



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן  
YESHIVA KETANA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday,  
December 11-14, 2020  
Chanukah Vacation-  
No Sessions



Sunday,  
December 20, 2020  
Parent Teacher conference  
Dismissal @12 PM

Wednesday & Thursday,  
December 23-24, 2020  
Reg ER & NR  
Transportation  
No Suffern Central  
Transportation

Friday,  
December 25, 2020  
Asera Btevas  
No Transportation  
Early Dismissal @ 12

Monday - Wednesday,  
December 28-30, 2020  
Reg ER & NR  
Transportation  
No Suffern Central  
Transportation

## IMPORTANT NOTES

In case of inclement weather, the Yeshiva will send out an email and text. You can also call the Yeshivas message lines.

Yeshiva Ketana message line:  
845.362.8362, x 199. Mesivta  
message line: 845.362.8362, x 198

# REU VEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 8 Issue #11

December 11th 2020

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פרשת וישב כה בסלון תשפ"א



Rosh HaYeshiva Visited the 1st Grade, in Honor of the Hascholas Chumash!



1st grades Haschulas Chumash!



Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Friedman for sponsoring the Chumashim  
for our 1st Graders!

259 Grandview Avenue Suffern, NY 10901  
845.362.8362 www.ohrreuven.com

Yeshiva Ketana | Mesivta | Beis Medrash | Kollel | Alumni  
*From Kindergarten to Kollel and Beyond!*



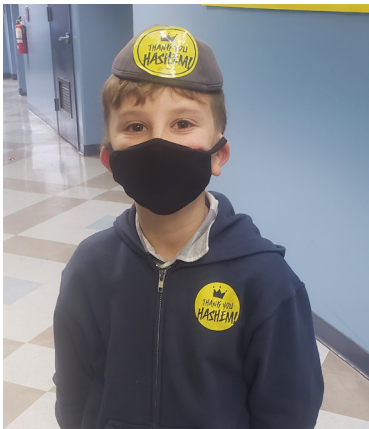
# Pictures from the N'shei Virtual Family Fun Night!



Shnitzel winners!



Tzvi Deutch Davening for the amud!



Huda Stansky proudly displaying his Thank You Hashem gear!



Some of our honor roll students with Rabbi Gottlieb!



PLEASE SHARE WITH US! Please email any Mazel Tov information to [reuvenreview@ohrreuven.com](mailto:reuvenreview@ohrreuven.com)!

## MAZEL TOV!

Mazel tov to Eliezer Morell (YK Alumnus) upon his engagement!

מזל טוב to the entire 6th class on their completion of the סוגיא של מדעת יאוש!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Benjamin Sachs, Kindergarten
- Avrohom Daniel Broyde, 1st grade
- Mordechai Gold, 2nd grade
- Yisroel Shulman, 2nd grade
- Elchanan Lorber, 5th grade
- Yisrael Zev Koblick, 5th grade
- Yosef Meir Grynheim, 7th grade
- Yehoshua Weg, 7th grade

## וישב Winning by Loss

אֵלֶּה | תִּלְדוֹת יַעֲקֹב יוֹסֵף בֶּן שֶׁבַע עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה הָיָה רֹעֶה אֶת אֶחָיו בְּצֹאן יְהוּא נֶעַר אֶת בְּנֵי בִלְהָה וְאֶת בְּנֵי זִלְפָּה נְשֵׁי אָבִיו  
This, then, is the line of Yaakov: At seventeen years of age, Yosef tended the flocks with his brothers, as a helper to the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah.

כך שאנו רואים לפנינו נער שהתבגר ללא אם או אח. כל האחרים גדלו בחברת אחים, תחת כנפי אם והשפעת אהבתה. לעומת זאת, יוסף היה בודד. אמו נפטרה בשלב מוקדם בחייו, ובנימין היה עדיין ילד ולא יכל להיות לו חבר; עם אחיו בני לאה הוא לא חש בנוח; וממילא נמשך לחברתם של בני השפחות.

So we see before us a boy who has grown up without a mother or a brother. All the others grew up in the company of siblings, under the wings of a mother and the influence of her love. Yosef, on the other hand, was lonely. His mother died early in his life, and Binyomin was still a child and could be his friend; With his brothers, the sons of Leah he did not feel comfortable; He was therefore drawn to the company of the sons of the maidservants.

-R. Shamshon Rephael Hirsch

"Solitary trees, if they grow at all, grow strong: and a boy deprived of a father's care often develops, if he escapes the perils of youth, an independence and a vigor of thought which may restore in after life the heavy loss of early days."

-Winston Churchill

and suicidal depressives. The question is, what prompts one person to turn the suffering of youth into the genius of adulthood, while for another wears the trauma of his childhood as an albatross around his neck?

To that question Wiener, whose book studies the factors that produce genius, offers some speculation. Perhaps the difference lies in how one suffers. Those who endure real hardship and pain but deal with their suffering and don't allow it to rule over them become stronger and more resilient as a result. Their having felt the pain of loss and having overcome that loss emboldens them when they mature to take risks without fear. They have already confronted loss and have defeated it.

But, those who allow their loss to define them, who wallow in self-pity and fear are more likely to be unable to grow to overcome their loss and will instead be forever handicapped by it. For parents, then, the key is in helping our children become the masters of and not slaves to the traumas and losses of their youth.

Childhood trauma and loss come in many forms, the loss of a parent being just one. Children of divorce suffer the loss of their parents' marriage and the loss of their family structure. Children sometimes suffer abandonment or rejection by a parent after divorce or even without divorce. Children may suffer the trauma of illness in the family, or the anxiety of financial difficulties in the home. Sometimes children even suffer the childhood trauma of pandemics and lockdowns.

The point, is that not only are those childhood traumas not fatal to the child's development, they may actually be the catalyst to unlock the genius within that child. Consider, for a moment, the diametrically opposed responses of Yosef and Yehuda to the pain

Is there a more tragic life story than that of Yosef? Orphaned from his mother at a tender, young age. Ostracized by his brothers who resented his image of grandeur. Bereft of the company of a sibling around his age with whom he could connect. Yosef, as Rav Hirsch notes, grew up very much alone. Things only went downhill from there.

With all the trials, tribulations, and difficulties of Yosef's young life, it is almost inconceivable that he would rise to a position as prestigious and powerful as Egyptian viceroy. More perplexing is Yaakov's seeming hand grooming Yosef as his successor and the eventual leader of the people. Did Yaakov not notice the hardships Yosef had endured? Did he not realize that Yosef would forever bear the scars of the loss of his mother so young and the rejection by his siblings? Perhaps Yaakov knew much more than we do.

New York Time bestselling author Eric Weiner in his fabulous book, *Geography of Genius*, cites a fascinating study of some 700 historical figures by psychologist J.M. Eisenstadt. Eisenstadt discovered that a disproportionately large percentage of historical geniuses suffered the loss of a parent at a young age. His list included, among many others, Dante, Bach, Darwin, Dostoevsky, Michelangelo, Mark Twain, Virginia Woolf, and Winton Churchill. We can add Yosef Hatzadik, the future viceroy of Egypt who would one day oversee the greatest economic engineering project in the ancient world, to that illustrious list.

Of course, that does not mean that suffering in youth is a guarantee of genius in adulthood. In fact, as Weiner reports, psychologist Robert Sternberg reviewed Eisenstadt's data and conclude that the only other group that suffered the same proportion of trauma as Eisenstadt's geniuses were delinquents

# PARENTING *in the* PARSHA

of loss and loneliness. Yosef is abandoned by his brothers, and as far as he knows, his father is in on the conspiracy. He is alone in the world, sold as a slave in a foreign country. What does he do? He rebuffs almost irresistible temptation while displaying the boldness, brashness and temerity to rise to the second highest position in all the land.

Yehuda, by contrast, suffers the loss of his two sons and his wife. He too knows the pain of loss and loneliness. His response? He succumbs to temptation rather than rising to the occasion. What explains their different responses? Yosef knew the pain of loss in his youth and overcame that pain. He would not be felled by such trauma in his adulthood. Yehuda grew up in a stable, loving, unblemished home. He did not have to overcome hardship in his youth, and when he faced adversity in his adult life, he was unprepared to surmount it.

Have your children experienced hardship, pain, or loss? Not only should you not abandon hope for them, you should have every reason to believe they are poised for greatness. You hold the key to helping them unlock their greatness. Use the tools available to you and the professionals who are there to guide you and your children to help them learn to deal with and master the pain of suffering. Once they are the masters of their misery, they will never be mastered by suffering and loss. Instead, they will be emboldened, like Yosef Hatzadik, to rise to greatness.

*Good Shabbos,  
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb  
Principal*





פרשת וישב  
שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום



*This week's program  
is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Yaakov Benjamin*

לע"נ

*Rochel bas Yitzchok Shimon HaLevi z"l  
(great-aunt of Dovid Benjamin)*

*who loved Chanukah and infused light and  
love of Torah into all of our lives!*

*May the זכות of the learning generated by this  
program be a זכות for her נצחים.*

**Many פרשיות of this year**

**are still available for sponsorship!**

Please help support this wonderful program.

**Monthly (4 weeks) sponsorship: \$175**

**One week full sponsorship: \$50**

**One week partial sponsorship: \$30**

To sponsor a פרשה  
please contact Rabbi Plotzker.  
[bplotzker@ohrreuven.com](mailto:bplotzker@ohrreuven.com)

First

Last

Name of תלמיד (Please Print Clearly)

**!!WEEKLY PRIZES!!**

Class: (Please Check One)

- ☐ 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 10 פסוקים
- ☐ 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 15 פסוקים
- ☐ 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – 20 פסוקים
- ☐ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 25 פסוקים
- ☐ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 30 פסוקים
- ☐ 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 40 פסוקים
- ☐ 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – 50 פסוקים

My son completed שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום for  
this פרשה in the amount specified for his class.

☐ **Bonus: Did double the grade required amount!**

Parent's signature

בס"ד

# YKOR CHANUKAH CHAGIGAH

**5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF CHANUKAH!!!**

**Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**



**FUN!  
GAMES!  
RAFFLES!  
COTTON CANDY!  
PRIZES!**



**SPONSORED BY THE YKOR N'SHEI!**

**Please remember to wear your mask!**

בס"ד



# LIGHT UP THE NIGHT



Chanukah is a time when we rejoice with the Torah  
and our victory over יָוֹן.



**What better way to celebrate this victory than by  
learning Torah in front of the lights of the menorah.  
(we don't use the menorah for light)**



To qualify:



**Learn Torah for at least 5 minutes in front of the lit menorah.**



**1 ticket for every night!  
Double tickets if you do all 8!  
Raffle following Chanukah**



My Macabee, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) in \_\_\_\_ grade,  
continued the fight against the יְוֹנִים and learned Torah  
at least 5 minutes in front of a lit menorah.

| Night<br>Of חנוכה | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parent's<br>Sig.  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

# CHANUKAH CHINESE AUCTION ON THURSDAY DECEMBER 17

HOT COCOA

SLURPEES

POPCORN

DONUTS

BOTTLE OF SODA

FREE TEST

FREE HOMEWORK

PIZZA

A SMILE

GADOL PICTURES

UGLY TIES

PASTRIES

KIDS PRIZES

CLASS PRIZES

REBBE PRIZES

-NOT ALL PRIZES ARE  
FOR ALL GRADES

-ALL PROCEEDS GO  
TO THE 8TH GRADE

1 TICKETS -\$0.25

5 TICKETS -\$1.00

20 TICKETS -\$3.00

35 TICKETS -\$5.00

NAME- \_\_\_\_\_ REBBE \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF TICKETS \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_





PARNES HAYOM

כ"א כסלו תשפ"א

Today's *limud haTorah*  
is *l'zecher nishmas*

נח רפאל בן רב יוסף חיים הכהן  
משפחת ירשוב

יהי זכרו ברוך