



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן  
YESHIVA KETANA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Motzei Shabbos,  
March 13, 2021  
Move the clock forward

Sunday,  
March 14, 2021  
Sessions begin at 10 AM

Friday,  
March 19, 2021  
Regular ER & NR  
transportation,  
No SC transportation

Tuesday,  
March 23, 2021  
No preschool  
1st-8th dismissal @ 1 PM

Wednesday,  
March 24- April 5, 2021  
No sessions-Pesach Break

## IMPORTANT NOTES

In case of inclement weather, the Yeshiva will send out an email and text. You can also call the Yeshiva's 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 #21 March 5, 2021 2020 11 5:34 PM

כב אדר תשפ"א

פרשת כי תשא

## YKOR ANNUAL RAFFLE CAMPAIGN OFF TO A GREAT START!

This year's YKOR raffle campaign, launched on Rosh Chodesh Adar, is already on track to be one of the best ever! The boys in grades 1-8 have been working hard selling raffle tickets for great class and individual prizes. The boys are doing an amazing job and the prizes will be rolling in! As a reminder, many boys sold tickets and collected over Purim. Please send the ticket stubs and money in a ziplock bag to Yeshiva with your son (be sure to put his name on it) so he can give it to his Rebbe. This will ensure the money collected is added to your son's total and the classes total as well. Looking forward to continued hatzlocha to all!



Rabbi Kohn's 6th grade siyum, with a special visit from our Rosh HaYeshiva!



Rabbi Peikes's 8th grade dollar raffle for mastering the first perek of maseches makkos!

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

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





8th graders doing a superb job running their pre-purim carnival!



Our 1st grade purim get together!



Rabbi Lowy's 4th grade talmidim next to their purim bulletin board!

## Reminder to complete the district related forms.

**Transportation Request Forms** must be received by the School District no later than **April 1st!**

Please see previous yeshiva emails for details.

Forms are available on the yeshiva's website.

**District Textbook Forms** should be returned to the main office or emailed to [cgreen@ohrreuve.com](mailto:cgreen@ohrreuve.com).

Thank you.



## Rosh Chodesh Sponsorship Opportunity!

if you would like to sponsor this month's Nshei Rosh Chodesh treat, please contact Peshie Needleman at 845.494.2360. This can be in honor of your son, his Rebbe or Morah, a birthday, a yahrtzeit, or any other occasion your can think of!

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

## MAZEL TOV!

Mazel to Mr. Berman (executive director) upon the birth of a grandson! Mazel tov to Moshe Berman upon the birth of a nephew!

Mazel tov to Mrs. Leibovic (5th grade teacher & guidance counselor) on her daughter's engagement! Mazel tov to Baruch Simcha upon his sister's engagement!

Mazel tov Nati Zisman upon his bar mitzvah!

Mazel tov to Pinchas Joseph on his hanachas tefilin!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Moshe Brand, Pre-1A

Shaya Dovid Rosenberg, 1st grade

Yosef Mordechai Gutman, 2nd grade

Uziel Tzvi Kurzmann, 4th grade

Simcha Goldring, 6th grade

Menachem Perkowski, 6th grade

Yaakov Levy, 8th grade

# PARENTING *in the* PARSHA

## כי תשא

### Religion, Custom-Tailored

וַיֵּרָא הָעָם כִּי בָשָׁשׁ מֹשֶׁה לָדֹת מִן הָהָר וַיִּקְהַל הָעָם עַל אֶהֱרֹן וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו קוּם עֲשֵׂה לָנוּ אֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר יֵלְכוּ לִפְנֵינוּ  
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂנוּ אֹתִי וְגו' מִזִּבְחַת אֲדָמָה תַעֲשֶׂה לִּי! דַּבְרֵי אֶזְהָרָה אֱלֹהִים, הַמְשַׁלִּימִים זֶה אֶת זֶה, מִצִּינִים אֶת פֶּרֶשֶׁת הַדְּרָכִים שֶׁבִּין  
הַהִשְׁקָפָה הָאֱלֹקִית הַיְּהוּדִית, לְבֵין הַהִשְׁקָפָה הָאֱלִילִית הַלֹּא יְהוּדִית, עַל יַחֲסֵי הָאָדָם אֶל הָאֱלֹקִים. דְּמִיּוֹן שׁוֹא הוּא  
לְחֻשׁוֹב שֶׁבִּיכּוֹלֶת הָאָדָם לַעֲשׂוֹת לַעֲצָמוֹ אֶל הוּא אֹמֵר שֶׁבִּידּוֹ שֶׁלּוֹ לַהֲעַמִּיד לִפְנֵי תְמוּנָה, נִכְס, כַּח, מוֹסֵד אוֹ אָדָם, כַּעֲרֵךְ  
וְשַׁעַל דָּבָר זֶה שֶׁהוּא בָּחַר לַעֲבֹדוֹ יוֹלְבֵשׁ אִז כַּח אֱלֹקֵי מֵאֵת הַכַּח הָעֲלִיוֹן הַמוֹשֵׁל עַל הָעוֹלָם, שְׁמַעְתָּה וְהִלָּאָה יַעֲשֶׂה  
הָעֲלִיוֹן שֶׁלּוֹ  
לְתוֹמֵךְ גּוֹרְלוֹ.

-רש"י הירש

Any customer can have a car painted any color that he wants, so long as it is black

-Henry Ford

Ours is a customizable world. We've come a long way from the Model T to the Model S. When Henry Ford manufactured his revolutionary Model T in 1908, he famously quipped, "they can have it in any color as long as it's black." Your choices were basically yes or no. Today, Tesla buyers can go online and choose from a dizzying array of options to customize their car.

What is true for cars and car purchases is true for the entire consumer market. The sheer volume of goods available for purchase and the ability to customize so many of those products down to the smallest detail allows us to no longer be off-the-shelf consumers. As is so often the case, our consumer life has a direct influence on our religious life, and that is not always for the good.

Rav Shamshon Rephael Hirsch, in an insightful remark on the *egel*, notes a fundamental difference between Judaism and other religions. The idea that one can fashion a god in his own image is anathema to Judaism. Foreign religions, especially the Pagan milieu in which the Torah was given, have people building gods, both physically and mentally, that reflect what they want in a god, customizable gods as it were.

Rav Hirsch sees that mindset as an underlying cause of the *chet ha'egel*, where the people declared "*aseh lanu elohim asher yailchu lifaneinu*," "make for us a god who will walk before us." What they wanted, he explains,

was to form a god who would conform to them, rather than to follow the G-d who would make them conform to Him.

It is a profound insight from Rav Hirsch, as it explains how the *chet ha'egel* plays a part in all future Divine punishments for sins and misdeeds. At the core of all our misdeeds, on the personal and communal level, is our failure to conform to G-d's standards and instead to try to fit Him in to ours.

The creep of our customizable world into our religious life presents a clear and present danger in that regard. We have, in many ways, created a customizable religion, with a customizable religious experience, one that we can tailor to our needs, desires, and whims. We have replaced our old model shuls with *minyan* factories where you can show up whenever to find a *minyan* waiting for you. We customize our Yom Tov experience choosing where and how to spend the *yomim tovim*, but ensuring all the *halachic* amenities are present. We choose from a limitless lection of online *shiurim* and presenters, no longer constrained to our local *shul* and *Rov*. In short, we are able to tailor our religious experience to fit our needs, wants and desires instead of having to subsume our needs, wants and desires to our religious needs and requirements.

On their own, there is nothing wrong with any of these points, but the sum total of them creates a perception,

# PARENTING *in the* PARSHA

especially for our children, that we can make the religion conform to us instead of us conforming to the religion. That is bad for us and bad for the next generation.

There is a story related about Rav Yaakov Kamenetsky who visited a Yeshiva elementary school where they had affixed the *mezuzos* halfway up the doorposts so the children could reach and kiss the *mezuzos*. Aside from *halachic* concerns about the valid placement of the *mezuzos*, Rav Yaakov commented that he thought it poor *chinuch* to lower the *mezuzos* to the level of the children. He expressed concern that doing so teaches the children that the Torah has to adjust to conform to them, rather than their adjusting to conform to the Torah.

This does not mean that on occasion we shouldn't take advantage of the availability of a 1:00 AM *maariv* when needed or that we shouldn't, at times enjoy the convenience of a *mincha* and/ or *maariv minyan* at the place of our day's activity. But it does mean we need to strongly consider what is the overall impression our children are getting from the sum total of our actions.

If we build our day around our *shuls' zmanei tefila* and we structure our *Chanukah* activities around *z'man hadlakah* and our *chol hamoed* Sukkos events around the *mitzvah* of *sukkah*, we send a message to our children that we are ready to conform to G-d rather than making Him conform to us. That

*Good Shabbos,  
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb  
Principal*



פרשת כי תשא  
שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום



*This week's program  
is sponsored by  
Mr. & Mrs. Dovid Rubin*

לע"נ  
מלכה בת ר' מרדכי הכהן ז"ל  
(grandmother of Naftali & Mordechai Rubin)

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

**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





בס"ד



# QUESTION OF THE DAY

**ONE RAFFLE TICKET PER QUESTION ANSWERED!**

*Answers should be written on Q.O.D. cards and placed in mailbox outside office.*

## QUESTIONS ON פרשת כי תשא

- 1) What amount did each Yid have to give to the building of the מִשְׁכָּן?
- 2) What is the name of the כְּלִי used for washing the hands and feet in the מִשְׁכָּן?
- 3) What is the name of the young boy (13 years old) in charge of the building of the מִשְׁכָּן?
- 4) What was the group of people who convinced some of the Yidden to serve the עֵגֶל known as?
- 5) What was מֹשֶׁה holding when he came down הָרֹם? What did he do with them when he saw the עֵגֶל?
- 6) What is the special name of the תְּפִלָּה that ה' taught מֹשֶׁה, containing 13 different expressions of ה'’s mercy?

## RAFFLE WINNERS FROM פרשת תצוה

**ELI STEIN  
DOVI LEFF  
RONI FUCHS  
DOVID CZERTOK**

**SHNEUR KURKUS  
ELCHONON LIGHT  
YEHUDA LEIB NADAV  
YOSEF FRIEDMAN (4th)**