



SCHOOL SHMOOZE

לקראת שבת פ' ויגש ה'תשפ"ד

Vol 21 #13

Dear parents of the BCM family,

I'd like to wish a hearty Mazel Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Shur and the entire family upon the birth of a granddaughter this week. May her parents raise her **לתורה, לחופה ולמעשים טובים**!

Chesswood update:

After many months, it seems that the construction on Chesswood is now complete! Chesswood Drive is now back to a two-way street. As such, our gates will now be closed most of the day besides for drop off and pickup times.

in BCM: טבת-דיין נצח

We started off the week by celebrating **ה' טבת-דיין נצח**! Talmidos had to complete missions on Shabbos and Sunday and place their tickets in our Seforim auction. Tuesday was the big day and auction was drawn. Every Talmida who participated is a winner! You all gave much Nachas to the Rebbe! Mazel Tov to all the winners of the Seforim. Remember that **ה' טבת** is about **learning from the ספרים**. As we prepare for שבט 'י, let's increase in our לימוד התורה as the Rebbe instructed us to do at the original **ה' טבת**. The **ספרים** were sponsored by an anonymous sponsor who donated **לזכות משה צבי בן גיטל** who is currently fighting for us in Gaza. May Hashem protect him and all the soldiers! See photos later in the newsletter. If you'd like to sponsor any future programs, please email rabbividal@bcmsschool.ca

Hey Teves PTA raffle:

The annual Hey Teves PTA raffle was drawn this week. Thank you to Mrs. Garbman as well as Mrs. Chanowitz, Mrs. Chomi Steiner and Mrs. White for planning and putting this fundraiser together. Thank you to all the sponsors for donating the prizes and supporting the PTA. Yasher Koach to all who bought tickets and Mazel Tov to all the winners.

Parent communication groups:

Earlier this week, an email was sent to encourage parents to join our BCM Parent Whatsapp groups. We have a Fathers' group and a Mothers' group. Thank you to all the parents who already joined. We will share the link in the email version of the newsletter for those who still want to join. We share a "Chanukah in BCM" Video on the groups this week and will share more photos and videos in the future IYH.

In this week's פרשה, the brothers of יוסף return to יעקב and bring him the wonderful news that his son is still alive. יוסף is yet alive, and is ruler over all the land of מצרים. Yaakov, however, could not believe it was true until "he saw the wagons which יוסף had sent to carry him." Only then was he convinced, "and the spirit of יעקב their father was revived."

Rashi explains that the wagons, עגלות in Hebrew, were a special sign from יוסף to יעקב. The last time יוסף and his father learned Torah together, 22 years before, they had studied the Parsha of עגלה the calf that is killed to atone for a murder whose perpetrator is unknown.

When יעקב saw the עגלות a word similar to עגלה he understood the allusion, and was thus convinced that יוסף was indeed alive.

Nonetheless, this explanation is problematic. Surely יעקב did not suspect his sons of telling a falsehood; why then did he not immediately believe them when they stated that "יוסף is yet alive"?

Did יעקב truly think that they had been fooled by an Egyptian stranger, who had somehow tricked them into believing that he was their long-lost brother?

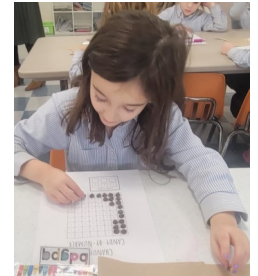
The answer is simple. To a צדיק a truly righteous person such as יעקב life is not a matter of the physical body but of the נשמה. When the brothers told him that יוסף was not only alive but "the ruler over all the land of מצרים" he could not believe that his son had been able to maintain his spirituality and continue to live as a איד in such circumstances. After all, יוסף was completely alone for so many years, in the most corrupt and abominable civilization in the ancient world. Not only was he surrounded by the lowest class of people, the brothers had stated that יוסף was their leader! How then could he "live" - truly "live," the spiritual life of a איד?

When, however, יעקב was given the sign of the עגלות and understood that יוסף had not forgotten his Torah learning, he realized that his son was on the same high spiritual plane as before his descent to מצרים

יוסף had managed to remain a tzadik, despite his degraded surroundings. Only then was יעקב convinced that his son still "lived," and "the spirit of יעקב, their father was revived."

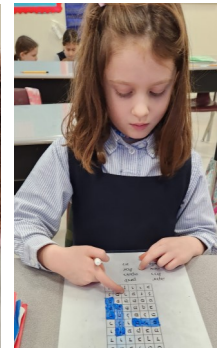
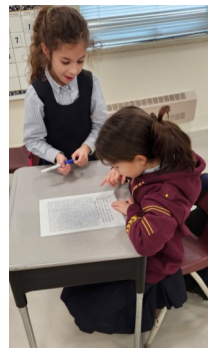
Grade 1

The maidelach daven beautifully everyday BH! In ksiva we already learned up to Samech. We made an art for asara b'teves with soldiers surrounding Yerushalayim. The girls also enjoyed an art for Parshas Vayigash. They are excited to bring it home! Thank you, Mrs. Shur

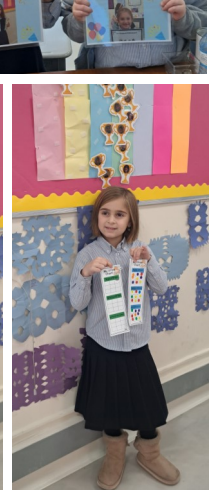


Grade 2

We began learning Rashi letters! We have many games to practice! Mrs. Rosenfeld

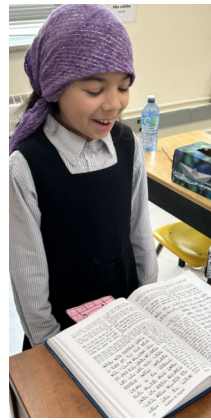


This week Kita Beis unfolded the events of the war of the 4 and 5 kings. We discovered who won the war, and how Avraham stepped in to save Lot - making a public Kiddush Hashem. We will discuss different ways that we too can make a Kiddush Hashem in our own surroundings! Chumash Centres, Milim Cards and prefix white-board cubes are just some of the ways that we are sharpening our Chumash skills! We were excited to launch our Shemoneh Esrei unit this week, building up our anticipation until we will add She-moneh Esrei to our own Davening every day. Mazal Tov to Shayna Chaya, Naava and Rivka Deren for passing a level of Te-fillah Champ! Good Shabbos, Miss Landa



Grade 3

The drama is heating up as Rivka tells Yaakov to trick his father and get the Brachos! We worked on conjugating pink shorashim this week, and we're coming up with some really interesting sentences... Last week we finished off with some terrific chanukah activities, as well as a great message from Mimi and Simi in honor of Hei Teves. We unfortunately have a sad day this week, Asara B'Teves. We're learning about in Hebrew, and we are really good at identifying all the correct conjugation shorashim colors as we go along! Mrs. Rabiski



Following some scattered poems and clues, the girls raced to find the mysterious item. Eisavs precious robes passed down from Adam Harishon! The girls had a great time role playing the conversation between Rivka and Yaakov as Yaakov receives instructions on how he can in fact receive the Brachos. Yidden celebrating when they are not able to Daven?! Ask your daughter all about it. The girls learnt the pink Shorashim conjugation rules, reviewing together with some amazing hints and tricks! Mazel tov Brochie and Miriam Gittel on passing a Tfilloto level! Have a good Shabbos and an easy fast! Miss Goldberg

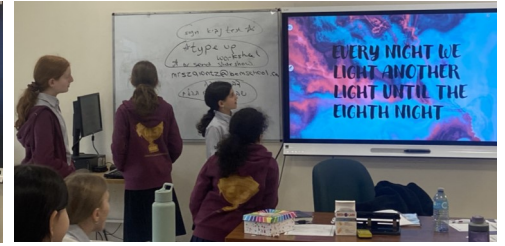
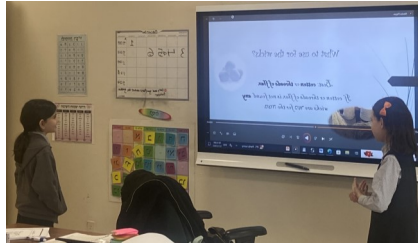
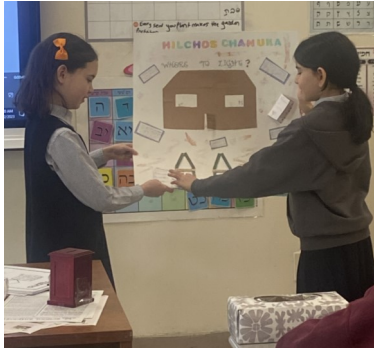
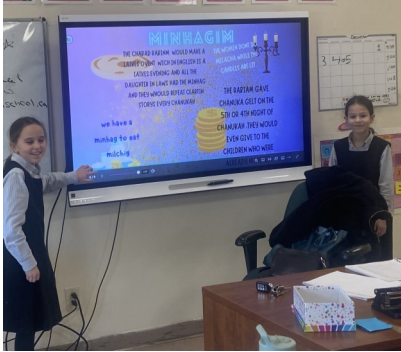


We've done such an amazing job on multiplication! We've discovered tricks to make it easier, and we're doing so well! We're nearly at the end of our habitats unit, and wondering what comes next. Stay tuned to find out what it will be ;) Mazel tov to star of the week, Nechama Bronshteyn. Mrs. Doron



Grade 5

Although we were back to our regular routine, we were still on a high from the week of Chanuka! The girls did a marvelous job presenting and teaching their הלכות to the class. The posters, slide shows and exciting and creative (and yummy) activities were all fantastic. Mazal tov to the recipients of the יגעת ומצאת awards! Eliana Sara Hertz, Freeda Parshan, Chanale Mann, Tzippy Rosenzweig and Chayale Shusterman! You should all be so proud of your accomplishments BH! Have a good Shabbos! Mrs. Zaiontz



Tzivos Hashem

Mazel tov to all our birthday girls for the month of Teves.



Mazel tov to all our girls who won a sefer in our Hey Teves Auction!!

So many girls went up in rank in Tzivos Hashem!!



Keep it up! Many girls were rewarded with Tzivos Hashem prizes!



Tip of the Week
Having a Hard Time Staying Focused on Your Homework?

Have you ever wondered how your daughter can spend hours on her homework but get very little done? For students who grapple with executive function challenges like maintaining attention, initiating tasks, and following through on work, “**body doubling**” may be the productivity hack that could make all the difference!

Body Doubling is a tactic that capitalizes on the psychological effect of having someone around you while you work. The idea is simply that by manipulating the presence of another person, you create an environment that is motivating and encourages productivity and accountability. The added bonus, is that the other person (in our case, let's use another sibling) can (and should) be engaged in their own work! It's a supportive presence without interaction.

Here are some ways it can help:

Reduces distractions: Having someone nearby can help you resist the urge to follow prey to a distraction like another sibling, a good book or a knock at the door.

Boosts accountability: Knowing someone else is watching can motivate you to stay on task and avoid procrastination.

Increases focus: The silent presence of another person can act as a subtle reminder to keep your attention on the task at hand.

Provides social support: Working alongside someone can feel less isolating and offer encouragement, especially if you're dealing with a challenging task.

Body doubling may be just the thing your daughter needs to help her be more efficient and productive while doing her homework. If it works, it will also help them earn back time to do the things they enjoy even more than homework! Take the time to discuss this with your children and explain to them the benefits of body doubling.

Hatzlacha!

Thank you,
Mrs. Gabay

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

Rabbi Vidal