

## The Great 3rd Grade Regatta!



The 3rd grade recently learned about buoyancy and spent the last few weeks designing, testing, and redesigning their own ships! They tested their ships against simulated natural disasters with little to no damage to their ships!

## 4/5 Girls Siyum on VaYigash

To celebrate learning Parshas VaYigash, the class was divided into partnerships. Each of the 10 groups dressed up as something from the Parsha and brought in treats for the siyum on the same theme. Such creativity and fun!



## Benching Superstars!

Yisrael Abrahamson  
Chana Cohen  
Ruvy Dan  
Mordy Mammon  
Michal Polatoff  
Dovi Shulman

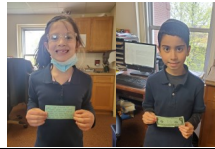


Yosef Shulman  
Shevy Sloviter  
Mendel Vogel  
Mottel Vogel  
Fraida Yaras

## Middos Menchen Stars of the Week

**Ariel K. (4/5B)** - A partition fell during class and Ariel stopped what he was doing and helped fix the partition.

**Liba M. (1st)** - Liba finished her flower packet and went around the classroom helping her peers put away their materials and throw away their scraps, all on her own!



## Second Month of Honor Roll - Pizza Party



### MAZEL TOV TO...

Naftali Aranov  
Dovid Brea  
Sam Brea  
Shneur Caro  
Moshe Chastain  
Yerucham Dahari  
Meira Dan  
Nachi Flink



Shlomo Hanson  
Yaakov Lagunov  
Shmuel Mochkin  
Ella Nussbaum  
Ahuva Roness  
Shmuel Rosenzweig  
Nosson Yaras  
Shimon Yefraimov  
Immanuel Yefraimov

## From the Principal

Mrs. Lea Goldstein

### A RIDDLE:

Nobody's Friend

I have no respect for justice.

I maim without killing.

I break hearts and ruin lives.

I am cunning and malicious and gather strength with age.

The more I am quoted the more I am believed.

My victims are helpless. They cannot protect themselves against me because I have no name and no face.

To track me down is impossible. The harder you try, the more elusive I become.

I am nobody's friend.

Once I tarnish a reputation, it is never the same.

I topple governments and wreck marriages.

I ruin careers and cause sleepless nights, heartaches and indigestion. I make innocent people cry into their pillows.

I make headlines and headaches.

Even my name hisses. What am I?

GOSSIP – LASHON HARA!

### Lashon Hara: The Corruption of Speech

In this week's parshios, we are introduced to the prohibition of lashon hara, evil speech. Our Rabbis teach us that lashon hara is worse than the three cardinal sins – idolatry, adultery, and bloodshed – combined. It kills three people: the one who speaks it, the one about whom it is spoken, and the one who listens to it.

What exactly is the nature of lashon hara? There is a common misconception that lashon hara refers only to sharing false information about another person. People think that if something is true, there shouldn't be anything wrong with saying it. However, this couldn't be further from the truth. There is a separate prohibition of lying. The Torah prohibition of lashon hara refers specifically to sharing true information about someone in order to harm them.

Speech is powerful. It's a tool of connection, communication, and expression. Speech carries the potential to create relationships, lift people up, expand people's minds, and enable genuine communication and connection.

Yoseph earned the hatred of his brothers because he spoke negatively about some of them. The generation that left Mitzrayim was denied the chance of entering Eretz Yisrael because they spoke badly about it. According to the Gemara (Arachin 15b), one who speaks lashon hara is like an atheist who doesn't believe in Hashem. Evil speech is a plague. It destroys relationships, tramples people's feelings and crushes egos.

When people speak lashon hara, they misuse the very holy and unique gift of speech to disconnect people from each other. When we say something negative about someone else, we create a wall between the subject of the negativity and the person with whom we are talking. The very tool of connection is being twisted to disconnect and destroy.

Excerpted from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks' (a"h) article at: <https://www.aish.com/tp/i/sacks/Words-That-Heal.html> and from <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/lashon-hara-the-ultimate-corruption-of-speech-tazria-metzora/>

## NYS Testing Dates

This year, due to the challenges of the pandemic, NYS tests will be only one day each and there will be no performance components.

~ Wed., April 21st: ELA Testing (3rd-8th)

~ Wed., May 5th: Math Testing (grades 3rd-8th)

~ Mon., June 7th: Science Testing (4th-8th)

## Calendar

~ Mon., May 17th - Tues., May 18th: Shavuot Break (no school)

~ Mon., May 31st: Memorial Day (no school)

