

Dvar Torah: Parshat Mikeitz

By: Jonathan Babadzhanov



Yehuda Nissani wins Best Presentation at Model Chinuch Competition

In this week's parsha we see Yosef imprisoned and being able to escape his sentence by interpreting dreams. Rashi says we are able to learn a value lesson about faith from Yosef. When the sar ha'mashkim is released from prison, Yosef asks his cell mate to remember him in front of Pharaoh. The commentators relay that for these two words, telling someone 'remember me', Yosef was punished by Hashem with an additional two years in prison. The obvious question is: why was Yosef punished? He was merely doing his diligence to be released. He was doing what any person would do in that situation, so why then was he punished?

Rashi answers that it's okay for people to ask for favors. It's okay to ask to be remembered. It's okay for Yosef to try anything to escape early. However, we must never rely or trust in man. We learn from Yosef that we must always rely on Hashem. We can work and seek help, but we must only fully trust and put all of our faith in only Hashem.

This becomes a powerful message with everything going on around us, everything happening to Jews in America, Jews in Israel. We can seek assistance, we can be scared or nervous, but we must always believe that this is part of Hashem's plan for us.

What Makes Us Ezra

By: Nathaniel Matat

Familiarity fosters closeness, which breeds comfort. It goes without saying that the way a student feels for 8 hours a day has a considerable impact on the way they view school, their current peers, and in the case of a yeshiva, religion. Given that a school setting demands significant focus and structure, it is almost guaranteed to be viewed as a burden, obviously negatively affecting academic progress. Luckily, a remedy exists, social recreational activities. Participating in these events builds students' social skills and fosters a sense of community and belonging. For the past few years Ezra Academy has excelled in this aspect of education especially with the programs that take place Friday morning.

The Friday morning weekly events in which Ezra students learn a little bit about Jewish practice and get fed (spiritually and physically). The general procedure for the boys division is simple; Rabbi Geller begins explaining a certain passage from the Gemara in a passionate and engaging way. Afterwards, we celebrate the week's learning by singing uplifting songs, and about love of Torah before eating the signature cholent. The Girls division has a similar program. They are given packets describing the parsha and receive snacks, and sing and dance Jewish songs. One girl described that this was a fun bonding experience and helps new students feel comfortable in Ezra. This is distinctive to Ezra Academy and a major reason why it is much more personal than just absorbing information in preparation for life.

Sports:

By: Shimon Kusayev

The Boston Celtics have been dominating at the outset of the NBA season with a record of 14-4.



They're currently favored to win the Atlantic division and the Eastern Conference overall. Though they couldn't pull out a win in the first ever in-season tournament, the play of Jayson Tatum, Jalen Brown, and Kristaps Porzingis makes the fanbase very confident this might be their first championship in almost 15 years. The Knicks, Bucks, and 76ers remain their biggest competition at the early stages of the season, but the Celtics certainly seem to be head and shoulders above everyone else. People were skeptical that giving up Marcus Smart would hurt the identity of the team but Jrue Holiday and Kristaps Porzingis are paying dividends already.

Restaurant Review: Sushi Tokyo

By: Alan Yakubov

The restaurant Sushi Tokyo, (Located at 72-51 Main St. Queens, NY 11367, inside Wassermann's supermarket), is widely known for its high quality and delectable sushi meals. They have a wide variety of extravagant rolls to choose from, all tasting better than the last. Some of their signature rolls include but are not limited to: Queens Roll, Black Dragon Roll, and Kawasaki Roll. Each roll that Sushi Tokyo makes is incredibly savoury and flavourful, and the sushi is extremely fresh and always made that same day. The staff is beyond friendly and polite. They are always helpful to any questions about their food and/or restaurant. The maximum wait time for sushi rolls is 20-30 minutes in respective relations to the quantity of rolls. To conclude, Sushi Tokyo is a great establishment and I cannot wait to go back there, and so should you

Entertainment

By: Allen Muradov

A BRONX TALE

"A Bronx Tale" is a 1983 crime/thriller movie directed by Robert De Niro. In "A Bronx tale", a teenager named Calogero grows up in the Bronx during the 1960s. He faces a problem of following the morals of his hard-working father, who is a bus driver and a local mob boss named Sonny. He soon becomes involved in the world of crime. It's not your typical Mafia movie where you see two groups in a eye for an eye war against each other, but it's a heartwarming film about a teenager that gets caught in this kind of life. I love how they portrayed Sonny as not only a mentor to Calogero but as a second father and how both Sonny and Calegros father have different mind sets. This movie, in a sense, is very similar to real life, because it portrays how we all have different choices and mentors that lead to our paths in life. I would 100% recommend this movie to anybody that is looking for not only a mafia movie, but an amazing masterpiece of a heartwarming coming of age story that is very engaging as you go on.



Teacher Interview with Mr. Weinberg

By: Regina Fatakhova

1. What's the best advice you've ever been given?

Mr. Weinberg: It's okay to have feelings. It's not okay for your feelings to have you.

2. What is the hardest lesson you ever had to learn in life?

Mr. Weinberg: What it means to love.

3. What is your go-to hairstyle?

Mr. Weinberg: Bald.

Current Events

By: Paulina Khaitov



The war between Israel and Hamas has already been going on for almost 2 months. During this time, thousands of families had been wondering if their children or loved ones would ever make it back home. The IDF found 800 tunnels in Gaza, and they destroyed or sealed 500 of them. Almost 240 innocent lives had been kidnapped on October 7th. Recently, 105 hostages were released, 84 of them being Jewish. This was in exchange for 210 Palestinian prisoners. Despite the week-long truce that the IDF had with Hamas, rockets were still fired into Israel. Additionally, Hamas failed to provide a list of hostages by 7am, which was part of their agreement. As soon as this truce ended, the Israeli Defence Force continued their operation against Hamas' positions.



Ezra Eagles show off their new uniforms in a 54-50 scrimmage win against JIQ

Fashion Corner

By: Rafaela Fatakhova



Looking for new fashion trends this holiday season? Something to keep you warm while still looking stylish? Even though it may be on the pricey side, Ralph Lauren's new wool-blend jersey turtleneck midi dress has all the qualities you're looking for! It's now available with the colors Dark Brown & Onyx Heather, and ranges from sizes XXS - XXL. Ralph Lauren is always the way to go when looking for a classy basic outfit but, what if it's a little out of your budget? Places like Pandora, Gucci, Hugo Boss, may be a little too pricey for some. A cheaper option for shopping could be Nordstrom! Nordstrom sells all of these brands but just a little cheaper. But if that still isn't available for you, places like Amazon, Temu, Shein, Old navy, or Burlington may be a little more suitable. Places like this are currently among high demand especially for the upcoming holidays.

Ezra Times



EZRA
ACADEMY

Issue: December, 2023

Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow.



Mother/Daughter Paint Night is a huge success!



Ezra Knights vs North Shore



Ezra Academy represents at Israel Rally in Washington D.C.



10th - 12th grade enjoys a morning ice skating



9th Grade Class enjoys a bonding experience at laser tag