



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן  
YESHIVA KETANA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday,  
December 20, 2020  
Parent Teacher  
Conferences

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

Friday,  
December 25, 2020  
Asera B'Tevas  
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

# REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 8 Issue #12 December 18th 2020

4:011 PM

פרשת מקץ ג טבת תשפ"א

## Chanukah Chagiga!



**Thank you to the Yeshiva Ketana parents - and the N'shei  
for organizing -the thoughtful Chanukah gifts for the  
Hanhallah, Teachers and Office Staff!**

**Reminder: Sign up for Online Chess Wizards after-school program! See email  
that was sent out for more info.**

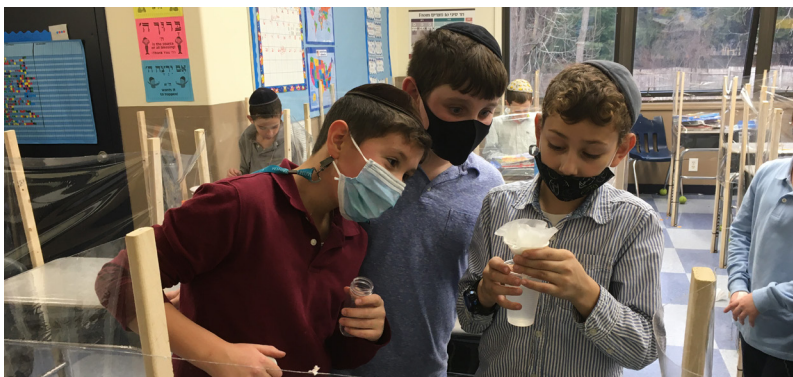
259 Grandview Avenue Suffern, NY 10901  
845.362.8362 [www.ohrreuven.com](http://www.ohrreuven.com)

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

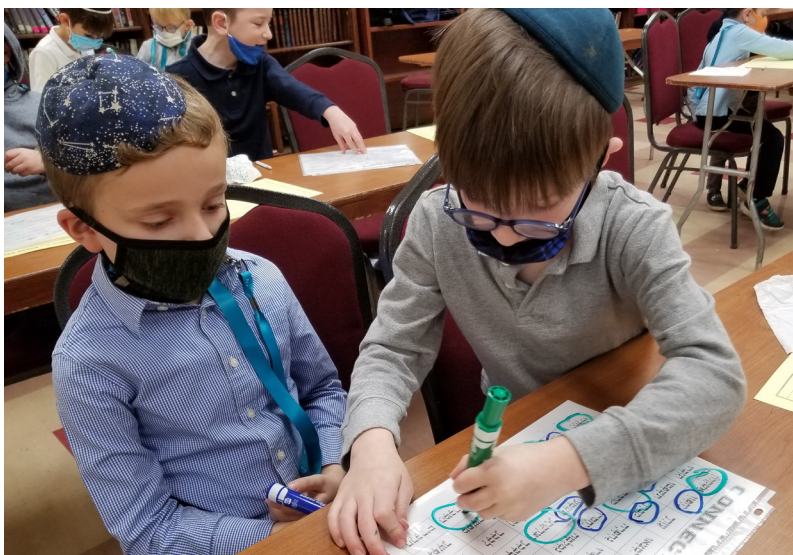




**10 of Rabbi Peikes's 8th grade talmidim volunteered to spend their first two hours of their Chanukah vacation learning!**



**Our 4th grade scientists brainstorming how to separate mixture of salt and sand back to their original forms!**



**Rabbi Myski's 1st graders playing connect 4 kria game!**

*Thank you in advance  
for your support!*

AS THE TAX YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE, PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGES TO YESHIVAS OHR REUVEN WHEN MAKING YEAR END CHARITABLE DONATIONS. YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT IS VITAL TO THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE YESHIVA.

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

### MAZEL TOV!

Mazel tov to Yaakov Zev Fogel (YKOR Alumnus) upon his engagement to Fraidy Cheshir!

Mazel tov to Rabbi Weissman's 2nd grade class on finishing perek Yud Tes!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Eitan Menachem Vilinsky, 1st grade  
Shaya Brody, 3rd grade  
Yisroel Yeshayah, Reichler, 5th grade  
Moshe Lorber, 8th grade

### Lost & Found

The Yeshiva Ketana's lost and found is located on a table near the Yeshiva Ketana's shul/lunchroom. Please review the items pictured below and ask your son to check for any missing items. Items may have been added since the pictures below were taken.

The lost and found will be emptied on Thursday, December 24th. Unclaimed items will be kept by Mrs. Sarah Rosenberg in her office for 1 week before discarded, given away or donated.



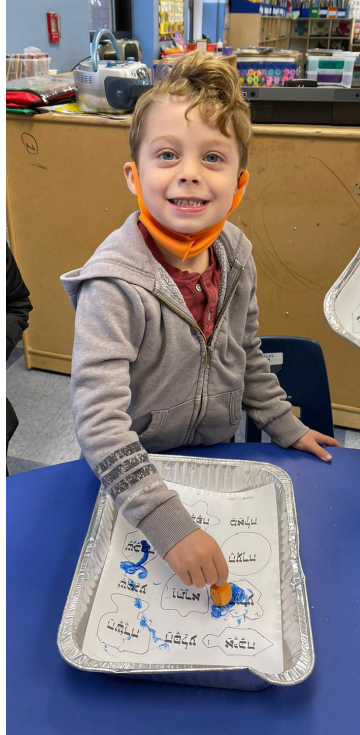




## More Pictures of Chanukah at Yeshiva Ketana Ohr Reuven



Pre1-A lighting their *menorah*!



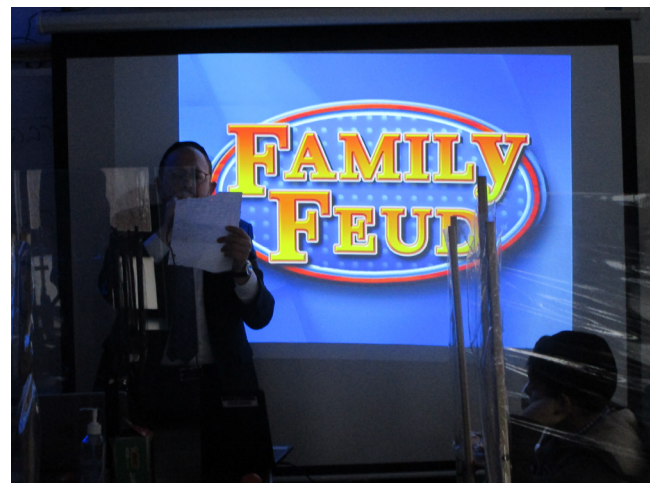
Pre1-A playing dreidel paint spin!



Mrs. Radzik's 1st grade making edible dreidels that spin!



Rabbi Kohn's 6th grade played a Chanukah Feud game!



A day off from school, but not off from learning! Hope all the talmidim enjoyed the special snow day programming!



## מקץ Overprotection

וְאֶת בְּנֵימִין אָחִי יוֹסֵף לֹא שָׁלַח יַעֲקֹב אֶת אָחָיו כִּי אָמַר פֶּן יִקְרָאֵנוּ אִסּוֹן:  
for Yaakov did not send Yosef's brother Binyamin with his brothers, since he feared that he might meet with disaster.

ואת בנימין אחי יוסף, שהיה אחיו מאבי ואם. ובעבור מה שקרה ליוסף ירא יעקב מלשלחו בדרך פן יקראנו אסון.  
Yaakov's fear was based on a mishap having befallen Joseph at the time

-Radak

"I promise; I will never let anything happen to you...Nemo."

-Marlin

There is a now classic, animated children's film whose plot holds an important lesson for parenting, and whose moral may provide insight into understanding the strange behavior of Yosef in this week's *parsha*.

Pixar's Finding Nemo tells the story of a clownfish who sees his wife and entire brood of hatchlings wiped out by a larger, predator fish, save for one tiny hatchling who survives. The theme of the film is how the father fish, in reaction to the loss of the remainder of his family, is zealously overprotective of his surviving offspring, little Nemo. Only through an unfortunate mishap that separates father and son and sends the son halfway across the ocean on his own is the child given the space to develop and the father taught to let go.

Overprotective parenting in response to loss, tragedy, or trauma is not a phenomenon limited to clownfish. Parents are people, and people are products of their experience. Parents who have personally experienced loss are often prone to over sheltering their children from the risk of that type of loss. A parent who may have witnessed a relative or friend suffer severe injury in a bicycle accident might not let their child ride a bike. One who experienced a near-tragedy while swimming might keep their kids from the pool, and someone who was involved in a boating accident might keep their children from boats.

That is not a logical, reasoned response to risk, but an emotional one, as are so many of our decisions. From a purely statistical perspective, the fact that a parent had personal exposure to one type of risk does not increase the odds that their child will suffer harm from that type of risk. Usually, the greater harm to the child comes not from the risk of injury but from the phobia the child develops around the parent's fear.

The child who grows up overprotected and over sheltered will, in the very least, be deprived of some of life's great experiences and, at worse, will grow up reticent, tentative

and scared, too afraid to be bold and take risks. While it is a parent's job to protect their child from physical harm, that responsibility must be balanced against the need to avoid the harm of instilling fear and hesitancy in the child.

Perhaps the harm of overprotection can explain to us the otherwise seemingly inexplicable actions of Yosef in this week's *parsha*. His brothers come down to Egypt, sent by their father to retrieve food to sustain the family through the famine. Conspicuously, one brother is absent, the baby of the family and Yosef's only full sibling. Their father has been held back Binyamin, afraid of losing him as he had lost his beloved Yosef. Yosef's response? He chooses, it seems, to torment his father, forcing him to separate from Binyamin and send him into potential harm. What would drive Yosef to act with such apparent cruelty to his father?

Yosef had personally experienced his father's overprotection after the death of their mother, Rachel. Yaakov had kept him close by his side, afraid of losing him as he had lost Yosef's mother. The one time Yaakov allowed Yosef to leave his side, tragedy struck and Yosef was gone. Yosef could only imagine how sheltered and overprotected his little brother Binyamin was, and now, he no longer had to imagine.

The Egyptian policy to deter a secondary market for food, as the *Sforno* explained, was to sell each head of household enough nourishment to sustain his home. That is why all ten brothers had to travel to Egypt rather than sending a representative delegation to purchase on their behalf. That means that Binyamin's absence was not just an emotional concern for Yosef. It meant that Yaakov had chosen to keep Binyamin home, unable to purchase food for his large and growing family, because Yaakov was afraid Binyamin would be harmed. Yaakov's fear due to his prior experience had reached the point that it was harmful to Binyamin.

Yosef, now wise beyond his years, recognized that he would need to tear Binyamin away from their father and force him

to branch out on his own in order for Binyamin to develop and for Yaakov to learn to let go. Simply revealing himself and having Binyamin travel down under the wing and protection of Yaakov would just perpetuate the harm of Yaakov's keeping Binyamin too close.

Yosef not only ensured that Binyamin would come out from under his father's wing, but he also understood that if the brothers acted as proxy for their father in sheltering and protecting Binyamin, he would remain stifled and stymied by that protection. What episode in Yosef's life contributed most to his personal growth and advancement? Likely it was when he was falsely accused of a crime and unfairly jailed. It was there that he was forced to grow up, to advocate for himself, and to surmount the very challenges and risks his father had been sheltering him from. How would Yosef accomplish the same for his baby brother? He would, under carefully controlled circumstances, have him falsely accused of a crime, separated from his brothers, and forced to advocate for himself as he overcomes the very harms his father had been protecting him from all the years.

Yosef's wisdom, if our thesis is correct, brought both Yaakov and Binyamin out of the paralyzing fear that had stymied them all these years and made his family capable of being whole once again. It is a powerful lesson for us as parents to consider well when we are reacting to our own fears and stifling our children as a result, for our job to protect our children from harm includes protecting them from the harm we might cause when protecting them from harm.

*Good Shabbos,  
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb  
Principal*



פרשת מקץ  
שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום



This weeks program שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום  
is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Y. Brody

in honor of  
**Shaya Brody's**  
9th birthday!

We are very proud of you!!

**ALL 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



Reminder:

ב"ס

כדי להודות ולהלל

SO.....



SMILE



Please email to: [pictures@ohrreuve.com](mailto:pictures@ohrreuve.com)

1 picture (only)

of your son/s lighting or next to the menorah

We are looking forward to decorating our  
bulletin board with them after Chanukkah.

חנוכה שמח!



אור ראובן  
YESHIVA KETANA



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YESHIVA KETANA

Reminder:

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 Of חנוכה	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Parent's Sig.								