

Derech HaTorah of Rochester The Path of Respect and Excellence

January 26, 2023 ד' שבט, פרשת בא, תשפ"ג

Calendar

Tues., Feb.7- DHR's Winter Open House Celebration 5:30 pm-7pm Tues., Feb. 14 - School Picture Day

Fri., Feb. 17 - Mon., Feb 20 - Presidents' Weekend - No School Mon., March 20 - Save the date: Middle School Girls' Production!

Fun & Learning @ DHR ..



DHR's Hydroponics Lab Update..

...Mr. Mirochnik's Hydroponics Clubs harvested, tested and delivered the fruits of their labor!





Benching Superstars...

Zeesa Aranov Yosef Brea Zelda Deitch Zevi Gestetner Perel Giardina

Ashira Hirsh Sara Katz Ephraim Burger Zecharia Kuyunov Liba Mittel Rina Malka Ribakow Moshe Zargary Ahron Shulman

Aliza Sloviter Rena Vatch Nosson Vogel Levi Yaras



Middos Mentions...



... Yosef gave up his chair so the teacher could sit down!



.. Avigail & Fraida wanted to work at the back table but they were mevater and let another group have the space!



.Gali noticed a friend needed help finding the place during davening & rushed to help her! How wonderful!



... Nechemia had an extra spoon and shared it with a friend who didn't have one! How thoughtful!



R' Chastain's 6th/7th girls Kashrus class...

... Rabbi Chastain's 6/7th girls' kashrus class just finished a unit on coffee shops & ice cream stores. They took a trip next door to ROC City

Ice Cream for a kosher inspection. Thank you to Dara Rennert for opening the store for us and making it a great learning experience!



From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

I am a fan of Rabbi Berel Wein's writing, which is always insightful, sagacious and inspiring. On this week's parsha, Bo, he points to the fact that the Torah tells us that our children and grandchildren will ask questions of the previous generations as to the reasons for Judaism, and Jewish practice and rituals. The Torah states that this questioning will occur as a matter of fact; it is a certainty. The Torah then provides the guidelines that are to be employed in giving the proper answers to these questions. Of course, there are different types of parents and teachers in the world. Some are authoritarian and dogmatic in their approach, and they resent questions in the home and the classroom that they feel challenge their role as a teacher and parent.

Thankfully, though, there are many parents and teachers (cheers here for DHR's faculty & staff) who encourage and appreciate probing questions from the young. They are stimulated by the questioning and they are challenged to find meaningful and convincing answers, thereby creating an atmosphere of learning and understanding.

Rabbi Wein points out that from the Torah's perspective, the latter, gentler course is the wiser one. There are those who do not know how or what to ask. But sad as that situation is, it is even sadder to live in a society or culture that does not allow one to ask. Mankind's bitter experience throughout history, of living under totalitarian regimes that allowed no questioning of megalomaniacal rulers, testifies to the evils of a world where no questions are allowed and therefore no answers need be provided.

Even in klal Yisrael, we've seen the damage of dogmatic indoctrination, when children are discouraged or not allowed to ask questions about basic ideas and values of Judaism. This take-it-or-leave- it attitude produced disastrous results for the Torah world in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Rabbi Wein exhorts us to make sure that it does not continue to be perpetuated in our homes and schools. He explains that the attitude of "no questions" reveals a terrible insecurity about the faith of Judaism and the Torah. It becomes an admission, God forbid, that the Torah really does not have any answers to these questions and therefore the questions are forbidden. But our Torah and beliefs have stood the test of time, have encountered all ideas, philosophies and popular movements and have triumphed over them!

As we read at the Seder on Pesach, even the Rasha, the "evil son" is entitled to a question and he receives an answer, albeit a harsh and brutally frank one. Why? Because the continuity of Judaism is built upon the discussions, questions and answers that form the relationship between the generations. So, it is our mantra at DHR, and hopefully in all of our students' homes, that we are prepared to be questioned and accept that fact with grace and knowledge. More importantly, we are prepared to answer wisely and patiently.

Excerpted from: https://torah.org/torah-portion/rabbiwein-5766-bo/

Condolences to ...

... to the Roness family upon the passing of their grandfather and great grandfather Mr. Sidney Rosenberg.

"המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

Mazel Toy to...

... to Shmuly and Breina (Mochkin - DHR class of 2015) Korf on the birth of their son and Rabbi and Mrs. Dovid Mochkin on the birth of their new grandson!

מול

