



# SCHOOL SHMOOZE

לקראת שבת פ' מקץ ה'תשפ"ד

Vol 21 #12

Dear parents of the BCM family,

Chanukah was an absolute BLAST in BCM! Hard to know where to start... JK, PRE1A, Grades 1, 2 and 3 went to bring the light and joy of Chanukah to various retirement homes in the area. Grades 7 and 8 went on Mivtzoim to different stores and distributed Menorahs and Neshek to fellow Yidden. Yasher Koach to Miss Goldwasser, Miss Gorman and Miss Sosover for organizing the Old Age home visits and the Mivtzoim for our Talmidos! A big shout out Mrs. Devorie Chaikin, Mrs. Freund, Mrs. Chana Gansburg, Miss Gestetner, Mrs. Oster, Rabbi Berklin and Rabbi Levi Zaltzman who took out of their busy schedules to drive our Talmidos to and from the Retirement Homes.

## !!! ה' טבת-דיין נצח

This Sunday is the big Yom Tov of ה' טבת-דיין נצח! The Rebbe encouraged each one of us to purchase Seforim and learn from them. There are various sales on Seforim throughout the city, please take advantage and buy a Sefer in honour of this very special Yom Tov!

## Donut Decorating:

Another major was the Donut Decorating Activity organized and sponsored by the PTA. Thank you to Mrs. Chana Gansburg and Mrs. Garbman who organized this activity. Another thank you goes to the mothers who took off from their busy schedules and came to the different grades to run the activity.

JK - Mrs. Sakovitch

Pre 1A - Mrs. Chana Gansburg and Mrs. Libby Grossbaum.

Grade 1 - Mrs. Faygie Kaplan & Mrs. Brown

Grade 2 a - Mrs. Rabins

Grade 2 b - Mrs. Aizenstros & Mrs. Steinmetz

Grade 3 a - Mrs. Lezell

Grade 3 b - Mrs. Chanowitz

Grade 4 - Mrs. Shubaev and Mrs. Shuchat

Grade 5 - Mrs. Mann & Mrs. Labkowski

Grade 6 - Mrs. Chana Gansburg

Grade 7 - Mrs. Karine Merkur

Grade 8 - Mrs. Steinmetz

In this week's פרשה, we read about יוסף's two children, Menasheh and Efrayim. These names are full of meaning: Menasheh - "ה' made me forget all my hardships and my father's home"; Efrayim - "ה' made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

יוסף was well aware that ה' had brought him down to Egypt to affect Egypt in a positive and G-dly way. At the same time, however, יוסף needed to insure that he would not lose his unique identity, something that is a very possible result of mingling in a foreign culture.

The names of יוסף's sons addressed these sentiments. Menasheh refers to connecting with his past; although יוסף talks about forgetting, he is referring to the anguish he suffered, not his אידישע way of life and the תורה he had studied. Efrayim, to be fruitful in the land of his suffering, speaks of the importance of involving himself with and affecting Egypt.

What lesson can we take from יוסף? Why did he name his first son "Menasheh"? And how does this connect to Chanuka?

יוסף sets the standard for all אידן of all times. We are יוסף! We are meant to affect the world around us by participating in and influencing our surroundings with Torah values. It is obvious that this is true, because ה' put us here in a physical world.

The challenge is to influence but not be influenced, especially when we find success. This is why Menasheh comes first. In order to be effective and not be swept away, we must constantly develop and strengthen our essential bond and foundation in אידישקייט. This needs to come first, if we want to be effective in our mission to change the world in a positive way.

In the story of Chanuka, many if not most of the אידן succumbed to the licentious lifestyle of the Greeks. They lost their way, and sense of moral superiority, their connection to תורה and קדושה. The מכבים, outnumbered and weak, saved the day and saved אידישקייט. Not because they were great warriors, but because they were true to ה' and His תורה. When you are on ה' side you will ultimately be victorious.

Today, we again find ourselves in a world of lies and confusion. Decency, morality and truth are in decay. At this time we must strengthen our essential foundation. We must, like the Maccabees, stand strong for what we know to be the truth and the highest standard of living, the תורה way.

May we soon dedicate our בית המקדש again.

Yasher Koach to Mrs. Aizenstros, Mrs. Chana Gansburg, Mrs. Gersh, Mrs. Vanessa Lang, Mrs. Karine Merkur, Mrs. Nechama Rosenzweig, Mrs. Sher and Mrs. Slavin who donated toward this activity and made it possible for our Talmidos!

### **Chanukah Gelt for staff:**

Thank you to all the class mothers for all their work throughout the year as well as the mothers who collected Chanukah Gelt for the Morahs, Teachers and Assistants and General Staff members.

JK - Mrs. Rena Berklin

Pre 1A - Mrs. Kogan and Mrs. Berklin

Grade 1 - Mrs. Faygie Kaplan

Grade 2 - Mrs. Chaya Rabins

Grade 3 - Mrs. Nechama Dina Jacobson

Grade 4 - Mrs. Eti Shubaev

Grade 5 - Mrs. Rikki Shusterman

Grade 6 - Mrs. Shira Emmer and Mrs. Elana Lavi

Grade 7 - Mrs. Sara Nelken

Grade 8 - Mrs. Elana Lavi

A big Yasher Koach to all the parents who contributed to the Chanukah Gelt for the staff as Hakoras Hatov for all they do for our Talmidos with tremendous dedication, יומם וליילה.



### **Grand Chanukah Party:**

Another big highlight was when the students gathered on Thursday afternoon for a Grand Chanukah Party organized by the 8th Grade with Mrs. Zirkind. Plays, skits, dances and games were performed by students of different grades and fun was had by all. Thank you to the 8th grade and Mrs. Zirkind for putting this together!

### **Hey Teves PTA Raffle:**

The Hey Teves PTA raffle fundraiser is now closed! Thank you to all the people who bought tickets and helped support the raffle and the Mothers Association. As well, thank you to Mrs. Nechama Chanowitz, Mrs. Chomi Steiner and Mrs. Avital White who helped plan and organize it this year. A big Yasher Koach to Mrs. Garbman for spearheading this and many other projects on behalf of our Talmidos.

The winners will be drawn on Monday IYH.

### **Hey Teves—Seforim Auction:**

Hey Teves coming up this Sunday! Everyone girl came home with a Mission ticket! Make sure to complete the missions for Shabbos and Sunday and bring it back in on Monday to pick which Sefer you want to enter the auction to win for Hey Teves! Thank you Miss Gorman and Miss Sosover for arranging this Mivtza





## Grade 2

We played dreidel, heard Chanukah stories and watched chanukah videos! For hey teves we heard all about what happened and know that for our Rebbe, this yom tov is like yud tes kislev was for the Alter Rebbe! Buy seforim and use them! Thank you, Mrs. Rosenfeld



We had a fun filled week! The girls performed beautifully at Baycrest! On Thursday we had a fun Chanukah Party with both classes together



Thank you, Mrs. Perl and Miss Gestetner



What a wonderful week of Chanuka excitement and Torah learning! Thank you, Miss Landa

## Grade 3

Thank you Hashem for a week filled with learning & Chanuka fun! Good Shabbos! Thank you, Miss Goldberg





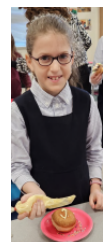
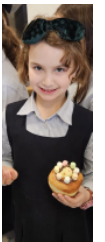
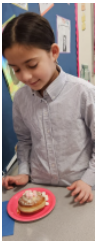
A Freilichen Chanukah! We began the week with a beautiful and memorable trip to the retirement home, where the residents just couldn't get enough of the girls ' sweet performance and lovely chanukah cards! We decorated yummy donuts, played a really fun shorashim review game, and learned fascinating tidbits about chanukah and the Parsha. Congratulations to the girls who received the Chodesh Kislev Davening Awards! Thank you, Mrs. Rabiski



## Grade 4

What a week!! From Cha-

nukah games to drama to craft to donut-decorating to singing Hallel together... It's been an exciting week! Check out our Navi play- some real dramatic talent on display, and great props (down to a golden Aron!) Thank you, Mrs. Zaltzman



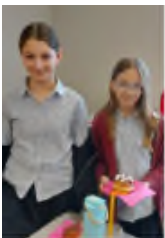


We had such a busy Chanukah week! The snow globes all look amazing! Well done, girls!! We even managed to finish our math booklet this week. Mazel tov to star of the week, Baila Garbman. Looking forward to next week iyH. Thank you, Mrs. Doron



## Junior High

We had a busy Chanukah week BH. Highlights included doughnut decorating and Mivtzoim. Yaasher Koach to all the girls who said Shabbos Mevarchim Tehillim. Mazal tov to Bassy Lakher and Chana Artemov for winning the dollar jump! Mazal tov to all the Diamond Daveners of Kislev. The girls were treated to an iced coffee. Chana Artemov, Moussia Grossbaum, Chaya Mushka Halperin, Batsheva Hildeshaim, Devorah Leah Jacks, Bassie Lakher, Esther Landa, Rosie Landa, Raizel Nelkin, Mushka Overlander, Leah Rabiski, Esther Miriam Rosenfeld. Thank you, Mrs. Zaltzman



## Tzivos Hashem

This week Grade 7 and 8 hit the streets with their Nesheks and Menorahs spreading the light!!





Amazing Job to all of the Menorah contestants!!! Everyone did a great job! Mazel tov to our school winners, Menucha and Batsheva Rabiski!!!

## M'chayil El Chayil

### Tip of the Week

#### The Joys of Being a Step Ahead

Even on days with little or no homework, proactive students understand that there's always something they can do to set themselves up for success in the coming days and weeks. While a reactive student tends to navigate day-to-day, sometimes struggling to catch up, a proactive student finds ways to stay a step ahead, cultivating a sense of control over their academic and personal lives. They engage their executive function skills and break down assignments into manageable tasks. They do this by initiating less preferred tasks in advance, maintaining strong organizational systems, planning ahead, and creating buffers that offer opportunities for flexibility when needed.

Below are some examples of proactive steps students can take to stay a step or two ahead. What would your daughter put on her list to become a more proactive student?

- Tidy and organize my physical workspace
- Organize digital files into file folders
- Clean out my backpack and file papers into dividers in my binder or folders
- Rewrite notes in my own words to solidify understanding
- Identify long-term assignments and break them down into component parts and set deadlines to complete each component
- Search for and create a plan to complete missing work
- Gather resources and begin to create study guides for upcoming tests

Hatzlacha!

Thank you,  
Mrs. Gabay

**I'd like to wish the BCM family a Gut Shabbos!**

Rabbi Vidal