OHR REUVEN אור ראובן
YESHIVA KETANA

REUVEN REVIEW

YOUR WINDOW INTO THE WORLD OF YESHIVA KETANA OHR REUVEN

Vol. 15 Issue 9 October 23, 2026 5:45 PM פרשת לך-לך

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday
November 6, 2026
Torah Umesorah Convention
N-BM No Sessions

Wednesday
November 11, 2026
No Transportation
Dismissal N-K @ 3:00 PM, P-8 @ 4:00 PM

Thursday
November 26, 2026
Rebbeim-In-Service
No Transportation
Dismissal N-8 @ 1:00 PM

Friday
November 27, 2026
No Transportation
Dismissal: N-8 @ 12:30

IMPORTANT NOTES

This week we launched the Kedusha Warriors program grades 6-8



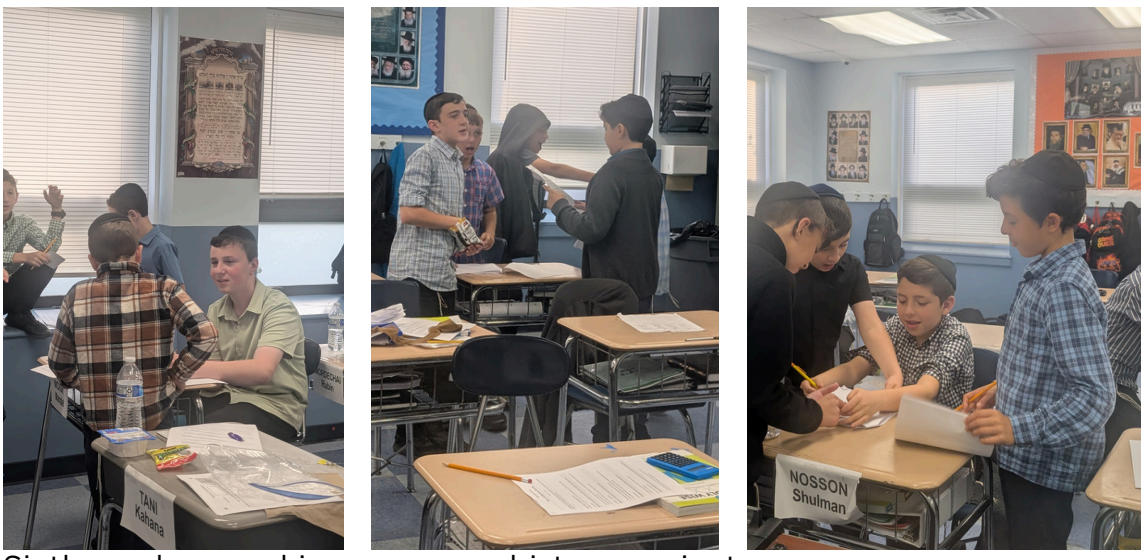
Kedusha Warriors Introduction



3rd Graders enjoying outdoor recess



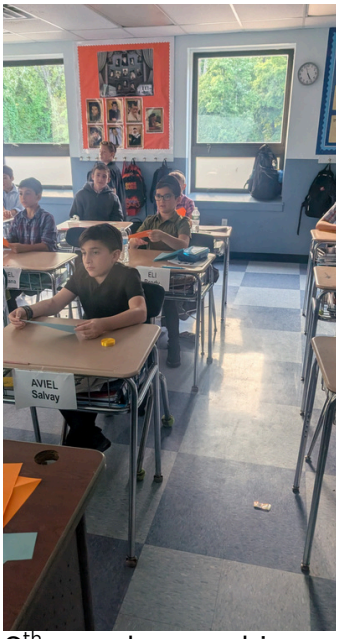
2nd grade learning in groups



Sixth graders working on group history projects



Mrs. Radzik's ELA group showing their work





6th graders making origami Sukkos projects

MAZEL TOV!

Rabbi and Mrs. Muntner on the bar Mitzvah of their son Meir Leib!
Elisha Kohn on his brother's wedding!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Tzvi Silber, 8th
Aryeh Margulies, 7th
Pinny Needleman, 7th
Shua Plotzker, 4th
Yakov Drillman, 4th
Reuven Steinman, 3rd
Shmuel Gordon, 1st
Shloime Breuer, K-1
Naama Jonas, N-2

SPOTLIGHT ON PRESCHOOL



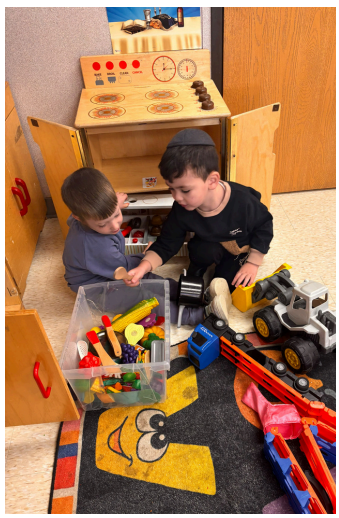
Playtime in K-1





N-1 Making arts and crafts





N-1 at play time

לך לך

It's a Miracle

וַיִּפֹּל אַבְרָהָם עַל־פָּנָיו וַיִּצְחָק וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלִבּוֹ הַלְבֶן מֵאָה־שָׁנָה יִוָּלֵד וְאִם־שָׂרָה הֲבַת־תִּשְׁעִים שָׁנָה תֵּלֵד׃

Abraham threw himself on his face and laughed, as he said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man a hundred years old, or can Sarah bear a child at ninety?"

התחלת העם היהודי גורמת לחיוכים. לפי ההגיון המציאותי, המחשב כל דבר על פי סיבה ומסובב, נראים תולדות עם זה, ציפיותיו, תקוותיו, וחייו, כשאיפה עוברת גבולות, בלתי מציאותית, ונלעגת. אך דברי ימי ישראל מתחילים אכן להעשות מובנים, והם ראויים לכך שילמדו אותם במלוא כובד הראש – רק אם מסבירים אותם על פי סיבת כל הסיבות; ומאמינים ברצונו הכל־יכול והחפשי של האל החפשי, הפועל בחירות ומתערב בעוז בענייני עולמו.

אבותינו היו חייבים לדעת דבר זה מההתחלה, ועל צאצאיהם היה לזכור זאת תמיד. משום כך המתין הקב״ה עד שאביהם ואמם הראשונים של האומה יגיעו לגיל מעורר חיוך. זה הטעם שה׳ התחיל לקיים את הבטחותיו רק משאבדה כל תקווה אנושית. הוא רצה לברוא לעצמו אומה שתהיה ״אצבע אלקים״ – סימן לאלקים בקרב האנושות.

The beginning of the Jewish people provokes smiles. By the logic of realism, which reckons everything in terms of cause and effect, the history of this people (its expectations, its hopes, and its very life) appears to be an aspiration that oversteps all bounds: unrealistic and laughable. Yet the annals of Israel do begin to make sense, and do deserve to be studied with full seriousness, but only if they are explained in terms of the Cause of all causes, with belief in the omnipotent and free will of the free G-d, who acts in freedom and intervenes mightily in the affairs of His world.

Our forefathers had to know this from the very outset, and their descendants were to remember it always. That is why the Holy One, blessed be He, waited until the first father and mother of the nation had reached an age that provokes a smile. That is why G-d began to fulfill His promises only once all human hope had been lost. He wished to create for Himself a nation that would be "the finger of G-d," a sign of G-d in the midst of humanity.

- Rav Shamshon Raphael Hirsch

A miracle is an event so unlikely as to be almost impossible. By that definition, I've just proven that you are a miracle.

- Dr. Ali Binazir

What are the odds of your being born? What are the odds of any one of your children having been born? They are slim, impossibly slim.

According to a blog post by Dr. Ali Binazir published in 2012, the odds of any one person being born are "1 in $10^{2,685,000}$ – yes, that's a 10 followed by 2,685,000 zeroes!" In other words, by mathematical odds, it is highly improbable to near impossible for any of us to be here, and yet, here we are.

Binazir arrives at that astronomical number by calculating the odds of anyone's parents meeting and staying together long enough to actually have children. To that, he adds the mathematical probability of them succeeding in conceiving a child. That, in turn is layered upon the statistical chance of every single one of your ancestors having survived to child bearing age, having found a suitable spouse and having succeeded in bearing children of their own. The bottom line of all his calculations is that the odds of any of us

actually being here are pretty much zero. And yet, here we are.

Rav Shamshon Raphael Hirsch believes that miracle, the near-impossible odds of our existence, to be the driving force behind the unusual circumstances surrounding the inception of the Jewish People. Why does Hashem wait until Avraham and Sarah have reached an age where the thought of them bearing children is laughable before first granting them a son? It is for us to know, for all time, how truly impossible our existence actually is.

Rav Hirsch's observation is applicable to the Jewish nation as a whole, as well as to each individual ever born. We are all a miracle. Unfortunately, too often we forget just what a miracle it is that any of us are here.

That is vitally important for parents.

By nature, couples who struggle to bear children will cherish those children just a little more when they finally arrive. You might even hear a mother or father refer to one of their children as "my miracle baby." When you see your child as a miracle, you tend to have a little more patience for the trials and tribulations of child-rearing. If your child is a miracle child, then the simple pleasures and joys of parenting become sources of great pride and delight and the lows become a little more tolerable and less disturbing. No matter what happens, you always remind yourself that your child is a miracle.

What if you were to suddenly discover that your plain, ordinary child is really a miracle child, a mathematical impossibility gifted to you by Hashem, Himself? Guess what, you just did.

Now that we know, thanks to Dr. Ali Binazir, that all our children are miracles, how will that affect the way we view them? How will it change the way we cherish our children, the time we spend with them, and how much we enjoy the simple fact of their existence?

As we all know, parenting brings its share of difficulties and challenges. It is no walk in the park, filled instead with angst, stress, sleepless nights, and hard work. That can be very daunting indeed. But, ask yourself, would you trade all that anxiety, lost sleep, and stress for a miracle?

Like Yitzchak before us, all our children are an impossible miracle. So, the next time you're ready to pull your hair out, pause, take a deep breath, and behold the wondrous miracle before you. You may just laugh out loud with joy!

Good Shabbos,
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
Principal

בס״ד

פַּרְשַׁת לֶךְ לְךָ

Lu. L. L. A. Y.

Luving Living Like A Yid



On the Parsha

Pesukim from the Parsha

כִּי אֶת כָּל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה רֹאֶה, לְךָ אֶתְּנֶנָּה וּלְזַרְעֲךָ עַד עוֹלָם.

promised Avraham Avinu ה׳: "All the land (of Eretz Yisroel) that you see, will be Klal Yisroel's forever!" (יג: טו)

... וְלֹא תֹאמַר אֲנִי הֶעֱשַׁרְתִּי אֶת אַבְרָם (יד: כג)

Avraham Avinu refused all spoils of war from the king of Sidom: "so you should not say, I made Avram rich" rather it is all from ה׳!

...וְאַחֲרֵי כֵן יֵצְאוּ בִרְכֻשׁ גָּדוֹל. (טו: יד)

Bnei Yisroel will be enslaved "and afterwards will go out with great wealth" *(The Torah!)*

Points from the Parsha

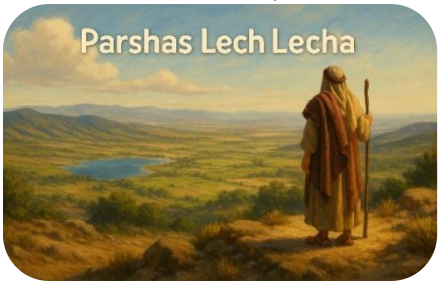
1) אַבְרָם dedicated himself to spreading knowledge of Hashem. ה׳ gave him 10 tests. The first test was to leave his father's house and to travel to an undisclosed land.

2) אַבְרָם, who was 75 years old, took with him his wife, שָׂרַי, his wife's brother לוֹט, and all the people that he taught about ה׳. When he arrived in אֶרֶץ כְּנַעַן, there was another test – a famine, so he travelled down to מִצְרַיִם to get food.

3) אַבְרָם was concerned that the מִצְרִיִּים would take שָׂרַי and kill him, so he put her in a box, but she was discovered (another test). אַבְרָם said she is my sister (as all relatives can be called family) but she was taken nonetheless. When פַּרְעֹה tried to come close to her, a מַלְאָךְ struck him. פַּרְעֹה freed שָׂרַי, sending אַבְרָם away with many presents. (One of the presents that פַּרְעֹה gave אַבְרָם was his own daughter, הָגָר, who served as a slave for אַבְרָם.)

4) Upon arriving back in אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, the shepherds of אַבְרָם and לוֹט quarreled. אַבְרָם only let his animals graze in his own fields, but לוֹט let them graze all over. אַבְרָם told לוֹט to move away, and לוֹט moved away to the wicked city of סְדוֹם.

5) A battle began between 4 main kings of the time against the 5 main kings. לוֹט was captured by the leader אַמְרָפֶל (a.k.a. נִמְרוֹד!). אַבְרָם and his servant אֱלִיעֶזֶר joined the battle. אַבְרָם won and released all the captives.



6) As אַבְרָם approached יְרוּשָׁלַיִם, the king, מַלְכִּיצֶדֶק, whose real name was שֵׁם, (the son of נֹחַ,) came out to bless him.

7) Soon after, ה׳ promised אַבְרָם that he would have children and his descendants would inherit אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל. He put אַבְרָם into a deep sleep and showed him a נְבוּאָה of the history of the בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. This נְבוּאָה and promise was known as the בְּרִית בֵּין הַבְּתָרִים.

8) After 10 years of being back in אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל and not having children, שָׂרַי suggested that אַבְרָם marry הָגָר, and in that זְכוּת, she, שָׂרַי, will have children. A year later, הָגָר had a son named יִשְׁמָעֵאל.

9) When אַבְרָם was 99 years old, ה׳ appeared to him and commanded him to perform the מִצְוָה of בְּרִית מִילָה. Hashem also changed אַבְרָם's name to אַבְרָהָם, and שָׂרַי's name to שָׂרָה. Although אַבְרָהָם was 99 years old, he fulfilled ה׳'s command and gave himself and all males of his whole household a בְּרִית מִילָה.

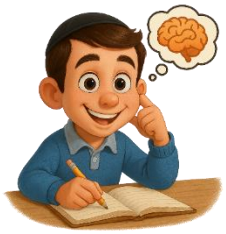
For corrections, comments, or additions, please email: bplotzker@ohrreuven.com

בס״ד

Yedios from the Parsha

בְּרִית מִילָה

- שָׁלוֹם זָכָר – Friday night celebration the week of the baby's birth
- וואכְט נאכְט - Night before בְּרִית מִילָה
- שְׁמוֹנָה יָמִים – בְּרִית מִילָה is done when baby is 8 days old
- אַבִי הַבֵּן – father of the baby
- מוֹהֵל – performs the בְּרִית מִילָה
- סַנְדָק – holds the baby at the בְּרִית מִילָה
- קְוַאטֶער – brings in the baby for בְּרִית מִילָה
- קְרִיאַת שֵׁם – giving of name to baby
- עֲמִידָה עַל הַבְּרָכוֹת – holds baby while בְּרָכוֹת are said
- כִּסֵּא שֶׁל אֵלִיָּהוּ (אֵלִיָּהוּ מַלְאַךְ הַבְּרִית) – seat prepared for אֵלִיָּהוּ הַנָּבִיא
- בָּאַ״י אֱמֶ״ת אַקְבִּ״יו אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל הַמִּילָה
  בְּרָכָה said when on the mitzvah of בְּרִית מִילָה
- בָּאַ״י אֱמֶ״ת אַקְבִּ״יו לְהַכְנִיסוֹ בִּבְרִיתוֹ שֶׁל אַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ
  בְּרָכָה said the בְּרִית מִילָה is a continuation of mitzvah given to אַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ







MIDDOS AND EMUNAH FROM THE PARSHA

In this week's parsha, Hashem references in the בְּרִית בֵּין הַבְּתָרִים that there are an infinite amount of stars,
The גמרא in ברכות (לב:) calculates the amount of stars to:
12 × 30 × 30 × 30 × 30 × 30 × 365,000 × 10,000 = **1,064,340,000,000,000,000**
One quintillion, sixty-four quadrillion, three hundred forty trillion.
Until 1925 astronomers believed that there were a limited amount of stars, as they knew of no universe beyond our Milky Way Galaxy. However, in 1925, Edwin Powell Hubble, an American astronomer, calculated, based on Einstein's theories, that there are an enormously larger number of stars, around 10^{18} – almost the exact number that חז״ל told us over 1500 years ago, when such enormous numbers were not used or contemplated. (Don't worry – the scientist will get it exactly right someday! 😊)

(Gateways Parsha Teaching Guide – Rabbi Yehuda Silver)

For corrections, comments, or additions, please email: bplotzker@ohrreuven.com

בס"ד

שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום

פרשת לך לך

OHR REUVEN אור ראובן
YESHIVA KETANA



This week's program is NOT YET SPONSORED

- ☐ 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@ohrreuven.com

My son _____ in grade _____completed
שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום for this פרשה
in the amount specified for his class.
____ Bonus: He did double the grade required amount!

Parents sig._____