

Bais Yaakov e-Newsletter Upper Elementary

Parshas Beha'aloscha

Our alumnae say it best... Even though the student body has grown exponentially and the décor in the buildings and teaching methodologies have been updated and modernized, the Bais Yaakov student is still receiving the same quality experience as those who came before her. A.K., Class of '08

SHEMONA ESREI SIYUM

Our **Third Grade** and their mothers had a most memorable experience at a *siyum*, marking the girls' completion of learning *Shemona Eisrei*. The mothers enjoyed davening with their daughters, hearing them recite each *bracha*. The *moros* explained that *tefillah* is the key to opening any door in life and distributed key necklaces as a momento of this special occasion. Rabbi Stein shared that this *siyum* is not a conclusion, but a beginning of a lifetime of prayer. After the davening, the girls performed lovely songs of *Tefillah*. The event wrapped up with refreshments in each classroom.



Chain of Amen

Morah Judy Stein's Third Grade class learned about the power of answering *amen* to a *bracha* and how valuable doing so is to *Hashem*. Since *Pesach*, the girls have been counting the times they answer *amen* to each other's *brachos*. The girls earned a "Gem Link" for every five times they said *amen*, creating a beautiful chain representing their connection to this special *mitzvah*. By the end of *Iyar*, the girls had answered *amen* 6,975 times collectively! The chain of gems extended throughout the Third and Fourth Grade Hallways.



Heading West

The **Fourth Grade** reading groups have been learning about the United States' 19th century expansion. Each class participated in a play that recreated scenes from **Laura Ingalls Wilder's** stories, which the girls read in class. The girls solidified their understanding of the period by re-enacting the life and times of settlers trying to successfully stake a land claim in the Midwest in the 1800s. As they conclude this unit, the girls are preparing research projects on topics such as the California Gold Rush and the concept of Manifest Destiny, presenting them to the other classes.



Pirkei Avos

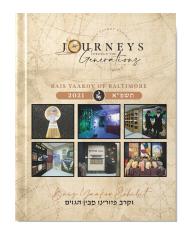
During the weeks between *Pesach* and *Shavuos*, the Upper Elementary has been studying *Pirkei Avos*. **Mrs. Chaya Hoffman**, our *Limudei Kodesh* Coordinator, has been sharing overviews of the main elements of each chapter with stories and songs. The girls recite the *ma'amarim* to their moros and earn beautiful flowers for the *Pirkei Avos* bulletin board. The program will culminate with an auction where the girls can also earn prizes based on the amount that they learned.



Meteorologist Visits Bais Yaakov The Third Grade is learning about weather, from rain to snow to hurricanes and much more. A highlight of this unit is a visit from a local meteorologist, Mr. Bill Lerner. Mr. Lerner shared first-hand experience on how weather is predicted and why we need to take extreme weather conditions seriously. The girls had the opportunity to ask their weather-related questions. Thank you, Mr.



Lerner for sharing your expertise with our students.



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