

**Cincinnati Hebrew Day School**  
**Samuel and Rachel Boymel Campus**  
**Newsletter**  
**Friday, 12 Cheshvan ~ 5770 October 30, 2009**

***PARSHAS: Lech Lecha***

**Friday Night Candle Lighting 6:20 p.m.**

**Havdala 7:21 p.m.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK MOTZEI SHABBOS**

Dear Parents and Friends:

This week's Parsha, Lech Lecha, introduces us to one of the most famous of the Torah commandments: the Mitzva of Bris Mila, or circumcision. Avraham showed his incredible devotion to G-d by performing this mitzvah as a means of entering a covenant with Him at the age of 99. In truth, throughout the ages, our nation's dedication to this covenant of Bris Mila has remained a testimony of faith.

The Midrash Tanchuma tells us of an interesting dialogue between the famous sage Rabbi Akiva and a skeptical Roman leader:

*Turnus Rufus asked Rabbi Akiva: "What is more beautiful- the works of G-d, or the craft of man?" "The craft of man," answered Rabbi Akiva. "...Why do you perform the mitzvah of Bris Mila?" asked Turnus Rufus. Rabbi Akiva responded: "I knew when you started this dialogue that this was really your question, and that is why I answered that the craft of man is superior to that of G-d!" Rabbi Akiva then proceeded to bring wheat and bread before Turnus Rufus. "These (kernels) are the work of G-d, and these (breads) are the craft of man. Which are greater?" Turnus Rufus responded: "If G-d desires Bris Milah, why do infants not come born already circumcised?" Rabbi Akiva answered: "... that is because Hashem gave the nation Israel mitzvos only to perfect themselves with them, as it says (Tehillim 18:31): 'the words (mitzvos) of Hashem are pure...'"*

The Midrash gives us a powerful understanding of the nature of mitzvos in general, and bris mila in particular: they are gifts with which to purify our souls. This concept indicates that life without mitzvos is incomplete; we follow Torah precepts to complete our physical and spiritual selves.

Perhaps we can also extend this concept to the realm of education. Our sages teach us that our souls grasp the entire expanse of the Torah before they are placed in our physical forms, and then this knowledge is taken from them. G-d does not desire our knowledge base to be complete without effort. He desires that our wisdom should be partial, and that we should spend our lives toiling in His Torah to make up that lost knowledge. Hence, we find a parallel of purification, specifically through the study of Torah. This gives us a profound insight into the purpose of education. Education is not merely the amassment of knowledge; it is a process of building an understanding, which affects change to the individual.

May we all merit to grow in Torah knowledge, and affect change to our souls by the process of 'educational purification.'

Wishing you a great Shabbos,

Rabbi Yuval Kernerman, Principal

## **School News**

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MEETING-** Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. we will hold our first 8th grade meeting. Please call the office and leave a message for Mrs. Shapiro if you cannot attend.

**PAINLESS SUPPORT FOR CHDS!!!-Do you know that a percentage of your purchases at more than 700 retailers (on-line) can benefit CHDS?** CHDS is enrolled as a beneficiary for on-line purchases done through the [igive.com](http://igive.com) website. **MEMBERSHIP AT IGIVE IS FREE AND ENTITLES YOU TO DISCOUNTS!** Please see the flyer regarding iGive at the back of the newsletter for more details or go to [www.iGive.com/CHDS](http://www.iGive.com/CHDS). Please contact Rabbi Travis in the office if you have further questions.

## **What’s New In The Classroom?**

In Rabbi Gabay’s class, the **4<sup>th</sup> graders** have been learning about the 70 souls that descended to Egypt with Yaakov avinu. In Mishnayos, the boys have been learning about how we should react if someone like Rav Chaim Kanievsky (one of our Gedolim living in Israel) were to greet us while we are in the middle of reciting the Shema! In Dinim class, students are learning their second melacha- Zorea (planting). They are learning about some applications that do not even involve planting into soil, such as putting flowers in a vase on Shabbos.

In Rabbi Berger’s Navi class the **fourth grade** is learning the story of how Bnei Yisroel crossed the Yarden to enter Eretz Yisroel in the third and fourth perakim of Sefer Yehoshua.

In Rabbi Scherer’s Pirkei Avos class the **fourth grade girls** have been working diligently on their projects (some of which are looking professional). This week they focused on the following themes: The World stands on 3 things, Torah, Avoda and GM"CH.

This week in Mrs. Steely’s math class, the **4<sup>th</sup> graders** practiced telling time using analog and digital clocks. They also learned a rhyme to remember how many days each month has and solved word problems using calendars. The students wrote letters to friends and family members, they mailed the letters and hope to receive replies that they can share with the class. In science the students learned about food chains. Each member of the class thought of a food chain and made a mobile to display it. The mobiles will be hung from the classroom ceiling next week. The class took their first social studies test.

In Rabbi Scherer’s Mishna class, the **fifth grade boys** in Mishna have finished the 1st half of Perek Alef in Mishnayos Rosh Hashana (do not forget, they first learned perek gimmel and daled) discussing ideas of Kiddush Hachodesh and the procedure of witnesses getting to Beis Din on time. In Dinim they have finished their section on Mashiv Haruach and Morid Hageshem (their quiz average of 90% proved their mastery on the topic) and this week they began a section of the Kedusha that exists in our shuls and the Halachos that we therefore must keep to maintain their high level of Sanctity.

In Rabbi Lifshitz’s class, the **5th graders** are learning in Chumash about the miracles of Kri'as Yam Suf. In Navi, they are learning Shiras Devorah and working on their Devorah projects.

**Music class-** Fourth through eighth grade girls have been assigned to bring in traditional hebrew songs for music class. They will be creating dances for the songs and also using them to learn music theory. Recorders are now being used in fourth through eighth grade music classes! If your child has brought home a recorder from the school and it needs to be cleaned, simply run it through the dishwasher. If there is no dishwasher at your home, Mrs. Shapiro has graciously offered to disinfect them for us. Students are expected to have their recorders in every single music class. Neglecting to bring it to more than three music classes will result in a call home.

### What's new in the Library?

Students are learning the elements of mystery stories and becoming familiar with the Library's extensive collection of mystery books. In recognition of National American Indian & Alaska Native Heritage Month and Thanksgiving, in November students will become familiar with books in the collection pertaining to each. Birthday Books donated to the Library in September: First Lessons in Ballet and Angelina Ballerina (Elianna Epstein), Andy Warhol (Shayna Maltinsky), The Thirteen Colonies and Raoul Wallenberg: Missing Diplomat (Joseph Maltinsky).

**After School Mishnayos** – Rabbi Eli Polsky is leading boys once again this year Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Open to grades 5 and up.

### Safety Corner

**New Traffic Pattern-** With approval of the Golf Manor Police, the alleyway into the school parking lot from Elbrook will soon be designated as **ONE-WAY** into the parking lot. This will be effective as soon as traffic signs go up in the alley, which should be in the next week or so. This move should help ensure the safety of both drivers and pedestrians in the alley. When exiting CHDS, please exit on Losantiville **ONLY**, and please do not cut through the parking lot of the tax business on the corner. To do so is not lawful, and could create ill will with our neighbors, not to mention a potential Chillul Hashem.

### CHDS Health Policies (October '09)

*CHDS is committed create an environment where children are safe and healthy. In an effort to keep your child safe and healthy, and to prevent the spread of illness to other children, we have revised our policies regarding health concerns among our students. As per advice from our Medical advisors, children with conditions or symptoms seen below will be treated as indicated.*

It should additionally be noted that sometimes a child may be deemed unfit to remain in school without being categorized definitively. Our staff is entrusted to determine when a child seems too sick to remain in class, due to lethargy or otherwise being unable to be involved in normal class activities. In such cases, it is not only the spread of disease or sickness that is the prime concern, but also our concern that such a child should be resting in a home environment, rather than remaining in a classroom.

#### 1. For children coming to school with cold-like symptoms:

- (a) If a child has a runny nose, and the mucus is clear in color, a child is not to be sent home unless this persists beyond two days (assuming that the child otherwise feels fine). At that point, parents are encouraged to check with their Doctors to see if the symptoms are allergy related, and if so, to recommend treatment to avoid the spread of germs at school. If, however, the runny nose is to the extent that a copious amount of mucus is getting on surfaces that other children come in contact with, children should be sent home, and should only return with a Doctor's ok.
- (b) If a child has a runny nose and the mucus has a yellow or green color, the child should be sent home, to allow the sickness to run its course.
- (c) If a child has a persistent cough, they should be sent home, since this is a primary mode in the spreading of illness. However, if the cough is mild (and the child is feeling well enough to remain in class), the child can remain in school- preferably by wearing a mask (which the school supplies).

2. **Strep throat-** Children must stay home until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours.

3. **Pink eye (conjunctivitis)** - children do not need to be sent home; parents should be contacted to get them evaluated by their pediatrician. Preschoolers will be coached on frequent hand washing to help prevent the spread of illness.
4. **Vomiting**- parents will be contacted, and in most cases, children should be sent home to help prevent the spread of illness.
5. **Diarrhea**- parents will be contacted, and in most cases, children should be sent home to help prevent the spread of illness.
6. **Fifths disease (slapped cheek syndrome)** - children do not need to be sent home.
7. **Scabies**- Children only need to be out of school while they are being treated by their doctors, and then they can return to school.
8. **Lice**- Children need to be nit-free in order to return back to school. An exception to this rule may be made by the school if a child has already been treated, is being combed daily and a very small number of nits are found- if they are clearly dead and far from the scalp.
7. **Pinworms**- Children can stay in school. If there are cases of infection, teachers will encourage more diligence with hand washing with soap and water, and other parents will be notified to be on the alert for symptoms in their children.
8. **Ear Infections**- Children can stay in school.
9. **Hand foot and mouth disease**- Children can only return to school when they are fever and symptom-free.

### **SHERUT LEUMI VOLUNTEER UPDATE**

This week, Nof and Shiraz finished the “Places in Israel” bulletin board. It will highlight places every month. This month, the bulletin board features Hebron, one of the four holiest cities in Israel.

The girls also had a great "Israel club" with the 4th grade girls about the "Israel flag" The girls had fun making cookies with the flag colors. Next week they will be in New York City for a special gathering of all Sherut Leumi volunteers in the U.S. they will announce the date of the next Israel club when they return. They are very excited to report all about our wonderful community here in Cincinnati.

Yesterday, Thursday, was the Yartzeit of “Rachel Imeinu.” The girls did activities in the different grades and made a wall design of Rachel’s grave.

#### **We would like to announce the correct answers to the Lech Lecha riddle:**

Ester Wilhelm- 1st grade, Esther Alden- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Chana Mina Toron 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Malka Motzen 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Chasya Klafter- 7th grade, Akiva Kirschner and Moshe Alden - 8th grade, Basya Kirschner and Tehila Spetner - 8th grade.

Shiraz and Nof have really enjoyed starting to work with the pre-school and kindergarten in their classrooms. With the nursery and pre-K classes, they held a Hebrew activity about the "circle." With the Kindergarten class, children enjoyed a class about vegetables.

Nof has also been working with the first graders, helping them to practice their Hebrew reading.

Please contact Ahuva Goldman at 531-4440 to host the Sherut girls for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals.

**Ride Needed** - The Sherut Leumi girls need a ride back from CVG on Thursday, November 12th at 3:00 p.m.. Please contact Shiraz, if you can help out. Her email is [shirazfl@gmail.com](mailto:shirazfl@gmail.com).

## **SHABBOS ACTIVITIES**

Pirchei this Shabbos, Parshas Lech Lecha, will be for Group 2---Grades 3-5 from 3:30-4:30pm. Please do NOT send your son early.

**Pirchei's Banquet** for the Succos Masmidim was a blast, enjoyed by all 70 attendees. Thanks to Rabbis Lifshitz and Landis for guest speaking and to the Ziv, Mehlman and Zuroff families for sponsoring the learning and seuda.

This Shabbos Parshas Lech Lechah there will not be BNOS

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**VOTE!** Tuesday November 3 is election day. Please remember to bring ID with you to the polls. If you have any questions please call Agudath Israel's Ohio office at 513-530-1364.

If anyone is interested in learning the Kuntres Ahavas Yisrael by the Chofetz Chaim, please call 351-2989 to either obtain a free copy or to borrow one from the Shmiras Haloshon Lending Library. It is an important tool for loving other human beings. It is also appropriate for chavrusos or learning groups. This is a new Hebrew-English version distributed by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation.

**Video presentation-** There will be a video presentation on November 21, Motzei Shabbos Parshas Toldos, entitled "ETERNAL IMPRINTS: A Jewish woman creates a home, a generation, an imprint that lasts forever." The panel of speakers includes: Mrs. Baila Friedman, Mrs. Chani Juravel, Mrs. Yael Kaisman and Rebbetzin Faigy Twersky plus much more. The program location is the home of Pammy Samuelson, at 6753 Glen Acres Drive (the fourth house on the right), at 8:30 p.m. (f you would like to host future classes, and have a large screen TV, please call Paula Weinberg at 631-7227.)

**Kiddush-** Please join the Klafters for a Kiddush on Shabbos, November 7<sup>th</sup> at CHDS in honor of Chasya becoming a Bas Mitzvah. The Kiddush will follow regular davening at the neighborhood shuls and will begin at about 11:45.

**DIAMONDS IN THE DUST.** An original film by women for women comes to Cincinnati on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the home of Mrs. Chaya Kibel, 2580 Section Road. (parking available in the driveway, up towards the house) Suggested donation \$10.00. \$5.00 for students. Call Paula at 631-7227 with questions.

Parsha with Paula Weinberg on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. will be resume its location at the Weinberg's home, 6885 Farm Acres Drive.

**WOMEN'S HALACHA CLASS** will take place this Sunday (11/1) 8:00 p.m. at the Kollel (2245 Losantiville). Topic: Is it Permissible to Spread Creams, Ointments, or Icing on Shabbos?

CDs available for \$3 each of the program featuring Rebetzins Tehilla Jaeger and Tziporah Heller. Call Paula at 631-7227 if you would like to purchase one. Also anyone who was unable to view it, and would to see it, call Paula and another showing will be arranged.

**THE CANDY CORNER** - offers a large selection of candy to choose from. You can purchase candy in bulk or create a sectional platter which are perfect for a shalom zachor, kiddush, bris or any occasion. Please call Miriam Ottensoser @ 631-0636 to place an order. A PROJECT OF BTMS.

**Mark your Calendars—Girls' Chanuka Production** This year's girls' Chanuka production will be on Monday evening, December 14, at the JCC.

**Grades 1-4 Art Camp** The 8th grade girls will be leading an art camp for grades 1-4 on **Sunday, November 8**, 2-4 p.m., at CHDS. Watch for a flyer with all the details next week.

**Save the Date:** There WILL be a Midwest Agudah Convention this year! December 24-27. Stay tuned for more details.

**Ladies—Save the Date** You are invited to a day of learning with Rebbetzin Holly Pavlov on **Sunday, November 15**. There will be two shiurim during the day, and another lecture in the evening. You can choose to come to any one, two, or all three shiurim. Rebbetzin Pavlov is the founder and director of She'arim, a learning program in Jerusalem for adult women. She has also authored two books, *Mirrors of Our Lives: Reflections of Women in Tanach* and *Water from the Well: Reflections on Being a Jew at the End of History*. Watch for a flyer with more information next week. Questions? Contact Gayle at 631-5293 or [gjstat@juno.com](mailto:gjstat@juno.com).

**Girls Volleyball** (grades 3 - 6) Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 (8 classes) Beginning October 28. \$80 member \$112 public. To register, you can call **761-7500**, or stop by the front desk. Feel free to contact Cathy Weinberger if you need additional information.

**Do you enjoy making seniors smile?** JEEP! Jewish Education for Every Person is hiring someone to head our "Five Minutes for Every Bubby and Zaydie" program. This program provides warm Jewish visits for seniors in nursing homes, etc. JEEP is also hiring a part-time administrative assistant. [jewisheducate@gmail.com](mailto:jewisheducate@gmail.com)

**Traveling to Israel?** Yacova Guigui is looking for contact people who are flying to Israel who would be willing to bring some small boxes (2lbs. each). This ad will be running weekly as I am always looking for travelers who can handle a few more pounds. Please let me know if you can help. Please call 898-3060.

**For Sale:** Dining room set. \$200.00. Includes table > 100” and 10 chairs. 6 of one set, 4 of another. All coordinate. For more information, please call the Bidnicks at 351-1146.

**Lawn mowing, leaf raking and snow removal** – call Y & Y Lawn Service for all your needs. Call Yali Travis at 351-0413.

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

Rabbi Yuval Kernerman, Principal

Mrs. Susan Shapiro, Director of Curriculum