



OHR REUVEN אור ראובן
YESHIVA KETANA

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday

January 28, 2026

Dismissal N-K @12:00 PM

P-8 @12:30 PM

Thursday-Monday

January 29- February 2

Mid-Winter Vacation

Monday

February 16, 2026

Legal Holiday

No Transportation

Dismissal N-8 @1pm

Rebbeim & Teacher-In-Service

Tuesday

February 17, 2026

No Clarkstown, North

Rockland & Suffern Central

Transportation

Friday

February 27, 2026

YK Dress Up Day

IMPORTANT NOTES

Thank You Nshei for
sponsoring the
Rosh Chodesh
Treats

REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 14 Issue 18

January 23, 2026

4:44 PM

פרשת בא



Thank You to Nshei and to all the parents that helped make the tea possible

MESIVTA



The Ohr Reuven Bochurim farhering 6th and 7th graders on Mishnayos in preparation for the Montreal Siyum Hamishnayos Trip



Rabbi Peikes giving the Thursday Shmuess in the Mesivta



Mesivta taking midterms



Shneur Kurkus giving an Iyun Chaburah to the 12th Grade Shiur



2nd graders looking at the map in the library



Rabbi Rawicki wishing Mazel tov to Ari Zisman who just became an uncle



Rabbi Biller's 2nd Grade enjoyed acting out Makas Tzefardea by hitting a big piñata frog, causing frogs to pour out as the boys collected them, bringing the story to life!



Rabbi Peikes' 8th Grade Chumash Honors Siyum on Sefer Beraishis in Kosher Castle

MAZEL TOV!

Rabbi and Mrs. Peikes on the birth on their new baby girl!

Moshe and Yehuda Peikes on their new baby sister!

Ari Zisman on becoming an uncle!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mordechai Nadoff 8th

Levi Balsam 3rd

Zechariah Singer 3rd

Avraham Fruchter Pre-1A

Shmuel Polter K1



Kedusha Warriors Rosh Chodesh Breakfast



Mazel tov to Tuvia Brodie on his birthday, and thank you to Tuvia's father for speaking to the boys about davening Modeh Ani and thanking Hashem for giving us back our neshama.

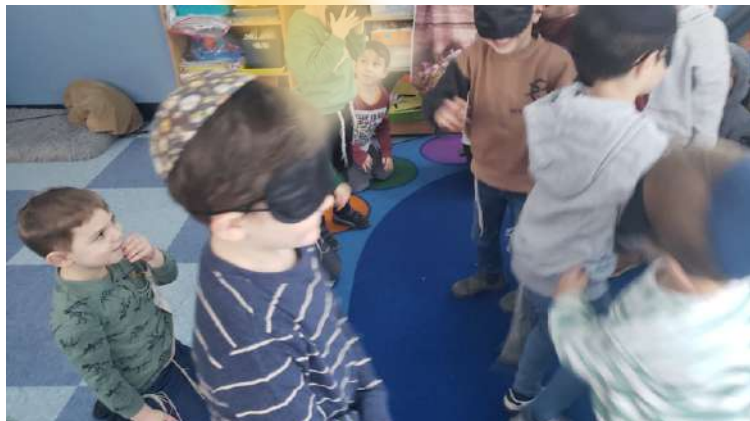


Rabbi Peikes' 8th Graders Celebrating a 98+ average on their maseches Beitza Final



Rabbi Kohn's 6th grade class worked hard to earn a well-deserved snowtubing trip! Each boy in the class reviewed all the Gemara they learned this year at least 5 times. The class as a whole reviewed more than **1500 amudim** of Gemara, on their own spare time! May they all continue to grow and continue bringing tremendous Nachas.

SPOTLIGHT PRE ON SCHOOL



Morah Jenny's K-1 acting out Makas Choshech



Winter Painting in K-2



Morah Bracha's Pre-1A hard at work



Morah Jenny's K1 bringing the Parsha alive



Morah Bracha's Pre-1A is Mesayim another Shaar in Kriya Neima



Letter K sensory fun in K2



1020

Congratulations to Mordy Birnbaum K1 on winning the gumball machine from the N'shei Tea

בא

Do not Say Cheese

הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רִאשׁ חֳדָשִׁים רִאשׁוֹן הוּא לָכֶם לְחֹדֶשִׁי הַשָּׁנָה:

This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months; it shall be the first of the months of the year for you.

הַזֶּה. נִתְקַשָּׁה מֹשֶׁה עַל מוֹלַד הַלְבָנָה, בְּאִיזוֹ שְׁעוֹר תִּרְאָה וְתִהְיֶה רְאוּיָה לְקֹדֶשׁ, וְהִרְאָה לוֹ בְּאַצְבָּע אֶת הַלְבָנָה בְּרָקִיעַ וְאָמַר לוֹ קֵדָה רְאָה וְקֹדֶשׁ (שם). וְכִיצַד הִרְאָהּ? וְהֲלֹא לֹא הָיָה נִדְבָר עִמּוֹ אֶלָּא בַּיּוֹם? שֶׁנֶּ' "וַיְהִי בַּיּוֹם דִּבֶּר ה'" (שמות ו'), "בַּיּוֹם צִוֵּתוֹ" (ויקרא ז'), "מִן הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה ה'" וְהִלָּאָה" (במדבר ט"ו)? אֶלָּא סָמוּךְ לְשִׁקִּיעַת הַחֲמָה נֶאֱמַר לוֹ פָּרָשָׁה זוֹ וְהִרְאָהּ עִם חֹשֶׁקָה:

Moshe was in perplexity regarding the Molad of (the exact moment when begins) the new moon — how much of it must be visible before it is proper to consecrate it as new moon: He therefore pointed it out to him in the sky with the finger and said to him, “Behold it like this, and consecrate it.” But how could He point it out to him? For did He not converse with him only by day, as it is said, (Exodus 6:28) “And it came to pass on the day when the L-rd spoke [unto Moshe]”; (Leviticus 7:38) “On the day when he commanded”; (Numbers 15:23) “From the day that the L-rd commanded and henceforward”? But the explanation is: This chapter was spoken to him close to sunset and He pointed it out to him at nightfall

- Rashi

If a picture is worth a thousand words, an experience is worth a thousand pictures

- Anonymous

Imagine if we had video footage of Yetzias Mitzrayim. Just imagine everyone had a cellphone at their fingertips with which uploaded real-time clips of the awe of the makkos and the grandeur of the splitting of the sea. Imagine there were a sea of selfies flowing out of the splitting of the Yam Suf. How incredible would that be? How much more impact would yetzias mitzrayim have had on the world? I would suggest it would have been disastrous.

I'd like to illustrate the point with a perspective on a well-known Rashi comment in this week's parsha. Moshe is mystified by the specifics of the commandment to sanctify the new-moon, uncertain as to the exact stage of the lunar cycle that qualifies for rosh chodesh. Hashem, as it were, points with a finger to the moon in the requisite state and tells Moshe, “like this.” The episode begs the question: The Master of the Universe knows in advance that Moshe will have difficulty grasping the concept. Why not start by

pointing at the moon rather than waiting for the inevitable, and only showing him then?

The question is compounded by the continuation of Rashi. He poses the question: how could Hashem have shown Moshe the moon if their conversations all took place in the daytime? The answer: This conversation took place close to sunset, allowing Hashem to show Moshe the moon immediately after nightfall. The question is as mind-boggling as the answer is mind-blowing. Prophecy, by its nature, is the Divine broadcasting of an image direct to the navi. And, while it is true that Moshe exceeded every other navi in that Hashem spoke to him in words and not in pictures, Moshe was no less than any other navi. There is no reason Hashem could not show him an image. Why can't Moshe see simply the image of the new moon in a nevuah?

The answer, simple, yet profound can be found in educational and social psychology. Educational psychologists have discovered that children (and adults) who are given the

opportunity to struggle to understand and solve a problem before being handed the solution will better grasp and retain the solution when shown it. In mathematics, for example, teaching children how to solve an equation and then having them practice solving similar equations is far less effective than first giving them the equation to solve, having them attempt to solve it through trial and error and only then showing them the solution. To show Moshe the image of the moon without first having him puzzle over it and attempt to grasp it would have undermined the efficacy of Moshe's education. He had to struggle first.

But, once he struggled over it, why show him the real moon at its renewal instead of a simple, prophetic picture of the moon? For that, we turn to behavioral psychology. Dan Ariely, one of the world's leading experts on behavioral economics, had an always insightful, weekly column in The Wall Street Journal. One such column highlighted a fascinating study measuring the effect of constant picture taking on significant life experiences. In the experiment, pairs of visitors toured a historic landmark. One member of each pair was instructed to take photos, while the other was not. When, a few weeks later, they were given a surprise memory test about the landmark, those who took the photos remembered far less than those who didn't.

Photographers were preoccupied with getting the best shot, and were confident the moment would be preserved for them in digital format. The non-photographers, by contrast, immersed themselves fully in the moment and embedded the memories in their mind's eye, not having the photographic record to fall back on. Ariely's point in the column is to focus more on enjoying and absorbing our experiences and less on documenting them digitally. Continuing to document our lives in selfies, pictures, and video clips robs us of the experiences and memories that shape us as people.

For Moshe, that meant a real, immersive experience in the new moon rather than a

prophetic picture. Had he been given a prophetic image of the new moon, he too would have relied on the assumption of the continuous, ready availability of the picture shown and would not have fully absorbed or retained the image of the moon. He needed an experience, not a picture.

Had we documented the experiences of yetzias mitzrayim through selfies, snapshots, and video clips, yetzias mitzrayim would have become part of our iCloud accounts, but not part of our DNA. Absorbing yetzias mitzrayim as a fully-immersive experience implanted the events in our hearts and our minds, shaping and transforming us through the episode. When we tell the story over to our children year-after-year and force them to conjure in their minds eye the image and the experience, we create within them the means to absorb and retain that experience as it becomes part of their DNA, to be passed to the next generation. Scrolling through the images and videos on a smartphone could not do that.

The concept has a profound impact on ourselves and our children in this digital age. We are often too consumed with capturing the significant moments in our own lives and those of our children to actually experience those moments. Our children learn from us, and, when given the opportunity to have a camera in hand, they spend the entire time snapping photos and taking video while missing the experience. That robs us and them of the great events of life that shape us as people and as family.

While there is always place for a digital memento of our most cherished moments, we need to remember not to let the keepsake overshadow the moment. Reclaim the joy of experiencing those moments instead of recording them in the hope you'll review them later. Set the example for your children so they can absorb the experiences that will shape them as human beings.

*Good Shabbos,
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
Principal*



והגדת לבנך ביום ההוא לאמר,

בעבור זה עשה ה' לי בצאתי ממצרים.

And you shall tell your son on that day, saying,

"Because of this, ה' did for me when I went out of מצרים."

This פסח is the source for the מצוה of מצרים on פסוק.

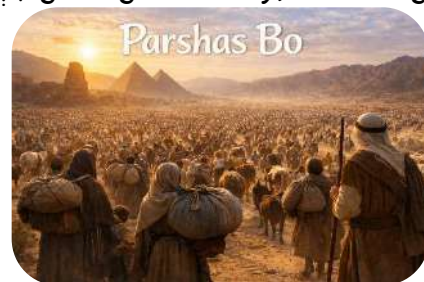
The name 'הגדה' comes from the opening word 'והגדת'.

Additional Parsha Points

קרבת פסח, תפילין, פדיון הבן

Parsha Points

- 1) משה and אהרן came to פרעה to warn him of the 8th מכה, ארבה, locusts. פרעה agreed to let the men go, but when משה said all are going, פרעה refused.
- 2) A strong wind blew so many locusts into מצרים that one couldn't see the ground or the sky. Whatever בדר didn't destroy, ארבה consumed. Soon there wasn't a single tree or food left in מצרים.
- 3) פרעה begged to stop it and he will let the בנ"י go. משה davened. ה' sent a wind, which carried all the ארבה away. However, once again, פרעה changed his mind, and would not let the בנ"י go.
- 4) The 9th מכה came without warning. משה stretched his hand upwards and מצרים became dark. For 3 days it was pure darkness, but the מצרים could move. The next 3 days, it was so thick, they couldn't move. During this, on ה' command, the בנ"י searched the מצרי houses for gold and silver they would be gifted with when they left מצרים. The רשעים of בנ"י also died during these 3 days.
- 5) When מכת חושך ended, פרעה called משה and אהרן and agreed to send out the בנ"י, as long as they leave their cattle behind. When משה told פרעה that they will only leave with everyone and everything, פרעה told משה to never come back to the palace. And so it was...
- 6) Before the last מכה began, ה' gave ישראל כלל their first מצוה – קידוש החודש. Every month, based on the sighting of the new moon, בית דין should decide when the new month begins – ראש חודש. The month of ניסן was designated as the first month.
- 7) ה' then gave them the מצוות of פסח and קרבן פסח. The blood from the קרבן was to be put on the **inside** of the doorpost. When ה' comes for מכת בכורות He will be פסח, pass over, their houses.
- 8) On the 15th of ניסן, ה' came down with His מלאכים and killed every first born in מצרים. If he was in different country, or hiding in the house of a Jew, he died there. The oldest in the house in מצרים died. Additionally, all first born מצרי animals died. Almost all the idols were also destroyed.
- 9) מצרים was screaming. Dead people were everywhere. פרעה found משה and אהרן "Leave מצרים right away. משה told him "No, we will wait until the morning so you won't say we snuck out".
- 10) Before בנ"י left they asked the מצרים for gold and silver. The מצרים gave generously, wanting the בנ"י to leave! While בנ"י were collecting the gold and silver, משה went to raise יוסף's coffin from the Nile to be brought to ארץ ישראל.
- 11) The next morning the בני ישראל left מצרים. They were joined by a non-Jews known as the ערב רב who wanted to become Jews.
- 12) ה' commanded 2 מצוות which help us remember the tremendous תפילין and פדיון הבן of מצרים: יציאת מצרים and נסים.





In this week's פרשה we are given the מצודה of קידוש החודש with ניסן as the 1st month.

(7) תשרי	(1) ניסן
(8) חשוון	(2) אדר
(9) כסלו	(3) סיון
(10) טבת	(4) תמוז
(11) שבט	(5) אב
(12) אדר	(6) אלול

There are 7 מכות in וארא and 3 מכות in בא.

An easy way to remember this is: the gematria of וארא = 7, and בא = 3
Last week we reviewed גמטריא's of י - א.

80	פ	20	כ
90	צ	30	ל
100	ק	40	מ
200	ר	50	נ
300	ש	60	ס
400	ת	70	ע



Tefillah Talk

אשרי (חלק ג')



Dovid Hamelech longs for the day when all the nations of the world will join Klal Yisroel in forever exclaiming allegiance to Hashem, recognizing that He is the One who controls and orchestrates all, from the supernatural events and miracles that happen around us, to our everyday 'natural' occurrences!

All Your creations will thank You, Hashem,	יודוך ה' כל מעשיך
And Your devoted (nation) will (always) bless You.	וחסידיך יברכוכה.
They will speak about the honor of Your kingdom (the natural world)	כבוד מלכותך יאמרו
And about Your strength (in the supernatural) they will speak.	וגבורתך ידברו.
They will let people know about His strength (supernatural)	להודיע לבני האדם גבורתו
And about the glorious beauty of His kingdom (natural is also from 7).	וכבוד הדר מלכותו.
Your kingdom is a kingdom of all the worlds (in this world and the next)	מלכותך מלכות כל עולמים
And Your rulership will continue through all the generations.	וממשלתך בכל דור ודור.

בס"ד

שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום פרשת בא



**This week's program is
NOT YET SPONSORED**

- ☐ 1st Grade – 5 פסוקים
- ☐ 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

**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@ohrreuveen.com

My son _____ in grade _____ completed

פרשה שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום
for this
in the amount specified for his class.

____ Bonus: He did double the grade required amount!

Parents sig. _____



N'SHEI REBBI PRIZES



THE ROSH HAYESHIVA, RABBI RUDINSKY
15 MINUTE CHAVRUSA WITH THE ROSH YESHIVA

NAFTALI AND MORDECHAI RUBIN

RABBI RAWICKI

2 FREE BLUE NOTE PRIZES

TULLY KATZ

YISHAI BELLER

FREE PASS TO THE VENDING MACHINE (2)

TANI KAHANA

DOV LAZARUS

RABBI ZIPPER:

SLUSH

SHALOM GILDEN

HILLEL FRANKEL

BENNY & YISROEL KLEIN

TUVIA GROSSMAN

TANI KAHANA

RAFI WEINRAUB

AZI SENTER

YAKOV & AARON SENTER

SHUA PLOTZKER

REUVEN STEINMAN

YITZY SCHWARTZ

ELIYAHU ROTHMAN

MRS. PLOTZKER:

LUNCH AND DESSERT PLUS STORY TIME WITH MORAH
SHANI (ONE WINNER)

DANI BROYDE

MRS. LEIBOVIC

LUNCH WITH MRS. LEIBOVIC FROM HAVA JAVA

TUVIA GROSSMAN

RABBI MYSKI - GRADE 1

REBBI'S HELPER FOR THE DAY (5 WINNERS)

YITZY YABLONSKY

HERSHY WEISS

DOV LAZARUS

DANIEL BELLER

AZI SENTER

RABBI BILLER - GRADE 2
FREE TEST PASS (5 WINNERS)

REUVEN STEINMAN

MORDY ADLER

YONATAN ADLER

RAPHAEL LEVI

YEHUDA YITZCHOK FREEDLAND

WIN A PRIZE FROM THE BOX (5)

RAPHAEL LEVI

RAPHAEL LEVI

DOV KONIG

DOV KONIG

YEHUDA YITZCHOK FREEDLAND

FREE HOMEWORK PASS (5 WINNERS)

YONATAN ADLER

DOV KONIG

MOSHE PEIKES

YONATAN ADLER

REUVEN STEINMAN

REBBI'S HOMEWORK STAMPER (2)

DOV KONIG

REUVEN STEINMAN

CHOOSE SONG OF THE WEEK (1)

YONATAN & MORDY ADLER

RABBI HOROWITZ - GRADE 3

FREE MILK SHAKE

AKIVA VILINSKY

5 FREE REBBI DOLLARS

MOSHE KATZ

FREE HOMEWORK (PASS)

ZECHARIAH SINGER

FREE PRIZE FROM PRIZE STORE

SHMUEL MEIR YABLONSKY

REBBI'S SCROLLER FOR ONE DAY

DANIEL LEVI

RABBI LOWY - GRADE 4

AN OVERNIGHT KUGEL FOR THE CLASS!

YONATAN STEIN





N'SHEI REBBI PRIZES



RABBI EISEN - GRADE 5

2 MA'AH (3 WINNERS)

GAVRIEL ADLER

YISHAI BELLER

HILLEL FRANKEL

2 EXTRA BINGO SPINS

(ONE PERSONAL AND ONE FOR THE CLASS) (2 WINNERS)

DOVID RENZONI

YITZY SCHWARTZ

SODA CAN FROM VENDING MACHINE(2 WINNERS)

YISHAI BELLER

ARIEL KAHANA

RABBI KOHN - GRADE 6

2 GOLD COINS (3 WINNERS)

YOSEF BENISTI

YEHUDA ZLOTNICK

MICHAEL KATZ

SPIN THE WHEEL (3 WINNERS)

YOSEF BENISTI

SHAYA ROSENBERG

RAFI WEINRAUB

RABBI PRUPAS - GRADE 7

GAME OF HORSE WITH REBBI

MORDY GOLD

HOT COCOA IN CLASS (3 WINNERS)

MORDECHAI AMSEL

NOAM DEUTSCH

MORDECHAI AMSEL

NIGHT OFF HOMEWORK (3 WINNERS)

ASHER SINGER

MORDY GOLD

ELI MEIR KOPSTICK

CHANGE MORNING SONG TO SONG OF BOY'S CHOICE (1 DAY)

MORDY GOLD

RABBI SCHEINBERG

A SPECIAL HOT COCOA (4 WINNERS)

YITZY FRIEDMAN

REUVEN STEINMAN

RAFI WEINRAUB

BENTZION STEINMAN

RABBI PEIKES - GRADE 8

A SHABBOS AT REBBI'S HOUE WITH THREE FRIENDS
FROM THE CLASS

YEHUDA SMOLEN

RABBI KAHANA - GRADE 8:

SLICE OF PIZZA (2 WINNERS)

MOSHE BRACHFELD (GRADE 8)

RAFI WEINRAUB (GRADE 6)

BOWL OF POPCORN (2 WINNERS)

NOAM DEUTSCH (GRADE 7)

MOSHE BRACHFELD (GRADE 8)

RABBI PLOTZKER - GRADES 1-8

4 MIZMOR L'SODA TOKENS

DOV LAZARUS (GRADE1)

4 CANS OF SODA WHEN YOU WANT (4 WINNERS)

YEKUTIEL YEHUDA NADOFF (GRADE 3)

YAAKOV DRILLMAN (GRADE 3)

DOV LAZAROUS (GRADE 1)

SHAYA ROSENBERG (GRADE 6)

**CONGRATES TO ALL OF OUR
OHR REUVEN YESHIVA KETANA
WINNERS!!!**



MORDY BIRNBAUM K1 1020 GUMBALLS



Ten wonderful prizes to be won!

SHAINDY SILBER

PRIZE 1

Chevra Discount

(\$750 off full summer or \$400 off half summer)

Sponsored by Rabbi Peiris

GITA BEN SHLOMO

PRIZE 2

Free Spring Season at RJFL

Sponsored by S.B. & B. Robinson

FRIEDA GELBMAN

PRIZE 3

Free Pirchei Baseball Season

Sponsored by David & Laurie Newman

TAMAR SINGER

PRIZE 4

4 Tickets to Nickelodeon

American Dream

Sponsored by the Norowitz family & American Dream

ESTHER FISHMAN

PRIZE 5

Sary Fall

Sponsored by Sary Wigs

TAL NY Gift Package

Sponsored by TAL NY

ZELDY BROYDE

\$250 to a Rebbe or Morah of your choice

Sponsored by Yoni & Sarah Seiter

CHAVI HEINEMANN

1 Hour Photoshoot

Sponsored by Ahuva Koenig Photography

Dinner for Two at Montpelier

Sponsored by Montpelier

HENNY SHTAYGRUD

3 one hour art lessons with Miriam Green

Sponsored by Miriam Green

Swaddlebee Blanket

Sponsored by Nardy & Chayala Kahana

2 free personalized pajamas

Sponsored by Paisley Design

RIVKAH KOPSTICK

6 sessions of EM sculpting

Sponsored by Aliza Weinraub

Pedicure at Limage

Sponsored by Ayelet Berman

Free Makeover

Sponsored by Heaven Scent

ESTY ROBINSON

Challah package

Sponsored by The Challah Fairy

Meat board

Sponsored by Bored

\$180 Evergreen gift card

Sponsored by Evergreen