

אדר א' - אדר ב' תשפ"ב . MARCH 2022

A PEEK INTO THIS MONTH...

# SN/T PSHOTS



ישיבת חפץ חיים  
TALMUDICAL  
ACADEMY

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## Parshas Shemini

In this week's *Parsha* we introduce many of the *halachos* and details of *Kashrus*. The last two *pesukim* of the *parsha* sum it up. להבדיל בין הטמא ובין הטהור ובין החיה לאדם – To distinguish between the contaminated and the pure, and between the creature that may be eaten and the creature that may not be eaten.

An *Adom Chashuv* once made the following observation. There are so many *Halachos* in the *Torah* regulating eating. What can be eaten, when it can be eaten and how it can be eaten. However, when it comes to *Davening*, there is only one *Pasuk* to command us to do so. (*Devarim* 11' 13). The spiritual side of man needs but one *Halacha*, however the physical part of man needs many rules and regulations. Why?

The reason is, that man's *Neshama* is naturally attuned to *Torah* and *Mitzvos*, which is our spirituality. However, the body is what needs to be disciplined and "conquered" in its *Avodas Hashem* to serve the *Neshamah*. Hence the myriad of *Mitzvos* to help in this *Avodah*.

The discipline a person brings to his *Guf*, body, will have a direct correlation to the *Neshama* of a person. *Yom Kippur* is the day of only spirit. We give up our bodily wants and desires for the day and connect to *Hashem* only on a

*Ruchniyus* plane. *Purim* is just the opposite. We try through the *Mitzvos* of the day, eating a *seudah*, sending edibles to our brethren and presents for the poor, to connect to *Hashem* through our *Guf*. Truly a much harder *Avodah* for a person to accomplish.

We are a unique people unlike any other nation or religion. Our *Avodas Hashem* is a combination of our body and soul. One supporting the other. We cannot be only spiritual beings as we are human and have material needs. On the other hand, we should not be hedonistic beings that live only in the moment for the momentary pleasures. We must graft the two in reaching for the stars with our feet firmly planted in this world.

This week we lost a *Gadol BeTorah*. Many compared him to the great *Gedolim* of Pre-War Europe. In his 94 years here in this world Reb Chaim Kanievsky, ZT"L attained unthinkable spiritual heights. However, he related to all people in *Klal Yisroel* because he was a real person. His life was his *Torah* but he also lived to help his people navigate this world of *Guf* and *Nefesh*. He was *Kulo Torah*, but he was a human being that ate and drank. His body was totally disciplined to assist his *Neshama* to continuously grow.

May we be *Zocheh* to grow in our *Avodas Hashem*, with body and soul working together!

Have a *Hailig Shabbos*!

**Rabbi Yaakov Schwartz, Middle School Menahel**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Sunday, April 3**      **LS No Sessions**

**Thursday, April 7**      **Mesivta Pesach Bein Hazmanim begins, Dismissal 1:00 pm**

**Friday - Monday, April 8 - 25**      **Mesivta Pesach Bein Hazmanim, No Sessions**

**Tuesday - Sunday, April 12 - 24**      **LS Pesach Break, No Sessions**

**Wednesday - Sunday, April 13 - 24**      **MS Pesach Break, No Sessions**

**Monday, April 25**      **LS & MS Classes Resume**

**Tuesday, April 26**      **Mesivta Summer Zman begins**

# 7TH GRADE BAR MITZVAH DINNER

It was a *kavod gadol* to have Hagaon HaRav Shimon Galay, a current TA grandparent, join us at the dinner.



# 5TH GRADE HASCHALAS GEMARA





TA Alumni had a reunion with Rabbi Yisrael Lefkovitz and Rabbi Yaakov Frand on their recent visit to Eretz Yisrael.



Rabbi Rifkind's shiur enjoying a kumzits featuring his father in law, Rabbi Chazzan Chaim Gartenhaus



Elementary talmidim exploring the STEM lab!



Morah Candi's class welcomes everyone to their smile shop in honor of Adar!



Rabbi Pinchas Shulman took his 9th grade shiur to meet with Rabbi Hopfer.



Mrs. Lenet's 1st grade class celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday!



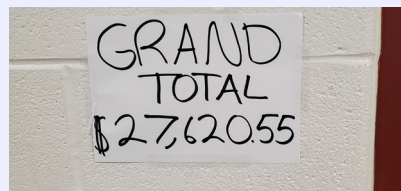
Kindergarten boys feeling wool with Morah Debbie!



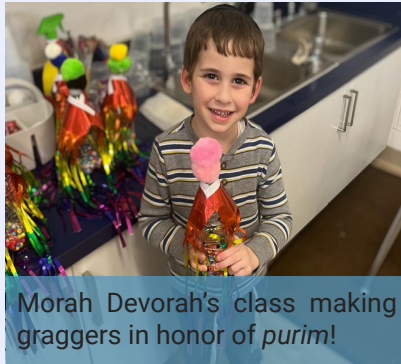
Elementary boys showcasing their talents to their friends at our talent show!



After a representative of Lev L'Achim spoke with Mesivta to kick off the annual pre-purim tzedaka campaign, the boys raised an impressive \$27,620.55!!



5th grade talmidim doing a project in Rabbi Reches' class!



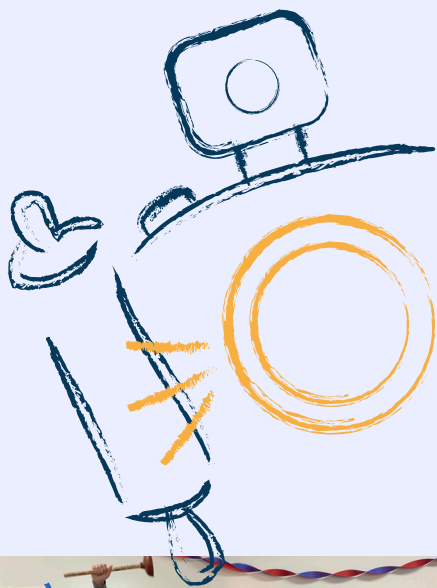
Morah Devorah's class making graggers in honor of purim!



4th grade talmidim learned b'chavrusa in the Mesivta beis medrash



Morah Honick's class playing purim bingo!



Rabbi Kahana visiting Rabbi Slansky's 4th grade class to discuss *safrus* and show them some *megillos*.



Middle School *purim* shtick!



Elementary talmidim enjoying a ninja course as part of the STAR program!



Morah Baatsheva's class making *hamentaschen* men!



Thank you to our 4th graders for working so hard to beautifully decorate our building in honor of *Adar*!



Our Lower and Middle School having their pictures taken on picture day!



The 4th grade *shiurim* made a *siyum* on *Maseches Sukkah* and *Parshas Vaera*!



Morah Judy Landman's class saying *brachos* and *amen* for the people in *Ukraine*!



Our early childhood talmidim celebrating the 100th day of school!



Morah Lisa's class using their imagination to turn their shoe box into anything they want!

# PURIM RUACH



# AROUND TA!



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# SUPPORT GROUP

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8:00 - 9:15 p.m. Via Zoom

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Registration in advance required.

Zoom link will be provided in your confirmation email.  
There is no fee for attendance. Confidentiality assured.

**APRIL 6**

**Making Your Holidays Happy!**

Facilitated by SHEMESH Staff

**MAY 4**

**Won't You Be My Friend?**

Facilitated by Dr. Isaac M. Friedman, PsyD  
Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychologist

**Save the date. Join us June 21**  
**for the SHEMESH Annual Meeting.**

SHEMESH, an agency of The Associated Jewish Federation of Baltimore, can respond in times of crisis and to whatever comes next, thanks to the funding and financial support it receives from The Associated's Annual Campaign. Now, more than ever, we need your support to continue meeting the growing and evolving needs in our community. We are here for you. We are Here for Good. Join us: [associated.org/giveshemesh](http://associated.org/giveshemesh).

Check out our new site at [shemeshbaltimore.org](http://shemeshbaltimore.org).  
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**WEDNESDAYS**  
**STARTING APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**

@ Kehillas Benai Torah- 6301 Green Meadow Parkway

2nd & 3rd Grades 5:45-6:45  
4th Grade & Up 7:00-8:00

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