



Derech HaTorah of Rochester

The Path of Respect and Excellence

כ"ב

February 23, 2024

ד' אדר א', פורים קטן, פרשת תצוה, תשפ"ד

Calendar

Mon., March 4- Spring Conferences/Staff Dev. - No School
Sun., March 3 - Sunday, March 10.-8th Grade Girls' Trip to Israel, sponsored by the Farash Foundation
Thurs., March 21-Taanis Esther - 1pm Dismissal
Mon., March 25- Shushan Purim - No School
Thurs., April 4-Matzah Bakery K (9-11am) 1st (12:30-2:30pm)
Mon., April 8- Solar Eclipse- 1pm Dismissal
Thurs., April 18-thru-Wed., May 1- Pesach Break-No School

From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

The first section of Parshas Tetzaveh describes all the details of the creation, tailoring and manufacturing of the Bigdei Kehunah (priestly garments).

The Gemara (Zevachim 88b) makes the fascinating statement that the Torah's introduction and description of the Bigdei Kehunah is juxtaposed with that of korbanos in order to equate the two. Just as the Korbanos bring atonement for the sins of the Jewish people, so, too, do the Bigdei Kehunah. For example, the Kesones (tunic) atones for bloodshed, the Ephod (apron) for idol-worship, the Choshen Mishpat (breastplate) for improper judgments, the Tzitz (gold forehead plate) for chutzpah/brazenness, and the me'il (robe) for lashon hara.

Wait, is it that easy? The kohanim wear their clothes and all sins are forgiven? If the Kohen Gadol's wardrobe is in order, we're all set?

One of the late Rishonim, the Akeydas Yitzchak (in Shaar 51), elucidates that when the Gemara says that the garments of the Kohanim are capable of bringing about atonement, it means that each of the garments contains a message regarding a particular sin – and if we focus on that, it can help us avoid sinning in the future. Additionally, it enables us to do teshuva for previous aveiros.

According to the Sefer HaChinuch, a person is affected and transformed by his actions, and his behaviors often follow his thoughts and intentions. The Kohen occupies a unique position to atone for the rest of klal Yisrael, and therefore, the Chinuch explains, it is imperative that he dress in a way that impresses upon him the importance of his role and his job. Therefore, when he wears these special, holy garments, he will glimpse at himself and will be instantaneously reminded that he is an essential and important servant in Hashem's "palace". In the beautiful words of the Sefer HaChinuch (mitzvah 99):

היסוד הקבוע לנו כי האדם נפעל לפי פעולותיו ואחר מהשבותיו וכנותיו, והשליח המכפר צריך להתפייס כל מהשבותיו וכנותו אל העבודה, על פן ראוי ללבש בגדים מיוחדים אליה. שְׁפָשֶׁפֶת בְּכָל מְקוֹם שֶׁבָגָפוּ מִיָּד יִהְיֶה נִזְכָּר וּמִתְעוֹרָר בְּלִבּוֹ לִפְנֵי מִי הוּא עוֹבֵד.

The clothes of Aharon and his sons were made so that the kohanim could officiate before Hashem in holiness, with honor and glory - and to inspire the kohanim to greater mindfulness, concentration and recognition of the monumental task with which they are charged.

Fun & Learning at DHR



Benching Superstars....

Chaim Eli Abrahamson	Zevi Gestetner	Chaya Notis
Batya Bashary	Nosson Hein	Meir Vogel
Binyamin Berzow	Baruch Ber Herman	Nosson Vogel
Yosef Brea	Sara Katz	Levi Yaras
Zechariah Chastain	Zecharia Kuyunov	Zalman Yaras
Moussia Cohen	Rikki Lagunov	
Zelda Deitch	Eliana Noble	
Naomi Finegold	Rivka Nochomovitz	



4th Grade Girls Stepped Back in Time

... Mrs. Clarke's 4th grade girls' class journeyed back to colonial times. The girls have not only learned about history, but have experienced it, as they learned how to make their own colonial hats!



Middos Mentions...

...Ella & Tzipora took on the responsibility to pick up all of the legos in the library without being asked.. Wonderful!



...Ben was the first student to arrive in the classroom, so he took down all of the chairs for everyone!

Mazel Tov to...

...Yaakov Lagunov on his upcoming Bar Mitzvah!
...Ariel Kuyunov on his upcoming Bar Mitzvah!



Kindergarten ABC Party!

Mrs. Rachel Mory & Mrs. Shira Twersky's kindergarten class finished learning the alphabet and celebrated with an ABC party! The students dressed in costumes depicting their favorite letters. They even had a few special guests who were also wearing costumes depicting their favorite letter! The adorable, happy little people also enjoyed ABC pasta and cheese and ABC cookies. So much fun!!!



Challah "for the Shulchan" & Shabbos

Mrs. Balgley's kindergartners really loved learning about the keilim of the Mishkan last week. They also talked about the special breads on the Shulchan. In another example of great interdisciplinary learning, they tied it into their HaMotzi bracha unit and made delicious challoos to take home for Shabbos!



Reminder- Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences

When: Monday **March 4th** (Afternoon & Evening) **2:00pm - 7:30pm**
Where: DHR Gym - See attached flyer for details and floor plan!

Wednesday's learning at DHR was sponsored as a zechus for a refuah shelaima for Avigail Tova bas Perel, sponsored by the Balgley & Goldstein families.