



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן
YESHIVA KETANA

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday
November 3, 2023
Torah Umesorah Convention
K-8 No Sessions

Friday
November 10, 2023
Dismissal K-8 12:30
No Transportation

Sunday
November 12, 2023
3rd grade Hascholas
Mishnayos

REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 11 Issue 4

October 20, 2023

5:50 PM

פרשת נח



3rd & 4th grade doing **TON** by holding the door for others



Rabbi Peikes' voluntary pre-shacharis learning program



Thank you N'shei for sponsoring this months Rosh Chodesh treats!

IMPORTANT UPDATES

1st week of
Matnas Shabbos
program!

Sponsorship opportunities available

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

Yeshiva Ketana | Mesivta | Beis Medrash | Kollel | Alumni

Chinuch for Life



K1 learning the letter כ



Rabbi Horowitz 3rd grade dancing after finishing a פרק of חומש

PLEASE SHARE WITH US! Please email any Mazel Tov information to reuvenreview@ohrreuven.com!

MAZEL TOV!

Miss Minya Bessler (K2 Teacher) on her engagement!
Pinny Kohn on his Bar Mitzvah!

PARENT FEEDBACK:

We would like to take a few moments to thank the yeshiva for the countless hours spent before, during, and after Yom tov, arranging and coordinating bus routes and schedules, to ensure that our boys would have bussing after succos. We can only assume that the Yeshiva has received many phone calls and emails detailing all the issues, so we just wanted to say thank you for your efforts. We know the yeshiva is working tirelessly behind the scenes, and we are extremely grateful!



Rabbi Kohn's 6th grade enjoying hot cocoa for their Davening program!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Yaakov Drillman, 1st
Yehuda Yitzchak Freedland, P1
Yosef Mayerfeld, 4th
Pinny Needleman, 4th
Reuven Steinman, P2

נח

Tall Towers and Black Swans

וַיְהִי כָל־הָאָרֶץ שְׂפָה אֶחָת וּדְבָרִים אֶחָדִים:

Everyone on earth had the same language and the same words.

וּדְבָרִים אֶחָדִים-אָמְרוּ אֶחָת לְאֶלֶף וּתְרַנ"ו שָׁנִים הָרָקִיעַ מִתְמוּטָט כְּשֶׁם שֶׁעָשָׂה בַּיָּמִי הַמַּבּוּל, בּוֹאוּ וְנַעֲשֶׂה לוֹ סְמִיכוֹת

They spoke "sharp" words; they said, "Once in every one thousand six hundred and fifty-six years (the period that elapsed from the Creation to the Flood) there is a heaven-shaking, just as there was in the days of the Flood. Come. then, and let us make supports for it"

- Bereishis Rabbah 38:6

We can't be so busy staying alive that we're not living

- Rabbi Yitzy Hurwitz (Wall Street Journal, Sep. 5, 2019)

The brains of humans contain a mechanism that is designed to give priority to bad news.

- Daniel Kahneman

Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky are two of the most influential psychologists of the 20th century. They, along with Richard Thaler, were awarded the Nobel prize in economics for establishing that people are far less rational in their decision making than we like to think we are (Tversky passed away before the award, and Kahneman accepted it on both their behalves). We tend to believe that we make decisions in our lives based on a rational analysis of the best information available. In his fabulous book, *Thinking Fast and Slow*, Kahneman elegantly sums up the conclusions of his and Tversky's research and shows the factors that actually control our decisions.

One of the most fascinating observations about human thought are the heuristics which control our decision making. Heuristics, as Kahneman and Tversky describe them, are mental shortcuts which we use to draw conclusions, instead of

actually going through the difficult process of gathering, crunching, and analyzing data to reach a scientific conclusion. One of those heuristics is what they refer to as the Availability Heuristic.

The Availability Heuristic dictates that information that is in the forefront of our minds and is readily available for recall will have a disproportionate influence on our thinking. For example, after a plane crash, people will be less likely to fly, even though the statistical odds of their dying in a plane crash have not increased (and may have even decreased). The crashing of the plane is information that is readily available and retrievable in the mind and therefore has an outsized influence on decision-making.

Kahneman observes that the media has a significant influence on the Availability Heuristic, as the stories they choose to cover receive more attention and are more readily available in the public mind. By way of example, Kahneman

notes that more people die annually from cows falling on them than from shark attacks, yet there is great public fear of shark attacks and little fear of tipping cows!

The combination of the media competition for our ever-shrinking attention span and the undue influence the stories they cover have on our thinking have reshaped our society in ways that are not desirable. The media tend to give maximum coverage to rare occurrences precisely because they are rare and therefore newsworthy. But, because they are widely reported, our minds come to see them as normal and they strongly influence our decision making. We live in fear of events that are too rare to be of any statistically significant danger.

Nassim Nicholas Taleb, in his book, *The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable*, discusses the highly improbable events that can and do impact our lives, financially and otherwise. Black Swan is the term he coined for these unpredictable, rare events. They can and do occur. Yet, if we spend our lives living in fear of the highly improbable, we run the risk of robbing ourselves of much of life to avoid a negligible risk.

The *dor Haflagah* was guilty of precisely that error. Their Availability Heuristic had the flood of Noach at the forefront of their minds, as it was the single greatest news story of their era. They concluded, therefore, that this must be a regular event, recurring every 1,656 years and they put all their energies towards mitigating the risk.

They were, of course, wrong on two counts. They were wrong to conclude, based on one Black Swan occurrence, that the same thing would happen again in the same way. They were wrong, as well, in assuming they could even

mitigate the risk, as the folly of their plan made clear.

The lesson has profound implications for parenting. We have built a society centered around safety as the primary concern. Our obsession with safety is a product of the Black Swan events in our society and the intense media coverage of those events which feed our collective Availability Heuristic. We build a bubble of protection around our children to shield them from the highly improbable, simply because we have been conditioned to irrationally fear the rare exception events of the world.

In some ways, safety is very good and very valuable. But, our aversion to risk has its risks. When we rob our children of opportunities for independence for fear of high-profile but statistically insignificant events, we rob our children of the opportunity to grow up. When we hover over our children in order to keep them safe from all harm, we cause them harm by fostering anxieties and fears that paralyze them.

When a child learns to walk, he risks falling and potential injury. As parents, we could mitigate that risk by not letting go. Hopefully, we know better than to do that, because we don't want to stop our child from learning how to walk. Can we let go enough to let our children learn how to fly?

Good Shabbos
Rabbi Gottlieb
Principal



פרשת נח
שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום



*This week's program
is not yet sponsored*

*The learning generated
by this program
should be a זכות for
אחינו, כל בית ישראל*

**THE REST of the פרשיות of this year
are still available for sponsorship!**

Please help support this wonderful program.

Monthly (4 weeks) sponsorship: \$220

One week full sponsorship: \$60

One week partial sponsorship: \$35

To sponsor a פרשה
please contact Rabbi Plotzker.
bplotzker@ohrreuven.com

First

Last

Name of תלמיד (Please Print Clearly)

!!WEEKLY PRIZES!!

Class: (Please Check One)

- ☐ 2nd Grade – 10 פסוקים
- ☐ 3rd Grade – 15 פסוקים
- ☐ 4th Grade – 20 פסוקים
- ☐ 5th Grade – 25 פסוקים
- ☐ 6th Grade – 30 פסוקים
- ☐ 7th Grade – 40 פסוקים
- ☐ 8th 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 נח!!!

- 1) What were the names of the 3 sons of נח and נֶעֱמָה?
- 2) How many years did it take נח to build the תִּיבָה?
- 3) The בְּרָכָה on a rainbow is אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם (fill in)
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
- 4) What was the name of the wicked king who threw אֲבִרְהָם into the fire, and helped build the tower of בָּבֶל?
- 5) What did the יוֹנָה come back with on its 2nd trip?
- 6) Name one of אֲבִרְהָם's brothers.

WINNERS FROM 'PARSHAS BERAISHIS'

DOVI LEFF
RONI FUCHS
TZVI SILBER
COBY SPITZ

GAVI BABANI
MOMO TEPPER
ARYEH GENACK
AVRAHAM HELLMAN

To sponsor this or any of our other programs, please contact bplotzker@ohrreuve.com

בס"ד

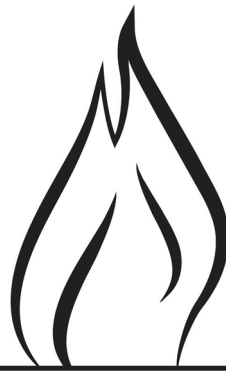
עולם חסד יבנה

כלל ישראל for זכותים We can create

חסד חינם

Your chesed mission for this week

Hold open the door for someone else
in and out of yeshiva!



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Raffle tickets will be distributed.

Fill your world with chesed!