

<p><b>Cincinnati Hebrew Day School</b>  <b>Samuel and Rachel Boymel Campus</b>  <b>Newsletter</b>  <b>Friday 12 Adar ~ 5770 February 26, 2010</b></p>
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*PARSHAS: Tetzaveh*

**School begins 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 1**

**Friday Night Candle Lighting 6:06 p.m.**

**Havdala 7:10 p.m.**

**Happy Purim from Morah Kayla’s Pre-K class!**

Dear Parents and Friends:

**“[Mordechai sent out letters to all the Jews, charging them] to observe annually the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and its fifteenth day, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and the month which had been turned about for them from one of sorrow to gladness, and sending delicacies to one another, and gifts to the poor.” (Megillat Esther 9: 21-22)**

*The famed Kabbalist known as the Arizal notes that the name for Yom Kippur in the Torah is Yom Kippurim (a ‘day like Purim’), implying that Yom Kippur is somehow secondary to Purim. At first glance this seems odd. How could Yom Kippur – a day devoted to prayer, fasting, and repentance – possibly rank second to Purim – a day when we indulge in eating, drinking, and seemingly lighthearted pursuits?*

There’s obviously more to Purim than meets the eye.

The Talmud (Shabbat 88b) states that the Jewish nation reaffirmed their commitment to the Torah on Purim. What prompted this dramatic revitalization of Jewish allegiance? In the period just before Purim, the Jewish people were threatened by annihilation; they feared that their very existence was at stake. They were saved however through a string of numerous, seemingly unrelated incidents. Upon achieving their freedom, they realized how every one of these ostensibly “natural” events was part of a Divine master plan. They were now filled with such gratitude to G-d – for all that He had done – and wanted to give back to Him. They therefore intensified their commitment to *mitzvah* observance and Torah study.

In his classic book on ethics, *Michtav M’Eliyahu*, Rabbi Eliyahu Dessler explains that it is for this reason that Yom Kippur is in a sense secondary to Purim. On Yom Kippur, we reaffirm our commitment to G-d out of a sense of awe. On Purim however, our commitment to Him stems from our personal desire to give of ourselves in return for His kindness. As in the original Purim story, we recognize on Purim that G-d consistently shields us from harm and showers us with His kindness. This awareness fosters a connection with G-d that is stronger than one which stems from the awe associated with Yom Kippur.

This too is why Mordechai instituted that the day of Purim be immortalized as a day of giving and generosity. As we reflect on Purim on G-d’s limitless kindness, we are prompted to act in kind and give back to His children. These acts of giving on Purim reinforce the special bond that was created between G-d and the Jewish people in the times of Mordechai and Esther.

With the hectic pace of today’s society, we rarely take the time to reflect on the wonderful world around us. The fact that we can see, hear, walk, taste, eat, etc. are all cause alone for abundant gratitude. Rabbi Avigdor Miller (1908-2001) was legendary for his appreciation of each detail in G-d’s vast and magnificent world. A grandson once came to Rabbi Miller’s home and found him in the kitchen, with his face submerged in a sink full of water. When Rabbi Miller came up for air, he explained to his puzzled grandson, “I was outside earlier, and I heard someone complaining about the smog in the air. I did not want this negative comment about G-d’s glorious world to damper my appreciation of Him. I therefore stuck my head under water for a moment to enhance my appreciation of how beneficial air is for us. When your head is under water, any air will do.”

As we partake of the joyous Purim festivities this year and run to deliver gifts to our friends and neighbors, it would do us well to pause for a moment and reflect on all of the goodness and kindness in our lives, and in the process, revitalize and reaffirm our commitment to G-d.

*D’var Torah by Rabbi Moshe Gewirtz, printed with permission by Partners in Torah’s Parsha Partner*  
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## **School News**

**Purim Costumes**-Shushan Purim we will be having a family costume contest. **Siblings from each family** will come up together to be photographed and judged during lunch hour. Each family that has all its student members in costume will receive a prize. Prizes will also be awarded to the three top sets of costumes.

**Dinner 5770/2010**-A gala cruise down the Ohio is being planned and it's not too late to get involved- contact Rabbi Travis in the office. In addition to recognizing **Rabbi Raffie and Sherri Zuroff** for all that they have done and continue to do for our school and community, **Dr. Gary and Lois Marcus** from Berkeley, CA will be with us to help remember school founder **Ben Levinson**. This is an event you will not want to miss!

**PTA NEWS - KROGER FUNDRAISING PROGRAM:** This is a friendly reminder to all Kroger shoppers to please use your Kroger fundraising card when you shop at Krogers. These cards are purchased by the PTA to raise funds to support our school. To receive a new card, please contact Rivka Preis. The cards are reusable and easy to use. You can even add money to the card at the checkout counter prior to having your groceries rung up. Your receipt will indicate how much money is left on your card. All new cards have a \$1 balance. The PTA receives a rebate check for a minimum of \$200 every time as a collective group CHDS cardholders have reached \$5000 placed on our cards. Thank you to all our parents and friends who participate in this ongoing fundraising program. Rivka Preis

**Od Yosef Chai – Matanos Lo’evyonim** - Donations for Matanos Lo’evyonim are being accepted in the office (see attached letter). Please make out checks to Od Yosef Chai and bring them to Rabbi Berger or Rabbi Kernerman Motzei Shabbos, or early Sunday morning.

**Student Council Raffle** – once again, Mrs. Debow and the Student Council are having a Shushan Purim raffle! Kids can still buy tickets Monday for 25 cents a piece or five for a dollar. **THE RAFFLE HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL TUESDAY.** Grand prize is an IPOD shuffle; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is a \$50 gift card for Toys R Us; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize is a digital camera.

### **What’s New In The Classroom?**

In Rabbi Berger's Navi class, the fourth grade has just completed perek ches in Sefer Yehoshua. Bnei Yisroel conquered the city of Ai when they attacked it the second time.

In Rabbi Gabay’s fourth grade class, students have finished learning about the brachos of Gad and Asher in Parshas Vayechi. In preparation for Purim, the class has also covered the first four prakim of the Megillah, and have also learned the Dinim of the four “Mem Mitzvos” of Purim. In Mishnayos studies, the boys have been learning about the concepts of “ikkar and tafel” in Brachos (main and secondary parts of the meal).

This week in Mrs. Steely’s math class, the fourth graders began a new chapter on geometry. They practiced identifying and describing solid shapes and polygons. The students began writing biographies in English class. Each student chose a famous person that interested them. They carried out research on the internet and wrote their first drafts. Next week they will write and share the final copies of their biographies. As always, the students enjoyed reading about current events. They learned about the Toyota recalls, saving endangered turtles and President Obama’s plans for the 2011 Budget. The class learned about weather and meteorologists in science. They made posters displaying ways to keep safe during severe weather events, such as tornadoes, thunderstorms and hurricanes.

In Chumash with Rabbi Lifshitz, the fifth graders have completed Parshas Yisro! They have studied carefully the Aseres Hadibros. In Navi, they have learned about the unique manner in which Shimshon was Shofet. They are working on their Shimshon projects.

In Rabbi Scherer’s Dinim class, the fifth grade boys finished their booklet on all Hilchos Purim (including Shaloch manos, Seuda, Matonos li-eyyonim, and Megillah) and are ready to finish up their last two parshiyos (Parah and Chodesh) of the 4 special Parshiyos. In Gemara the boys have learned their first two kashyas and tairutzim in the 4th perek of Brochos. They focused quite a bit on the vocabulary and style of the Gemara, which is different than the mishnayos style they are used to!

In Mrs. Shapiro’s class the fifth grade has been taking practice Ohio Assessment tests in preparation for the tests that will be given in April. The students had a writing assignment this week to write how to do something. They not only had to write how to do something, but they had to demonstrate what they wrote about in class. The students are still learning about famous people who have February birthdays. On Friday, the boys turned in their biography book reports. In social studies, they are learning how the Spanish influenced the development of the United States. In math lessons, the class is continuing their study of fractions. Specifically, this week, they worked on turning fractions to decimals and to percentages. The students had some hands-on time writing their initials on a 10-by-10 grid of graph paper, figuring out how many squares their initials covered on the grid. They then converted this number into a fraction and as a percentage of the 100 squares on the grid.

**Sherut Leumi Volunteer Update-** Nof and Shiraz have been very busy with Purim preparations both at CHDS and in the community. On Sunday they made Shaloch Manos with K-4<sup>th</sup> graders at Golf Manor Synagogue and delivered them to Cedar Village, The Halom House and other community members. On Monday, Nofit held an Ivrit B’Ivrit after school hamentashen activity with the students. They had so much fun! Then during the week, Shiraz and Nof went to the first through fourth grade classrooms and did an activity on “Simcha” in the month of Adar. This week they also made molded plaster face masks

after school with the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> boys and the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls. To quote our wonderful Sherut Leumi volunteers: “*It was awesome!*”

## **SHABBOS ACTIVITIES**

Pirchei this week is for Grades 1&2 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. This Shabbos will be a special program where Pirchei will be leaving R'Scherer's house for a SPECIAL PRE-PURIM MARCH (even though it is still February) and so be sure your son is on time because after a few minutes, we'll be gone!

There will be Bnos this week.

**Bar Mitzvah-** The Community is invited to “The Shul”, 1863 Section Road, Shabbos Zachor, February 27, 2010, to hear Yitzchak Toron lain his Bar Mitzvah Parsha, Parshas Tetzaveh. Shacharis starts at 10:00 a.m., followed by a light Kiddush.

**Shalom Zachor-** Mazel Tov! The community is invited to a shalom zachor at the Smith home, 6680 W. Farm Acres Dr. from 9:00-10:30 p.m. tonight. The bris will be at Golf Manor Synagogue on Shabbos morning, followed by a kiddush. May we share in many simchos together!

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Vort-** The community is invited to a L’Chaim honoring Penina Hagages engagement on Monday, March 1st at 7:30 p.m. at the Hagage house, 6710 Meadowridge Lane.

**Camp Ashreinu-** The camp’s Early-Bird Deadline for discount on your child(ren)'s registration is March 15th. For any questions regarding the camp, please call Rabbi or Mrs. Scherer.

**BTMS wishes to thank** all those who shlepped and delivered mishloach manos for the mikvah society. Over 350 packages were assembled and delivered by numerous volunteers. Thank you Shifra Motzen, Melissa Bernstein, Elisa Travis, Rebbie Frankel, Sarah Lazarus, Penina Heigh, Tamara Alden, Rachel Sollofe, Rabbi Schwartzbaum, Chagit Hagage, Navah Avnit, Pammy Samuelson, Rivky Fertel, Michal Kernerman, Kricket Schwartzberg, Chana Weisberg. Please contact Aviva Minster @ 531-8966 if you are available to deliver any mishloach manos outside of Amberley/Golf Manor on Purim day.

**After the Purim Seuda...** the party continues at CZE! Purim Mesiba at 7:00 p.m. featuring the Dam Tzefardea Band. Music, dancing and more! Open to the community.

**Yaacov’s Place** – All CD’s in stock on sale \$6.00 each. All cookbooks in stock 20% off.

**Shiraz needs a ride** – if you are going to the Dayton Airport Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, she need to be at the airport before 6:00 p.m.

**Do You Need Help?** Call the eighth grade boys if you need your garage cleaned, your car washed or snow shoveled. Whatever the need is, they can help. Call 513-531-0479 and leave a message with your name, number, and the job you would like them to do. All prices will be negotiated depending on the job.

Young professional couple moving to Amberley area, looking for a home to rent in the eruv during medical fellowship. If you are interested in renting your home, please contact Jared or Ilana Ressler at (773) 857-3258 or [ilana.ressler@gmail.com](mailto:ilana.ressler@gmail.com).

**Summer babysitting** – If you are looking for a steady babysitter during the day this summer, Esther Berger will be returning from Israel in June and will be available. Call Kayla at 841-1323.

**Women's Conversational Hebrew** Join Shiraz and Nof at Leah Politzer's house (2672 Cedarbrook Drive) on Wednesday from 8:15-9:15 p.m. All levels of Hebrew will be accommodated.

**Matanos L'evyonim-** Rabbi Moshe Kibel will be collecting Matanos le'evyonim for anyim in Israel. Please see him or call 403-4602 for details. Additionally, Yosef Zoimen will be collecting Matanos Levyonim to be distributed on Purim by Yad Eliezer to *anyim* in *Eretz Yisroel*. He may be reached at 351-4002 or email to [jzoimen@gmail.com](mailto:jzoimen@gmail.com). Last but not least, Rabbi Yitzie Stern will be collecting to aid several specific families in Eretz Yisroel. References for these families are available. Money will be distributed on Purim day. Please see Rabbi Stern or call 578-9164.

**Chaya's Playgroup** The famous Morah Chaya's playgroup is taking reservations for this coming fall!! Filled with a fun and loving atmosphere, with hands on projects, group play, circle and exercise time in a spacious and friendly location! Age: Around 2 yrs old. Contact: 531-7738. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call Morah Chaya for more details and to reserve your spot.

**Morah Adina's babysitting group:** Morah Adina Zoimen is taking reservations for this coming fall!! Filled with a warm, loving, and safe atmosphere in a local and spacious location! Ages: From three months to eighteen months. Contact: 531-4002. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call Adina for further details and to reserve your spot. Afternoon drop-off will also be available for children of various ages.

Anyone interested in a playgroup for ages newborn-and up for this year or next year please contact Rebecca Pressman at 407-3400. References available upon request.

**New! Drop off babysitting available for your toilet-trained tots!** Hours of operation are 1:30- 4:00 p.m. Please call Avigaille Katz for more information at 351-1085.

**Costume gamach** for kids and adults please call the Sollofes at 351-6492 to come by.

**AEROBICS/DANCE CLASS -- NOTE CHANGE OF DAY:** Shifra Motzen will be giving her exercise class on Wednesday, March 3 from 8:15-9:00 in the Gabay's basement (come through the back). Cost = \$6. Call 924-0538.

**Free freezer** and full size ping pong table. Freezer is older and not max. energy efficient, but working. Call Mrs. Lois Spahn, (neighbor of Karps) 531-9922

We would love to publicize your Mazel Tovs or to inform the community of any family events. We ask that you please email ([chds613@yahoo.com](mailto:chds613@yahoo.com)) the preferred method, or contact the office with the relevant details.

**Mazel Tov to:**

Mr. & Mrs. Smith and family on the birth of a baby boy.

Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Fisher, parents of Tamar Smith, on the birth of a grandson.

Rabbi Yaakov and Mrs. Miriam Karp on the birth of a grandson, to their children, Rabbi Elie and Chaya Rochel Estrin.

Mrs. Henn on the birth of a grandson.

Mr. and Mrs. Avi and Ayelet Klecky on the bris of their baby boy, Yehudah.

Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Hagege on the engagement of their daughter, Penina to Travis (Tuvia) Gilbert from Dayton, Ohio.

Dr. & Mrs. Gilbert on the engagement of their son Travis.

Rabbi and Mrs. Mendy Majeski family on the birth of twins, and to the grandparents, Rabbi & Mrs. Sholom Kalmanson.

Rabbi and Mrs. Karasik on the birth of a baby boy.

**Refuah Shelamah to:**

Mr. Bill Ziv. Mr. Ziv would love visitors at Cedar Village.

On behalf of the staff, Shabbat Shalom – Gut Shabbos,

Rabbi Yuval Kernerman, Principal

Mrs. Susan Shapiro, Director of Curriculum