

Derech HaTorah of Rochester

The Path of Respect and Excellence

October 20 2023 ה' מר חשון, פרשת נח, תשפ"ד

Calendar

Fri., Nov. 10- Veterans Day/ Professional Development -No School Tues., Nov. 21- Reg. Schedule, Parent Conferences 6:30pm-9pm Wed., Nov. 22- Parent Conferences 9am-12pm-No School Thurs., Nov 23- Fri. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Break-No School

Fun & Learning at DHR



8th Grade Girls Break Out!

The 8th grade girls broke out the theme of this year's student activities with a very exciting song and dance. Their theme is "Superpowers" and we are all looking forward to all of the fabulous powers that they will be discovering within themselves and each other! Thank you to Adina Goldstein for the beautiful lyrics to our song; Tehila Solomon, Ahuva Katz and Adina Goldstein for the choreography; and all of the 8th grade girls for their hard work and enthusiasm. A special thank you to Mrs. Ayelet Ribakow for organizing the event!



Middos Mention...

...Rina Malka invited a friend to play when her friend was feeling sad. So kind!

... Tamar helped her friend clean up markers, even though everyone was heading out to lunch. Wonderful!

Benching Superstars....

Batya Bashary Zechariah Chastain Elka Deitch

Zelda Deitch Meira Herman Yisroel Kosow

Zecharia Kuyunov Rikki Lagunov Levi Yaras

Boys Night Seder learning at Yeshivo



From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

As the war continues, we need more chizuk, tefillos, and support for those in the line of fire. Please continue to daven for the soldiers, the injured, and the hostages. Please encourage your children to join in DHR's "Al Shelosha Devarim" campaign to increase Torah learning, Tefilla/Tehillim and Chesed. We are trying to fill up our globes with

The Meshech Chochma (בשלח, ט') explains the Talmud Yerushalmi (פאה א', א') that teaches that in Dovid Hamelech's generation, the people were tzaddikim and were meticulous in their Torah scholarship and observance – but they fell in battle because of infighting amongst them. Achav's generation, on the other hand, was steeped in avodah zarah – but they were victorious on the battlefield because they were united!

The Meshech Chochma concludes his words with the following reminder: "Hashem is our merciful and loving Father. He wants to protect us. However, when it comes to bad middos like lashon hora and machlokes/infighting, it is written, 'Hashem withdraws His presence to heaven. He says, "I hate it! I'm leaving, because I can't 'stand' that (loshon hora and machlokes)! When I leave, My Shechina leaves! Once My presence leaves, then My PROTECTION is removed!!!"

This week's Parsha features a similar situation. The generation of the Mabul (Flood) was filled with people who were cruel to each other and they were completely annihilated. On the other hand, the people in the times of the Tower of Bavel, despite their sins, got along together and collaborated, so they were dispersed, not destroyed.

This war is uniting us. Facing the worst massacres, hate and anti-Semitism that we've seen since the Holocaust, klal Yisrael is united. Let us invest additional effort to guard our tongues, be extra kind and really connect with each other to be zoche to extra heavenly protection!

Our Children and Anxiety...

We're all dealing with anxiety regarding the situation in Eretz Yisrael. It may come as no surprise to learn that anxiety has skyrocketed since the pandemic with an average one in five Americans struggling with symptoms of chronic anxiety, panic attacks, OCD and post-traumatic stress (Hopkins, 2023). For our community, the effects of Hamas' terror campaign against Israel, with our brothers and sisters living through devastating physical, emotional and psychological persecution and torment, are traumatic. The scale of suffering is immense, with countless families and communities bearing the brunt of this ongoing conflict. Please understand that, despite our best efforts to shield our children from the news and frightening aspects of this war, they are anxious. Let's continue to model positive, resilient attitudes, while balancing our feelings of pain for those in Israel. If you notice that your child is suffering with more chronic anxiety or other mental health concerns, please reach out for help and referrals. There should be no stigma in getting therapy to start the process of recovery, emotional skillbuilding and healing.

Mazel Tov to...

... Rabbi Meir and Morah Rivka Balgley on the birth of their son!

Reminder - Soup for sale-\$2.00

- ⇒ The 8th grade girls will be selling cups of soup daily. The soup is \$2.00 per container and may be purchased in DHR's office.
- The 8th grade boys are selling cholent. The cholent will cost \$2.00 per bowl and will be available during all three lunches on Friday. only.