

Calendar

Fri., Feb. 16 - Mon., Feb. 19 - Presidents Weekend- **No School**
 Mon., March 4- Spring Conferences/Staff Dev.- **No School**
 Thurs., March 21- Taanis Esther- 1 pm Dismissal
 Mon., March 25- Shushan Purim Break -**No School**

Calendar Change: Juneteenth is a new federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery. Therefore, there is no busing on the day, which was originally scheduled as our last day of school (June 19th, 8:30am - 11:30am). We sent out an online parent survey earlier this month, and 52 DHR families (almost 90%) responded. The majority (67%) chose the option of canceling school on Juneteenth and making the **last day a full day of school on Tuesday, June 18**, which is what we will do. Please update your calendars.

Fun & Learning at DHR



Middos Mention...

... Moshe C. & Gary C. for volunteering to help Rabbi Balgley and Ms. Stacy move heavy items. Wonderful! 😊

Benching Superstars....

Chaim Eli Abrahamson	Zevi Gestetner	Leah Nochomovitz
Yehudis Balgley	Miriam Goldstein	Rina M. Ribakow
Batya Bashary	Nosson Hein	Nechemia Solomon
Yosef Brea	Meira Herman	Tziporah Twersky
Naphtali Burger	Baruch Ber Herman	Nosson Vogel
Goldie Cohen	Yisroel Kosow	Zalman Yaras
Mousia Cohen	Zecharia Kuyunov	Levi Yaras
Elka Deitch	Rochel Lehrer	Moshe Zargary
Zelda Deitch	Esther Mittel	
Rochel Finegold	Tamar Noble	



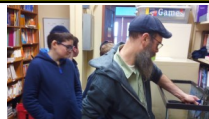
VIP Guests from the Governors Office!

DHR had a wonderful surprise visit from representatives of Governor Kathy Hochul's office on Tuesday. Eva Wyner from the Office of Jewish Affairs, and J.W. Cook, Finger Lakes Regional Representative for the NYS Governor's Office. The students had a wonderful time asking questions and showing off their classrooms to our special guests.



Thank you to ...

... Mr. Gennadiy Mirochnik for setting up a new fish tank in Rabbi Balgley's office! He also gave the boys a lesson in aquatic life and how to care for and maintain an aquarium!
 ...Rabbi Dovid Ribakow, our talented Rebbi and photographer, for all of his wonderful weekly newsletter photos!



From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

There is a fascinating Rashi at the beginning of Parshas Yisro. The pasuk says, "And Yisro, the Priest of Midian, father-in-law of Moshe, heard all that Hashem did for Moshe and for Bnai Yisrael, His nation, because Hashem took Bnai Yisrael out of Mitzrayim." (Shemos 18:1) Rashi, quoting the Gemara (Zevachim 116a) explains that Yisro heard about the Splitting of the Sea and the War with Amalek. When he heard about these great miracles, he thought to himself: "I need to investigate personally and see what is happening with these miraculous people."

We learn (Shemos Rabba, 27:8) that this parsha is called Yisro in recognition of the fact that a section of the Torah was added due to him. In this parsha, Yisro saw that Moshe was busy from morning to night answering halachic questions and taking care of the many issues that kept coming up. He advised Moshe to create a hierarchical system that delegated authority so that Moshe's job would not be so overwhelming. R' Tzvi Hersh Weinreb (TorahTidbits, p. 49) quoted R' Simcha Zissel Broida (the Rosh Yeshiva of the Chevron Yeshiva in Jerusalem) about the importance of Yisro and the lessons that we can learn from him:

"Our tradition respects the seeker, the person who searches for the truth and never tires of that search, no matter how many blind alleys he encounters and no matter how much frustration he experiences. Yisro is described as an individual who worshiped every idol in the world in search of the truth. As he became disappointed with each faith that he explored and with each religion that he practiced, he rejected those paths and renewed his search. He retained the title of High Priest of Midyan because that title represented the heights he had achieved in the religious hierarchy within which he sought truth. That title is symbolic of the degree to which Yisro was a seeker of truth.

That lesson is best conveyed in the words of the Gemara (Gittin 43a): 'No man truly achieves Torah knowledge without first experiencing error.' When a person's struggles in life culminate in his finally making proper choices and correct decisions, then those errors are to be publicized and respected, because they are indicators of the degree to which that person was a seeker of truth".

Finally, in life, we occasionally hear something that affects us. Whether it's an inspiring lecture, a disturbing news report, or a piece of music that moves us deeply, we've all felt that lucidity and resolve while we are enthused. But how long does it take for that emotion to fade and for us to lose that inspiration? Without action, it's gone almost immediately. In the case of the Rashi mentioned above, we can understand why the Torah tells us that Yisro heard two things, the miracle of the splitting of the sea and the attack from Amalek. Why did he need to hear both?

Because sometimes, we need to be prompted, to notice patterns, and act upon them appropriately while we are moved and primed to make significant, positive changes within ourselves. The rest of the nations of the world heard about miracle after miracle, but they were unmoved. Yisro, on the other hand, perceived that Hashem was different than all of the false gods that he had served, and when he started hearing about the diverse types of miracles, he went to join klal Yisrael!

Mazel Tov to...

...5/6 girls on the completion of Parshas Vaera this week!



...4th - 6th grade girls on their continued, successful efforts to keep their classrooms spotless. Ms. Robin, our fabulous janitor, pointed it out - and they earned and celebrated with a BBQ! Wonderful!



... Shmuel Mochkin on his upcoming Bar Mitzvah!

