



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן
YESHIVA KETANA

REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday
November 8, 2024
Torah Umesorah Convention
K-8 No Sessions
- Monday
November 11, 2024
Dismissal K: 3:00, P-8: 4:00
No Transportation
- Sunday
November 17, 2024
3rd Grade Hascholas
Mishnayos
- Sunday
November 24, 2024
1st Grade Hascholas Chumash

- Thursday
November 28, 2024
Dismissal K-8: 1:00
Rebbeim In-Service,
No Transportation

- Thursday
November 29, 2024
Dismissal K-8: 12:30
No Transportation

IMPORTANT NOTES



Reminder New Birthday Policy:

Any in-school party must take place either Friday morning at 11:30 AM or Sunday at 12:30 PM.

Vol. 12 Issue #6 November 1, 2024 5:33 PM פרשת נח ל' תשרי תשפ"ה



7th grade Daled Minim trip before sukkos



Checking daled minim with the Rosh HaYeshiva at the mechira



Rabbi Peikes' 8th grade on a hike with Rabbi Brodie



The Seleskis packing hundreds of bags of jerky for the soldiers in Eretz Yisroel



The real security!



Chaim Zanvel Metal (who is named after the Rebbe) & Yehuda Meir Schwartz at the Ribbnitzer Rebbe's tzion on his yahrtzeit (Isru Chag)



2nd grade making an edible ukkah project



Talmidim enjoying their recess outside



Rabbi Kohn's 6th grade making a siyum on the first blatt of Eilu Metzios!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dovid Benjamin, 8th

Ari Lipszyc, 6th

Asher Weg, 2nd

Ari Weinblatt, P1

Tzvi Silber, 6th

Aryeh Margulies, 5th

Reuven Steinman, 1st

Maier Greenstein, P1

Yehoshua Leib Greenstein, P2

Yehuda Yitzchak Freedland, 1st

Yosef Mayerfeld, 5th

Pinny Needelman, 5th

Tani Kahana, 4th

Ruvi Indig, 1st

Yaakov Drillman, 2nd

Shua Plotzker, 2nd

MAZEL TOV!

Rabbi & Mrs. Rawicki (Menahel) on the birth of a grandson!

Rabbi & Mrs. Horowitz (3rd grade Rebbe) on the birth of a baby girl!

Mrs. Weitz on the birth of a grandson!

Mrs. Mann on the birth of a grandson!

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

Tall Towers and Black Swans

וְיְהִי כָל־הָאָרֶץ שִׁפְהָ אֶחָת וְדַבָּרִים אֶחָדִים:

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

דָּבַר אַחַר עַל יְחִידוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם דָּבַר אַחַר וְדַבָּרִים אֶחָדִים-אֶמְרוּ אַחַת לְאֶלֶף וּתְרַנְנוּ שְׁנַיִם הַרְקִיעַ מִתְמוֹטֵט כְּשֵׁם שֶׁעָשָׂה בְיָמֵי הַמַּבּוּל, בּוֹאוּ וְנַעֲשֶׂה לוֹ סְמִיכוֹת

They spoke דברים חדים “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

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, as well as Richard Thaler were awarded the Nobel prize in economics (Tversky passed away before the award, and Kahneman accepted it on both their behalves) for establishing that people are far less rational in their decision making than we like to think we are. We tend to believe that we make decisions 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 the difficult process of gathering, crunching, and analyzing data to reach a scientific conclusion. One of those mental shortcuts is what they term the Availability Heuristic.

The Availability Heuristic dictates that information in the forefront of our minds and 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 outsize influence.

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 on our thinking by the stories they cover have reshaped our society in ways that are less than 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 against that risk, as the folly of their plan made clear.

We have built a society centered around safety as the primary concern. That concern for safety is a product of the Black Swan events in our world and the intense media coverage of those events. 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 over 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?



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Q. O. D.



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GADOL OF THE WEEK



What Do You Know About This Gadol?

Get ready for next week's questions

ת"ס

QUESTION OF THE DAY

ANSWERS



What is the name of this week's Gadol?

Rav Ovadia Yosef zt"l

What country was he born in?

Iraq

Name a famous sefer he wrote.

חֲזוֹן עוֹבְדֵיָהּ, יְבִיעַ אֹמֶר and many more

Name a Rov he interacted with.

**Rav Menachem Shach, Rav Benzion Abba-Shaul,
Rav Shlomo Amar, Rav Yosef Shalom Elyashiv etc.**

Was he Sefardi or Ashkenazi?

Sefardi

What year was he niftar?

5774 (2013)



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פרשת נח



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This weeks program שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום
is not yet sponsored

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

**MOST 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