Derech HaTorah of Rochester

January 8th, 2021 The Path of Respect and Excellence כ"ד טבת, פרשת שמות, תשפ"א

Artists in Residence!





2nd Grade STEM Project



Benching Superstars!

Naomi Dahari Ruvy Dan Aviva Kuyunov



Michal Polatoff Raziel Twersky Mottel Vogel

Mazel Tov to...

~ Hillel (DHR class of 2013) & Malka Eisenberg on the birth of a

Calendar

- ~ Sun. Jan. 17th: Sunday Classes for Boys (back on calendar)
- ~ Mon., Jan. 18th: Martin Luther King Day (There will be school but no busing)
- ~ Fri., Jan. 22nd: End of First Semester

Middos Menchen Stars of the Week

Naomi D. (K) - Naomi took the initiative to hold the door open for all the students in her class!

Sophie N. (K) - Sophie wanted to sit next to her teacher, but another student took her seat. Even though she really wanted to sit there, she allowed the other student to sit in that seat. Wow! What a beautiful Mitzvah!

Shira C. (2nd) - Shira asked very nicely to make an announcement about hallway behavior to help her classmates remember school rules.



From the Principal

Mrs. Lea Goldstein 🦠

3″0ລ

Rabbi Shmuel Rabinowitz, Rabbi of the Western Wall and the Holy Sites of Eretz Yisrael, wrote that this parsha mentions Moshe working as a shepherd which hints at a trait that caused him to be chosen to lead the Jewish nation and liberate it from Egypt:

'Our teachers have said: Once, while Moshe was tending [his father -in-law] Yisro's sheep, one of the sheep ran away. Moshe ran after it until it reached a small, shaded place. There, the lamb came across a pool and began to drink. As Moshe approached the lamb, he said, 'I did not know you ran away because you were thirsty. You must be so exhausted!' He then put the lamb on his shoulders and carried it back. The Holy One said, 'Since you tend the sheep with such compassion, you shall be the shepherd of My flock, Israel'" (Exodus Raba 2:2). It is similarly told that David HaMelech herded his father's flocks and was also chosen for the monarchy due to his compassion.

While a leader should be courageous, visionary, wise, rational and even-handed, it is also essential that the leader be caring and considerate. Yet, there is one more trait that is revealed to us by this story of Moshe and the sheep: compassion. In order to have compassion for a sheep, one does not require much courage or even great wisdom. Compassion stems from a sensitive heart, a heart that senses emotions. The sheep that ran away from the rest of the flock caused the shepherd to chase him through a hot desert. Other shepherds might have gotten angry at the sheep, and frustrated. Moshe caught up with the sheep and discovered that the sheep ran away because of an essential need, and Moshe Rabbeinu's compassion helped him recognize that need.

If we pay attention to the wonderful language of the Midrash, our sages teach us something else about compassion. When Moshe saw the thirsty sheep, he took responsibility for the situation: "I did not know that you ran away because you were thirsty!" Moshe Rabbeinu took responsibility and understood that perhaps the escape occurred due to his negligence.

Leaders carry a great deal of responsibility, including that they must use their power correctly, efficiently, responsibly, ethically - and compassionately. Of course, parents are leaders as well. They serve as role models for their children, young and old, and they set the tone and make decisions that impact the character of the family home. As Rabbi Rabinowitz points out, the principle common to the leaders of nations, communities and families is that compassion must guide their steps.

Excerpted from: https://www.jpost.com/magazine/parshat-shemot-compassion-and-leader

Thank You to...

- ~ Dr. Baruch & Malkie Eisenberg for their \$500 donation.
- ~ R' Chaim & Dr. Elisheva Flink for their donation of \$1,000.
- ~ Dovid Meir & Nitzevet Miller for their \$50 donation to DHR's Sharon Polatoff Memorial Fund.
- ~ Marjorie & Earl Stone for their donation of \$404.67 in honor of their great nieces and nephews: Yitzy Dan, Meira Dan, Ruvy Dan, Rochie Dan, Chananel Dan, Shalom Ovadia Bashary, and Batya Bashary. They wrote "This past year has been difficult on so many levels and we hope that 2021 brings peace, happiness, love and good health to all!"
- ~ R' Dovid Roness for donating the proceeds (\$276) of his tzitzis and Chanuka sales to DHR!
- ~ Nati & Shirly Katz for their donation to DHR and for their kind words: "We continue to always be very grateful to DHR and to you personally,

Mrs. Goldstein, for the upbringing of the girls. I've said this before...DHR exceeds all other schools in חינוך. Both Shirly and I have zero doubts about that. And it's not just about our own girls; we see it in their friends and neighbors, who attended other schools too. We miss DHR!"

~ Mrs. Ayelet Ribakow and her mother, Mrs. Ellen Filreis, for donating a set of books that they wrote and published to the school!

