Derech HaTorah of Rochester The Path of Respect and Excellence O. & a Triple Play! From the Principal

October 23rd, 2020 ה' מר חשון, פרשת נח, תשפ"א

New month, Martians, G.O. & a Triple Play!



...ותלמוד תורה כנגד כולם



Lost & Found

Just a reminder that we have quite a few items in the DHR Lost and Found. If your child has misplaced anything over the last few weeks (or last school year), they may be able to find those items on the lost and found table we have set up in front of the gym. We will continue to have it set up each Thursday for the rest of the school year. Going forward if items are not claimed by dismissal on Friday we will donate these items.

Benching Superstars!



Shmuel Hanson Adina Herman Avigal Kosow Avigail Lagunov Liba Mittel Tova Serebrowski Dovi Shulman Aryeh Solomon Hannah Ulloa Mendel Vogel Mottel Vogel Fraida Yaras

Middos Menchen Stars of the Week

Chana C. (1st) - Chana ran to pick up some books on the floor! What a mitzvah!

Hirshy C. (2nd) - He was very respectful when correcting Mrs. Polatoff by asking it as a question in a respectful tone of voice. Avigayil L. (2nd) - She helped Mrs. Mammon during library time! Maya C., Chayala H., Pessi L. (8th girls) - Kudos to these girls for exhibiting positive leadership.



Mrs. Lea Goldstein

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'As we navigate the world, we live with an illusion that we are unaffected by the culture around us" (Lam, 2019). At a recent conference of the Association for Psychological Science, a presenter said, "Culture is like water for fish". Of course, as inhabitants of this world, we realize that we can't be impervious to culture and its effects. Yet, we must be so careful to protect ourselves and our children from the dangerous, poisonous currents of our modern world that are starting to look more and more like the culture that brought about the worst mass extinction event in history, the Mabul, the Great Flood. It was a generation when moral boundaries were removed; and, like with the city of Sodom, all that was perverse and evil was normalized.

In this week's Parsha, on the passuk ('ט, נה, ו', ט') "These are the generations of Noach, Noach...", the Torah compliments Noach, but also subtly criticizes him. Noach was a Tzaddik, but he essentially kept to himself. He was steadfast and was unaffected by his generation, but he also failed to motivate and inspire those around him. Noach was a righteous man, "calm in the face of turbulent waters, withstanding incredible social pressures. Yet Noach stood alone, floating on his ark, floating on his island, forming no relationships, forging no change" (Kahn, 2020).

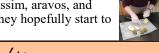
Noach was commanded to build the huge Ark, which, if you run the numbers, seems to have had about a million cubic feet of space. It was certainly a marvel of engineering and a monstrosity that attracted a lot of attention. According to the Midrash, it took Noach 120 years to build it; years that were supposed to have been spent trying to convince the people of the generation to repent from their evil ways. It's tragic that with over a century of building time on his hands, he could not, or did not, influence a single person of his generation to change. Thus, one of the many lessons we learn from this parsha, is that Hashem wants us to remain kedoshim, holy, pure people, but to also try to positively influence those who are stumbling.

Lam, Rabbi L. (2019). Torah.org > torah-portion > dvartorah-5780-noach Kahn, Rabbi Ari (2020). Aish.com. https://www.aish.com/tp/i/moha/48909017.html

Wery Early Sukkas Prep!



Mr. Anderson is utilizing our STEM lab greenhouse windows to plant and grow hadassim, aravos, and esrogim. We'll send updates as they hopefully start to grow.

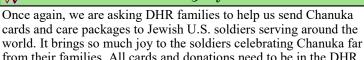


Quick Reminders...

~Please send an extra mask for your child. We have had many students come in for additional masks throughout the day and although we are happy to accommodate them, we are starting to run low on child-size masks.

~Please make sure that your child has a water bottle in school every day

Chanuka Packages for Soldiers



from their families. All cards and donations need to be in the DHR office by November 22nd in order to have enough time to reach the soldiers by the first night of Chanukah. To participate, please send your packages of home-baked goods, cards, toiletries, etc. to school over the next few weeks. Let's brighten the lives of our soldiers!

Mazel Tov to ...

Shmuel Yaakov Rosenzweig on becoming a Bar Mitzvah! Nossi & Sarit (Polatoff) Burger (class of 2013) on the birth of a baby