



Derech HaTorah of Rochester

The Path of Respect and Excellence

כ"ס 3

December 2, 2022
ח' כסלו, פרשת ויגא, תשפ"ג

Calendar

Mon., Dec. 19 - **TIUNY & DHR's Chanuka Party!**
Wed., Dec.21-Mon., Dec. 26-Chanuka Break -**NO School**
Tues., Feb 7- **Save the date: DHR's Winter Open House Celebration**

Work & Fun at DHR....



1st Annual Ruach Week!

What a great first annual Ruach Week! This year's focus was on Achdus! Our middle school students had a blast at Hot Shots on Monday night, then, on Tuesday morning, the boys had a minyan at DHR, then breakfast followed by an inspiring Yom Iyun presented by Rabbi Avi Mammon.


Our middle school girls also had an incredible Yom Iyun about אהדות and inclusivity! Thank you to Mrs. Adina Burger for lending so much of her time, creativity and expertise. Thank you to the fabulous 7th grade girls for handling all of the décor for Ruach Week and 8th graders for setting up all of the rooms!

Both our younger students and MSG had fun team building games. Our K-5 students also loved their assembly that featured a story by Rabbi Dovid Ribakow.

We'd like to thank Mrs. Miriam Mammon and Rabbi Dov Chastain for planning and coordinating this event!



Benching Superstars

Zelda Deitch	Rikki Lagunov	Rena Vatch
Ashira Hirsh	Ahron Shulman	Nosson Vogel
Sara Katz	Aliza Sloviter	Levi Yaras
Zechariah Kuyunov	Tzipporah Twersky	

Mazel Tov to...

... Chaim & Rochel (London, DHR class of 2013) Shotkin on the birth of their son Yaakov Ezra!
... Esther Mammon (DHR class of 2018) on her engagement to Dovid Yakubov!
...Esther Stein for being the first person to complete the Tehillim Challenge!
...Mr. and Mrs. Aharon Silbergleit on the birth of their daughter Penina Sima!



From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

Earlier this week, I came across a beautiful thought shared by Rabbi Yisrael Pesach Feinhandler, a posek, Rav and author from Yerushalayim. He describes how, when Hashem appeared on Har Sinai, two hundred million chariots of angels came down with Him (Tehillim 68:18). The angels that escorted Him helped to publicly reveal Hashem's great glory. All these angels were adorned with flags (Shir Hashirim 5:10).

When Am Yisrael saw that the angels were grouped according to flags, they, too, began to desire flags. They said: "If only we could make be grouped by flags like them." Hashem replied to them: "What do you desire – to be grouped by flags? By your lives, I will fulfill your wish." Hashem immediately displayed His love to Am Yisrael and told Moshe to group them according to flags as they requested (Bamidbar 2:2).

Flags represent distinctiveness and importance. Every country has its own special flag, which represents its unique identity and character. Similarly, the angels' flags represented the uniqueness of their tasks.

Through the flags, the angels taught the Jewish people to be proud of their role as servants of Hashem and to realize that no two tasks were the same. Every person has a special task in life that no one else can accomplish. Our Sages say, "Just as their minds are not the same, so too are their faces not the same" (Berachos 58a). Every person has a different potential due to his personality, natural talents, strengths or weaknesses, and the circumstances of his life. That is what helps makes each person unique.

Hashem waited for the Jewish people to request flags, since He wanted to see whether they understood how special they are. Hashem has no shortage of flags, but a person must show that he understands the gift of being unique. If he thinks that there are another thousand like him or that his role is not worthy of celebration, then he does not deserve a flag. The flag represents an understanding that a person recognizes his unique role and that he deserves his reward.

Similarly, every child is unique. Each has her own individual talents, personality and struggles. A parent should never say to a child, "Why aren't you more like your brother?" or "Why can't you behave like that child in your class?" Statements like these can cause children to despair and they are terribly unfair. She can never be someone else, so why make such an unrealistic demand?

Rather, we should try to find reasons to sincerely compliment and encourage our children. When they feel loved and appreciated, it builds their self-worth, sense of security and confidence. When you offer genuine praise, it cultivates your child's confidence and sense of self and demonstrates to your child how to view themselves positively. When you convey to them that you believe in their potential to succeed, you are giving them the assurance that they are capable. When you help them set realistic, accomplishable goals, you are gently reassuring them that they can improve. Since every child is unique, it is imperative that we, as parents and educators, discover areas in which each child excels and help them build upon their strengths.

Thank you to...

...Final reminder to send in **Chanukah cards** and **care packages** for U.S. soldiers. Gifts and cards are being picked up from DHR at **9:00am on Monday, December 5th.**

...Dr. & Mrs. Yaakov Scutaru for bringing fresh delicious donuts for our teachers from out-of-town! So thoughtful!

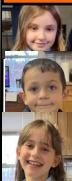
...Nancy Klein & Congregation Rosh Pinah for the \$100 donation.

...DHR's Kindergarten class and a wonderful donation of \$19.47 from their tzedakah box!

...Third grader Liba Mittel for donating her tzedaka to DHR.



Middos Mentions...



...Gali went to recess late to help a friend and then helped clean up the table after scrapbooking!

...Chaim gave a pencil to a friend. How thoughtful!

...Elana brought all the coats back after recess to the girls who forgot them!

