

Derech HaTorah of Rochester The Path of Respect and Excellence

ד' כסלו, פרשת תולדות, תשפ"ד

Calendar

Tues., Nov. 21- Reg. Schedule, Parent Conferences 6:30 pm-9pm Wed., Nov. 22- Parent Conferences 9am-12pm-No School Thurs., Nov 23- Fri. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Break-No School Wed., Nov 29 - Lifetouch Photo Retake Day

Fun & Learning at DHR



Benching Superstars...

Yosef Brea Ephraim Burger Zechariah Chastain Rikki Laguvov Rochie Dan Zelda Deitch Zevi Gestetner

Zecharia Kuyunov Esther Levinson Eliana Noble Nechemia Solomon Tzipporah Twersky Meir Vogel Nosson Vogel Levi Yaras Moshe Zargary

Mazel Tov to...

... Yacov Roness (DHR class of 2013) upon his engagement to Bracha Sonnenschein of Lakewood, NJ.

... Moshe London (DHR class of 2014) upon his marriage to Elky Zweiback!

...4th grade girls for finishing Parshas Vayishlach! They celebrated our siyum with edible art depicting a siddur, present, and bow and arrow to represent the three things Yaakov did to prepare to meet





Middos Mention...

.. Tamar got a friend a Band-Aid when he got a paper cut. How kind!



Yoseph & Shlomo both helped another student pick up supplies that had dropped on the floor. Wonderful!!

Thank you to...

..Rabbi Cohen for organizing a field trip for the 7/8 girls to the George Eastman House. Thank you to Rabbi Cohen & Mrs. Deitch for driving.



...Nancy Klein (via Congregation Rosh Pinah) for her \$100 dona-

Important Reminders - Upcoming Events

Chanukah Soldiers- Once again, we are asking DHR families to help us send Chanukah cards, baked goods and/or care packages to U.S. soldiers serving around the world. Chanukah Cards and Care Packages need to be at DHR by 9:00am on Monday, November 20th and/or families can drop off packages on Sunday November 19th at TBK - 9:30 am to 1:00 PM at the South (rear) entrance.

...Parent -Teacher Conferences are next week. Please see the attached information, dates and schedules. Hope to see all of you!

Tues., Nov. 21- Parent Conferences 6:30-9:00pm Wed., Nov. 22- Parent Conferences 9:00 am-12:00pm

From the Principal

"The boys grew up. Esav became a man who knows hunting, a man of the field, and Yaakov a wholesome man, dwelling in tents" (Bereishis 25:27). As different as they were in the womb, Yaakov and Esav were not prisoners of their separate natures. They were not forced by their dispositions into antagonistic roles. Esav's strengths and talents could have been pressed into productive and positive service, had they been properly nurtured and guided. That did not happen, possibly because the very real differences between the brothers did not factor into the way they were educated in their formative years.

It is a mistake to believe that two children, whose natures varied markedly from each other at an early age, should have received the same kind of training and education. Yet, the pasuk sums up their early years in one, brief description of uniformity: "the boys grew up." We see them sharing the same classroom, the same curricula, the same activities, hobbies and schedules. Both were being prepared for a life of intense study and contemplation.

Yaakov found great satisfaction in this. He thirsted for more knowledge and thrived on it. His inner needs were met, and his strengths were enhanced by his upbringing. For Esav, it was poison. He longed for the moment when he could rid himself of the learning, books and hours of regimented restrictions. Esav suffered years of repression of his needs. After his childhood imprisoned inside, as a teen, he demanded the absolute freedom of the fields. When he became old enough to assert his independence, he would bolt not only from the classroom, but from all the values associated with it.

It did not have to be that way. Torah Judaism does not hope to massproduce a single product. The covenant Hashem established with Avraham called for the building of a nation, not a large number of homogenous people. The Torah nation would have to include many vocations, and make use of our many virtues and talents. A community committed to applying Hashem's truths to myriad human affairs would need citizens with strength, courage and diverse skills as well as intellectual acumen.

Sadly, Yaakov and Esav's upbringing departed from the ideal formula. Where they required difference – in their education – they received sameness. When they should have received equal love from both parents, they experienced different connections, nurturing and reactions. While we aspire to imitate our great Avos and Imahos, perhaps we can extract a valuable lesson from this episode in this Parsha regarding how to raise our own children.

Excerpted from "Parshas Toldos - One Size Does Not Fit All" by R' Yitzchok Adlerstein, based on the commentary of Rav Shimshon Rafael Hirsch (Bereishis 25:27).

DHR's Professional Development Day

What an action-packed, productive day! We started with a faculty meeting, then worked on curriculum mapping, then we had our Writing Workshop II, followed by an inspirational session via zoom with Rabbi Avroham Stulburger.

We finished the day with our limudei kodesh teachers learning from an expert rebbe -Rabbi Yehuda Winder - taking לשון הקודש to the next level. Our general studies staff had a very productive Title I meeting to ensure that no student falls through the cracks!



Tehillim Out Loud Kriah Program!

DHR's new Tehillim Out Loud Kriah Program is going strong! Our Gedolim have been encouraging the daily recital of additional Tehillim—and, at DHR—our teachers and those staffing our SULAM program have been motivating students to get more Hebrew reading practice. Students need to read a perek/kapitel of Tehillim out loud and then have their parent or someone else who listened sign their form.

Completed Tehillim slips should be placed in the box matching the student's grade/group. On every Rosh Chodesh, we will pull one lucky Tehillim slip from each box. Winners will win prizes—and it's win-win -win since our talmidim will be sayng Tehillim, practicing their kriah and potentially winning Tehillim raffles. Please encourage your children of all ages to participate!

