Parshas Shemini-Parah

Staying Connected
Rabbi Odze F - 2 JS Coordinator

The mikveh (ritual bath) in Rabbi Meir of Premishlan's neighbourhood stood at the foot of a steep mountain. When the slippery weather came, everyone had to walk all the way around for fear of dangerously slipping on the mountain path. Everyone, that is, apart from Rabbi Meir, who walked down that path whatever the weather, never slipped.

One icy day, Rabbi Meir set out as usual to take the direct route to the mikveh. Two guests who were staying in the area saw Rabbi Meir striding downhill with sure steps as if he were on a solidly paved highway. They arrogantly wanted to demonstrate that they too could negotiate the hazardous path. As soon as Rabbi Meir entered the building, they took to the road. After only a few steps they stumbled and slipped, and needed medical treatment for their injuries.

Now one of them was the son of one of Rabbi Meir's close chassidim, and when he was fully healed he mustered the courage to approach the tzaddik with his question: why was it that no man could cope with that treacherous path, yet the Rebbe never stumbled?

Replied Rabbi Meir: “If a man is bound up on high, he doesn’t fall down below. Meir’l is bound up on high, and that is why he can go up and down, even on a slippery hill.”

This week’s parsha contains some laws about the possibility of foods contracting ritual impurity. One of the conditions for food to be able to contract impurity laid out by the Rambam (Maimonides) is it must be detached from the ground. As long as the food is attached with even one root, it cannot contract ritual impurity.

We are compared to the tree on the earth. When we are connected to our source the Torah we can stay strong and not become distracted by the many nonsenses that surround us. The most important thing is to stay connected.

Each day in school students Daven and learn Torah, constantly attaching and reattaching themselves to their source. We all need to stay connected and constantly reassess our connection to ensure it is a solid one. When we learn Torah and strengthen our roots our entire body becomes strong. The learning leads to action and deeds resulting in living a Torah life. May we all be connected above so we never fall below.

Shabbos Candle Lighting Times

Erev Shabbos
29 March / 22 Adar II 2019
Light Candles at 7:01pm

Shabbos
30 March / 23 Adar II 2019
Shabbos Ends at 7:56pm
Purim in the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre 2019

Purim was an exciting day for all of us in the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre. After much preparing and learning about the Purim story and the 4 Mitzvos the children were eager to be able to celebrate this special day. We enjoyed seeing all the children’s happy faces as they walked in the door ready to show us their different costumes.

They were also given the opportunity to participate in some of the Mitzvos of Purim, exchanging Mishloach Manos, giving tzedokoh and listening to the Megillah.

Parents were treated to cappuccinos and Hamantashen, which added to the extraordinary ruach, making this an unforgettable Purim experience for all. Thank you to Liran Adika from Gluten Free 4me for donating gluten free Hamantashen for the parents to enjoy. A huge thank you to Mr Shaya Rubinstein, Rabbi Dan Goldhirsh, Rabbi Peretz Schapiro, Mr Menachem Rapp, Rabbi Sholom Dickstein, Rabbi Mendy Rosenbaum, Rabbi Ari Schachter, Rabbi Gedaliah Levin, Rabbi Menachem Sabbath and Rabbi Shmuel Silcove for reading the Megillah in the Kinders and playground of the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre. Thank you to our photographers and videographers who captured the energy of the day, and of course a huge thanks to all our wonderful staff who once again have proved to be so dedicated, accommodating and ensuring the smooth running of the day.

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Music Corner

Morah Zehava Herzog - Music Teacher

This week in the Three Year Old rooms, we focused on different tempi (speeds). We talked about how music can be very slow, very fast and everything in between. We used an instrumental recording of ‘The Grand Old Duke of York’ to demonstrate this. The song begins very slow and gets faster with each new round played. We also used our rhythm sticks for this to make sure we kept a steady beat.

In the four year old rooms, we did a bean bag routine that involved performing a set of actions with the bean bag before passing it on to the person on the right. This passing activity also crosses the mid-line, which is an important part of children's development.
Pesach is Coming...

Another busy week in the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre has gone by as we packed away our Purim costumes and started learning about Pesach. The children have excitedly started preparing their Haggados and are enjoying the creative experiences that these activities bring. The introduction to the Seder with its story telling, number significance, role playing and repetition is also proving to be very entertaining. This time is also used to explore related topics such as pyramids and shapes, especially triangles.

Sustainability and Caring for our Environment - Tikkun Olam

The Gurewicz Early Learning Centre aims to take an active role in caring for its environment and contributing towards a sustainable future. We aim to develop positive life-long attitudes and values towards the environment and sustainability in our children. We want our children to become socially aware and show respect for their environment.

The children in Kinder 2 and Kinder 5 have enjoyed the opportunity to hand pick vegetables from the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre veggie patch and make a delicious, fresh salad that they enjoyed eating for lunch.

Kinder 10 introduced the boys to the concept of a worm farm. Worm farming allows us to recycle our food scraps and reduce everyday rubbish which can pollute our streams, oceans and water. They discussed some interesting facts about worms and discussed what the children can and cannot feed the worms. Each week the boys will collect their fruit and veggie scraps to feed their worm farm, embedding sustainability into their daily routines and practices.

While playing in the garden, Kinder 10 boys, Reuven, Daniel and Yoni were very excited to see a butterfly in the garden. The Morot took this opportunity to discuss the life cycle of the butterfly explaining that the butterfly was once a caterpillar. They read the story “The very hungry caterpillar” by Eric Carle, created butterfly paintings and cut and pasted their own butterflies.
Mercedes Dadon Crèche

Children, staff and parents thoroughly enjoyed the festive and fun Purim celebrations at the Mercedes Dadon Crèche this past Thursday. The children loved dressing up in costumes, singing songs and making Hamantaschen. The children were remarkably quiet as they sat so nicely and quietly while they listened to Esther’s tatty, Rabbi Glasman, read the Megillah. To fulfil the Mitzvah of Mishloach Manos, each child received a packet of crisps and raisins.

Dance Day in Kinder 11

The girls in Kinder 11 were treated to a ‘dance day’ organised by Claudia’s grandmother, Morah Stodal, who is visiting from Perth. The girls enjoyed dressing in dance attire and experiencing different styles of dance. This experience gave the girls a greater awareness of their bodies as well as developing their spatial awareness and listening skills.

Crazy Daisy the Clown

To celebrate Shushan Purim, this past Friday the children of the Gurewicz Early Learning Centre were entertained by Crazy Daisy the Clown who made the children laugh with her “crazy antics”. She was as funny as ever this year, her jokes and tricks enthralled our audience. We especially loved her spinning plates trick!
Shushan Purim
Rabbi Odze, F - 2 JS Coordinator

After a fantastic Purim at YP, the boys were treated to a special Shushan Purim magic show with Magician Luigi Zucchini! The students went in two shifts: Years F-2 then 3-6, this ensured all the children could enjoy the show and it was geared to their age. The boys were fully engaged, laughing at his hilarious antics and were spellbound at his tricks! He used a variety of techniques from riding into walls on a unicycle to pulling, what seemed like an endless string, out of his mouth. Everyone adored the little animals and were enthralled when he pulled a bird out of a photo and rabbits out of his hat. While making ropes change size and handkerchiefs appear out of a teacher's sleeve may be classics, they were still a great hit. A joyful Shushan Purim was had by all.

Music Open Day
Jaclyn Lanera, Instrumental Music Coordinator

Enthusiastic students had the opportunity to try musical instruments for the first time at our music open day last Sunday. The music department was buzzing with excitement as students attempted to make sounds under the guidance of our dedicated instrumental music teachers. Students were able to try a range of instruments offered in our program including saxophone, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, flute, violin, cello, guitar, piano and drums.

All enquiries about music lessons at Yeshivah can be directed to Jaclyn: jaclyn.lanera@ybr.vic.edu.au or 9522 8270.

Captains Corner
Yoav Cooper, Vice-captain

Wow what a week! Purim was amazing. It was amazing to see all the amazing costumes and the atmosphere was great!!!!!!! The technology committee were impressed by your photos and the winners are p-2 1st place is Zelli Gordon and 1st place 3-6 is Gadi Kass, 2nd is Sholom Ber Nakkar and 3rd place was Yair Frenkel. Congratulations! Congratulations to the winners of the Talent show, your prizes will be given to you in the next few weeks.

Have a good Shabbos

Art Competition Winner
Tamara Rubinstein, Art Co-ordinator

Congratulations to Ashi New who won the Grade 4-6 category at the recent communal Art Competition held on Sunday 17 March.

He won a gift card from Riot Art and a one year subscription to the National Gallery of Victoria.

Well done.
Purim Fun at Yeshivah Primary
Mishloach Manos
By Rabbi S Gorelik, Gemarah Teacher
Students formed an assembly line to pack Mishloach Manos for the Secondary School.
Pictured are: Ashley Micmacher, Ricky Horowitz, Joshua Sacho, Kovi Slater and Aaron Adelman.

Adar Games
By Rabbi S Blesofsky, Informal Education Co-ordinator
Year 8 students organised a series of games in the Werdiger Hall in honour of the festive month of Adar, aptly titled The Adar Games!
There were 4 sports running concurrently: Basketball, Soccer, Table tennis (the most popular game!) and High Jump.
Some very tight games were played and a good time was had by all.

Purim Spiel
By Rabbi S Blesofsky, Informal Education Co-ordinator
Teachers staged a Purim Spiel for the Secondary School this week. Four teachers assumed the identities of Rabbi Kimelman (played by Rabbi Wilhelm), Bo Hainhang from Maintenance (played by Rabbi Blesofsky), Mrs Rosen (played by Rabbi Doron) and Rabbi Blesofsky (played by Rabbi Gorelik) who each delivered their campaign to be elected as the new Principal of Yeshivah College.
Predictably, judges Rabbi Kimelman (the real one!), Mr Kartalis and Dov Paltiel could not agree on the successful candidate!
Staff and students delighted in the hilarious performance!

Torah Treasures
By Rabbi Y Gordon and Rabbi O Broh
Answer for Parshas Vayikrah
A large aleph can be found in the first word of Divrei HaYamim.
Question for Parshas Shemini
Which cousins are described in this פרשה as "brothers"?

Purim BBQ
Sholom Ruschinek, Year 11
Some of the Year 11 & 12 students organised a "Purim Street BBQ" on the corner of Balaclava Road and Sidwell Avenue, following the Purim celebrations at school.
Over $600 was raised through sales and donations, and this will be donated to the Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund and the VCE Minyan.
Thank You

We take this opportunity to thank Rabbi S Blesofsky, Informal Education Co-ordinator, for organising all of the Purim festivities for Yeshivah Secondary, including the entertaining Adar Games, the hilarious Purim Spiel and (with the Year 10’s) the action-packed Shushan Purim Carnival. (pictured here) Thanks to Rabbi Blesofsky’s efforts, this year’s celebrations have been deemed “the best ever”!! Yasher Koach!!
Hi guys!

What a whirlwind week it has been!
We started with our awesome dress up
days, house accessories and funny
hat and hair day! Everyone did an
incredible job and the creativity was
great!

On Wednesday we had a grand
Taanis Esther Tzvios Hashem rally,
which really got us into the Purim
spirit!

Before we knew it Purim had come!!!
We were in awe of all the outstanding
and creative costumes that you
guys wore, and especially with your
smiling faces!!!!

A special shout out to all the amazing
mitzvah girls in Year 6 who came
to Emmy Monash with us. We loved
singing with our elderly friends
and talking to them, we definitely
brought the joy of Purim to them!

This week at 6 for 6 we enjoyed
learning about the meaning behind
Pezukei Dezimra whilst enjoying hot
chips!

Great to see so many faces at cocoa
club whilst enjoying cocoa and a
cookie!

Reminder that Tzvios Hashem has
started every Wednesday after school,
and we want to see all of you there!
Also there is bnos, mishmor and
cheder this week!

Have a good and restful Shabbos!
Purim Fun at Beth Rivkah Primary
Beth Rivkah Secondary

Year 8 Making Movies

Stacy Pianko, Secondary School Teacher

Year 8s have been making their own films. After watching Whale rider they scripted and then storyboards their own films. They were required to include three different cinematic techniques, such as voice over, lighting, point of view shot amongst others. They then had to write a paragraph explaining why they used the cinematic techniques they chose, how their message was conveyed by these particular choices.

Reminder

Shabbos Mevarchim Tehillim is happening this week.

Humanities – Yr 9

Esther Lever, Secondary School Teacher

Year 9 Humanities class are creating the Great Barrier Reef on their pin board while they explore the environmental effects of rubbish on the wild life.

C-Care Packing Sessions

On Monday the 25th March, 25 girls from year 7-12 travelled together to Melbourne Hebrew Congregation equipped with delicious after school snacks and a wonderful volunteering spirit. C Care pantry is a project of C Care that packs non-perishable pantry items for volunteers to distribute once a month to socially isolated Jewish people. The room was filled with excitement and laughter, as the students packed over 100 boxes. Thank you to all the girls who gave of their time for such a big Mitzvah and a great cause, connecting communities.

Keep your eyes open for more exciting initiatives!

Love, your Tzedakah captains,

Yael, Faygi and Aviva.

Purim at BRS

Mrs Yamit Glasman – Head of Students

Purim at BRS was a whirlwind of colour and excitement as staff and students gathered briefly to celebrate together. Beginning with a traditional Megila reading by the iconic Mr G and his stop sign, the drone above the Werdiger hall captured the palpable spirit of the day.

After Megila students and staff continued the celebrations in the Solowiejczyk Hall where Misholoach Manot were exchanged and the mitzvah of Matanot Laevyonim was performed.

There was also a healthy Seudah beautifully laid out students to enjoy, as well as music, dancing and ‘Magnet Me’. A special thank you to our Year 12s for generating a wonderful atmosphere and to Yossi Gabai for the delicious brunch.
Purim Fun at Beth Rivkah Secondary
Earn and Learn from Woolworths

Anyone can help you earn.

Starting Wednesday 1 May, anyone can collect stickers to support your school when they shop at Woolworths, whether they’re staff, parents or friends.

Stick together and collect more

With every $10 spent* at Woolworths, one sticker is collected. These can be placed onto the Earn & Learn sticker sheets and dropped into the collection box at Ge Beth Rivkah Primary and Yeshivah Primary office, or your local Woolworths.

Earn great equipment from MTA

Once again, we’re proud to be partnering with Modern Teaching Aids, Australia’s largest supplier of educational equipment. This means you can choose equipment for Yeshivah, Beth Rivkah’s own learning needs across Arts & Craft, Digital Technologies, Maths, English, Science, Outdoor and Indoor Play and more.

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LATTE and LEARN

Graduates, Sisters, Mums, Aunts, Bubbas - Drop off the kids and come in for tea, coffee and a shiur on the parsha

Wednesday mornings 8.45-9.15

Starting: Rosh Chodesh Adar - Parshat Terumah

Wednesday 6th February, 2019

Beth Rivkah Beit Midrash

Level 1 BRS Secondary School, Empress St

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Save the Date!

Yeshivah - Beth Rivkah Colleges invite you to an ALUMNI EVENT

Celebrating 70 Years

כ”א אייר תשע"ט

Sunday 26th May, 2019

7.30pm

We’d love you to get involved: alumni@yeshivahcentre.org

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Shabbat Shalom

שבת שלום

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Mishenichnas Adar Marbiim B’Simcha
Beth Rivkah Secondary invites all mothers of high school girls to an intimate conversation and source based shiur with

Dr Yocheved Debow

We are thrilled to be able to offer this exclusive opportunity to mothers to gain from Yocheved’s wisdom in the field of relationships, intimacy and values education. Over the past three years Yocheved has worked closely with staff, students and parents of our school with resounding success. We look forward to engaging with you on such a crucial topic.

Being a Mum in a modern world:
Raising Orthodox Teenagers in a Remarkably UnOrthodox World

Tuesday April 9, 2019
Beit Midrash @ BRS
8:45 - 9:30am

Please RSVP to: brs@ybr.vic.edu.au
The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF provides funding to eligible students. If you have a current means-tested concession card, such as a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, please ensure go to the Forms section in the Parent Portal or App and submit a form for each child.

Eligible primary students will receive $125 and eligible secondary students will receive $225 which we will deduct from their subject levies.

Email your feedback to: feedback@ybr.vic.edu.au • We’d love you to share your ”Mazal Tovs” with us - email announcements@ybr.vic.edu.au.