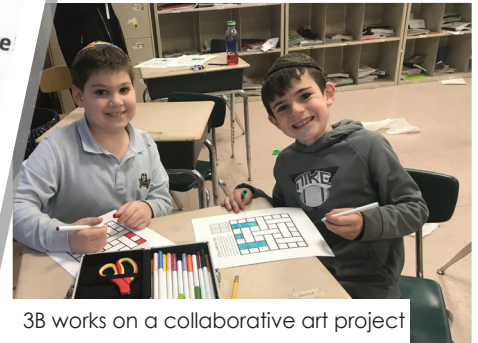
As part of our Emunah and Tefilah Initiative, the middle school boys are participating in a Brachos Challenge

## 100 Brachos Challenge

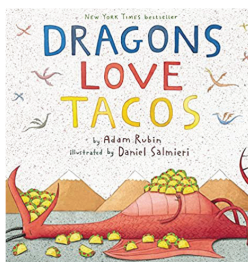
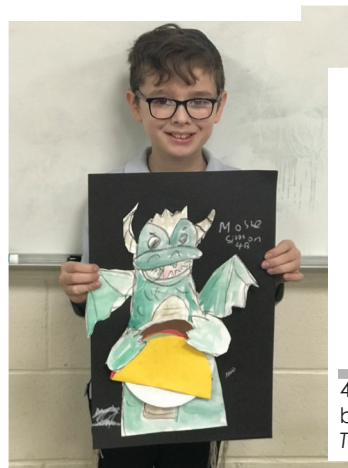
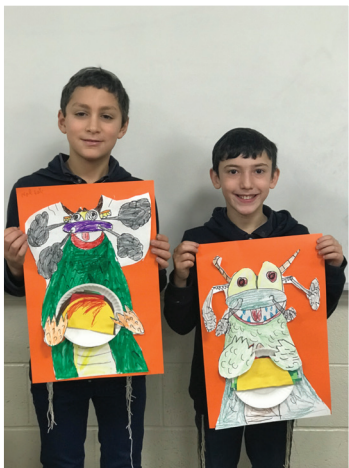
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

MON TUE WED THU FRI  
Circle the day of the week

- Shacharit (47)
  - Birchot Hashachar (15)
  - Tefilin (2)
  - Tzitzit (1)
  - Asher Yatzar (1)
  - Al Netilat Yadayim (1)
  - Elokay Netzor (1)
  - Birchot Ha'tora (2)
  - Baruch She'amar (1)
  - Yishtabach (1)
  - Birchot Shema (3)
  - Shemona Esrei (19)



3B works on a collaborative art project



4B made artwork inspired by the book "Dragons Love Tacos"





# What We Are Writing

## Let's Go Sharks!

By: Esther Weinstein (8G)



"I'm telling you, these teams are gonna be shocked by the combination of everything you guys bring to the table," Coach Feuer reminded us various times before the game. Putting our hands together for one last moment before game-time, with a deafening "ASHARKS!" ten focused and relentless middle school girls

marched to the center of the court with their heads held high.

On Monday, January 3, the Ashar Sharks girls varsity basketball team competed against the Yavneh RedHawks. We emerged victorious against one of the top-seeded teams in the league, 33-23, in our own gym. This marks our second win of the season and bettered our record to 2-0.

Leading the scoring were Blimi Farkas, Ahuva Remez, Esther Weinstein, and Kaila Kirsh. Blimi dropped 20 points before fouling out of the game in the fourth quarter. Esther, Ahuva, and Kaila went for a combined 13 points. On the defensive end, Esther, Ahuva, and Blimi played some great perimeter defense. Esther, locking up Yavneh's point guard, stuffed her so the latter had no choice but to get rid of the ball and chuck it over Esther's head. Ahuva and Blimi were ready to intercept the passes, which they converted into some flashy fast break plays. Michal Benovitz played amazing defense down low, grabbing rebound after rebound both offensively and on the defensive end, as well as making some important steals. Shaina Kirsh, Malky Mintz, Racheli Rappoport, Freeda Oliver, and Michaly Zimerman all made their presence felt on both ends of the floor, playing great defense and executing plays smoothly.

With 20 seconds left in the game and ASHAR up by 10 points, Yavneh head coach Jeremy Nussbaum threw his hands up in the air in surrender and despair. He motioned to the ref, as we all processed that the opposition had just had too much. The game had been forfeited. The Asharks and our fans flooded onto the court, belting out screams and jubilation. The exhilaration and pride in the air was palpable as we ran, fast as

cheetahs, to get a picture under the scoreboard of our win. We proudly held up two fingers to symbolize our two wins to start off the season.

Monday night was about so much more than just the game itself. It was beautiful to be able to reward our fans with a win and see their passion for our team. The ASHAR girls have only played two games so far this season, yet the fans have already proved that they will be here for us through thick and thin. Their presence has been obvious, and creative chants have already been put together. Eighth grader Ariela Neiman, whose passionate cheers during the game could be heard from miles away, shared, "You could tell everybody was working together. This game was about the team, not one person." Sixth grade teacher Ms. Benovitz showed her Asharks pride by printing out some lovely photos of her sister Michal, clad in her renowned shark costume.

While our next game will not be played on Sunday and is in the midst of being rescheduled due to precaution of COVID and flu, the Asharks look forward to getting back on the court on January 16. Mrs. Reifer laughingly shared during the post-game excitement, "I'm never taking a basketball away from you girls in class again!"

That would be a wise decision. The Asharks never want to stop working. We never let up. And with the extra practice we will now receive in Mrs. Reifer's class, we look forward to converting our two wins to three next Sunday vs GOA in the ASHAR gym, home of the Sharks.





## Mrs. Mindy Reifer

Assistant Principal, General Studies



## Mrs. Jennah Schuh

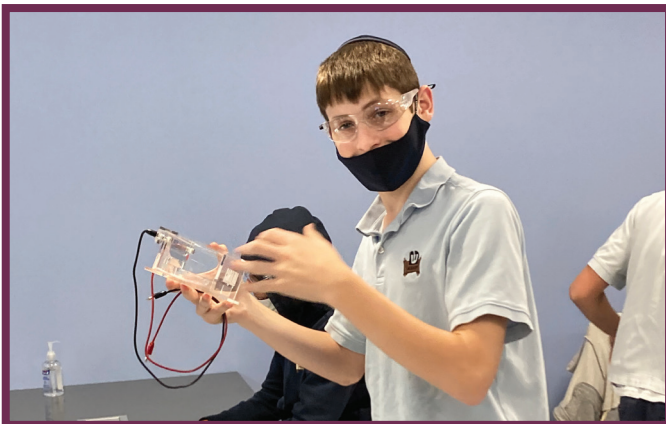
Assistant Principal, Students



### **Eighth Grade visits the Regeneron DNA Learning Center**

Together with Mrs. Reifer and Mr. Sartwell, the 8th grade boys visited the Regeneron DNA Learning Center yesterday and participated in a fictitious crime scene investigation. The boys learned how to use electrophoresis to analyze DNA segments and compare DNA sequences.

The interactive lab allowed the boys to be active participants in every stage of the process. They used micropipettes to add DNA samples to a hardened gel material. They ran the gel with the DNA samples through electric currents, separating the negatively charged DNA fragments. They compared the results, visible under UV light, and then used clues to determine which suspect had committed the crime. This trip was a culminating activity in the crime mystery ELA unit, but the boys demonstrated their impressive DNA knowledge, thanks to Mrs. Seltzer, their 7th grade biology teacher.



# Mazel Tov!

**Sara Pels (6G)**  
on her Bat Mitzvah

**Baruch Yosef Kushner (7B)**  
on his Bar Mitzvah

**Gabi Sabol (7B)**  
on his Bar Mitzvah

**Kenny & Tammy (Wolinetz) Schaum (Class of 1978)** on the engagement of  
their daughter **Lauren (Class of 2012)** to Zach Friedman



# PARENTS NIGHT OUT

**THIS  
Motzei  
Shabbos!**

ASHAR Gym  
8:00pm-10:00pm

**RSVP Required** ★ ★ ★  
[www.ashar.org/bingo](http://www.ashar.org/bingo)

Questions?  
[events@ashar.org](mailto:events@ashar.org)



**COCKTAILS FROM BAR SIMCHA**  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED







# CHILLZONE

— NEW SEASON STARTING —

[chillzone.org](http://chillzone.org)

[insta@chillzone\\_national](mailto:insta@chillzone_national)

[fb@chillzoneintl](https://www.facebook.com/chillzoneintl)

**BOYS** **Monsey**

Young Israel of Monsey  
58 Parker Boulevard  
Monsey NY 10952

**Saturday nights  
@ 7:00 pm**

Need info? [chillzone@thezone.org](mailto:chillzone@thezone.org)

Rabbi Braunfeld: (845)-304-1704

Ari Neuman: (732)-569-5007

J B Kula: (443)-897-7304





SAVE THE DATE

GAME  
*Night*

3.27.22

ASHAR ANNUAL DINNER