



Message from our Menahel

In this week's פרשה, פרשת לך לך, the תורה tells us how אברם was informed about the capture of his nephew, לוט. "ויבא הפליט ויגד לאברם העברי..." (בראשית י"ד:י"ג) "And the fugitive came and told Avram, the Ivri..."

The מדרש רבה relates that אברם was called עברי in recognition of his position in relation to the rest of the world. אברם was on the other side. Certainly, he was on the other side geographically having come from ארץ ישראל to אור כשדים. But even more so, in his עבודת ה' he was on the other side, with his monotheistic beliefs, whereas everyone else was on the other side with their pagan, polytheistic beliefs. Even though אברם had many תלמידים, he was still alone in his fight against the pagan society in which he lived.

Rav Michel Feinstein, זצ"ל, son-in-law of the Brisker Rav, writes that this sense of being alone characterizes, to a certain degree, a תענית (י.) in our world. He quotes the גמרא in מדקדק במצות ומתמידים as "יחידים", individuals. He asks, "Why does the גמרא not refer to them as תלמידי חכמים or רבנים?"

Why are they called יחידים? HaRav Feinstein answers, יחידים, distinguishes תלמידי חכמים. The essence of a תלמיד חכם is someone who stands strong in the face of adversity and does not give in to peer pressure. He faces life's challenges with a fortitude unwavering in his עבודת ה'.

Our young, budding תלמידי חכמים are growing up in a society that requires them to be יחידים in order to properly serve ה'. There are many outside pressures that come towards us from the popular culture that surrounds us. We must teach and demonstrate to our precious children the ability to be יחידים. They are the future leaders of כלל ישראל and must be inculcated with the highest levels of לימוד התורה, מידות טובות, until we are משיח צדקינו במהרה בימינו to greet זוכה.

A Gutten Shabbos,
 Rabbi Binyomin Kessler

Reminder: Parent Teacher Conferences are rapidly approaching. An email will be sent out next week with details on how to make appointments. Please check your emails for details.

MAZEL TOV TO:

~ Rabbi and Mrs. Pinchas Lieser on the birth of a granddaughter.

~ Mr. and Mrs. Moshe Berger on the birth of a son.

~ Noach Borenstein on his Bar Mitzvah.

~ Levi Yosef Mirsky on his Bar Mitzvah.

~ Yitzchok Green on his Bar Mitzvah.

Announcement
E2K for Grades
6 and 7 are
held on Tues-
days from 5:30-
6:15.

New
E2K for Grade 5
will be held on
Wednesdays
from 5:30-6:15.



Sunday November 10

Limudei Kodesh
 Professional Development
 12:30 P.M. Dismissal for
 all Classes

Monday November 11

General Studies
 Professional Development
 2:00 P.M. Dismissal for all
 Classes

No NYC Bus Service

5th Graders Receive Their Gemaras

On Friday, November 1st, the fifth graders of Yeshiva Ketana Zichron Chaim U'Binah of Queens were presented with their first gemaras! We were privileged to have **Rabbi Ephraim Tanenbaum, Shlit"א**, Rav of Khal Nachlas Shmuel in Kew Gardens, address our talmidim on this momentous occasion. Rabbi Tanenbaum spoke to them about not wasting the opportunity to learn תורה by spending time with other worldly pleasures. The excitement was palpable in the room as each talmid was called up to receive his first Gemara. The talmidim enjoyed a seudah in honor of the occasion. After the seuda, the boys eagerly returned to their classrooms to begin their new limud!



The deadline for Pre I-A applications for the 2020-2021 school year is **November 15, 2019**

The Yeshiva's annual Zayde-Father-Son Melave Malka is just around the corner (Dec. 7 to be exact)! If you are able to sponsor or donate prizes, volunteer on the night of, or assist in any other way, please be in touch with **Mrs. Feintuch** 516-551-4464 or **Mrs. Koppelowitz** 917-704-9350. We thank you in advance for helping make this year's Melave Malka a success.

Program שנים מקרא

As we begin ספר בראשית, the Yeshiva has once again begun our שנים מקרא program. Talmidim from third grade and up are encouraged to learn the weekly פרשה, each grade according to a prescribed amount for them. The talmidim are rewarded weekly with ice cream (3rd- 5th) and pizza (6th-8th). At the completion of each sefer, the talmidim who do all the weeks of the sefer will receive an extra reward. The talmidim in grade 2 are also included in the program but with a little twist. Booklets have been handed out with two פסוקים and their targum per day. When the boys read their פסוקים and targum, they not only are eligible for their treat, but they have also completed their kria homework. Last year, we had great participation until the last week of Yeshiva!

Sponsorship of this program לזכר נשמת or in honor of someone is available on a weekly basis for \$72.00. Please contact Rabbi Karman if you are interested in sponsoring.

Parshas Noach Pet Show

On Friday, November 1st, Grades Pre 1A-3 were treated to a fantastic Pet Show in honor of Parshas Noach. The talmidim got to see some of the animals that Noach took with him on the תיבה. The boys were enthralled to see the animals run around on the floor of the dining room and to observe the many different characteristics of the different animals. It was a great way to bring the פרשה to life. More pictures are available on the yeshiva website: www.yeshivaketana.com



Grade 2 visits the Bronx Zoo

On Wednesday, October 30, Grade 2 went on a special trip to the Bronx zoo. The boys went around the zoo with their Rebbeim and a few parents who were kind enough to take time to go on the trip with the boys. The Rebbeim discussed the different animals in the zoo and which ones were Kosher and which ones were not. It was a real eye opening experience for the talmidim and they saw with their own eyes how great the creations of 'n are. It will be something the talmidim will remember for a very long time. Thank you to **Rabbi Eleff, Mr. Kulingayev, Mrs. Boehm, Mrs. Nissenfeld, and Mrs. Shmulewitz** for coming along on the trip.



Yosef Mendeleovich Speaks to Grades 6-8

Yosef Mendeleovich, a courageous refusenik, arguably one of the main protagonists in bringing the Iron Curtain down in 1990, visited our yeshiva to share his experiences as a young man in the Soviet Union with Grades 6,7 and 8.. He related how he had become interested in yiddishkeit though his interest was considered a powerful rebellion against the Soviet Union. Insofar as the Russians did not want young Jews knowing about or practicing their religion, Yosef was committing a crime by learning Hebrew and about Jewish traditions and halacha. His rebellion reached its climax when he, with several others, attempted to hijack an airplane to fly to Israel. He was caught and told he would be receiving the death penalty. Instead, he was sent to Siberia where he was incarcerated for 11 years. His love for yiddishkeit was apparent when he told us how he had withstood lots of pressure in his attempt to keep every mitzvah that he could possibly keep. Especially moving was his description of how he was able to keep Shabbos with nothing. His father had sent him two pounds of raisins which he made into some kind of "wine", two pieces of bread salvaged from his daily rations, were his "challahs", a piece of his handkerchief that he wore on his head as a yarmulke became a challah cover. The most poignant detail he recounted was how he discovered a small nail when he decided to clean his cell lechovod Shabbos. He took the nail and etched a picture of Shabbos candles and imagined that he was bentsching licht. He then danced joyfully and sang and there was his kabbalas and oneg Shabbos in his tiny, squalid prison cell. His narrative was absolutely inspirational and many boys got on the waiting list to read the two copies the yeshiva has of *Unbroken Spirit*, Reb Yosef's memoir.

