



Message from our Menahel

In the beginning of this week's פרשה ויחי, יוסף tells יעקב אבינו, פרשת ויחי, "... שני בניך הנולדים לך בארץ מצרים לי הם..."
 "...The two sons who were born to you in מצרים before my coming to you, shall be mine..."

And in the next פסוק, יוסף tells יעקב:

"ומולדתך אשר הולדת אחריהם לך יהיו..."

"And the children born after them (after יעקב's arrival in מצרים) will be yours... (בראשית מ"ח ה'ג-ד)"

יעקב's request seems to be the opposite of what we would have anticipated. יוסף should have considered the children born to יוסף after יעקב's arrival in מצרים as his own, as opposed to those born to יוסף before יעקב's arrival.

Rav Moshe Feinstein, זצ"ל, explains that the תורה is teaching us an invaluable lesson about the חינוך of our children. The goal of a father or Rebbe should be to inculcate in their children or talmidim a תורה חינוך. So even if they are separated, the child will still perform the 'רצון ה'. It is not sufficient for our children to be שומרי תורה ומצוות when they are in yeshiva and with their family, when it is easier; the real test is when they are not in yeshiva and not with their families. The true test begins when our children leave the yeshiva and their homes and interact with the outside world. Our children must be strong and imbibe the תורה חינוך we give over to them so it pulsates throughout their being, in order that they should be resilient and steadfast in their 'עבודת ה'.

יעקב was telling יוסף that your children that were born before I came down to מצרים, מפרימי and מפרימי, are mine, because יעקב saw the תורה חינוך that he had given to יוסף was successfully transmitted to מפרימי and מפרימי. On the other hand, any children born to יוסף after יעקב came down to מצרים, were influenced not only by יעקב יוסף's chinuch to יוסף but also by the presence of יוסף's brothers and their families who now provided an atmosphere, even a yeshiva, to influence the younger sons.

It is crucial for us, parents and the yeshiva, to impart to our precious children a true תורה חינוך that will carry them for the rest of their lives. May we be zocheh to watch our talmidim grow in their תורה חינוך, and may we have much נחת from them as they grow into the future leaders of ישראל.

Have a Good Shabbos,

Rabbi Binyomin Kessler

MAZEL TOV TO:

~ Rabbi and Mrs. Daniel Huss (7th Grade Rebbe) on the engagement of their daughter.

~ Rabbi and Mrs. Dovid Greenberger on the birth of a son.

~ Mr. and Mrs. Erez Aguyoff on the birth of twins.

~ Nissim Zamft on his Bar Mitzvah.

Save the Dates

February 23: 5th Grade
Sukkah Fair

March 1: 3rd Grade
Makkos Fair



Friday Jan. 17-

Tuesday Jan. 21

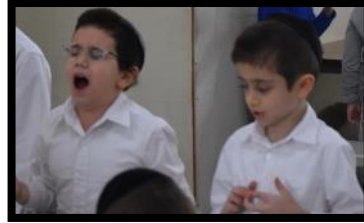
Mid-Winter Vacation
No Sessions

Sunday Feb. 9

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

Special Chanukah Mesibos

On Thursday, December 26, our yeshiva boys enjoyed their Chanukah mesibos. The yeshiva was divided into three different mesibos, Grades Pre1A –Grade 1 in the cafeteria, Grades 2-5 in the shul, and Grades 6-8 in the cafeteria. When the boys entered, they were greeted with beautifully decorated Chanukah tablecloths, plates, festive foods and Chanukah raffles. Grades 2-5 davened Hallel together in a moment of achdus; a feast for the ears as well as the eyes. The Chanukah stories that **Rabbi Perlowitz** related to the Grade 2-5 mesiba and the one that **Rabbi Kurz** recounted to Grades 6-8 were truly inspirational. A joyous time was had by all thanks to our wonderful rebbeim.



Siyumim Galore

Friday, January 3, **Grade 4** celebrated a grand siyum on משניות יומא ופרשת תצוה. The boys celebrated with bagels, cream cheese, doughnuts, tuna fish, egg salad, pickles and chocolate milk. On Thursday, January 9, **Rabbi Finkelman's** class celebrated the completion of פרשת קדושים with a special pizza lunch. **Rabbi Huss's** class celebrated the finishing of the first פרק מסכת with a special pizza lunch as well. We are so proud of the boys and we are looking forward to many more siyumim.

4L Talent Show

On Tuesday December 24, Mrs. BenChaim's fourth grade put on their annual Chanukah talent show. Dovid Moscovici welcomed us as we watched a laughter- and costume-filled skit by Avrumi Barnett, Aron Adler and Yehuda Hoch. Yisroel Tannenbaum ushered in a talented juggling act by Daniel Yushanayev. Aharon ArieH dazzled us with his piano skills and Elisha BenChaim left us shell shocked with his magic tricks. Yehuda Nat and Judah Turkel directed us into our final acts as Yaakov Berger played the keyboard and Yehuda Hoch drummed alongside. Yitzy Bamberger sang along to their music. Mattis Ungar whizzed on his rip stick. Thank you to the boys for bringing snacks and cheering each other on. It was wonderful to see the boys express themselves outside the classroom.



Grade 7 Visits Morris-Jumel Mansion– By Mr. Gelberman

High upon the hills of Harlem Heights resides a historic old house. Designed by architect Roger Morris in 1765, the Morris-Jumel Mansion has lived through many periods and events in the history of America and New York. Briefly the headquarters of the Continental Army during the American Revolution, the site now serves as a museum, complete with modern exhibits hidden within in its Federalist-style architecture. On Thursday, January 2, the seventh grade boys of Yeshiva Ketana of Queens visited this landmark home. Through the knowledgeable and relatable tour guides, the students heard snippets from George Washington's personal journal. Washington describes the room he stayed in, and the war room from which, at its high altitude, he could spy on the movements of the British troops. The Continental Army, however, suffered many failures in the New York and New Jersey campaigns of the war, and after two weeks they were forced to retreat from Harlem Heights to Fort Mifflin and Fort Mifflin. The students sat in the innovative Octagon Room, whose many windows would create ample lighting and a nice breeze in the heat of the summer. On the wall there hangs a portrait of the infamous Vice President Aaron Burr, who married Eliza Jumel, proprietor of the house after her family's purchase of it in 1810. The boys greatly enjoyed attempting to discern which aspects of the home were true original pieces, which included most of the furniture, and which were replicas, which included most of the drapery. On the second floor, the museum is currently hosting an exhibit on the history of New York baseball journalism, and the artist behind it was present. He told the boys that the Polo Grounds stadium, built in 1890 and home to the Yankees, Mets, Jets, and both New York Giants (baseball and football), would have been visible from the mansion windows until the stadium closed in 1963. In the basement kitchen, the oldest-looking room in the house, the boys got to hold original colonial-era cookingware, and a cannonball that was actually shot at the mansion (but missed). They also made their own secret cypher wheels to mimic ones that would have been used by Continental Army spies. The boys had a lot of fun and came home with a deeper appreciation of New York's role in American history.