



# Shulamith Newsletter

## Parshat Va'eira

### What have you done for me lately?

In Parshat Va'eira we find Hashem ready to unleash the first plague on Egypt, the plague of Dam (blood).  
וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֱמַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן קַח מִטֶּבֶל וְנִטְהֵי־יָדְךָ עַל־מִימֵי מִצְרַיִם עַל־נְהַרְתָּם | עַל־יְאֲרֵיהֶם וְעַל־אֲגֻמֵּיהֶם וְעַל־כָּל־מְקוֹה מִימֵיהֶם וְיָהִי דָם בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וּבַעֲצִים וּבָאֲבָנִים:

(And Hashem said to Moshe, "Say to Aharon: Take your staff and hold out your arm over the waters of Egypt—its rivers, its canals, its ponds, all its bodies of water—that they may turn to blood; there shall be blood throughout the land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and stone.")

Rashi tells us that Aharon was the one who was commanded to bring this plague because the river had protected Moshe when he was placed into it as a baby. Moshe didn't bring this plague or the plague of frogs which both involved the Nile River. We learn an incredible lesson from Hashem about Hakarat Hatov from this. Moshe wasn't allowed to bring this plague because he was showing hakarat hatov to water, an inanimate object.

There is an incredible story about Rav Yisroel Gustman, a tremendous talmid chacham and Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva Netzach Yisrael in Yerushalayim. Rav Gustman had a small garden outside his office at the yeshiva and every day he would go out and water the plants. This was a very curious sight to the talmidim in the yeshiva who could not comprehend why the Rosh Yeshiva would be using his precious time for watering plants. He explained to his talmidim the following story. Prior to the onset of World War Two, he and Rav Chaim Ozer Grodzinski would take walks on shabbat afternoons while talking and learning. One week, as they were walking through the forest, Rav Grodzinski, uncharacteristically, began pointing out the different types of edible vegetation in the forest to Rav Gustman. An unorthodox lesson indeed, but Rav Gustman took the lessons of his rebbe as seriously as any Torah topic. When the War began, Rav Gustman had to escape into the forest, and it was there that he survived on the edible vegetation that his rebbe showed him. By watering the plants outside his office, he was demonstrating his Hakarat Hatov for the plants that saved his life.

We see how we need to show hakarat hatov to something as small as a plant or water. How much more so should we show it to Hashem and other people? When it comes to hakarat hatov, there is no such thing as,  
"What have you done for me lately?"

Shabbat Shalom!  
Natan Mandelbaum

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Rachel Mandler- January 5**

**Miri Weiss - January 17**

**Rachel Lavian - January 18**

**Tamara Schneider - January 19**

**Orly Adler - January 21**

**Avigail Cohen - January 21**

**Meira Solomon - January 23**

**Esther Marachli - January 23**

**Chava Sharf - January 24**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**January 15-16 Annual Book Fair**

**January 18-28 -Mid-Winter Vacation - NO SCHOOL**

**Mazel Tov Morah Liz Vanunu on the birth of a beautiful baby girl!**

**What's for  
lunch?**



### **15th**

Mac n Cheese  
Plain Pasta  
Sliced Veggies  
Tuna  
Fruit

### **16th**

Chicken Tenders  
Fries  
Sliced Veggies  
Egg Salad  
Fruit

### **17th**

Pancakes  
Home Fries  
Sliced Veggies  
Tuna  
Fruit

### **18th**

**Midwinter Vacation  
No School**



## K-8 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



**Shulamith**  
school for girls  
**Brooklyn**

The Only Religious Zionist Girls School  
The oldest girls yeshiva in North America

Our program provides an opportunity for students to grow physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally while in a safe and stimulating, frum environment.

**Refer a friend and become a Shulamith Ambassador! We offer a tuition discount when you refer a friend!**

STEM-E2K-Hands On Science-State of the Art Science Lab-Student Lounge-Field Trips-Library-Bat Mitzvah Program-In House Chef-Jewelry Design-Puppetry



[www.shulamithofbrooklyn.org](http://www.shulamithofbrooklyn.org)

60 West End Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11235

(718)338-4000



# Preschool News

Dear Parents,

In this week's Parsha, פרשת וארא, Hashem commands Moshe and Aharon to return to Pharaoh to tell him that it is Hashem who wants the בני ישראל to leave מצרים. Pharaoh demands proof that the request comes from Hashem. The girls learned about what happened when Aharon threw his staff on the ground and as Pharaoh was not impressed by this sign from Hashem, he still refused to let the Jewish people leave.

We learned that Hashem sent ten מכות. We learned that משה רבינו was told by Hashem that Aharon should be the one to put the stick in the water at מכת דם. Moshe learned to show הכרת הטוב (gratitude). He was thankful that the water had stayed calm when, as a baby, he was placed in a basket in the river. From this we learn that we, too, should show הכרת הטוב to people who help us.

We discussed that Aharon hit the river with his staff and the entire river turned into blood. Your daughters know how the מצרים reacted to this and what happened when they tried to take the water from the Jewish people.

We enjoyed learning about the מכה צפרדע. These were not little, harmless frogs. However, the moment the frogs were gone Pharaoh forgot how terrible they were and refused to let the Jewish people leave. We discussed the next five כנים: מכות - lice, ערוב - wild beasts, דבר - animal diseases, שחין - boils, and ברד - hail.

We are learning about Tu B'Shevat. We know about the שבעת המינים and that the Torah describes the Land of Israel as a good land "a land of.... vines, figs and pomegranates.... olives and sweet dates, and that is why we eat these food on Tu B'Shevat. We also eat a fruit that we have not eaten during the year so that we can say a "שהחינו" to thank Hashem for keeping us alive and healthy.

We continued reviewing the brachot we make on different foods and this week we concentrated on foods for which we say מזונות מיני. בורא מיני מזונות. We really enjoyed the pretzels, cookies and cupcakes we ate for snack.

We very much enjoyed our pre-Tu B'Shevat trip to the Hot Houses in the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens. We walked through a tropical forest, a desert, and other climatic zones. We saw various plants and flowers that grow in these regions. We were able to see coffee beans, chocolate plants, and medicine plants growing near to the ground, and some really tall trees, including banana trees. We also saw orange trees. It was very interesting to see firsthand the cycles of trees and plants. Morah took us to the aquatic hot house where we saw water lilies and she showed us the type of reeds that Miriam hid behind when she was watching baby Moshe in his basket in the river. Morah Caroline told us that one of her favorite exhibits is the little bonsai trees.

We continued with our Ezra Jack Keats author study. We learned that Ezra Jack Keats was very gifted and enjoyed writing and illustrating his own books. A number of his stories originated from his personal experiences and he would use collages to illustrate his work. We, too, decided to copy Keat's techniques and enjoyed designing collages to illustrate our own stories. These collages can be viewed in our classroom.

Wishing you a שבת שלום and please stay tuned for more news next week.

Morah Caroline

Morah Ahuva



# Preschool Pictures

**Pre1a visits the Botanical Gardens on Rosh Hodesh Shevat**





# Shulamith Snapshots

ביתנו created a beautiful tree together for Tu beshvat





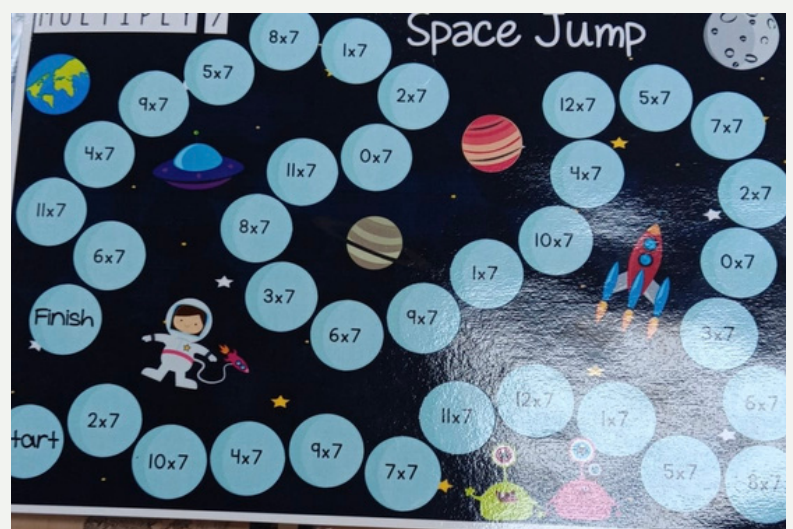
# Shulamith Snapshots

**Grade 2 finished their first unit of the reading program!**

**Kita gimmel learned Hagefen by making grape juice! We washed, squeezed, and filtered using grapes!**



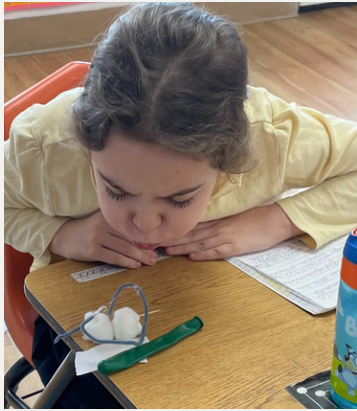
**Grade 3 played math games to reinforce their multiplication facts!**





# Shulamith Snapshots

**4th grade learning how to act out erosions and depositions!**



**3rd grade making smores to explore physical and chemical reactions!**





# Shulamith Snapshots

2nd grade pizza party in honor of completing the first part of our first reading curriculum!





*Look what's coming...*



מדל אדר דגים

4th-8th Grade Girls  
are invited to our annual

MELAVAH MALKAH

Motzai Shabbat February 10  
7:30-9:30pm

LET'S CELEBRATE  
CHODESH ADAR  
TOGETHER!

Marine Park Jewish Center  
3311 Avenue S



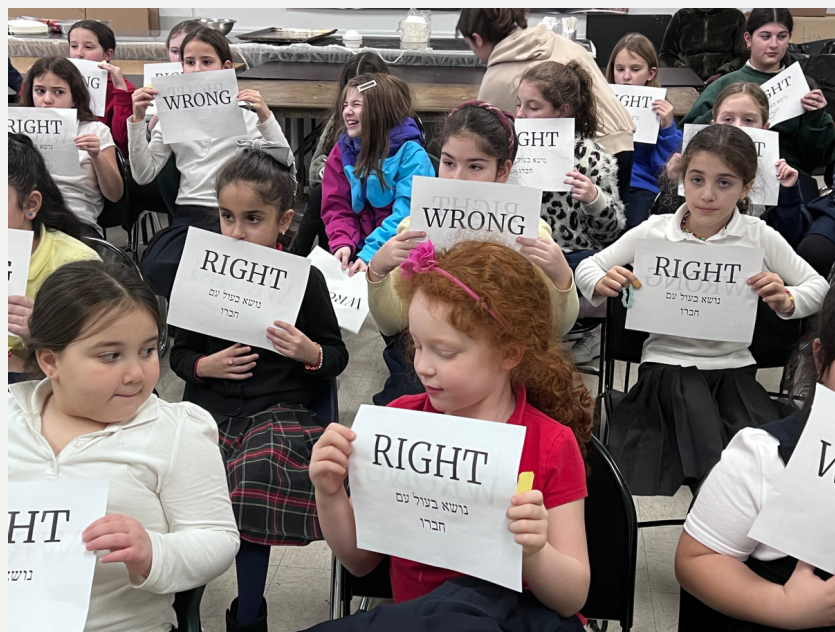


# Shulamith Snapshots

## Big Sister-Little sister Program!







Check out  
 our new  
 middah!!



what can you do to be נשא בעול?

**you can...**

- 1) Listen to others without interrupting.
- 2) Daven for the needs of others, when you daven for yourself.
- 3) Offer your help.
- 4) If you see an ambulance rushing by, say a perek of tehillim.
- 5) Include everyone, not just your friends.
- 6) Be respectful, to the needs of others.
- 7) Keep in mind the mitzvah of ואהבת אדם כחוק.
- 8) Daven and say tehillim for the חיים and our brothers and sisters in eretz yisroel.



My Daughter

\_\_\_\_\_  
displayed this Middah

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LETS FEEL FOR ONE ANOTHER WE ARE ALL SISTER & BROTHER!!



My Daughter

\_\_\_\_\_  
displayed this Middah

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LETS FEEL FOR ONE ANOTHER WE ARE ALL SISTER & BROTHER!!







Yay! It's back!

## Scholastic Book Fair at Shulamith

In memory of Marilyn Cohen, z'l

**Monday, January 15  
& Tuesday, January 16**

Scholastic is sending an awesome selection of children's books to Shulamith for a book fair, and each class will have a chance to come shop. Isn't browsing for books the best?

**Prices range from \$5 to \$20 per book.**

All proceeds go to Shulamith.

Buy great books and raise money for our school!

### Please volunteer!

It's a lot of fun, and we could really use your help!

If you can pitch in at the book fair, even just for an hour or two, please let us know!

Text **Tova Schneider** at 347.210.0004 on Whatsapp.



# Scholastic book fair is next week!!!



### More Bookjoy, less hassle—with **eWallet!**

This year, say *goodbye* to giving your kids crumpled bills and loose change...and *hello* to **eWallet**, a super-convenient, secure digital payment account, for the Scholastic Book Fair. Setting up an eWallet for your child empowers them to choose their own books and effortlessly check out during the Best. Week. Ever. at their school. And any leftover funds can be saved for future Fairs. Now, that's a win-win!



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Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started:

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