

VAYIKRA

March 11, 2022 - 8 Adar II, 5782

Light Candles at 6:21pm

Issue 11- 2021-22

The TASA Times

שבועון של בית ספר היהודי



Shmuel Bass

TORAH ACADEMY

of San Antonio

Fire Department Field Trip

Our kindergarten class got to spend a couple of hours with the fire fighters of Shavano Park. They got to see where fire fighters spend their time while on the clock. Students were allowed to climb onto the driver seat of a fire truck. Everyone had amazing questions and Fire Marshal Dover was amazing at answering them.



TODAH RABAH!

TASA would like to extend a very big thank you to the parent volunteers that joined the kindergarten class on their field trip to the Shavano Park Fire Department.

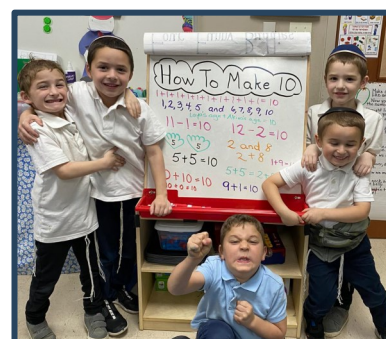
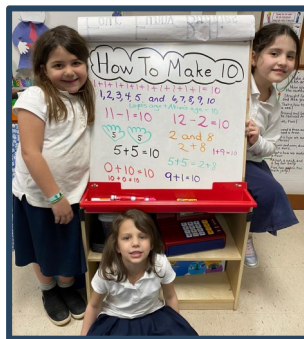
Spring Forward

Don't forget the time change on Sunday March 13th.



Number Talks with Morah Sarah

Our TASA Kindergarteners love Math - especially Number Talks! Number Talks are an open-ended activity designed to engage children in using mental math to solve problems flexibly. Students begin Number Talk sessions whole group, and then they expand upon the day's number concept with a partner. Does the answer matter? Of course! But what is more important is the mathematical reasoning that students bring to solving problems as well as their ability to justify, orally and in writing, their solutions.



Middle School Shabbaton

After an almost two year hiatus, Shabbatons are back! Our middle school students had their first Shabbaton for Shabbat Parshat Pikudei (March 4-5) at the Marrus home. The students were joined by three of their former classmates who have moved away. The Shabbaton consisted of delicious meals, snacks, fun and games, and a spirit of Ahavat Yisrael and friendship. We look forward to having more Shabbatons in the future.



Early Registration for 2022-2023



Don't forget to register your child (ren) for next year and take advantage of our Early Bird Special- \$200 per student.

After April 1st, registration will go up to \$360 per student.



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

דבר תורה

Remember to Forget– Vayikra/Zachor

This week we begin to read a new book of the Torah, *Vayikra-Leviticus*. Additionally, as this week is the Shabbat before the *Purim* holiday, we read the special portion of *Zachor*. This portion discusses the Mitzvah to remember what the nation of Amalek did to us.

The Torah states *"Remember what Amalek did to you, on the way when you were leaving Egypt. That he happened upon you on the way, and he struck those of you who were hindmost, all the weaklings at your rear, when you were faint and exhausted, and did not fear G-d. It shall be when Hashem your G-d gives you rest from your enemies all around in the Land that Hashem your G-d gives you as an inheritance to possess it, you shall wipe out the memory of Amalek from under the heavens-You shall not forget!"* (Devarim 25: 17-19)

Simply understood, this commandment (*Rambam- Positive Mitzvah 189*) is telling us the importance of never forgetting what the nation of Amalek did to us. As we have seen throughout our long history, there have been many foes who have tried to destroy us. The wicked Haman of the *Purim* story was from this cursed nation, Amalek. Similarly, our sages tell us that all anti Semites and ill hatred toward Jews has its roots in Amalek.

But when we examine the words more closely, we observe a seeming dichotomy. We are commanded to **wipe out** the memory of Amalek and to **not forget**; two seeming opposites ideas! This begs the question, are we to forget the pain and misery of Amalek and wipe it from our memories or are we to remember it all?

Every individual has faults and failings. While we would rather people see only our good and beautiful attributes, we know that we have many faults. In fact, no one knows our faults better than ourselves. As we try to better ourselves and live a more positive and constructive life, we are often hindered by our weaknesses. How do we move forward? How do we rise above our failings? How do we put the past behind us?

Perhaps the reading of *Zachor* is providing us with guidance that we must learn from our past and remember our faults in order to grow. Without remembering and learning from our past we are deemed to make the same mistakes again. While it may be uncomfortable, it is a necessary step in our healing. "It takes enormous trust and courage to allow yourself to remember" writes Dr. Bessel A. van der Kolk (*The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma*). When we deal with the past in a healthy way, we are then able to harness those experiences and character traits, and then transform them.

We must remember the lessons from our past in order to wipe out the negativity of our lives and move forward in a healthy and beautiful way.

Shabbat Shalom,
Rabbi Y. Marrus

Coming Soon!!

PTO Purim Carnival, Ta'anit Esther, Noon Dismissal
Wednesday, March 16th

Purim and Shushan Purim / No School
March 17th -18th

Olympian– Nina Cutro-Kelly Visit
March 25th

Model Passover Seder
Thursday, April 14th @ 2:30 pm

Pesach Spring Break - 15-22 April

Adar Spirit Days

Mon., March 14th– Crazy Hair Day

Where your wackiest hair style

Tues., March 15th– Crazy Clothes Day

Inside out, backwards, as long as you're dressed.

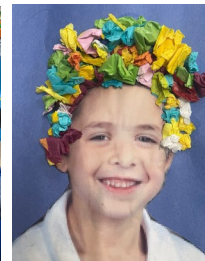
Wed. March 16th– Costume Day and Purim Carnival– 10:00–11:45

Food, fun and a costume contest!

Parents come and join the fun!

Morah Keren's Art Class

This week all the students started decorating a photo of themselves using different types of materials to create a clown of themselves. Next week, all the students will be able to vote on the best clown.



MATANOT L'EVYONIM PURIM TZEDAKA DRIVE Monday-Wednesday of next week!

This year, we will be dedicating our Purim Tzedaka campaign to raising money for Ukrainian Jewish refugees.

We ask that every student and family participate. It is a Mitzvah to give Tzedaka on Purim to help the poor. What an amazing thing that we can do as a school community.