

ASHREINews



Summer Edition



Menahel's Message: Days Are Coming



The Gemara in Ta'anis relates that during the destruction of the first Beis Hamikdash, the youngest *kohanim*, the *pirchei k'huna*, cast the keys to the burning Temple heavenward, lamenting their inability to serve as proper guardians for the holy site, whereupon a palm-like figure reached out from the sky to accept the keys.

While there is no doubt as to the sincerity of these pure young souls- to wit, the emergence of the miraculous palm- Rav Ahron Soloveitchik z"l suggests that their willingness to return the keys was misplaced. Doing so constituted an act of hopelessness, and while a Jew surrenders to the will of the Almighty, he doesn't give up. Ever. Perhaps, suggests Rav Ahron, the Beis Hamikdash would have been more quickly rebuilt had the *pirchei k'huna* not returned the keys.

When the first translated, hardcover editions of Kinnos were published several decades ago, a number of senior Rabbonim were perturbed: why invest in a publication that is inherently irrelevant? Don't we believe that last year's Tisha B'Av was in fact the last one? And if no, why not? Indeed, Rabbi Shmuel Schneersohn z"l, the Fourth Lubavitcher Rebbe, would remark that a Tisha B'Av that falls on Shabbos and is pushed off to Sunday, a Tisha B'Av *nidcheh*, such as the case this year, is in fact a harbinger of the time that Tisha B'Av will be *completely* pushed off and supplanted by a new Yom Tov.

When one reaches the *beis din shel ma'alah*, the Heavenly tribunal, after a life (hopefully) well-lived, he is asked whether he looked forward to Redemption, *tzipisa l'yeshuah*, not *tzipisa l'Tisha B'Av*. While we certainly appreciate the annual efforts of the various individuals and organizations toward producing meaningful Tisha B'Av programming and videos, we hope that that they are equally well-prepared with alternate *derashos* appropriate for the Yom Tov our collective *teshuva* and *tefillos* will undoubtedly warrant. *L'alter l'teshuva, l'alter l'geulah!*

Shabbat Shalom!
Rabbi Ari Jacobson

Important upcoming events!

Family Fun Day: Sunday, September 2 (10:00 AM—12:30 PM)

First day of School Grades 1-8: Tuesday, September 4 (8:15 AM— NO BUS)

First Day of Bus Transportation, Wednesday, September 5



Early Childhood Orientations: N (9:30-10), PK (10:30-11), K (11:30-12)

First day of School Grades N, PK, K: September 6

Back to School Nights:

Tuesday, September 4 (7PM Grades 5-8; 8PM N-K)

Wednesday, September 5 (7PM Grades 1-4)



A Publication of ASHAR

360 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956 • (845) 357-1515 • fax (845) 357-1516 • www.ashar.org

Professional Development

Summer is traditionally a time to relax and rejuvenate. As educators at ASHAR, we view rejuvenation as a time to gain new insights, approaches and review best practices. The ASHAR administration and staff members have spent the past few weeks attending professional development workshops, meeting with teachers, evaluating new programs and methodologies. All of these efforts are being made to ensure that this coming school year, teachers will be using researched based instruction to give our students the best possible education!

(cont. on next page)

Student Planners

Homework planners assist students in learning personal responsibility by helping them keep track of assignments, tests, and upcoming events. While ParentLocker is efficient and practical for parent-teacher communication, our goal as educators is to help students master important life skills to ensure academic success throughout all levels of education. Therefore, this year, we will provide all students in the middle school division with identical planners. Teachers will then be able to guide students in the effective usage of homework planners and check student progress consistently. We will continue to facilitate student learning in the lower grades through weekly homework charts completed by the teachers and students in a grade-appropriate manner.



Boys



SHNAPIM MIKRA V'ECHAD TARGUM

Awesome Prizes await!!



Welcome

Rabbi Moshe Auslander

3B Rebbe



Rabbi Aaron Spivak

7B Rebbe



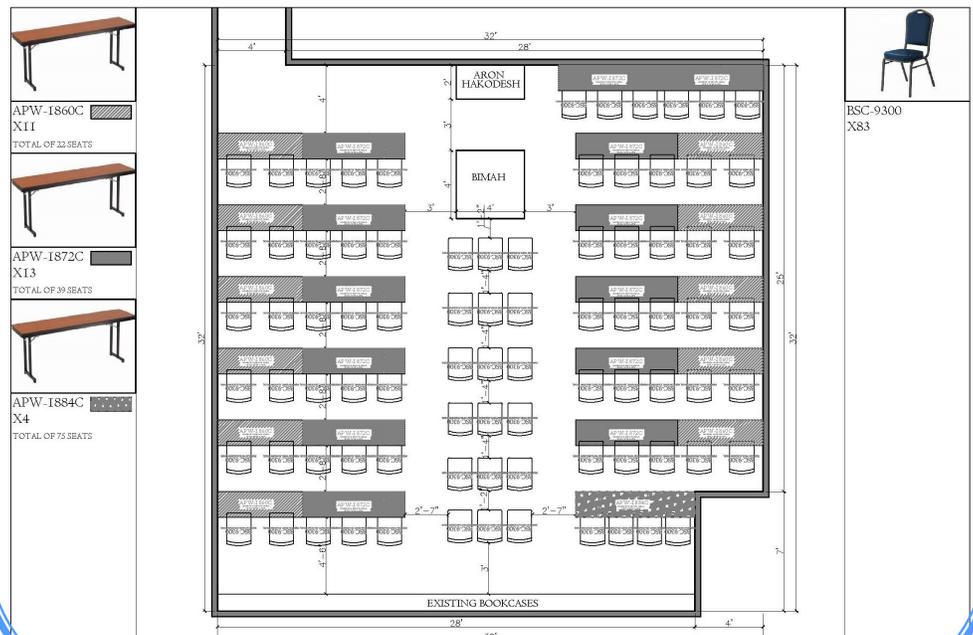
Rabbi Avraham Rand

2-4B Assistant Rebbe



New Beis Midrash furniture!

Please contact Rabbi Jacobson if you are interested in a full or partial sponsorship, perhaps in honor or in memory of a loved one.



Focus on Faculty



ASHAR is very excited to welcome back Morah Naomi Beller as our second grade *mechanechet*. Mrs. Beller is a wonderful educator and an effective instructor. She has the ability to impart knowledge in an innovative and creative way. Her love for Eretz Yisrael and lashon hakodesh is evident in all of her lessons. Morah Beller has a strong impact on all of her students. We are so excited to welcome her back to ASHAR and are looking forward to a terrific year.



It is a pleasure to welcome ASHAR parent, Mrs. Nechama Markowitz as our new art teacher. Mrs. Markowitz has worked as a yeshiva art teacher, muralist, photography editor and graphic designer. She brings to the table a love for children, yiddishkeit and all things creative. We look forward to having Mrs. Markowitz join our staff and inspire our children.

This Year's Theme

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's an ASHAR super girl! The ASHAR Girls Division will be testing its super powers this year with incredible programming and fun activities. The girls will be challenged to identify the amazing gifts that Hashem has given them and use them to succeed. Reading challenges, a parsha face-off, and constant social-emotional obstacle courses are just a few things we have in store.

Every girl has a super power within her waiting to be discovered. We can't wait to recognize them!

(Cont. from previous page)

Workshops that we have been attending include:

- The Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing Program for Reading, Spelling and Speech (LIPs) is a program that targets the development of an oral-motor, visual, and auditory feedback system enabling all students to prove the identity, number, and order of phonemes in syllables and words.
- Google Classroom Workshop – The Google Classroom workshop focused on integrating the benefits of the G Suite for Education platform with classroom instruction, allowing students and teachers to effectively and efficiently manage their digital workflow.
- SmartBoard Training – Training affords us the tools needed for SmartBoard use in all classes in all subjects. We were introduced to the latest software with up-to-date programs for students to access the curriculum in a variety of ways.

Girls



**THE
POWER
TO CHOOSE**



Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the first month of the summer is almost over; we can't wait to greet your children in just a few short weeks!

The teachers will be arriving back in school over the next few weeks to prepare and create warm and welcoming classrooms for your children. They will also be participating in several beginning of the year professional development courses, including a Classroom Management Workshop which I will be giving.

Please keep your eyes opened for a mailing including important dates and information for the beginning of the school year, Student Orientations, Parent Back to School Nights, school supply lists and more!

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we'll see you real soon!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Borgen

Principal, Early Childhood & First Grade



Rabbi Isaacs

on the engagement of his daughter

VORT: Aug. 5; 3-7pm

95 Terhune Ave., Passaic, NJ

❧
Morah Devorah O'Brien

on the birth of a great-grandson

❧
Mrs. Karen Rosenthal

on the engagement of her daughter

❧
Morah Miriam Wachs

on the engagement of her son

❧
Rabbi Chaitovsky

on his daughter's
upcoming wedding

❧
Morah Adele Koolyk

on her Aliyah

❧
Mrs. Jennah Schuh

on the Bat Mitzvah of
her daughter Shira

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



How many books have
you read so far?

Will your class win the
prize?

READ, READ, READ