

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

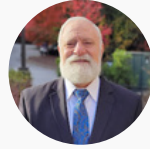
- **Play Cafe Night: POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER MIDTERMS**
- Monday–Thursday, January 15–18: Midterm Exams
- Friday–Monday, January 19–22: Midterm Break
- Tuesday, January 23: Second Semester Begins
- **UPDATED SAVE THE DATE:** February 9–10: Shabbaton!

MAZAL TOVS:

- Mazal Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Feldman on the birth of a great-grandson born to Yoni & Shaindy Blass.
- Mazal Tov to Shalom & Chaya (Halpern, '13) Roberts on the birth of a daughter.
- Mazal Tov to Yehuda & Tzipora (Deutsch, '17) Gross on the birth of a son.
- Mazal Tov to Gavi & Shana (Herscovici, '18) Boroosan on the birth of a son.
- Mazal Tov to Meechal Lovett (17) on her engagement to Danny Glick
- Mazal Tov to Rena Pollock, 9th Grade, on her sister's Bas Mitzvah.
- Mazal Tov to Gershon & Tzipora Revah (Neuberger, '14) on the birth of a daughter.

GA EDUCATION TAX CREDIT PROGRAM (SSO)

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From the Desk of Rabbi Avraham Shapiro

"וַיִּגְדַּל מֹשֶׁה וַיֵּצֵא אֶל אֶחָיו וַיִּרְאֵם בְּסִבְלוֹתָם..."

"Moshe matured and he went out to his brethren and he saw their suffering..."

The Ramban explains that when Moshe got older, because he had been taught that he was a Jew, he made the discrete decision to go out and see his brethren precisely because they were "his brothers."

In other words, despite the fact that Moshe had been raised as part of the Egyptian royal family and could have easily made himself oblivious to the plight of other Jews, it was important to Moshe Rabbeinu to seek out his compatriots and see how they lived.

The Netziv notes that even though Moshe was preoccupied with being a prince and profoundly involved with learning all kinds of wisdom; nevertheless, he left the palace specifically to connect with his Jewish brethren.

Moreover, the Meforshim point out that when Moshe went out, he was not simply an objective onlooker, but we are told "וַיִּרְאֵם בְּסִבְלוֹתָם" - he identified and empathized with their suffering (and the cruel treatment they received). This resulted in Moshe taking action against an evil Egyptian taskmaster in order to save the life of a fellow Jew.

Moshe's mindset and his actions teach us a foundational lesson for living a Jewish life. "וַיִּגְדַּל מֹשֶׁה" teaches us that to become a mature Jewish adult we must have concern and empathy for others, in particular we must have concern for our fellow Jews.

I was very impressed this week when I had the pleasure of meeting several rising ninth graders. One of the girls made a very big impact on me because she spoke about exactly what we learn from this Pasuk. This prospective Temima student described, very articulately, about how she left her comfort zone because she had empathy for others and saw the need to connect with some of the other students in her school.

The empathy and desire that we have expressed, since the war began for our brethren in Israel, for the soldiers in the IDF and for the kollel yungerlite who are learning in Eretz Yisrael is also a manifestation of what we learn from this episode from the life of Moshe Rabbeinu.

I am happy to let you know that just as Moshe saved his Jewish brother from the cruel Egyptian, our prayers and our donation of special armor to some soldiers actually saved one soldier's life.

A portion of the Tzedaka that was raised from our Tehillim-a-Thon went to buy special armor and helmets for a group of members of the IDF. One soldier who received these items was hit on his helmet by some shrapnel. Had he been wearing a standard IDF-issued helmet, he would likely have sustained a serious injury or more likely, passed away from this world. The fact that he was wearing the upgraded helmet, that the girls of Temima donated, saved his life. (please see the picture on the back page).

May HaShem give us the wisdom and ability to always have empathy for others and may we be Zoche to internalize this Middah Tova in our daily lives.

Good Shabbos to All!

Rabbi Avraham Shapiro

This Week at a Glance:

CHESSSED UPDATE!



As the end of first semester nears, Temima is EXPLODING with Chessed! Almost all students have already reached the 10-hour mark, and some even more. As we continue into the second semester, our students, along with their dedicated Chessed heads, will continue to create sparks and illuminate the lives of others.



What a great way to end a Chessed-filled week - fresh, steaming hot potato kugel!

GOOD
Shabbos!

DONATED HELMET SAVED A LIFE!

As Rabbi Shapiro mentioned in his Dvar Torah, one of the helmets donated through the proceeds of the Temima Tehillim-a-Thon saved a soldier's life! See below for a picture of the helmet and the soldier with Rabbi Shapiro's son. We cannot underestimate the power of the Chessed we do. May we continue to hear good news!



SEMINARY INTERVIEWS

This coming week, many of our seniors will be traveling up north for seminary interviews. We wish them much Hatzlacha!

