

NOACH

October 8, 2021 - 2 Cheshvan, 5782

Light Candles at 6:53pm

Issue 3, 2021-22

# The TASA Times

## שבועון של בית ספר היהודי

### Kinder Corner



Kindergarten is making progress, and each day just flies by! Most of the students have mastered their alphabet, and they have demonstrated excellent number sense and flexibility.

They are learning sight words and making sentences with them. Book

Time is one of their favorite activities to do, as they get to choose from both Jewish and secular reading books, that they get to enjoy on their own or with a friend. Morah Sarah has made fun learning centers for our little ones to use.

Finally, our kindergarteners have been learning a special American Sign Language song that G-d willing, they'll be able to perform in front of the whole school soon!



### All eyes on Coach!



Shmuel Bass

**TORAH ACADEMY**  
of San Antonio



TASA is excited newest member Coach Troy for healthy living Coach has spent summer camps programs at the JCC. A man of many talents, Coach Troy brings many new and fun ideas and activities to TASA: bocce ball, disk golf with tiered nets, capture the flag, jump rope, indoor/outdoor horse shoes, and badminton.

to highlight the to our TASA Team: Steen! With a love and outdoor sports, many years running and after school

Coach Troy Steen graduated from the University of Incarnate Word with a BA in Communication Arts. During his college years, he discovered his knack for boule games and his interest in local community and relief services abroad that led him to The San Antonio Food Bank. Coach worked at the Barshop JCC for eight summers in numerous roles, including senior and after-school kids club.

Coach Troy is passionate about working with children, sports, enjoys hiking with his puppy, and casually learning about astronomy. He also loves to participate in community service. Welcome aboard Coach!!



**Fun Activities**

+

**Excitement**

=

**Healthy Kids!**





## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

דבר תורה

Expectations - Parshat Noach

In this week's Torah portion of "Noach", we read of the devastating flood that destroyed all of the earth and animals. The only ones saved were *Noach*, his wife *Na'ama*, their three sons Shem, Cham and Yafet and their spouses. Of course, two animals of each species and seven of the kosher animals were also brought on the ark.

The Torah introduces *Noach* by stating (*Bereishit* 6:9) " - אלא תולדות נח, נח איש צדיק היה בדורותיו - And these are the offspring of Noach-Noach was a Tzadik (a righteous man) in his generations". *Noach* has the unique distinction of being just about the only human being ever called a Tzadik in the Torah, and yet our sages profoundly disagree on his level of righteousness.

*Rashi* (France 1040-1105 France) brings the famous *Midrash Tanchuma* which says: "Some rabbis praised *Noach*, saying that he was truly righteous and had he lived in the generation of *Avraham*, he would have been even more righteous. Other rabbis denigrated *Noach* saying he was only righteous in his generation, because everyone else was wicked, but had he lived in *Avraham's* generation he would have been considered just average".

The obvious question is, why can't we just let it be? Why can't we be happy for *Noach* and his accomplishments? Why tarnish his reputation, especially if the Torah refers to him by the special adjective - a *Tzadik*?!

Many commentaries explain that *Noach* is held to task for not advocating for his generation and pleading for their redemption and forgiveness. Both *Avraham* and *Moshe* were told that others will perish and they both advocate and plead with Hashem to spare the sinners. For this reason, *Noach* is seen negatively, as he should have done more to help those around him. *Rabbi Eliyahu Kitov* (Israel 1912-1976) explains in his *Sefer Haparshiyos* that each generation must be judged by its own generation and time. It would be simply unfair to judge people based on another time, place and circumstance.

Perhaps there is a deeper lesson for us in how we view our children. Too often, we judge our children based on the accomplishments of their peers, siblings and our own reality. We essentially are judging them, not in the "generation" they live in, but based on others expectations, standards and social norms. Perhaps the Torah is sharing with us that every child must be evaluated

## Coming Soon!!

- \* Friday, October 15th - End of First Quarter, grading period
- \* Thursday, October 21st - Group Picture Day!



based on their own reality, abilities and challenges. This is then the meaning of " בדורותיו - in his generations". Yes, maybe compared to others, *Noach* was diminished, but based on his generation, his reality and circumstance, and his challenges, he was indeed a wonderful *Tzadik*.

Shabbat Shalom,  
Rabbi Y. Marrus

## MAZAL TOV

Mazel Tov to **Chaya Gittel Altman** (6th grade), her parents Daniel and Brocha Leah Altman and sister Shaina Altman (4th grade) on the occasion of Chaya Gittel's Bat Mitzvah. May she continue to go from strength to strength and may she continue to give much Nachas to her family, community and all of Klal Yisrael. Mazel Tov!!!



## ANNUAL TASA MATCH-A-THON

November 3rd & 4th

**TASA Family, please mark your calendars for our 8th Annual TASA Match-A-Thon coming up Wednesday and Thursday, November 3 & 4.**

**This important fundraiser is one of the most important yearly events to raise funds for our school and the Flex-Tuition scholarships. More information will be sent in the next days/weeks.**