

Bais Yaacov Bnos Malka Newsletter

לעילוי נשמת יצחק עקיבא בן אהרן ז"ל

January 2024

Parshas B'Shalach

פרשת בשלח

שבט תשפ"ד



Bringing Weapons out of *Mitzrayim*

In the beginning of *Parshas Beshalach*, the Torah writes that *Bnei Yisroel* left *Mitzrayim* “חמשים” (*Shemos* 13:18). What does this word mean? Rashi quotes several explanations. One *pshat* is that they were carrying weapons. Rav Moshe Feinstein notes that it seems a bit strange that *Bnei Yisroel* were armed when they left *Mitzrayim*. Everything that had happened to them until then was *bederech neis*, completely miraculous. *Am Yisroel* was in the midst of the ultimate experience of *neis nigleh*, obviously miraculous events. Why would they bring weapons with them when they left *Mitzrayim*? *Hashem* was clearly going to fight the battles for *Am Yisroel*. Why would *Hashem* have told them to take weapons if they didn't need them?

Rav Moshe explains that this is a “*chiddush gadol*” that conveys an important message for *Am Yisroel* then and now. *Hashem* wanted to teach *Am Yisroel* that a *neis*, a miracle, is not limited only to when *Am Yisroel* does nothing and our enemies fall before us. *Am Yisroel* has to know that even when we put in the effort and we do our *hishtadlus*, even when we carry our weapons, all of our accomplishments and all of our success still come from *Hashem*. *Hashem* is the “איש מלחמה.” He is the one who fights our battles. *Hashem* wanted us to take our weapons with us so that when there would be a battle, we could make use of them, while still recognizing that our victory comes from *Hashem*. Even when we do fight and the victory does not appear to be overtly miraculous, we know that *Hashem* is guiding our success.

Sometimes, *Hashem* interacts with *Am Yisroel* through a *neis nigleh*, an overt miracle in which *Hashem* works outside the ordinary laws of nature. But most of the time, *Hashem* governs us through *neis nistar*, hidden miracles, in which *Hashem* works within the laws of nature. One of our challenges is to recognize that the natural events that we experience are really *neis nistar* governed by *Hashem*. In fact, one of the messages of *neis nigleh* is that all of nature is really from *Hashem* as well. If *Hashem* can change nature, that means *Hashem* controls nature. And if *Hashem* controls nature, that means when events and natural phenomena run “naturally,” they are really being governed by *Hashem*. For example, several times in history, *Hashem* caused the sun to stand still in the sky and not set normally. From these exceptional cases, we are supposed to appreciate that when the sun rises and sets normally, it is actually a *neis nistar* from *Hashem*.

With this *yesod* of *neis nistar* in mind, it seems to me that Rav Moshe here is developing a very deep idea. *Am Yisroel* is in the midst of a completely *neis nigleh* experience; they have just witnessed the *makkos*, including the ultimate *makka*, *makkas bechoros*. They are experiencing the Clouds of Glory and the Pillar of Fire guiding them as they leave *Mitzrayim*, and they will soon experience *krias Yam Suf*, the ultimate *neis nigleh*. And in the midst of that *neis nigleh* existence, *Hashem* begins teaching them the idea of *neis nistar*. As you leave *Mitzrayim*, take your weapons with you! That will teach that you have to do your *hishtadlus*. You're going to “fight.” Nevertheless, you must learn and know that all of your success is coming from Me.

Am Yisroel recognized that their entire existence depended on *Hashem*. They saw that in a very clear way. At that moment, at the beginning of *Yetzias Mitzrayim*, *Hashem* began the education process of teaching us about *neis nistar* as well. I think this is a deep message that comes out of Rav Moshe's explanation of this *posuk*.

We should all work on recognizing the *Yad Hashem* in the natural world. All of *teva* is really a *neis nistar* from *Hashem*!

Have a wonderful and peaceful Shabbos!

Chana Ginsburg

ב"בנות מלכה" מעשירים את השפה

את הפצחיה הפאת לא מפסיקים... משיכים לכתוב!

"בנות מלכה" כותבות וצומחות...

קראנו את הסיפורים היפים שהתלמידות היצירתיות שלנו כתבו בנושא: "הגעגועים לבית" וזה עשה לנו טעם לעוד.

אנו בטוחות, שכל שהתלמידות תכתבנה יותר כך הכתיבה שלהן תהיה עשירה, יפה ומעניינת יותר.

הפעם בחודש שבט בחרנו לכתוב -
"עלונים על אילנות"

התלמידות המוכשרות שלנו בחרו באילן וכתבו עליו טקסט מידע.

בנות מלכה
כותבות וצומחות





התלמידות קראו לפחות 2 מקורות על העץ שבחרו, והקפידו לכתוב עליו עובדות מדויקות. ופירוטו בטקסט: אזור גידולו, ציינו האם העץ נותן פרי ומהו הפרי. השימוש בעץ/בפרי... היכן העץ מוזכר במקורות. העץ או הפרי דומים ל.../ נמשלו ל... התוצרים המדהימים הוצגו בתערוכה מרשימה בשילוב "טעימות" של פרי העץ אותו הן בחרו.

יישר כח לתלמידות על ההשקעה הניכרת היטב בכל ביצוע, ולמורות העומדות מאחוריהן - תומכות מכוונות ומעודדות... בברכת "אילן אילן במה אברכך... שכל פירותיך יהיו כמותך" שנזכה בעז"ה תמיד לצמוח ולהצמיח ולהיות תמיד במצב של צמיחה, שגשוג ופריחה!

מעריכה, צופיה אקדס רכזת עברית

Bnos Malka continues to provide language enrichment opportunities throughout the year!

The girls created such fantastic written pieces about Yerushalayim that we couldn't let the opportunity pass to write more!

This time, in honor of Chodesh Shevat, the girls created "Alonim al Ilanot". Each student chose a type of tree to research and write about.

The girls chose two sources about their tree and wrote a piece detailing where the specific tree grows, whether it is a fruit bearing tree or not, and how that fruit is used.

They looked to see where in Torah sources the tree is mentioned, and how it is symbolized.

The girls presented their work alongside the actual fruit their tree bears, or something symbolic of their chosen tree.

A huge Yasher Koach to the girls for their efforts, and of course to the teachers who supported and encouraged them.

May we always be zocheh to continued growth and to see each student blossom and advance!

Tzofia Ekda
Rakezet Ivrit



Kita Gimmel taarucha on 10 makkot!



Happy Birthday Morah Mati! Never to miss the opportunity to party, Kita Hey threw their teacher a huge birthday bash!





Kita Zain saw the 'fruits of their labor' as their literary work took shape.



Kita Alef made their mark showing their literary expertise. They researched and wrote so beautifully, ushering in Shevat with pride in Hashem's unbelievable world of nature.



Kita Chet benefitted from an insightful media awareness program. Rivka Nahari of Lev Vnefesh presented a thought-provoking workshop about the concerns and pitfalls of today's media and technology.





'Kishut Kita',
decorating the
class, was
fantastic, fun
and beautiful
with an inspiring
message for all.

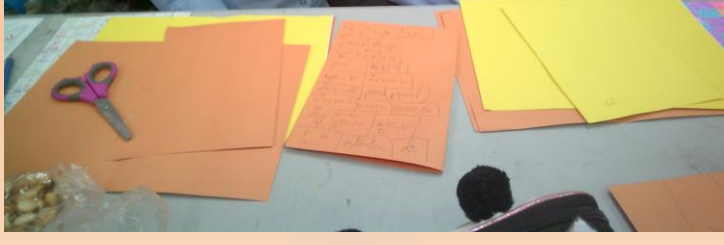


Kita Zayin used their
culinary skills to sculpt fruit
on Tu B'Shvat!





Tu B'Shvat Extravaganza in Kita Gimme! Every Bracha accounted for!



Kita Alef presented their mothers with 'flowers' of appreciation for nurturing them and helping them grow.



This years Mesibat Bat Mitzvah will IYH take place this Tuesday 30/1 at Eshkol Hapayis, Aliyat Hanoar 6 in Bet Shemesh, at 6PM!

The entire school is invited!
Tickets are 25 shekel, and can be bought during recess in Kita Vav from Elana, Rachaeli or Sara.

Mazel Tov!
Lots of Nachas