

שבת קודש פרשת לך לך



B'CHADREI CHADORIM

Your inside view in and around Clifton Cheder

חשון תשע"ה / October 31, 2014

הדלקת נרות: 5:35

Volume 2, Issue 3

Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar, Dean

Mrs. Rivkah Isaacs, Early Childhood Director

Mrs. Odelia Schlisser, General Studies Principal

Our Budding Artists



By **Morah Rivkah Isaacs**, MEd, Admin.,
Early Childhood Director

Our little one brings home a "masterpiece"; maybe you've teared-up over it, maybe you've shrugged over it, maybe your fridge door is wall-papered in them. But maybe

you've asked yourself, "Why is my little tsaddik/tzaddekes spending time on this? Is there real "value" in teaching "art" to such young children? Is it just a way to let my child have a good, free time getting messy?"

(continued on page 9)

CALENDAR

**Friday
November 7th**

Short Friday Schedule Begins
All Programs
12:30 dismissal

**Motzei Shabbos
November 8th**

Rebbeim Melaveh Malkah
8:15 p.m.

**Sunday
November 9th**

Haschalas Chumash Celebration
Grade 1
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
see page 14

**Monday—Monday
November 10th - 24th**

KidStuff Coupon Book Fundraiser
see pages 10 and 12

**Tuesday
November 18th**

Science Fair
Elementary
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Shabbos Parshas Toldos
November 21st - 22nd**

*Rabbi Lazar & family coming to
Passaic for Shabbos*
full details to follow

**Motzei Shabbos Parshas Toldos
November 22nd**

N'shei Melaveh Malkah
SAVE THE DATE!



...And the winner
is.. See page 2

Marcheshvan Becomes Happy

What a wonderful morning we had at school this past Friday, יום 'א. דראש חודש מרחשון. Dressed in their beautiful white shirts, our Elementary talmidim came to the All Purpose Room for our 1st Rosh Chodesh Assembly of the year.

Special thanks to Yosef Bayaz, Binyomin Lazar and the 4th grade talmidim for setting up all the chairs. Much appreciated.

The boys listened with attention as Rabbi Erlanger enchanted them with a super story on the power of davening. (Ask your son if he still remembers what became of the תהלים the 2nd grade boys said during recess.)

Within moments, the room was alive with Grades 1-7 singing 'לה' taught to them by Rabbi Reischer accompanied by his guitar! We look forward to learning more songs as the year progresses.

Rabbi Lazar quizzed the boys on why only this month has the title מר - bitter. We learned that all other months have special days in them, either that currently are, or will אי"ה become ימים טובים. Only מרחשון lacks such a day. To remind us of the מר part of the

name we distributed crybaby candies to each boy (hey listen, it was a better choice than מרור).

Concurrent with our assembly Rabbi Erlanger announced the totals collected by our talmidim over the ימים נוראים. As a token of the Cheder's appreciation for their efforts, boys who raised \$10 or more received an ices. For every \$20 brought in, boys received one entry into the grand raffle. For every \$100 collected, boys received a \$15 gift card to Sports Authority.

Special mention to the following boys who each raised over \$100: Binyamin Gonsheer, Yosef Mittel, Zevi Strimber, Shimmy Wellikoff, Yeshaya Orent, Menachem Mitel, Shlomo Baer, Yosef Bayaz, Yaakov Feinsod, Hershy Friedman, Dovi Strimber, Nosson Tzvi Gedzelman & Eytan Wolf.

Super special mention to the following boys who raised over \$300 each: Ariel Zarkhin, Malkiel Magder, & Meir Zarkhin.

The 7th grade class who raised a total of \$952.24 was treated

to a yummy pizza and fries party on Wednesday.

And then, as the boys sat on the edges of their chairs, and carefully examined their raffle ticket numbers, Rabbi Lazar drew the winning one. The winner of our 5775's talmidim fundraising effort went to 2nd grader Aaron Shapiro. Aaron was awarded a \$50 gift certificate redeemable at either Z. Berman Books or Sports Authority.

Congratulations to all of the participating Jr. Fundraisers who collectively raised a grand total of \$3,848.10!



Artistic Expression

By Mrs. Odelia Schlisser, General Studies Principal

The topic of creativity this month in Mrs. Sharona Spitzer's Art Class (grades one two and three) involves trees. The students are forming vibrant, multihued, fall trees. These projects are fascinating; and filled with character.

The trees are stylized. The students are learning about shape and size while using high quality artistic paper. Mrs. Spitzer explained to the students how the placement of the branches and trees affect the positive/negative space of the project.

In observing this display, I was struck by the symbolism in their art. Psychologists and art therapists have interpreted drawings of trees to reflect a narrative of the individual's family and personal life. Roots demonstrate how grounded one is, as well as how the family created a secure base for this child. The branches repre-

sent the person's accomplishments and how much they have grown and spread. Holes in the trunk, or cut off branches are expressions of pain or trauma. It amazed me how each students' art had a different flavor or direction. The projects are an eclectic collection of the students' collective experiences.

I was reminded of the opening stanza of a poem by Emily Dickinson:

Growth of Man

Like Growth of Nature

Gravitates within

Atmosphere, and Sun endorse it

But it stirs

Alone

Much of what makes each child unique is his own perception, reaction and expression on his world. The family, and to an extent the school and community have a role in contributing and

promoting growth. It is our responsibility to provide the warmth (sun) and nurturing care (atmosphere) for child to grow.

Rav Wolbe זצ"ל wrote a book on chinuch called *זריעה ובנין בחינוך* (Planting and Building in Education). One of the tenets of this sefer is for parents and educators to have age appropriate expectations of their children, as well as parenting "actively" as opposed to reactively. Rav Wolbe taught parents to consider what is best for the child, and to encourage each child to grow to serve Hashem in his own way.

With this idea in mind, talk to your child. Get to know his world. Ask him about what he learned in Limudei Kodesh, General Studies, or Art. Find out who he plays with during recess. Nurture your child.

I am sure you and your child will be glad you did.

Rosh Chodesh in Early Childhood

The Early Childhood welcomed in the month of Cheshvan with great honor, even if it is MAR (bitter) Cheshvan because of its lack of chagim. I think by now we can all appreciate a full month of our children having school.

We also heard all about the month of Cheshvan, and why it is called Mar Cheshvan. We learned that we add a special tefilla in our davening for "Geshem" (rain) in Eretz Yisroel. Everyone learned a special geshem song that we sang together with achdus and simcha. At the end of our assembly everyone received a special Rosh Chodesh necklace.



Rebbeim Go Back to School

OVER 15 MILLION SOLD

**THE 7 HABITS OF
HIGHLY
EFFECTIVE
PEOPLE**

Powerful Lessons
in Personal Change

"A wonderful book that could change your life."
—Tom Peters, bestselling author of *In Search of Excellence*

Stephen R. Covey

With a New
Foreword and
Afterword
by the Author

"Thanks! That was really special."

"I cannot wait to put these ideas into practice." "That was really major." "I never thought of it that way." "Can we have follow up activities throughout the month so it doesn't get lost?" were just some of the unsolicited feedback Rabbi Lazar received following the first of his seven scheduled Limudei Kodesh In-Service Workshops.

While our students were enjoying breakfast, some special time at home, or catching up on some extra sleep, our Rebbeim arrived early at the Cheder to commence a series of training ses-

sions.

The focus of their work is based primarily on the best selling book, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Dr. Stephen Covey. His wisdom is an excellent example of חכמה בגוים תאמין, yet Rabbi Lazar repeatedly traced his ideas back to משניות, פסוקים, and דברי חז"ל.

The first of Covey's 7 Habits, known as BE PROACTIVE, teaches the concept that man has free choice to choose how to respond to any given stimulus. Leadership lies in that space, the

(continued on page 5)



PARADIGMS AND HABIT 1

THIS IS YOUR WORLD. SHAPE IT OR SOMEONE ELSE WILL.

Gary Lew
f SYMPHONY OF LOVE
PHOTO BY DAN MASON

BE PROACTIVE: YOU'RE INCHARGE

Rebbeim Go Back to School (continued from page 4)



gap between stimulus and response. For this reason, humans are responsible for their actions as they are able to choose their response. Hence the word responsibility is really made up of two separate words, response and ability, meaning the ability to choose your response.

Rav Noach Orloweck שליט"א postulates that the word in לשון הקודש for responsibility is אחריות, which is connected to אחרית. Perhaps that is because ultimately exercising our ability to choose is the determining factor of our future, our אחרית.

In this trip that we call life, Covey teaches that we are the drivers not the passengers. We cannot blame our circumstances on our parents, our spouses, our bosses,

the weather, or even the fact that there are only 24 hours in the day. We must be proactive and choose our response vs. being reactive and allowing others or outside forces to control us.

This workshop led to fascinating discussions among the staff as to how much choice children are given in their school day. What is the true meaning of בחירה? How

much leeway to choose should students be given?

Rabbi Lazar, the Rebbeim (and Mrs. Isaacs who honored the group with her presence) are proactively choosing to attend the next workshop In-Service, scheduled א"ה for Sunday, November 30th. The topic is Habit 2 – BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND.

Don't forget
to move your
clocks back
one hour this
Motzei Shabbos.



The Shining Faces of Early Childhood



The Shining Faces of Early Childhood



The Shining Faces of Early Childhood



Our Budding Artists (continued from page 1)

Allow me to share why art is included in the Cheder's Preschool curriculum.

The Purpose of Art

In its early form, art was used as a means of recording events, sharing stories, and passing on information and experiences. People created very basic art—pictures and stories—to relate about the world around them. Pictures were usually of animals, birds, plants, and humans in scenes of daily life or depictions of special events/occasions that happened (a hunt or sacrifice, for example.)

In recent centuries, the visual arts have become more sophisticated. The spoken and written word has become our main means of communication, which has allowed art to evolve and become more than just a chronicle of historic events or a way to share stories, (although it still can definitely be those things as well.) Art delivers *impact*.

Art is now more of a means of expressing emotion for the artist and evoking feelings in the audience. Those emotions may be pleasant or not - they can be heart-rending, challenging, or even aggravating - but a piece of art should be thought (and heart) provoking. The artist is trying to convey something; it's up to you to figure out what that is, or at least feel something in reaction to the work.

The bottom line is that art is a unique, special way to connect

and interact with other people.

What Can Young Children Learn from Art?

Art stimulates the developing mind. Studies show that exposure to great art increases a child's verbal ability, expressiveness, reasoning and logical thinking. It helps a child develop powers of analytical and critical thinking as he or she seeks interpretation and understanding. This is particularly valuable to the Jewish child, with the exact thinking skills, the thirst for knowledge and understanding that our curriculum is trying to seed in the young Jewish neshama. When a child brings a piece of artwork home it helps them explore and reinforces what they saw, heard and experienced while learning something specific. This should certainly be valued as highly as if they had verbally repeated information; it may well have more "staying power" in their memory because of their ownership of the material, the way they made it their own.

Art facilitates learning through tactile sensory input. Young children love to touch; it is one of the major ways they get to know and learn the world around them. There are many children that seek out the input and stimulation that exploring different media provide. There are children whose best sensory input stimulus is tactile and who learn best through kinesthetic learning, that is, learning through action

and touch. Art is a lifeline for these children, who are often overwhelmed (and/or *under stimulated*) by a classroom's words and the requirements of "sit & listen" education. Through art they get to do something and learn by experimenting. They gain feedback from their actions and its results.

Art allows expression for less verbally developed children. There are great benefits in giving the very young child an avenue of self-expression, even before the child's verbal skills have fully developed. Children observe the feelings and emotions that works of art evoke and see that art can have *meaning* beyond the images themselves. Finally, they will see that they, too, can express their feelings through art.

Art teaches valuable lessons and skills that transfer to other areas. Studying art can teach children about color, shading, design, shadows, lighting, perspective, composition, symmetric and various artistic techniques (not that we would use most of those terms when talking to an EC child, but trust me they are "getting it"!), which are useful in numerous other fields and academic subjects. Additionally, I find that many children begin to view the world around them from an artist's perspective; everything they see is a potential subject to explore and study. They become more attuned to detail; they notice things

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Our Budding Artists (continued from page 9)

and make connections!

Exposure to Art gives value and inspiration to children with artistic talents. Hashem created us with many different strengths and each one of us has gifts to share with the world. Some of us have been gifted with a tremendous "Ko'ach yetzirah", creative power. Children are inspired when they see the works of people who have utilized these artistic talents - gifts from Hashem - and are stimulated to push to reach their own potential. Just as we read to our children about Tsaddikim and Gedolei Torah so that our children will emulate them and their ways, so too we show them works of art so they will be inspired to create.

Art is fun, pleasurable and "shareable" for children. Even at a very early age, children can enjoy and even appreciate works of art. We see this at the Cheder, as the children walk down the hallway enjoying the pre 1a girls' self-portraits, discussing what they are seeing. They enjoy looking at pictures (photos and paintings) of fruit, flowers, animals, and other popular artistic subjects; the recognition of

objects lights up their minds and they enjoy seeing abstract pictures and "guessing" what they might be. Bright colors and sharp contrasts are visually stimulating and aid in brain development, as well.

Application of art in the Cheder

The most important thing to note about art in the Cheder is that when your children bring home "art work"... it is THEIR work. The goal of our Art Program is to foster your child's powers of expression and creativity. Our staff has plenty of opportunities to express and show off their own work (and we know you've seen them and appreciated them, too), but *this program is for your child!*

Another aspect of art at the Cheder is that many of our teachers are encouraged to have open-ended art activities. These are activities that do not have a specific, teacher-directed end or goals. Children will use materials, sometimes traditional (paint, glitter, crayons and glue, etc.) and sometimes not (scraps, wood pieces, or recycled material, etc.) There is no right way or wrong way other

than respecting each other and the materials. Our children love this type of exploration: experimenting, experiencing and creating. The end results are something to see and the process is priceless!

In the older classes we also want our children to have an appreciation of art and start to really notice the details of the world around them as well as in their work. With that goal in mind, we have added Art Appreciation to our Pre 1A curriculum. Paintings are one of the predominant categories of visual art, so we began by starting to look at some of the more famous classical artists and their works. We select the artist and the masterpiece(s) carefully – of course we are sensitive to Torah requirements! – and then observe and discuss what we see. We follow this up by working on our own artistic creations, emulating the technique that this particular artist employed.

Our creations will be on display, hanging in the all-purpose room, so when you are visiting the school please come and see them. Our artists love to know their creations are appreciated.



KidStuff Coupon Campaign

Coupon books are back! and you will be receiving yours on Monday, November 10th. Our coupon campaign will be from November 10th through November 24th. The valuable, family-friendly KidStuff Coupon Books are only sold through schools and our school earns 50% or more profit on each book we sell! Use just a few coupons and save more than the \$25 cost of the book. Remember to keep the book in your car. You will enjoy fabulous savings from ACME, Annie Sez, Children's Place, BuyBuy Baby, H&M, Crayola Experience, FunTime Junction, Hershey Park, Liberty Science Center, and more. Your family earns one FREE book worth \$25.00 for every 5 books you sell! Full instructions will be included.

Expanded EC Curriculum



We are excited about 3 new programs happening in our Pre-school!

On Wednesdays we are having our EC music program with Morah Sarah Klein. Many parents

might remember that last year Morah Sarah worked with after-care. She brought much warmth and care to our children in that program, but she has even more talents she is going to share with us! Actually Morah Sarah holds a degree in music and music therapy with children. Morah Sarah will share her amazing skills and talents with our Early Childhood students. She will work with them on music appreciation, rhyme and movement along with the joys of music and song. Each week a different EC grade will have the chance to work with her.

In our Pre 1a classrooms this month, they started two different classes/ additions to our curricu-

lum. The first is art appreciation and expression class, (see front page article).

The second is a social skills program based on the Do You S.E.A. What I See workbook (A Social Emotional Awareness curriculum for preschool).

Both programs will be run through the year. Our teachers will update you via their newsletters on what is happening in these exciting new programs.



Welcome To...

Miss Esther Sassoon, Afternoon Secretary



פרנס היום

Thank you to the פרנס היום sponsors who dedicated the Cheder's davening & learning:

- Mr. Jeff and Morah Civi Markinson: ו' חשוון - October 30th in memory of Esther bas Zvi Hersh ע"ה.



Mazel Tov To..

- Rabbi and Mrs. Gidon Lane on the bar mitzvah of their son.

- Mr. and Mrs. Jay Cantor on the birth of a baby girl.

- Mrs. Garelick (School Nurse) and Morah Hadassah (Nursery Assistant) on the marriage of their daughter / sister.

- Morah Tova (Emanuel) Morgenstern (former Kindergarten Morah) upon her marriage.

Quotable Quotes

- A Pre1A talmidah's mother told her: "In honor of your birthday today, let's go to Bagel Munch... just you and mommy." Her response was, "No mommy. I don't want to miss out on all the fun things that Morah Batsheva is going to be doing with the class!"

- The following exchange took place at the house of a Kindergarten child:

Mother: Please come upstairs to get dressed.

<Child comes right away.>

Mother: Wow! You came right away!

Child: Yes, Morah Kayla told us it is more fun to come right away when a mommy calls you.

Mother: It is certainly more fun for me. Is it more fun for you, too?

Child: Yes!

Mother: Hm, Morah Kayla is very wise.

Child: She is young, but she is also wise. That is because she listens and learns a lot from listening.



GREAT NEWS... We will be selling the valuable, family-friendly 2014-2015 KidStuff Coupon Books!

Families **quickly and easily save** more than the \$25 cost of the KidStuff book... Especially if they keep books in their cars! Our school earns at least a 50% profit per book sold!

KidStuff Coupon Books help save hundreds of dollars on clothing, shoes, toys, books, electronics, sporting goods, activities, food and more! Most coupons are valid immediately and offer savings through December 31, 2015. Also, your family earns one FREE book worth \$25 for every 5 books you sell!

**Look for our 2014-2015 KidStuff Coupon Book fundraiser...
We would greatly appreciate your participation!**

Family and Friends will ♥ saving with valuable coupons in the Bergen, Passaic & Hudson Counties KidStuff Coupon Book 2014-2015!!!

Toys“R”Us, Babies“R”Us, Macy’s, Lord & Taylor, Loft, Ulta, Bed Bath & Beyond, Payless, Sports Authority, Sears, Children’s Place, H&M, A&P, Pathmark, Gymboree, Michaels, Burlington Coat Factory, Disney Store, Aéropostale, P.S. from Aéropostale, Modell’s, Mandee, Annie sez, Famous Footwear, Five Below, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Claire’s, Century 21, A.C. Moore, Wet Seal, New York & Company, Jos. A. Bank, Francesca’s, Office Depot, Crazy 8, Lids, Yankee Candle, Marty’s Shoe Outlets, Dressbarn, Party City, Learning Express, BuyBuy Baby, Men’s Wearhouse, Skechers, Lego Store, Eastern Mountain Sports, Sally Beauty, Sweet & Sassy, Berkshire General Store, Jo-Ann Fabric, Fresh Market, Caché, Books-A-Million, Petland Discounts, Bob’s Stores, Six Flags, Action Park Mountain Creek, Mountain Creek Ski Resort, Dorney Park, Disney Live!, Disney On Ice, Sesame Place, Field Station: Dinosaurs, Legoland, Madame Tussauds, Crayola, Bowcraft Amusement Park, Liberty Science Center, Subway, Friendly’s, Domino’s, Moe’s Southwest Grill, Rita’s, White Castle, Dairy Queen, Dunkin’ Donuts, McDonald’s, and many more!



Visit www.kidstuffcouponbook.com to see more **FABULOUS** coupons!!!

*You're invited to the
Cheder N'Shei Membership
Melaveh Malkah*

Motzei Shabbos - Rosh Chodesh Kislev,

November 22, at 7:30 pm

At the home of Bina Zarkhin, 61 The Circle

*★ Hear Divrei Torah
by Shanny Gejerman*

★ Get to know one another, play a game

★ Enjoy dairy buffet

★ Sing kumzits together with live music by Sara Klein

★ Raffle

R.S.V.P. by text to (862) 485-4385 or email

Cheder.Nshei@gmail.com

\$20 pre-paid in advance; \$25 at the door.

Bring a friend and pay ½ price.

Checks can be made out to Clifton Cheder



THE CLIFTON CHEDER CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

First Grade Hascholas Chumash Celebration

WHICH WILL ת"א TAKE PLACE AT

AGUDAS YISROEL BIRCAS YAAKOV OF PASSAIC
262 TERHUNE AVE, PASSAIC, NJ 07055

ON SUNDAY, ט"ז חשוון תשע"ה / NOVEMBER 9, 2014
10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

AS EACH OF OUR TALMIDIM
RECEIVE THEIR VERY OWN CHUMASH

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Rabbi Yonah G. Lazar & Rabbi Daniel Presberg

חשוון / November '14 כסלו תשע"ה

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shabbos
						1 ה פרשת לך לך Move Clock Back 1 hour ⌚
2 ט	3 י	4 יא	5 יב	6 יג	7 יד Short Friday Schedule Begins: 12:30 Dismissal 🕯️ 4:27 p.m.	8 טו פרשת וירא
9 טז  1 st Grade Hascholas Chumash Celebration	10 יז	11 יח	12 יט	13 כ Mishmor - 7 th Grade	14 כא 🕯️ 4:20 p.m.	15 כב פרשת חיי שרה
16 כג	17 כד	18 כה Science Fair	19 כו	20 כז Mishmor - 7 th Grade	21 כח 🕯️ 4:15 p.m.	22 כט פרשת תולדות שבת מברכים
23 א ראש חודש כסלו Elementary: Rosh Chodesh Assembly	24 ב	25 ג	26 ד	27 ה Legal Holiday Early Childhood: No Sessions Elementary: 12:30 Dismissal	28 ו 🕯️ 4:12 p.m.	29 ז פרשת ויצא
30 ח Limudei Kodesh In Service Sessions Begin at 10:00						