

This Week at DHR...



From the Principal

Mrs. Lea Goldstein

~ Focus on Tefillah ~

According to the Ba'al HaTurim, one of our great commentators from the Middle Ages, the word yish'u in Pharaoh's words ve'al yish'u bedivrey sheker, "let them not turn to false ideas," appears only in one other place in the whole of Tanach, and in that context (Shmuel II, 22:42) it is talking about the people praying to Hashem and not getting answered. What is the connection between these two verses? The Ba'al HaTurim says it is to teach us that when one prays to Hashem, he/she has to be honest. The key to prayer is that it must come from the heart; it has to be sincere, not just going through the motions while our mind is elsewhere. It means having a spiritual and emotional connection to our Creator.

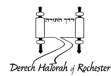
Of course, we daven to Hashem and sometimes he grants our request and sometimes He does not. He hears our prayers even though things may not turn out the way we would like, just as parents sometimes do not give a child what the child asks for because it isn't good for the child. Even though the request was not granted, the child is still secure in the knowledge that there is a loving parent who is listening and taking note of the request.

Real prayer should have the power to uplift and transform us, to give us a chance to see life from a different perspective. We pray three times a day, Shacharis, Mincha and Maariv; at each stage in the day we have the opportunity to step out of life and connect with our Creator. This is why, when we step into the Amidah prayer, we take three steps back and then three steps forward: symbolically, we are taking three steps back out of our lives, and then three steps forward into Hashem's presence. These moments give us the opportunity to have the clarity, tranquility and peace of mind that come with knowing that Hashem is in charge and no matter what happens in the end, He is a loving father and we can connect with Him. Prayer thus gives us a broader perspective.

Excerpted from an article on Aish.com written by Chief Rabbi of South Africa, Rabbi Dr. Warren Goldstein.

Torafair and Torathon are Coming Up!

Please make sure your middle school students are working on their Torafair displays and your K-8 students are studying for the Torathon with their booklets. Torathon tests will be this Monday, Jan. 27th and the Torathon Game Show will take place Tuesday Jan. 28th at 2:45pm (finalists will be announced on Monday afternoon). If your child cannot find his/her Torathon booklet, it is available on the DHR website on the downloads page. Attached to this newsletter there is additional information about the Torafair/Torathon.



אישי התנ"ך
TORAH PERSONALITIES

Catch Mr. Loncao in Action!

Our very own Mr. Loncao and the Rochester Lancers have an away game in Milwaukee against the Milwaukee Wave this weekend. If you would like to watch him play, you can tune in Saturday night (7pm Eastern) to www.masltv.com or search Rochester Lancers vs. Milwaukee Wave on www.youtube.com to watch it live.



Thank You to...

...our generous alumni (most frequently girls from the class of 2013) who donate to DHR every month, but ask that their donations remain anonymous. We truly appreciate their generosity and hakaras hatov to DHR, their alma mater!
...William & Helen Merzel for their \$250 donation in memory of Mr. Shlomo Schlesinger, ה"ע.

Benching Superstars!

Shmuel Hanson
Avigail Lagunov

Malka Shulman
Shimon Yefraimov



Middos Menchen Stars of the Week



...Chava Tova, Leorah and Shani are always punctual and prepared for Mr. Newman's science class! Ethan held the door open for three teachers and their classes! What a



great helper!

Mazel Tov to this week's additional Middos Menchen Recipient: Leora Diskind shared all her markers with everyone in the class who wanted to use them. Mrs. Shulman is very proud of how she shares freely with her classmates!

Mazel Tov to...

...Immanuel Yefraimov (DHR 7th grader) upon the occasion of his becoming a bar mitzvah!
...Mrs. Davidowitz's granddaughter, Chavi Davidowitz on her engagement to Shmuel Perl!
...Tova Berenstein (DHR class of 2012), upon her marriage to Yossi Rubinfeld!

Calendar

Rabbi Roness' and Rabbi Shulman's Shiur are invited to a special oneg tonight (January 24th) at 8PM at the Roness residence.

Friday, Jan. 24th - End of First Semester
Monday, Jan. 27th - Torathon Tests
Tuesday, Jan. 28th - Torathon Game Show (2:45pm)
Wednesday, Jan. 29th - Torah Fair (5:30-7:00pm)
Fri.- Mon., Feb. 14 -17 - February Break Weekend No School

