


## Calendar

- **Presidents Weekend** - Fri., Feb. 16 - Mon., Feb. 19 - **No School**  
 - **No Busing** for the following school districts: **Pittsford, Rush Henrietta., RCS D** Tues., Feb. 20 through Fri., Feb 23   
 - **Spring Conferences/Staff Dev.** - **No School** - Mon., March 4  
 - **8th Grade Girls' Trip to Israel**, sponsored by the Farash Foundation - Sunday, March 3 - Sunday, March 10.  
 - **Taanis Esther** - Thurs., March 21, 1 pm Dismissal  
 - **Shushan Purim** - Mon., March 25 - **No School**  
**Calendar Change:** Juneteenth is a new federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery. Therefore, there is no busing on the day, which was originally scheduled as our last day of school (June 19th, 8:30am - 11:30am). We sent out an online parent survey earlier this month, and 52 DHR families (almost 90%) responded. The majority (67%) chose the option of canceling school on Juneteenth and making the **last day a full day of school on Tuesday, June 18**, which is what we will do. Please update your calendars.

## Fun & Learning at DHR



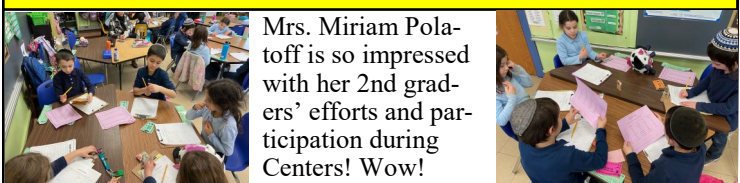
## Middos Mention...

... Aryeh and Shmuel helped straighten up a classmate's desk (who was out sick). How thoughtful!

## Benching Superstars....

Chaim Eli Abrahamson	Zecharia Kuyunov	Meir Vogel
Yehudis Balgley	Rikki Lagunov	Levi Yaras
Batya Bashary	Russi Max	Zalman Yaras
Yosef Brea	Esther Mittel	
Zechariah Chastain	Tamar Noble	
Moussia Cohen	Chaya Notis	
Elka Deitch	Rina Malka Ribakow	
Naomi Finegold	Bassie Shulman	
Baruch Ber Herman	Rena Vatch	

## Second Grade Centers...



Mrs. Miriam Polatoff is so impressed with her 2nd graders' efforts and participation during Centers! Wow!

## From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

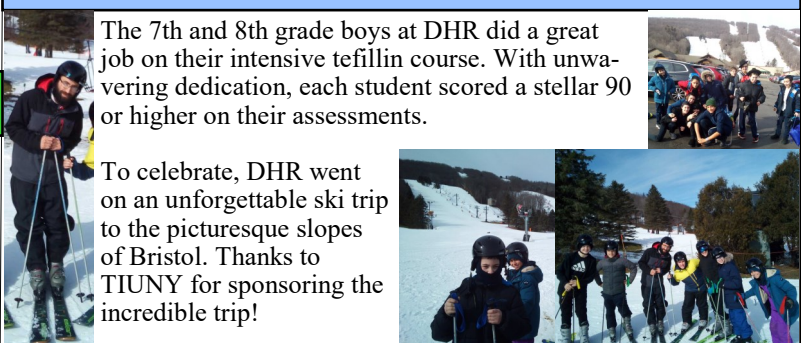
In this week's parsha, Rashi teaches us an important rule based on the first word (21:1):  
 "ואלה המשפטים. כל מקום שנאמר 'אלה' פסל את הראשונים, 'ואלה' מוסיף על הראשונים. מה הראשונים מסיני, אף אלו מסיני"  
 "Wherever 'אלה' - "these are" is used, it cuts off the preceding section from that which it introduces. However, 'ואלה' - "and these" is used to add something to the former subject (forms a connection between the two). So too, here: "And these are the judgments: What is the case with the former commandments (the עשרת הדברות)? Just like the 10 commandments were given at Har Sinai, so too, all of these mitzvos in Mishpatim were given at Har Sinai!

The Rashi above also helps us explain that the seemingly superfluous letter "vov" - "and" - at the beginning of the parsha emphasizes a connection between this parsha and the previous one (Yisro). Just as the previous parsha related the giving of the Torah at Har Sinai, we know that that the mitzvos contained in this parsha were also presented by Hashem at Sinai. Parshas Yisro contains the Aseres HaDibros (10 Commandments), the fundamentals of the Jewish religion, which people are naturally scrupulous to perform. By and large, Parshas Mishpatim contains mitzvos pertaining to the conduct between us and our fellow man; laws that are sometimes viewed as trivial, mundane and not as important. As a result, there is a tendency to be less careful about their observance. It is for this reason that the Torah emphasizes their Divine origin, equal to that of the "more serious" injunctions of the Aseres HaDibros.

While nothing is a coincidence, it has been noted that the yahrtzeit of Rav Yisroel Salanter (25 Shevat), the holy and brilliant founder of the Mussar movement, traditionally comes out during the week of Parshas Mishpatim. What is the special connection? Reb Yisrael Salanter's life-long, prodigious mission was to convince klal Yisrael to recognize that the mitzvos governing our interpersonal interactions are just as important as those pertaining to our relationship with Hashem, and that we must be equally meticulous in their performance. This Rashi supporting Rav Yisroel's thesis and life's mission is the message of the very first letter of our parsha, and it is therefore fitting that his yahrtzeit fall out this week, as learning our parsha is truly a suitable tribute to his legacy.

Partially excerpted from: <https://www.shemayisrael.com/parsha/alport/archives/mishpatim67.htm>

## 7th / 8th Boys Hit the Slopes!



The 7th and 8th grade boys at DHR did a great job on their intensive tefillin course. With unwavering dedication, each student scored a stellar 90 or higher on their assessments.

To celebrate, DHR went on an unforgettable ski trip to the picturesque slopes of Bristol. Thanks to TIUNY for sponsoring the incredible trip!

## Mazel Tov to...

... 4th grade girls enjoyed a siyum for finishing Pararshas Vayeishev this week! They dressed up in costumes representing different characters in the Parsha!



... Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Roness upon the wedding of their son Yacov (DHR class of 2013 and DHR social work intern) to Bracha Sonnenschein!

