



# DIVREI YOSEF

דברי יוסף  
Volume 21, Issue 10

**Candle lighting : 4:22 PM**

ח' כסלו תשפ"ב

**Havdalah: 5:21 PM**

**November 12, 2021**

**243 E. FRISCH COURT, PARAMUS, NJ 07652**

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Nov 13:** Havdallah Program for EC, 1st & 2nd (6:30pm-7:45 pm@ BPY)
- Nov 16:** Mommy and Me (10:00 am @ BPY)
- Nov 18:** 3rd Grade Trip (Liberty Science Center)
- Nov 21:** Parent Teacher Conferences (Via Zoom)
- Nov 23:** 1st Grade Trip (Society of Illustrators)
- Nov 24:** 2:00 pm Dismissal / PTO Bake Sale
- Nov 25-26:** Thanksgiving break
- Nov 28:** 1st night of Chanukah
- Nov 29:** Olive oil press (Early childhood)
- Nov 29:** Dedication of Oma's OT Room
- Nov 29-Dec 2:** ALL SCHOOL 3:30 pm dismissal (aftercare till 4:30pm)

**11.8** Learning Is dedicated by Marla & Saadia Shapiro to commemorate the yearzeit of Marla's father Yosef Chaim ben Avraham Shamai Feigenbaum, z"l, beloved great grandfather of Grace (5), and MJ (3) Malka

**11.9** Learning is dedicated by the Chester family in prayer of a complete בני ישראל along with all the other חולים of רפואה

**11.11** Brenda and Stan Goldstein are sponsoring today's learning in memory of their parents, Jacob & Jolan Goldstein and Naomi & Bernard Goldsmith. They are the beloved grandparents of BPY parents, Stacy and Seth Goldstein and great-grandparents of BPY students, Collin (8), Rowan (5) and Brecken (3) Goldstein. We know their neshomot are in the highest place in shamayim!

FAMILIES CAN DEDICATE A DAY OF LEARNING IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE, IN HONOR OF A SPECIAL OCCASION, OR IN THE MERIT OF A SPEEDY RECOVERY THROUGH OUR PARNAS HAYOM PROGRAM. FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS AND OTHER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE CONTACT DEVELOPMENT AT [GIVING@BENPORATYOUSEF.ORG](mailto:giving@benporatyoosef.org) OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.BENPORATYOUSEF.ORG](http://WWW.BENPORATYOUSEF.ORG)

Re-enrollment forms for 2022-2023 will be sent out the week of November 29th and will be due December 15.

## PTO CORNER

Over the last few weeks, parents of EC and 1st grade had an opportunity to meet and connect with other parents in their child's grades at outdoor parent minglers organized by the PTO. We were so happy to meet lots of new BPY families! Thank you to the Litwack, Dayan, and Noll families for hosting.

## PARASHAT TOLDOT BY DR.SAMANTHA KATZ SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Deceit, jealousy, and father-in-law/ son-in-law tension all are part of the family drama that unfolds in this week's parashah. Lavan, antagonist-in-chief of ויצא, sows ill-will among his family members. United in their love for each other, Yaakov and Rachel successfully rise above the evils of Lavan's house. Two personality traits, the kindness of Rachel and the perseverance of Yaakov, propel our Av and Em from Lavan's sinister home to a lifestyle dedicated to Hashem. Both of these are traits that we emphasize daily at BPY. As we well know, Yaakov and Rachel fall in love and plan to marry, yet on their wedding day Lavan tricks Yaakov into marrying Rachel's older sister, Leah. Rashi explains that Yaakov had given special signals to Rachel which she could use to identify herself at their wedding.

When Rachel realizes that her father intends to wed Leah to Yaakov, she shares these signals with her sister. Rashi indicates that she does this to spare Leah of the complete humiliation she would have suffered at her wedding day. In this singular act of self-sacrifice, Rachel prioritizes the dignity of her sister above her own happiness.

Rabbi Tandler describes that as a reward for the kindness that Rachel shows, Hashem listens to Rachel's pleas on behalf of Bnei Yisrael. The only one of our Imahot not to be buried in Me'arat Hamachepalah, Rachel finds her final resting place along the route that Bnei Yisrael travel during Galut Bavel. In ספר ירמיהו, Perek לא pasuk יד, we encounter Rachel weeping bitterly for Bnei Yisrael. Hashem tells her that as a reward for the kindness she demonstrates, Bnei Yisrael will return to Eretz Yisrael. More recently, Rabbi Jonathan Ziring describes that this very image, of Rachel as a mother caring for her exiled children, inspired Emma Lazarus to depict the Statue of Liberty as the mother of exiles in her famous poem "The New Colossus."

While Rachel models kindness, Yaakov demonstrates tremendous perseverance. First he spends seven years working arduously to earn Rachel's hand in marriage. Despite the intense physical labor he performs, these seven years feel like only a few days. Lavan presents Leah to Yaakov and then demands an additional seven years of work for Leah. Rashi emphasizes that Yaakov again completes his work in good faith, even though he has just been deceived.

At BPY, teachers integrate the messages of kindness and perseverance in their daily lessons. Through fifth grade discussions of R.J. Palacio's Wonder, fourth grade research projects about disabilities, and eighth grade letters written to the mother an Israeli victim of terror, the students contemplate the importance of treating each other with warmth and respect. Each day, the students tackle academic challenges as they synthesize new knowledge and practice recently-acquired skills. Teachers often speak about the perseverance and grit needed to succeed academically. As they grow, may our children always approach the world with the kindness of Rachel and the perseverance of Yaakov.

**Parashah Corner** פינת הפרשה

**Questions to ask your children about  
parashat hashavua on Shabbat**

**By: Rav Acoca - Any questions or comments please email Rav Acoca**

**Vayetze - וַיֵּצֵא**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the name of this week's Parashah?</li> <li>2. What does Vayetze mean?</li> <li>3. Who left?</li> <li>4. Which place did Yaakov leave?</li> <li>5. Where did Yaakov go?</li> <li>6. What happened in the middle of Yaakov's trip?</li> <li>7. What did Yaakov do?</li> <li>8. What happened in that place?</li> <li>9. What did Yaakov see in the dream?</li> <li>10. Who was also in the dream?</li> <li>11. What did Hashem tell Yaakov in the dream?</li> <li>12. How did Yaakov feel going down to Charan?</li> <li>13. Where did Yaakov stop on the way?</li> <li>14. Who was around the well?</li> <li>15. Why were the shepherds there?</li> <li>16. Whom did Yaakov meet there?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why did Yaakov leave his parents' home in Be'er Sheva?</li> <li>2. Where did Yaakov spend 14 years studying Torah?</li> <li>3. Where did Yaakov stop to pray? Why?</li> <li>4. What did Yaakov see in his dream?</li> <li>5. What did Hashem promise Yaakov?</li> <li>6. What did Yaakov promise when he woke up?</li> <li>7. What did Yaakov find when he arrived in Charan?</li> <li>8. What did Yaakov do single-handedly that usually required an entire group of shepherds?</li> <li>9. Who did Yaakov meet at the Be'er?</li> <li>10. Who was her father? How was he related to Yaakov's mother, Rivka?</li> <li>11. What deal did Yaakov make with Lavan?</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

**Parashah Answers**

1. Vayetze 2. And he left 3. Yaakov left 4. Yaakov
5. left Be'er Sheva 6. To Charan 7. The sun set 8. He
9. Yaakov saw angels going up and down a ladder
10. Hashem 11. That He will protect him 12.
13. Worried 14. By a well 15. Shepherds 16. To give
- water to their sheep 16. Yaakov met Rachel

1. To escape from Esav and to find a wife. 2. In the Yeshiva of Shem VaEter. 3. At Har HalMoriyah, the location of Akedat Yitzchak and the future location of the Beit Hamikdash. The sun miraculously set early to force Yaakov to stop there. 4. A Sulam (ladder) stretching from the ground to Shamayim. Malaachim (angels) were going up and going down. Hashem was on top of the ladder. 5. Yaakov and his children will inherit Eretz Yisrael, and Hashem will protect him wherever he goes. 6. This location will become a house for Hashem, and Yaakov will give Maaser (1/10) from everything he earns. 7. Shepherds and three flocks of sheep waiting around a Be'er (well). There was a large boulder on the mouth of the well. 8. He removed the large boulder from upon the mouth of the well. 9. Rachel 10. Rachel's father was Rivka's brother, Lavan. 11. Yaakov would work for Lavan for seven years for the rights to marry Rachel.



# VETERANS DAY



# EARLY CHILDHOOD

How do we know that fall is here? Lucky for us we have the woods right behind our school to explore! During our hike we noticed that nature, animals, and people are all preparing for the colder season. We cannot wait to further explore and observe our woods many more times throughout the school year.



**REMINDER!** PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR SCRIP ORDER BY THE 1ST OR THE 15TH OF THE MONTH. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE REVISED OUR VENDOR LIST. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT **RUTH WISEMAN** IN THE BUSINESS OFFICE AT [RUTHWISEMAN@BENPORATYOSEF.ORG](mailto:RUTHWISEMAN@BENPORATYOSEF.ORG) THANK YOU!

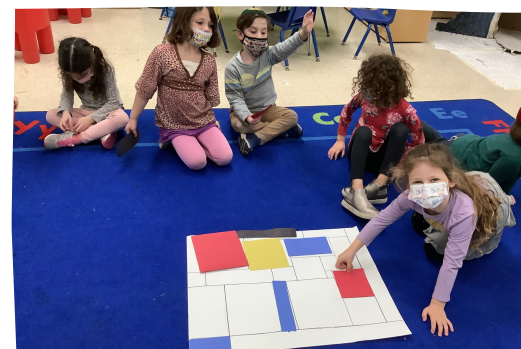


## EARLY CHILDHOOD

Some artists paint people and others paint landscapes. However, Piet Mondrian has a very different style of painting. The children in Gan Chaverim learned all about abstract art and Piet Mondrian's paintings. We searched for shapes in Mondrian's paintings and noticed all the squares and rectangles. We also noticed that Mondrian only uses primary colors. As a class, we created our own

Mondrian painting. We took a large piece of paper with black perpendicular lines forming several squares and rectangles. Each child placed a colored rectangle or square on the matching shape.

When we were done, we had our own version of a Mondrian painting! After we had become very familiar with Piet Mondrian's painting style, we decided to create unique chanukiyot in the Mondrian style.



## 2ND AND 5TH GRADE CHAVRUTA PROGRAM

What a fabulous launch to our Big Brother/Big Sister program at BPY! Beginning with an ice-breaker activity, our 5th grade leaders taught our 2nd graders the halachot of Chanukah and created and played a Kahoot! together. What a great community - building launch to this new initiative. Kol hakavod to our 5th graders! BPY is lucky to have our very own Morah Shirli and Rav Cochav leading this special program!

## 3RD GRADE

The third graders completed their first realistic fiction writing unit! In this unit students learned about realistic fiction and what a RF story includes.

Students wrote their own stories and this week had the chance to read each others stories before the end of their day!



Thank you to our families who sponsored middle school Mishmar  
Levy Family: 11/11



# MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE



Ben Porat Yosef's science program aims to nurture and broaden the curiosity inherent in every child. The science program facilitates in our students a deep awareness of the world and an opportunity to engage in inquiry based, hands-on STEM learning. Each year the students systematically cycle through the various branches of science. Year by year the complexity of the material increases as their skills develop. Through scientific exploration and guided instruction, students gain a strong science foundation and have a multitude of opportunities to apply their learned skills in meaningful ways that will spark their curiosity and motivate them to take action. Whether studying about atomic behavior, population dynamics, or evolution, our middle school science classes this fall have been abuzz with students excited to learn and explore.

In science class, our middle school students actively engage in the practice of inquiry and engineering design as they create scientific meaning through doing. Starting in elementary school, students are accustomed to utilizing the stream and wood ecosystem adjacent to school during science class. In middle school, the students continue this tradition but take their fieldwork to the next level. Led by Mr. Chombock this fall, the 6th grade students spent their first science unit studying ecology and population dynamics. As a culminating project for the unit, students were tasked with designing and building their own living ecosystems. Grounded by their understanding of ecological principles such as carrying capacity, food web dynamics, and fluctuations in birth/death rates, students are building these self-sustaining ecosystems using organisms and materials collected from the woods. Some ecosystems that are currently in the works include an aquatic tank filled with minnows and mollusks collected from the stream and a terrestrial ecosystem filled with such fun invertebrates as springtails, pill bugs, and earthworms.

The 7th grade class has been diving into the world of chemistry and physics as they explore the concept of energy and energy transformation. This unit represents an ideal opportunity for students to improve their understanding of experimental design as they engage in a myriad of different lab explorations in the middle school chemistry lab. Some highlights from the class include blowing up balloons with thermal expansion, investigating the difference in atomic movement of hot versus cold substances, and exploring the phenomenon of sublimation through observations of (and fun with!) dry ice. As a culminating activity for the unit, students are designing their own controlled experiment in order to answer a question that they have about some topic of energy introduced in the class. The students will be tasked with writing a formal lab report that will analyze the data they collect from their experience and will then have to use this evidence to support or refute their hypothesis. In a fortuitous coincidence, 5th graders are also designing experiments with Morah Jean and our 5th and 7th grade students will have the opportunity to share their work with each other in a BPY science conference after Thanksgiving break.

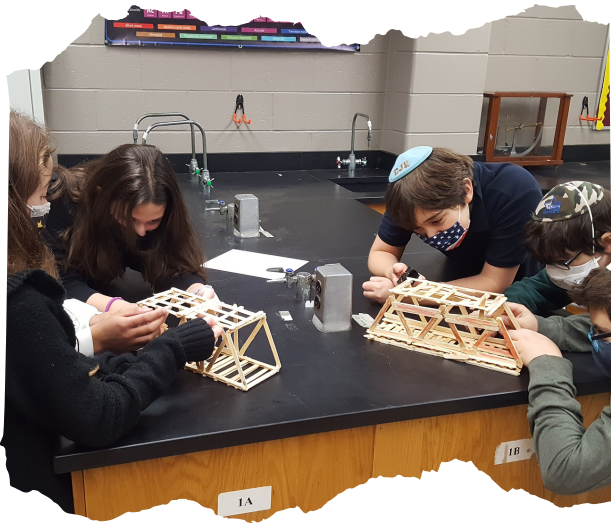
The 8th graders are quickly becoming adept lab technicians as they are guided through the learning of the lab skills necessary to prepare specimens for use in biology lab work. In the picture above, you can see the students cleaning deer bones that they collected in the BPY woods (there are soooo many deer out there). In the evolution unit, these bones will provide an invaluable resource as the students explore the concept of homologous structures and gain an awareness of the importance of skeletal structures in informing scientists about phylogenetic relationships among animals. In addition, the students have been learning how to preserve deceased organisms so that they can be utilized for dissections. The dissection business is honestly quite toxic and cruel to animals. Having the students "recycle" already deceased animals provides the students with the same opportunity for scientific learning, but in a manner that is substantially more humane and environmentally friendly.

Each year we look forward to hearing about our former students' science successes in high school and how they so easily "aced" their 9th grade biology course. We look forward to the near future when we will be able to invite alumni who have become doctors and scientists to speak to our students about how their love of science informed the direction of their life and their passion for their work.



# STEM CREATIONS AND COMPETITIONS

In Middle School, students have an opportunity to participate in a variety of electives that allow them to discover the many components of Multiple Intelligences. 6th, 7th and 8th graders enjoy coming together to explore their interests and passions. This year we are proud to add an engineering elective to our plethora of options. A special thank you to Teach NJ and the Board of Education for helping BPY participate in this year's STEM Grant for nonpublic schools. Ms. Mauna Trivedi, from Clifton High School meets with the students each week to work on their engineering elective. The students started off the year with a bridge building challenge. Using popsicle sticks of varying sizes and lots of glue, the students have been working on designing and building the sturdiest bridge possible. Students cannot wait to test the strength and durability of their bridges!



## FRIENDSHIP BENCHES

BPY's eighth-graders kicked off our VeAhavta LeReiacha Kamocha initiative, with the creation of friendship benches. They decorated the benches with quotes about friendship and kindness as well as colorful drawings and patterns.

Friendship benches are designed to help students during recess. At times, students get stuck looking for a friend or a fun activity. Instead of feeling lonely, these students can sit on the buddy bench. This signals to others that these students are seeking someone to play with. Classmates can then come over and include the bench-sitters in their games and activities. Not only will these benches help our students during moments of insecurity and loneliness, but they will also spark discussions about empathy, community, and the need to look out for one another.

In order to add a layer of depth to this project, the eighth-graders discussed the friendship bench initiative began by the mother of Ido Avigal, a six-year-old boy from Sderot who was recently killed during the Guardian of the Walls conflict in Israel. In her son's memory, Shani Avigal launched a friendship bench initiative throughout Israel. At the suggestion of Morah Odelya Suissa, the eighth-graders wrote letters about the friendship benches that they created and send them to Shani Avigal. What a fun way to simultaneously focus on empathy, our connection to Eretz Yisrael, and our writing skills.



## RAV ACOCA ON TEFILLAH

This past week in 4th grade Tefillah, Rav Acoca, our Rav Beit Hasefer had the opportunity to work one on one with Avigail Shicly when she inquired about which Berachah to recite for the 9th blessing of the Amidah. It means the world to Rav Acoca when students to delve deeper into his teachings!



## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Morah Shulamis Krause is on our dedicated and talented Learning Center team and has been gracing our hallways for the past 8 years! She has her bachelors degree in special education and a Masters degree in a reading specialist. She loves all things literacy - so she enjoys getting to talk about words, spelling, and making connections between words. Some of her favorite learning activities are word ladders, choral and echo reading, and interactive writing. Since Shulamis works with small groups and also in the classroom, she can support students in transferring their skills to independent use. She loves getting to know each student and figuring out their individual strengths, so she can approach learning in the way that's best suited for them and also identify areas that may need improvement. BPY is honored to spotlight Shulamis and we are grateful to have her part of our BPY community!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

BEN PORAT YOSEF

## MAGIC SHOW

AND HAVDALLAH  
COME IN PAJAMAS

NOV 13 | BEN PORAT YOSEF  
6:30PM - 7:45PM

GRADES 1-2

Email [pto@benporatyosef.org](mailto:pto@benporatyosef.org) for more details.

Adults must show proof of vaccination. Masks required for all adults and children.




Join our monthly  
Tanakh adult education  
program featuring

RABBI HAYYIM  
ANGEL

### "WRESTLING WITH ANGELS"

A STUDY OF BERESHIT  
CHAPTER 32



Tuesday, November  
16h, 2021  
@ 8 PM  
Join us on Zoom,  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5413950938>

BEN PORAT YOSEF  
EARLY CHILDHOOD

## GLOW IN THE DARK P'JAMMING

HAVDALLAH PARTY  
COME IN PAJAMAS

NOV 13 | BEN PORAT YOSEF  
6:30PM - 7:45PM

\* CRAFT PROJECTS \* BEDTIME SNACKS TO GO \*  
\* MUSICAL HAVDALLAH \* SONGS AND STORIES \*

MAGIC SHOW FOR GRADES 1-2

Email [pto@benporatyosef.org](mailto:pto@benporatyosef.org) for more details.

Adults must show proof of vaccination. Masks required for all adults and children.



You're Invited!  
It's time to press play.



Fun with friends. New adventures.  
Making a difference. You're ready to go.

Taste of Teanek Girl Scouts  
November 14th  
3:00PM - 5:00PM Teanek Rodda Center-A facial mask is required

Looking for girls that are new to Girl Scouts in Kindergarten-4th grade and caregivers in Teanek. You are invited to participate in a "Taste of Teanek Girl Scouts"! You will learn some Girl Scout Traditions, make a swap, make a craft, and participate in a STEM activity!

Adults will learn about leadership opportunities. You only need to have passion and enthusiasm for helping girls learn new things, no prior Girl Scouting experience required.

For further information, please email Dorothy Bling at [dbling@gsnorj.org](mailto:dbling@gsnorj.org) or call me at 973-248-8200.

Looking forward to meeting you and having fun on 11/14!

[www.gsnorj.org](http://www.gsnorj.org) [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/gsnorj) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/gsnorj) [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/gsnorj) [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/gsnorj)


girlscouts  
of northern  
new jersey

### BERGEN COUNTY CHANUKAH TOY DRIVE

The Annual Chanukah Toy Drive is a unique opportunity to bring the joy of Chanukah to thousands of Jewish children and a terrific way to involve your children in the mitzvah of charity.

**What to Donate:**  
New, unwrapped toys and gifts for children and teens:  
games, sports equipment, make-up sets,  
costume jewelry, craft activities,  
books, dolls, Legos, puzzles,  
purses, gift cards, scrip, etc.  
(please remove price tags if possible)

**Where to Donate:**  
SCHOOL LOBBY  
DROP-OFF BOX



Now Through  
November 15, 2021

For a complete list of the 18 receiving organizations, drop-off locations, participating stores and coupons please log on to our website:  
[www.bctoydrive.com](http://www.bctoydrive.com)

Like us on Facebook and post pictures of your family participating in this mitzvah:  
Bergen County Chanukah Toy Drive

BEN PORAT YOSEF PTO

## Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale

Wednesday, November 24th  
8AM - 2PM

Drop off delicious, NUT FREE, pre-packaged & labeled goodies on Tuesday, November 23rd from 8am-4:30pm.  
Email us for late night/alternative drop off options.  
Check your email for baking sign up sheet & kashrut guidelines.

\$1 - \$5 certified nut free/gluten free options available  
Students grades 1-8 will get a chance to purchase during school  
Payment options: Cash - Check - Venmo - Zelle - PayPal




MESIBAT TOSHBA

We are delighted to invite you to your child's Mesibat Torah She Be'al Peh. We are celebrating the fact that Kita Gimel is learning Mishnah for their very first time!

We are also celebrating their introduction to Rash's commentary and are excited for what lies ahead this year.

Doors open at 5:15 PM  
3A DEC 8: 5:30 PM-6:30 PM  
3B DEC 15: 5:30 PM-6:30 PM

In person at BPY  
Vaccine card must be presented or uploaded prior to the event  
Everyone must be masked


### Join the BPY Book Club

Stimulating Discussions  
BPY Parents, Grandparents and Friends  
Meeting in-house and Zoom  
Flexible Scheduling

Recent choices: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine  
A Gentleman in Moscow  
Anxious People  
Oona out of Order

Currently reading: One, Two, Three by L.Frankel for 12/11/21

Please contact Leebie Mallin  
[leebiemallin@gmail.com](mailto:leebiemallin@gmail.com)



For infant to age 2

## BPY'S MOMMY & ME

WITH MORAH JESSICA  
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR &  
MUSIC WITH MORAH FAIGE

OPEN TO THE  
ENTIRE COMMUNITY!

Tuesday,  
November 16th  
10:00AM  
(Rain date TBD)

Storytime

Snack  
Music

Outdoors

RSVP required  
Space is limited!  
[admissions@benporatyosef.org](mailto:admissions@benporatyosef.org)




Advertise and support our school! Contact Ruth Wiseman for details at [ruthwiseman@benporatyosef.org](mailto:ruthwiseman@benporatyosef.org)



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My Healing and Harmony

### MASSAGE FOR WOMEN

BY FAIGE DRAPKIN, LMT

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