

Derech HaTorah of Rochester

The Path of Respect and Excellence J

June 4th, 2021 כ"ד סיון, פרשת שלח, תשפ"א

1st Grade Learn about Money through Ice Cream!

Our 1st grade learned about money management through ice cream! Each student was given some "money" to "buy" different toppings for their ice cream! Not only did they learn how to budget and how to get the most out of their money, but they also got to enjoy the delicious ice cream sundaes that they made!



4/5 Girls' Birchas Yaakov Performance

The 4/5 girls did a phenomenal job memorizing Birchas Yaakov with motions and translations (which is quite a feat!!) and then sharing it in a beautiful performance! Each of the

girls truly shone with her unique talents and they all enjoyed sharing their accomplishments with their families! Thank you to their wonderful Morah, Mrs. Ayelet Ribakow, for bringing Birchas Yaakov to life.



4/5 Girls' Simple Machine Project

The girls did a great job on their Science project. They were instructed to use at least four of the six simple machines to make a complex machine that would make an object move. It was great to see the variety of original machines that were constructed.



Masmidei Hasiyum

Our 4-8th grade boys participated in a special Masmidei HaSiyum program to learn Mishnayos לעילוי נשמת those who lost their lives in the Lag BaOmer disaster in Meron. Our students picked one perek

of Mishnayos to finish by the Shloshim, and we had 100% participation. We are very proud of our boys' learning, and their compassion for and connection to Klal Yisrael.



Middos Menchen Stars of the Week

Binyamin S. (K) - Binyamin was such a great help! He started to pick up the garbage in the classroom without being asked! **Simcha H. (6/7B)** - Simcha noticed that the janitor has been out

sick and that the trash bins in his class, the office, and a few other classes were overflowing. So, during his recess, Simcha took the initiative to change as many trash cans as he could! Thank you!



Calendar

- ~ Mon., June 7: NYS Science Testing & Science Live Presentations
- ~ Tues., June 8: Kindergarten Zoo Trip (9:30-12:30)
- ~ Fri. June 11 at 11:30 am: MSG Production don't miss the premiere of Secrets of the Past! (for women and girls ages 7 & up)
- ~ Wed. June 16: Teacher Appreciation Picnic (11:30 12:30)
- ~ Mon., June 21: K Graduation & 1st grade Chumash Celebration (event begins at 9:00 am)
- ~ Mon., June 21: 8th Grade Graduation (7:30 pm)
- ~ Tues., June 22: Last day of School (11:30 a.m. dismissal)

From the Principal

Mrs. Lea Goldstein 🧖

This week's principal's letter is dedicated in honor of our amazing Middos program...and its mastermind, Mrs. Miriam Mammon. We are so fortunate (as one of only a few schools in the country) to have a dedicated, unique, evolving program that emphasizes middos tovos and proper behavior and hashkafos.

I am also excited about the upcoming unit, called "Derech Eretz at a Simcha"! I can probably speak for all of us when I describe the experience of looking around at a bris and seeing elderly people standing while children take all the seats. Or, we've seen children stuffing pockets with candy, even if there isn't enough for others. We've even heard children talking and screaming while the ba'al simcha is speaking.

In the words of R' Shraga Simmons (https://www.aish.com/sp/pg/The-Art-of-Character-Perfection.html), we all dream of achieving personal greatness and of living in a world filled with beauty and wisdom. Yet, this seems so difficult to achieve. We lose our tempers, creating strife. We overindulge and later regret it. We put down others – and lower ourselves. The result is a negative self-esteem that radiates negatively toward others and spews negativity into the world. How do we get out of this destructive loop?

The Jewish solution is Tikkun HaMidos – fixing one's character traits. The Hebrew word midos (character traits) literally means "measure," i.e. each of our traits needs to be meted out properly and within limits. For example, it is not "compassionate" to let a killer go unpunished and be a menace to society. Nor is it "kind" to allow a child to play with fire, however attractive and interesting it may appear.

Correcting one's defects is the very reason our soul is sent to this world. We are each born with a unique mix of abilities, inclinations, circumstances and traits to correct. Some of us are naturally more irritable, others more calm. Some are arrogant, others humble. Some are greedy, others generous. By improving our characters, we become kinder, more compassionate, holier people.

So, hopefully, our children will continue on the path of improving their middos and taking these important (and entertaining) middos lessons to heart.

Middle School Finals Schedule

Grade:	Subject:	Date:	Time:
6/7 Boys	Social Studies	6/14/2021	12:45-2:15
6/7 Boys	ELA	6/15/2021	12:45-2:15
6/7 Boys	Math	6/16/2021	11:00 - 12:00
6/7 Boys	Science	6/17/2021	1:30-3:00
6/7 Boys	Farher	6/21/2021	10:00-10:40
6/7 Girls	Social Studies	6/14/2021	12:45-2:15
6/7 Girls	ELA	6/15/2021	10:00-11:25
6/7 Girls	Math	6/16/2021	1:45-3:00
6/7 Girls	Science	6/17/2021	11:50-1:30
8th Boys	Social Studies	6/14/2021	11:50-12:45
8th Boys	Science	6/15/2021	12:45-2:15
8th Boys	Math	6/16/2021	11:00 - 12:00
8th Boys	ELA	6/17/2021	1:30-3:00
8th Boys	Farher	6/21/2021	10:40-11:15
8th Girls	Social Studies	6/14/2021	12:45-2:15
8th Girls	Math	6/15/2021	2:25-3:45
8th Girls	Science	6/16/2021	1:30-2:50
8th Girls	ELA	6/17/2021	12:45-2:15

