

Bais Yaacov Bnos Malka Newsletter

לעילוי נשמת יצחק עקיבא בן אהרן ז"ל

September 2023

Shabbos Rosh Hashana

שבת ראש השנה

תשרי תשפ"ג



Rosh Hashana and Shabbos

Chazal instituted a takana that when Rosh Hashana falls on Shabbos, we do not blow the shofar, out of concern that one might carry the shofar in a reshus harabbim and thereby be mechallel Shabbos. This is fascinating, given that the chance that someone would violate the issur d'oraysa is quite slim, and even if it were to happen, it would be an aveira b'shogeg. The fact that Chazal were mevatel the mitzva d'oraysa of tekias shofar for all of Am Yisroel for all time because of a far-fetched concern regarding an aveira b'shogeg demonstrates the tremendous chashivus of Shabbos. We should learn from this to take kedushas Shabbos particularly seriously.

Rav Asher Weiss shlit"א writes that this takana fits into the theme of Rosh Hashana itself – malchus Hashem. Accepting a king's malchus means not only listening to the king, but listening to his avadim. One shows honor to the king by respecting his ministers and representatives. When we subjugate ourselves to the Chazal and fulfill the issurim and takanos of Chazal, who were Hashem's close servants, that deepens our kabbalas ol malchus of HaKadosh Baruch Hu Himself.

Interestingly, the Meshech Chochma refers to our refraining from blowing the shofar on Shabbos as an "akeida ruchanit," a spiritual sacrifice comparable to akeidas Yitzchak. Rav Weiss explains this comparison based on the Chasam Sofer's statement that on one level, Yitzchak's nisayon was greater than that of Avraham. Avraham heard the tzivuy from Hashem Himself, whereas Yitzchak heard it from Avraham. Yitzchak had to trust his rebbi. Avraham's command was based, in a sense, on Torah SheBichtav, while Yitzchak's command was Torah SheBe'al Peh. Therefore, when we listen to Chazal and we don't blow shofar on Rosh Hashana, we emulate Yitzchak, who accepted "Torah SheBe'al Peh" fully, without question.

Our commitment to the mesora entails hesitation to embrace innovations in our tradition. It is true that sometimes there are innovations, but in general, we are not quick to change things. Historically, the innovations that have succeeded and have been productive are those that were sanctioned by gedolei Yisroel and the leading rabbonim of the generations. Those innovations that were rejected by the gedolim did not succeed. Perhaps the greatest example of an innovation in the last century is the Beis Yaakov movement. Most Orthodox women are now educated very differently than their great-great-grandmothers were. This is a revolution, a tremendous innovation. Sara Schneirer took the right approach. She approached various gedolim (the Chofetz Chaim, the Gerrer Rebbe, and others) to receive approval for her innovation and a bracha for its success. That is a classic example of a successful, productive innovation. Nevertheless, the general tendency to be wary of changes is an expression of our commitment to the mesora.

May we be blessed with a new year filled with nachas, health, growth, and bracha in all areas of our lives and our families' lives.

Have a wonderful Shabbos and Yom Tov!

Kesiva v' Chasima Tova,

Chana Ginsburg

The Divrei Torah have been adapted from the seforim by Rabbi Beinisch Ginsburg

Whats new at BYBM?

Dear Parents,

I just wanted to share with you the new happenings in BYBM, this year.

As you all know, we are privileged to welcome our new sganot- Rebbitzin Attra Waxman, (who is also our Rakezet Gannim), for grades 1-5, and Mrs Ricky Leybovich, (who is also our school psychologist), for grades 6-8. They have already made their presence felt, with their warmth, ready smiles, open door, and process oriented philosophy.

Additionally, we have a new program in school, which is that all the mechnachot will have specific hours in school where they will meet with their students, one at a time. Additionally, thanks to a government program called "Ofek Chadash, our teachers, in partnership with Hodaya Durlacher (our Rakezet Shiluv), also during specific hours in school, will be giving extra academic support to girls that need it.

The academic level of BYBM, already high, will now be stepped up even more, as our staff gets professional training from Mrs Batya Markowitz, who will be in BYBM 2 times a week to meet with members of the staff, and guide our already excellent teachers how to meet the needs of the girls who want and deserve enrichment. (Mrs. Markowitz is the director of the Shana Bet program in Michlalah)

Of course, our amazing Rikuzei Chevratim- Batya Jacobs, and Makie Yudin, are hard at work preparing for a year of special programming every month. Today was a wonderful and inspiring Elul/Rosh Hashana program for the older girls. The younger ones will have a program next week, IYH.

There are so many more great things to share with you- but for now- have a shana tova umesuka!

Chana Ginsburg

Menacheles

Kita Alef

The class learned the sounds for the letters Alef, Tav and Tet with the sound 'Ah'. They received a "Matanah Tabaat L'Shabbat", a ring for Shabbos to reinforce the sounds. Michal's father came to class to blow the shofar, it was very inspiring, thank you so much. The girls also prepared jelly 'adom'. They are beginning to read whole words, it is so exciting!



Kita Bet

The class dressed up to demonstrate giving Rosh Hashana greeting to two family members. In Teva class they learned the anatomy of the bee, and how it makes honey. Then they had some sweet apples and honey!



Kita
Gimmel
The girls
prepared
Rosh
Hashana
greeting
cards to
grace our
Yom Tov
tables.



Kitot Vav-Chet

The Upper grades had their first Peula Chevratit with a Kenes Teshuva this week. They heard inspiring and humorous words from Harav Zayid followed by an activity to focus their thoughts on preparing for the upcoming new year. A choir then sang to get the girls in the mood for a follow up Kumsitz.





