



# REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 11 Issue 1

September 8, 2023

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פרשת נצבים-וילך

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday**  
September 10, 2023  
Grades 1-8 Sessions  
begin 10:00am

**Friday-Sunday**  
September 15-17, 2023  
Rosh Hashana  
K-8 No Sessions

**Monday**  
September 18, 2023  
Tzom Gedaliah  
Dismissal: K: 12:00 P-8: 12:30

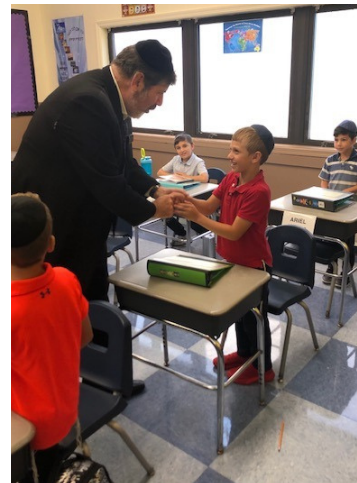
**Sunday-Monday**  
September 24-25  
Yom Kippur  
No Sessions

**Thursday-Sunday**  
September 28- Oct 9  
Sukkos  
No Sessions

### Welcome Back to all Yeshivas Ohr Reuven families, and welcome to all new families:

Azer Family, Berliner Family, Factor Family, Fuchs (Eliyahu & Chavie) Family, Jungreis Family, Klein Family, Lankry Family, Lazarus Family, Margaretten Family, Norowitz Family, Plotzker (Shloimy & Miriam) Family, Robinson Family, Roth (Avi & Rachel) Family, Schlesinger Family, Schmerhold Family, Schwartz (Mendy and Elisheva) Family, Weinblatt Family, & Weiss Family

We are looking forward to an amazing year ahead!



The Rosh Yeshiva greeting our Talmidim the first week of Yeshiva!



Nit Checking at Yeshiva Thank you to YK N'shei for the ice cream truck!

## PARENT FEEDBACK:

- Year after year I am blown away by the special video clip. I truly have no words.... We are so privileged to be a part of Yeshiva Ketana Ohr Reuven! Continued bracha v'hatzlach and nachas to all. k'siva vachasimah tova!
- Thank you so much for having a world class Rabbi like Rabbi Robinson. His warmth, enthusiasm and great personality make him a top notch Rabbi. The boys (and all the parents) are so excited about 5th grade because of him b"H. He even emailed after school to check on the boys. What a special person.
- Rabbi Gottlieb, I loved the English updates email. What an incredible lineup of fantastic curricular plans.
- Thank you so much for all of the yeshiva's efforts that are going into helping the parents with the new bus system. I wanted to share positive feedback from parents about the yeshiva's assistance and specially changing pickup today to 1pm.
- Thank you for such a wonderful first day!! My son came home on a high, very much looking forward to the coming school year.
- We are so grateful for all of the work that you've already put in preparing for the year, and we can't wait for the year ahead.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Moshe Brachfeld, 6th

Aryeh Venoker, 6th

Shlomo Yitzchak Lankry, 2nd

Azi Senter, K

## MAZEL TOV!

S'gan Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Brodie on the marriage of his son, Dovid to Estee Rothman!

Rabbi Rawicki in the birth of a grandson!

Rabbi Kahana on the birth of a baby boy!

Dovid and Yonah Benjamin on their baby sister!

Moshe Tenenbaum (YK Alumnus) on his engagement!

Ari & Sammy on their uncle's engagement!

Elimelech Sternbuch on the birth of his twin sisters!

Eli Fine on his Bar Mitzvah!

Morah Shirel on her wedding!

Yossi Warum on his Bar Mitzvah!

Yissy Seleski on his Bar Mitzvah!

Chaim Cohen on his Bar Mitzvah!

Sammy Walden on his Bar Mitzvah!

Elya Adler on his Bar Mitzvah!

Shalom, Gavriel, Mordy, Yonatan Adler on their brother's Bar Mitzvah!

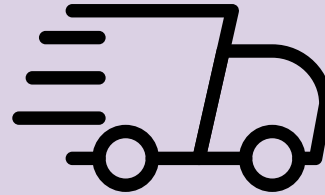
## Starting the school year in numbers:



67 Questions  
about  
transportation



34 questions about  
the school lunch  
program



225 UPS / Amazon  
deliveries



1,076 Incoming  
calls in the past  
week!



543 copy jobs done  
before school started



Rabbi Kohn visiting his talmidim in Camp Romimu

## נצבים-וילך

### Rules

הַנִּסְתָּרִים לֵה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְהַנִּגְלִים לָנוּ וּלְבָנֵינוּ עַד-עוֹלָם לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת

Concealed acts concern Hashem; but with overt acts, it is for us and our children ever to apply all the provisions of this Teaching.

הנסתרת וגו' והנגלת. כתב רב"ח שמעתי בשם הרמב"ם ז"ל פירוש פסוק זה, הנסתר לה' א' סודות התורה הנסתר וטעמי המצות, להש"י הם, ואם לא יזכה אדם שיקח שמץ מנהם בידיעת שרש המצוה בענין גופני, אין לו להמנע מזה, שהרי הנגלות לנו ולבנינו לעשות.

The Rav wrote that I heard in the name of the Rambam the interpretation of this verse, that the hidden secrets of the Torah and the reasons for the *mitzvos* are known only to G-d, and if a person cannot even get a trace of them in knowing the root of the mitzvah in a physical sense, he should not refrain from trying to do. For that which is revealed is for us and our children to do

- Haksav V'Hakabalah

Rules are not necessarily sacred. Principles are.

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Rambam, like many great scholars throughout history, composed a work dedicated to developing a logical understanding of the underlying reasons for the *mitzvos*. The conclusion of the third section of Rambam's Moreh Hanevuchim is a categorical organization of all the *mitzvos*, explaining their purpose based on logic and philosophy. Rambam was not alone in pursuing an understanding of the *mitzvos*, and he, as many others who followed, stirred controversy by even proposing that *mitzvos* could be understood and explained by human logic.

Rambam, himself, recognizes the limits of human intelligence in an interpretation, attributed to him, of a *possuk* in this week's *parsha*. "The hidden belong to Hashem, our G-d, while that which is revealed belongs to us and our children to carry out all the words of this Torah." Rambam sees this *possuk* as addressing both the deep, hidden meaning for *mitzvos*, a perspective that only Hashem can have, balanced with the mandate for us to delve as deeply as we can to try to understand the *mitzvos*, the revealed, in whatever way we can.

In Rambam's perspective, as explained by the Haksav V'hakabalah, although we can never truly understand the real reason for any *mitzvah*, that should not stop us from doing what we can to grasp as much as we can. At the same time, even if we fall short in trying to explain a *mitzvah*, we must still observe that *mitzvah* fully, confident that Hashem knows the real reason behind it. Both can be true at one and the same time, the revealed reasons belong to us even as the hidden ones belong to Hashem.

That powerful idea is important in raising our children from the perspective of presenting and explaining the *mitzvos* to them, while the underlying concept is applicable more broadly to how we engage our children with our own household rules and regulations.

Raising children to develop a healthy relationship with Torah and *mitzvos*, one in which they believe the *mitzvos* are good for them, will help cement their commitment to Torah as they mature. But, we must also convey to children our complete faith in the truth and value of the *mitzvos* even when we don't

necessarily understand them ourselves. A little humility on our own part can very much be contagious to our children.

The same approach is valuable in engaging the kids with our own rules and regulations, helping them to understand and process the meaning and value of those rules. Too much “because I said so” will turn children off and make them resentful of you and your rules. Children will learn to set rules for themselves when they see rules as meaningful and sensible.

Too much explaining can also be unhealthy. Children need to know that the adults in their lives, especially their parents, may understand certain issues more broadly and more deeply than they do, and they should trust you even when they cannot fully grasp the reasoning behind your rule. Developing that trust and faith in you takes the time and effort, to make sure your child knows you always have his or her best interest at heart.

In our approach to *mitzvos*, there will be things we understand, or at least think we do, and that which we do not understand. It is valuable for us to comprehend as much as we can in order to recognize how those *mitzvos* are for our own good. Nevertheless, when we don’t understand, we trust Hashem that all His rules have sound reasons and all of them are for the good. Our children, likewise, will be able to grasp the thought behind some of our rules, and will not with others, but we need to foster the trust necessary for them to believe the rules we make are sound and are for their good.

*Good Shabbos  
Rabbi Gottlieb  
Principal*