



BEIS YAAKOV
JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY

BYHS Newsletter

שבט תשפ"ג — February 2022



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שליט"א Rabbi Wilson's message

סגולה מכל העמים

When they were expecting their first child, Rav Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg זצ"ל and his wife travelled to Radin to meet the Chofetz Chaim and seek a ברכה. The Chofetz Chaim was already an old man and hard-of-hearing, so his gabbai would shout into his ear to introduce new visitors.

The gabbai said in a loud voice that this young man (Rav Scheinberg) deserves an extra ברכה, because he and his wife had come all the way from America to learn in Mir. The Chofetz Chaim replied that this was nothing special – if the רבונו של עולם can come all the way from שמים to give us the תורה, a young man should be prepared to travel from America to Europe to receive it!

Although this story ends with the Chofetz Chaim giving a heartfelt זכרון to the young couple, Rav Scheinberg would often recall this story for the Chofetz Chaim's strong message to him (I personally heard him tell this story to a large gathering on visit to London in his later years).

But what is the deeper message behind the Chofetz Chaim's blunt reply? Surely the Chofetz Chaim wasn't trying to tell Rav Scheinberg that 'he did not value his efforts?

On the contrary! The Chofetz Chaim was telling Rav Scheinberg just how important our מצות are. He was saying this: if you want to know how important your מצות are, instead of thinking about how much you have done for ה', think about how much He has done for you. Why did ה' create this whole world? Why did He create people? Why did He come all the way from שמים to give us the תורה, taking the trouble to write it in words that even children can read and understand?

There is one answer to all these questions: because He loves and values our מצות. That's why Hashem describes us in this week's סדרה as His סגולה מכל העמים—His greatest treasure in the world. He treasures our מצות, our תפלות, our עבודת המדות.

If we understood how treasured we are in ה's eyes and how much He values our מצות, we would run across the world (from America to Europe and beyond) for anything that would help us do more מצות, or learn more תורה.

Recently, Torah Umesorah brought over a Rov from Lakewood whose expertise is explaining to teens and young adults how it can be proven that תורה is true. The girls enjoyed his presentation, but what I enjoyed more than anything was witnessing first-hand how impressed and inspired he was by our girls – by their sincerity and deep desire to do what is right and to grow.

Let me clarify something here: our girls are not מלאכים, they are 'normal teenagers'. But מלאכים don't grow, which is why זכריה describes them as עומדים—standing. Our girls are always striving and they are living proof that we are ה' 's סגולה.

With grateful thanks to Mr Myers, Mrs Reznick and all our staff for everything they do day-in-day-out and for another half-term of continued progress.

ברכה והצלחה

Rabbi Wilson

Guest speakers and Special Assemblies

פרשת ויחי and Careers

Mrs Klein spoke about how יעקב giving ברכות to the שבטים was actually him telling them their strengths and weaknesses, and she explained how knowing what our skills are is vital to having goals in life. Through an experiment demonstrated by some of the girls, she proved that when you know what you're aiming for, you can reach much further. Girls should be thinking about what they hope to achieve later in life, as this can give them the motivation and impetus to work harder and perform better in school. Mrs Klein is available to give careers advice to any girls, and has individual meetings with each of the Year 11 pupils.

Rabbi Veshnevsky

Years 9, 10 & 11 were each treated to a talk by Rabbi Chaim Veshnevsky from Lakewood, USA, an experienced Mechanech. He gave fascinating examples from the natural world which the תורה and חז"ל clearly knew thousands of years before scientists. The girls were fascinated, several purchased a copy of his book, and many stayed to ask him questions. He gave the girls his phone number to call if they have any questions for him, promising to call them back if he couldn't answer their call.

עשרה בטבת

Rabbi Angel spoke to the girls about the importance of בין אדם לחברו and how one must believe in their own worth in order for them to be able to then love and care for others.

Rabbi Rietti

Rabbi Jonathon Rietti was visiting Manchester for a few days to give a course to teachers, and we were thrilled that he was able to come into school to speak to Year 10. He explained to them various ideas about how we know that the תורה is true, and about נבואה through the ages. The girls and staff were enthralled, and many stayed on through break time to ask him questions.

Online Safety Day

Rabbi Wilson gave an assembly about safe internet usage. He explained how, although when in school there is no need for girls to use the internet, nowadays most adults do have to use the internet, and therefore it is important to be aware of the risks and dangers. Each class have had, or will have the first of several online safety lessons spread over the year. The first topic is privacy and security, discussing passwords, scams and hackers, and the importance of keeping personal information private.

Mother's מלוה מלכה

Over 140 mothers enjoyed a beautiful and relaxing evening, arranged by the Mother's Committee. The hall was beautifully decorated, and Mrs Esti Klor spoke to introduce the evening, thanking the Executive Leadership Team, the Mother's Committee and all those who helped to make the evening successful. A small choir performed two songs, and everyone enjoyed the delicious מלוה מלכה prepared by our amazing Mrs Stern. Rabbi Paysach Krohn gave over a special pre-recorded video message, emphasizing the importance of the home-school partnership. He suggested that parents spend a half hour uninterrupted quality time with their child each week, and that they should support the school by speaking positively. He praised the school with the new ELT, and told some amazing stories. Chava from Chava's Art showed everyone how to create a collage, and provided magazines, and papers with names of great women and מידות טובות. Each lady created a collage, which will be combined to make a piece of art to be hung in school based on the פסוק ... אשתך כגפן פוריה בירכתי ביתך. As a souvenir, everyone took home a personalised keyring for her daughter. Many thanks to Mrs Stern, Mrs Bauman, Mrs Bamberger and Mrs Dansky who worked tirelessly to orchestrate this beautiful evening.



Mishmeres

This term's theme is for **משמרת** is being **לכף זכות**, and the girls enjoyed an exciting activity where they had to read the clues and watch the video clips to solve the mystery of who called the Police from school. After they successfully figured out whodunnit, they could watch the rest of the videos to see how the suspects were in fact innocent, teaching them that there is more to the story than they can see. Over the next few weeks, a poster with a story has gone up on the wall, and girls were given the opportunity to write how they could be **לכף זכות** in that situation, with the most creative answer winning a prize.

SUSPECTS

SUSPECT 1:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

SUSPECT 2:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

SUSPECT 3:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

SUSPECT 4:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

SUSPECT 5:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

SUSPECT 6:
SCENARIO:
WHY DO YOU SUSPECT HER?
WHY DO YOU NOT SUSPECT HER?

Cluedo **Who did it?**

- TO OUR FELLOW DETECTIVES AND POLICE FORCE WE WRITE TO YOU TO HELP US DISCOVER OUR CULPRIT. THE GUILTY PERSON SHALL BE PUNISHED.
- YOURS SINCERELY - THE POLICE FORCE



Open Evening

Parents and girls from year 6 enjoyed an open evening in school. The Parents heard from Rabbi Wilson and had a tour round the building, while the girls heard from Mrs Reznick, and then had three lessons; a Cookery lesson with Mrs Sulzbacher, where they made their own pita and salad, a science lesson with Mrs Korn and Mrs Simmonds where they did colourful flame tests with Bunsen burners, looked at cells through microscopes and explored magnetism, and a **פרשה/חומש** lesson from Mrs Royde. The feedback was overwhelming—the girls were delighted and the parents were thrilled to see what a vibrant learning environment the girls have the opportunity to enjoy.

Year 11

Year 11 enjoyed a **ליל ששי** as a reward for winning last term's **משמרת** learning competition. They enjoyed heart-warming cholent, danced and had a heartfelt Kumzitz.

Mrs Klein arranged a **קבלת שבת** which over 40 girls attended, kindly hosted by Family Tunkel. The girls sang together beautifully, and felt uplifted and inspired to daven **קבלת שבת** more in the future.

צדקה and חסד Teams

The צדקה team organised a film on מוצאי שבת פרשת שמות and raised £350 for Shlach Lachmecha and £350 for Aniyei Prestwich.

On ראש חודש שבט they sold fruity drinks and snacks, with the proceeds going to Efrat.

The team are now working on getting prizes for our אדר raffle, with profits going to Manchester הכנסת כלה. If you are able to sponsor a prize, please contact Mrs Sasson via the school office.

The חסד team continue to volunteer to tidy up from חופות, and girls go to sing in Aim Habonim every Thursday.

With many thanks to Mrs Sasson for running these teams so efficiently!

ט"ו בשבט

Thanks to Mrs Levene and Mrs Librae, the girls enjoyed a meaningful activity on the morning of ט"ו בשבט. First, the year 11 choir performed the classic עץ חיים היא. This was followed by a talk from Mrs Sophie Woolfstein from GIFT, who explained how much the packages they deliver to families in need across the community brings שמחה and delight to all. Then the girls decorated bottles and squeezed oranges to fill the bottle with juice. In total, 120 bottles of

orange juice were made to be delivered across Manchester. The girls had great fun and revelled in the fact that while doing so, they were earning a great מצוה too!

Additionally, Rabbi Glickman created a PowerPoint with multiple choice questions on a variety of topics to do with ט"ו בשבט and מצוות בארץ התלויות בארץ, so every girl learnt some new הלכות, including practical advice on how to take מעשר from produce from ארץ ישראל.



Year 10 Shabbaton

After weeks of busy preparation, the year 10 girls finally left on their long awaited Shabbaton. On Friday morning, amidst much cheering, the coach pulled away from school, and set out on the journey to FSC Castlehead, Cumbria. When they arrived the girls all helped unload the coach, then stayed outside whilst the rooms were decorated. They then went inside for lunch, which was followed by some time to prepare for **שבת**.

At 3.30 the girls all smiled for a class photo, before heading back inside for a meaningful **ה' מנחה**, **קבלת שבת**, **מעריב**, as well as a short talk from Rabbi Wilson about **שבת**. An amazing and tasty Friday night meal followed, which centred around the theme of **ה' מלך**; and included a **דבר תורה**, and lots of singing and **זמירות**.

After the meal the girls all enjoyed a fun social, and then came one of the highlights of the Shabbaton– the Q and A session with Rabbi Wilson. Some fun spirited questions to the teachers were followed by more serious **השקפה** discussions, which gave the girls some much needed answers to questions they had.

After a few hours of sleep, the girls all got up on **שבת** morning, davened, had **קידוש**, and then had a **שיעור** from Rabbi Wilson about the theme of the Shabbaton– the first **אני מאמין**. The girls then headed to another amazing **שבת** meal, which had the theme of construction– showing that **ה'** is constantly building the world. The meal included another **דבר תורה** and lots more singing, as well as a mock wedding which all the girls enjoyed tremendously.

The rest of the afternoon gave the girls some time to relax, and some then ate **שלוש סעודות**. When Shabbos was over they heard **הבדלה** from Rabbi Wilson, before having more time to relax whilst some girls set up for **מלוה מלכה**. The theme of this buffet style meal was “light in the dark”, showing how **ה'** is always guiding us, even if we sometimes can't see it. The girls then participated in a fun messy social, which was followed by a second—less messy but equally enjoyable—social.

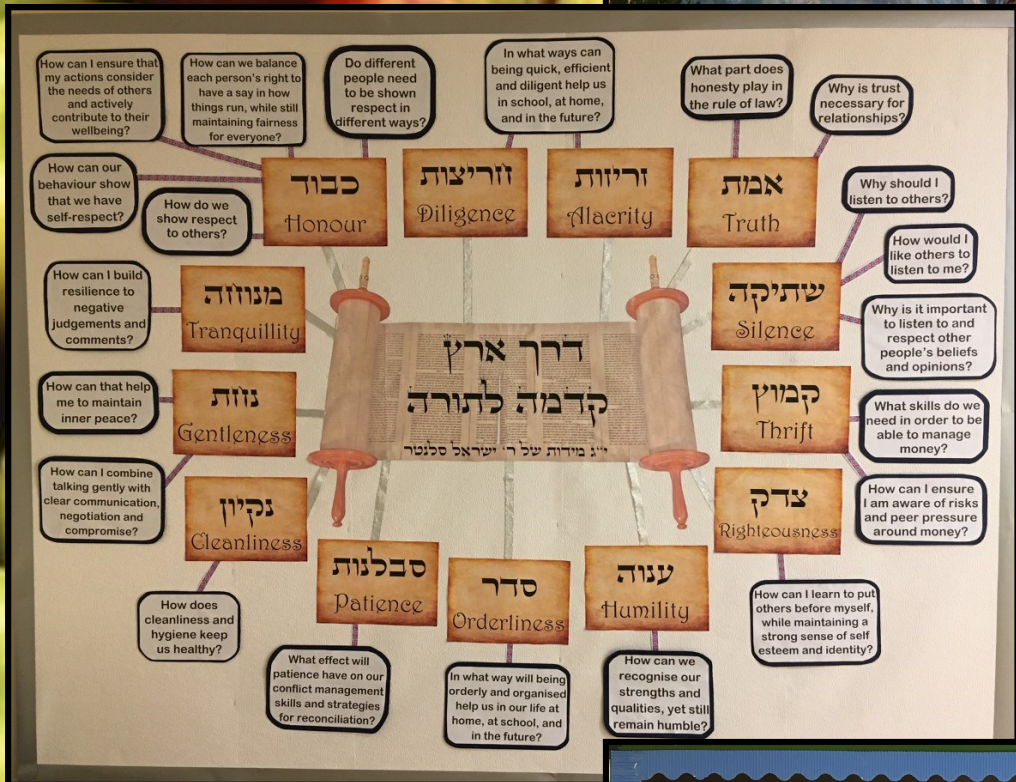
After this was another highlight of the trip– the amazing kumzits, where the girls– and some teachers - sang for a long time, accompanied by 2 girls on guitars. Following this a few girls went to bed whilst the rest spent the (short) remainder of the night chatting, singing, and having more **השקפה** discussions.

After getting up early on Sunday, everyone packed and cleaned up, and enjoyed a delicious breakfast box. At about half past ten – with much disappointment—they left the place where they had spent the most meaningful and amazing **שבת**. All the girls enjoyed the Sabbathon tremendously, especially getting to know their teachers and classmates better, and said what a special atmosphere there was.

Many thanks to all the staff who accompanied the girls – Mrs Schleider, Mrs Korn, Miss Rose, Miss Reznick, Miss Goodman, Mrs Sinitsky, Mrs Bor, Mrs Kaufman, and Rabbi Wilson, and their families; and many thanks also to Mrs Sasson for helping arrange the Shabbaton, and to Mrs Stern for all the delicious food.



נשמת כל חי ...



Current Events Around The World

Map Of The World

- Yell!** opened at Chicago's Field Museum (Learn Out To Be A Stronger Agee Artist)
- London New Year 2023 - Leap into the Year Of The Rabbit**
- World's Oldest Sentence Written in The Red Alphabet Document**
- Massive Iceberg Breaks from Antarctica**
- Massive Earthquake Hits Turkey and Syria**
- 10 Countries to Send Tanks to Ukraine**
- What causes earthquakes? How can we help the people in Turkey and Syria?**
- Do you think it was used to save lives?**
- What's the best if it's to live in a country which is war?**

פרו צדיק עץ חיים

משלי י"א



ר' יהודה זאב סגל
כ"ב שבט

The Manchester Bath Yeshiva



ר' ישראל אבוחצירא
ד' שבט

The Bath Kit



ר' שמואל רפאל הירש
כ"ה טבת

ר' שמואל רפאל הירש



ר' אליהו אליעזר סדלר
כ"ה טבת

ר' אליהו אליעזר סדלר

The 'fruits' of a צדיק's תורה and מצוות are a 'tree' that lives on even after his פטירה