

Derech HaTorah of Rochester The Path of Respect and Excellence

September 30, 2022 ה' תשרי, פרשת וילך, שבת שובה, תשפ"ג

גמר חתימה טובה! Calendar

- Tues., Oct. 4th: Erev Yom Kippur No School
- Wed., Oct. 5th: Yom Kippur No School
- Fri., Oct. 7 Wed., Oct. 19: Sukkos Break -No School

Work & Fun at DHR



Benching Superstars

Chaim Eli Abrahamson Nava Hirschfeld Moussia Cohen Naomi Dahari Rochie Dan Zelda Dietch Leora Diskind Ella Eidelman Zevi Gestener

Ashira Hirsh Sara Katz Avigail Kosow Yisroel Kosow Zecharia Kuyunov Rikki Lagunov Liba Mittel

Michal Polatoff Ahron Shulman Aliza Sloviter Tzipporah Twersky Hannah Ulloa Rena Vatch Nosson Vogel Levi Yaras

Mazel Toy to...

...Rabbi and Mrs. Dovid Ribakow on the birth of their new son!

...Yitzy Dan upon the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah this Shabbos!

DIC

Thank you to...

- ...Mrs. Ilene Flaum for her generous \$3,600 donation to fund scholarships! Wow!
- ...Meir & Rivka Leah Hauser, former DHR parents, for their Erev Rosh Hashana donation of \$100.
- ... Chaim & Rochel S. (London) Shotkin for their Erev Rosh Hashana donation of \$250.
- ...Hindy London (DHR class of 2017) for her generous donation! ... Yaakov Bernstein (DHR class of 2014) for his generous
- donation! ...Rabbi & Mrs. Michoel Abrahamson for their donation in memory of Tzipporah Faiga bas Yaakov.

...Mrs. Adina Burger for coming in to read and serve as our first really fun community guest in first grade! Thanks to Ms. Pochodylo for creating and coordinating this new program.

...all of the parents and children who donated food items during DHR's food drive for Brighton Food Cupboard.





From the Principal

Dr. Lea E. Goldstein

Former DHR grandparent and principal of Toras Emes Academy in Miami, Rabbi Kalman Baumann, recently shared an inspiring thought about Aseres Yemei Teshuva. He points out that we say in the Haftara for Fast Days (Yeshaya 55:6) "Seek Hashem when He can be found, call upon Him when He is near". Chazal (Rosh Hashana 18a) tell us this refers to the ten days between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Instead of acting as a cold, distant and heartless judge, Hashem makes Himself available to draw us close.

The Sefer HaChinuch (Mitzvah 185) explains in the mitzvah of the Kohen Gadol's service on Yom Kippur, that Hashem implanted in the creation, out of loving kindness, a day each year to help every one of His creations achieve atonement. This is a wonderful opportunity, for if a person's misdeeds were to accumulate for even a couple of years, he would most likely be deserving of a great and inevitable punishment. Despite the fact that our aveiros (sins) are, in essence, acts of rebellion against our Creator, He nevertheless approaches us, so to speak, and enables and encourages us to return to Him.

These days of extra closeness should be precious to us. We should relish the opportunity to bask in Hashem's closeness. We should strive to improve our ways not merely because we dread the consequences, but because we see the positive in drawing closer to Hashem. Life should not be an exercise in beating the system and begrudgingly fulfilling the bare minimum requirements to avoid taking the rap. Rather, our lives should be filled with making use of every moment for good. Our days should be filled with the tremendous simcha of being on close terms with our Creator, and basking in the light of His Torah and Mitzvos.

The impact of such an attitude will transform not only our Aseres Yemei Teshuva; it will potentially be life-changing for our children. Young people are discovering the world and are learning what is acceptable and unacceptable. Their conclusions in determining what is right and what is wrong are shaped and influenced by how the important adults in their life react. If their parents' reactions to their mistakes or misdeeds are harsh and unforgiving, they may comply for the moment, but they will not be inspired to take their parents' values into their own adulthoods. If children's mistakes are corrected by embarrassing and painful exercises in apologies and negative consequences delivered by parents whom they perceive as cold and distant, children will learn how to avoid getting caught, and develop the ability to bear the harsh punishments without internalizing any constructive message.

However, if parents can emulate Hashem's approach with our own children, we will learn to be available, attentive, and forgiving, while holding firm to our beliefs and values. That will facilitate children's true feelings of regret for misdeeds, and a sincere desire to improve and correct their behavior, in order to emulate their parents and make them proud. They will embrace the value system that is presented with love and closeness, just as we will, B'ezras Hashem, return and remain close to our loving Father in Heaven.

Excerpted from: https://www.ytcte.org/rabbi-baumanns-letter/our-loving-g-d/

Middos Mentions...

Nava consoled her friend when she was upset after she lost a game; such kindness!



Eli took off his own jacket outside, to give to a friend who was cold!

Nechemia was a wonderful role model and worked hard to finish his letter worksheet!



