

ASHREINews



Weekly ASHAR Newsletter

Menahel's Message: Substance over Style

Each time Moshe Rabbeinu approaches Pharaoh, he is accompanied by his brother Aharon, who serves as his spokesman. As we know, Moshe was *k'vad peh*- he had difficulty speaking- and his older brother was selected by Hashem to serve as his mouthpiece. Why couldn't Hashem have made Moshe physically perfect? If G-d can split the Red Sea, would it have been so difficult to make sure that the greatest of prophets was also articulate?

Rabbeinu Nissim, in his classic *Derashos HaRan*, suggests that G-d purposely selected a leader and *navi* who was not an eloquent orator in order to ensure that the Children of Israel gravitate to Moshe solely based on their belief in Hashem and their recognition of Moshe's innate righteousness rather than being attracted to a charismatic showman. The leader destined to lead us out of slavery and bring down the Torah would per force have to be appreciated for what he *was* and not for how he presented himself. Moshe, as the Chumash later reports, was "*anav mi'kol ha'adam*", as *anivus* encompasses not simply humility in the limited sense but more broadly, substance over style.

When initially approached by Hashem to lead B'nei Yisrael out of Mitzrayim, Moshe demurs: "*mi anochi ki eilech el Pharaoh*". Hashem responds "*v'zeh l'cha ha'os ki anochi shlachicha*." Your ever-present reluctance born out of humility will serve as a constant indication that I have sent you. One who is truly humble and understated, explains the Meshech Chochma, best represents Godliness and is most likely to enjoy an especially close relationship with the Ribbono Shel Olam.

Contemporary society embraces charisma and typically overlooks those who do not promote themselves- and by contemporary society, I refer to the Jewish world as well. Teach your children to pay attention to all, and to learn especially from those who get more points for substance than style. Those are the people cut from the mold of Moshe Rabbeinu.

Shabbat Shalom!

Rabbi Ari Jacobson

Sunday Program, 8-11:30am (note special time) to accommodate special trip for regular participants during first half of the year!

Names Not Numbers

by Mrs. Mindy Reifer, Director of Curriculum,
General Studies

For the third consecutive year, ASHAR's senior class is participating in the Names, Not Number oral history film program, a student-centered project that involves our children in every aspect of creating a documentary about the Holocaust. This program provides our graduating students with a unique opportunity to strengthen a host of skills. The very topic is innately important, and our students understand the significance of their work. Additionally, each year we improve the program, incorporating new elements into this naturally engaging, multi-disciplinary experience.

The students begin the process learning about the era of interwar Europe. For this first stage, we focus on enhancing literacy skills, as the students read a nonfiction book and then organize the main points in a visual display. The next stage involves a trip to the Jewish Heritage Museum, during which students learn how to analyze artifacts, inferring and drawing conclusions based on the research they have completed.

Once we have finalized our cast of survivors, students receive short bulleted biographic outlines. They use this minimal information to launch investigative research into the specific details of their survivor's history. They then create questions customized to the experience of their survivor, gaining expertise in journalism, synthesis of information, and inter-generational interactions. Students are trained in videography and interviewing techniques during the process of perfecting their research. By the time the scheduled interviews arrive, students have already honed a series of skills in a serious, yet exciting, manner.

The interviews themselves involve a complicated synthesis of speaking, listening, and social-interaction skills. Students are taught to portray respect and demonstrate empathy. They learn the importance of eye contact and close listening. They learn to speak up and be assertive when necessary, and they learn to project their voices to hard-of-hearing octogenarians.

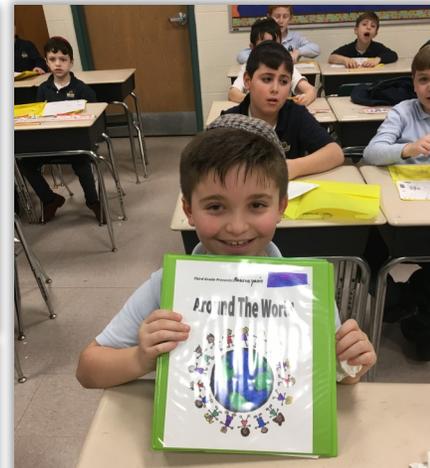
The skills enumerated above are simply representative of the many skills that students will master in this year-long program. Students practice summarizing skills, learning to edit 2-hour interviews to succinct 15-minute narratives. They learn to write structured biographies and reflective essays. They create masterpieces of Holocaust art, using symbolism and imagery to express the horrors of the survivors' experiences. Perhaps equally important, they learn to work collaboratively as a team and to divide work among their group-mates, while still taking personal responsibility for due dates and deadlines.

The 8th graders look forward to hosting you and the greater community at the premier of this year's documentary on Sunday, April 22, 2018. We know you will be as proud of our students as we are.

ASHAR Boys

TOMCHEI SHABBOS

As part of our month of chesed Allan Rosenstock from Tomchei Shabbos came to speak to the boys about the value of understanding the plight of others. He spoke of kids who heard the message of kindness and today have made a difference. After all the products were gathered, some of the boys had the opportunity to load up a bus to deliver to Tomchei Shabbos in time for Thursday's Shabbos distribution. He mentioned ASHAR's chesed programs and ended with a bracha that every child should take to heart the specialness of being a part of Klal Yisroel.



Chutz Le'seder Top Earners

We are very proud of the boys are participating in our Chutz L'seder program which involves boys learning outside of class time. Learning ranges from Shnayim Mikrah to Gemara at an Avos U'banim program. There are several boys who deserve special mention who are our top earners.



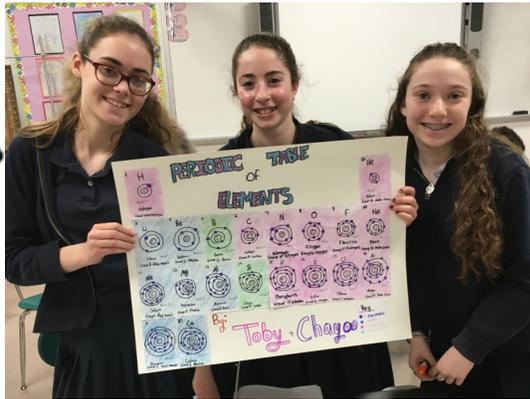
תורה חוץ לסדר

TOP EARNERS OVER 1000 Points			
1	4201	Gordon D	Shimshy
2	4025	Teicher	Oliver
3	2765	Gershon	Eliyah
4	2725	Friedman J	Kedem
5	2495	Nissel	Eitan
6	2432	Feuer	Shmuel
7	2105	Gershuny	Davi
8	2042	Schreiber	Avi
9	1903	Schmutter	Yoel
10	1880	Glanz	Yossi
11	1820	Friedman J	Pe'er
12	1780	Zupnik	Michael
13	1690	Fetman	Max
14	1682	Haymov	Benny
15	1520	Katz M	Hillel
16	1413	Reifer	Nachi
17	1200	Greenwald	Yoni
18	1130	Koenig N	Moishe
19	1060	Kurkus	Menachem
20	1010	Chapman	Isaac

* Top 14 earners will be going on a special trip with Rabbi Chaitovsky

Battle of the Cans, Class winners: 5G and 4B. Yashar Koach to all!

3B students are hard at work on their Around the World Almanacs. They learned about the Western Hemisphere and will be reading and writing about Mexico during the upcoming week.



Students in 8th grade created science posters displaying the first 20 elements of the periodic table. They needed to include the element's name and symbol, the group and period of each element, and a Bohr model of each element including the correct number of protons, neutrons and electrons.

Our fourth and fifth grade girls are learning to play guitar!



This week our 6-8 grade girls went on a special chesed trip. The girls were divided into teams and headed to Evergreen. Each team was given a list of clues and a shopping cart. The teams solved the clues and found items needed for the Chesed 24/7 hospital rooms. The items will go directly to stock the Chesed Rooms. A special thank you to Jackie Carter for raising the funds for this beautiful project with her pre-Sukkot Bake Sale. Kol Hakavod!

MINYANaires of the Week Two Rounds of Torah Bowl in the Books!

5th Grade	
Glick	Mayer
Litenetsky	Ari
Lunger	Yudi
Bar- David	Elroee
Blachman	Eli
Kurkus	Shneur Zalman
Schwartz M	Shua
Neumann	Moshe
Friedman J	Kedem
Fetman	Max
Gershuny	Dovi
Levi Y	Aryeh
Herschmann	Netanel
Fonfeder	Avi

7th Grade	
Benson	Gavriel
Feig	Shimmi
Schreiber	Avi
Frydman	Mendy

8th Grade	
Fried	Shimmy
Gershon	Eliyah
Glanz	Yossi
Haymov	Benny
Nissel	Eitan
Schmutter	Yoel
Meshchaninov	Yosef

Our students have competed in 2 rounds of Torah Bowl covering the Parshios of Bereshis through Toldos with Rashi. In our most recent event at Westchester Day School, our girls won 1 game and competed hard in all of the others. The boys have extended their unbeaten streak, having won all 8 games that they played this year. The competition includes Westchester Day School, YNJ and Moriah rounding out the Northern Division of Junior Torah Bowl. There are 3 other divisions. **Hatzlacha Raba** to the children as they continue studying the remainder of Sefer Bereshis as well as *hatzlacha* to Rabbi Chaitovsky, who coaches both teams.

ט"ב

6th Grade	
Chapman	Isaac
Friedman J	Pe'er
Greenwald	Yoni
Katz T	Moshe David
Sorotzkin A	Tzvi
Teicher	Oliver
Frankel	Natali
Huerta	Daniel
Nissel	Ilan
Kurkus	Menachem
Turner	Tani
Landau K	Sam
Rozenberg	Yaakov
Sabol	Aron

Dear ASHAR Community:

Shalom! I am collecting *tzedaka*, be"H, to help a close family friend and Rosh Kollel in Eretz Yisroel whose house burnt down in a tragic fire last Friday night. B"H, all the members of his family escaped unharmed, but because the Rav lives in an isolated Yishuv in the Judean Hills, firefighters were unable to arrive until nearly all of his home—and *all* of his furniture, appliances, the family's clothing and bedding and *seforim*—were consumed. They are left with almost no physical possessions. Various Israeli *chessed* organizations are helping, but the family needs much more. I am trying to help this family, and I can guarantee that this large family is truly needy and worthy of receiving *tzedaka*.

If you have *tzedaka* or *ma'aser* money available, it will be a great Mitzvah to help this family. Rabbi Jacobson is graciously allowing cash to be given or checks to be written to Young Israel of Monsey & Wesley Hills, for those who would like a tax-deductible receipt. May Hashem bless us and all *klal Yisroel* with good health and safety, as well as *nachas* from our families.

Good Shabbos & Thanks, **Rabbi Daniel Isaacs**, ASHAR 2B & 3B Rebbe

ASHAR Girls Varsity Basketball Team Plays at West Point

On Monday, the ASHAR Girls Basketball Team traveled to West Point for an unforgettable experience as the accommodating cadets made for a fun evening on the base. The girls were greeted by the assistant coach of the Women's West Point basketball team who explained the strategy the Army Black Knights were going to use vs. American University that evening. Our team was surprised to hear that Army uses some of the same defensive strategies as their own team. Before the game, the ASHAR girls made a fan tunnel as the Division I players came onto the court, and cheered them on during the game. Very excitingly, the ASHAR Sharks scrimmaged against each other on the arena floor during half time and received cheers from spectators. The girls appreciated the hard work of the team and were intrigued by level of commitment of the players to our military and country.



Special Thank You to the staff at Bubbas Bagels and 306 BBQ for the delicious food tasting. ** Stay tuned for a special discount card for ASHAR parents and staff.



From Left to Right, Ariella Seltzer, Leora Lerer, Lani Fetman, Raizy Glick, Toby Spielman, Ahuva Jacobson, Ariella Rudner, Brooke Carter, Jackie Carter, Coach Carter, Hadassah Kass

Merockdim

MINI.BOYS.GIRLS 2018

EARLY-BIRD
SPECIAL
SIGN UP BY 1.15.18
AND RECEIVE HOT LUNCH!



10 acres of ACTIVITY. 3 heated Swimming Pools including inground Pool for Mini's. Ping Pong Deck. Inflatables. Basketball & Volleyball Courts. Hockey Rink. Karaoke Studio. Baseball, Soccer Fields. Tennis & Pickleball Courts. Dodgeball Courts. Mini Golf, Go-Kart Track. GaGa Courts. Arts & Crafts. Gymnastics Tent. Archery. Rocketry. 52 Ft. Climbing Tower. 2 Ziplines. Ropes Challenge Course. Climbing Wall. High & Low Ropes. Petting Zoo. Music Playdium. Cooking. Krazy Maze. Batting Cages.

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