

VANCOUVER HEBREW ACADEMY
החברה הוונקוברית

June 23, 2017 29 Sivan 5777

Shabbat Parshat: Korach

Candle Lighting: 9:04pm

Volume 18, Issue 37

SEASONED LEADERS

Our Parsha describes how Korach, a descendent of Levi, challenged the authority of Moshe Rabbeinu. Specifically, he questioned Moshe's appointment of his brother Aharon as the Kohen Gadol.

To counter the accusation, Moshe prays that Hashem send a clear message to the entire nation and that Korach not be allowed to succeed in his sinister plot.

After fulfilling Moshe's request, Hashem proceeds to reaffirm Aharon's appointment and to delineate the various priestly gifts to which he, and his descendents, will be entitled.

This arrangement is referred to by the Torah as "ברית מלח עולם", (an eternal covenant of salt). Rashi explains that just as salt never spoils, similarly, the covenant between Hashem and Aharon will never expire.

The NETZI"V, Rabbi Naftali Tzvi Yehuda Berlin, offers an additional significance to this reference - just as salt is used to improve the taste of food, but, if it is used in incorrect proportions it can spoil the food. The same can be said of the responsibility and authority of Aharon's lofty status. As a leader, Aharon has the ability to raise the people to great spiritual heights. If, however, these gifts are exploited or abused, they can ruin the people, just as too much salt will ruin the meal.

We each have aspects of our lives that will put us in a leadership role. This may be as employers, parents and confidants or as organizational leaders. In each of these, we have the power to influence and create. The advice or direction that we dictate can shape the future for an individual or for a group. It is vital that we learn from the mistake of Korach and from the successes of Aharon, to apply ourselves fully and unselfishly in our responsibility to those who rely upon us. Just as a master chef is able to combine the perfect balance of flavors to create a masterpiece, so does the seasoned leader know to measure the perfect balance of patience, wisdom and compassion.

As we close-out another school year, I would like to take the opportunity – on behalf of the entire staff - to thank our families for entrusting us with the responsibility of educating your children and for allowing us to partner with you.

Wishing you a wonderful summer break.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Don Pacht
Head of School

RUNNING CLUB

Thank you for joining us for our last running club of the year! Today we ran 71 laps, which is a total of **24 kilometres**.

THANK YOU

The administration and staff of VHA would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who, through the co-ordination of the PAC (Parents Advisory Committee), have added so much to the educational experiences of our students. Special thanks to the PAC Executive: **Amanda Malul, Shira Meltzer, Meira Pacht, Devorah Brody, Josie Wolfson and Esther Moses-Wood.**

Thank you to the Class Parents and the VHA Parents of the Month to find Volunteers for a great job all year: **Chanie Baitelman, Leah Shapiro, Odeyah Hoffman, Dikla Mizrachi, Rivki Yeshayahu, Malky Bitton, Shira Radomsky, Rina Dil, Shirah Malka Zhornitsky and Shoshona Freedman.**

Thank you to **Mrs. Altow** for organizing Running Club this year and for supervising soccer intramurals.

Thank you to **Shira Radomsky** for finding sponsors for the Rosh Chodesh Treats and Middos Minder Prizes for this school year.

Thank you to **Felcity Estrin** for organizing ad sponsors for our 2017-2018 academic year calendar.

Thank you to the PAC Hot Lunch Team for a great job this year: **Ruth Penarroyo, Janet Ragetli, Adela Heffes, Odeyah Hoffman, Meira Pacht, Josa Sarna, Esti Loeub, Shaina Gabay and Chanie Baitelman.**

Thank you to **Ms. Cohen and the Student Council** for planning special events this year and for their great enthusiasm, ideas and efforts to make this a wonderful school year!

Thank you to all the other parents who have volunteered this school year. We appreciate your contributions and we apologize if we have left anyone out.

ROSH CHODESH

Thank you to **Dikla and Etsik Mizrachi and Family** for sponsoring the Rosh Chodesh treats this week on the occasion of the Yartzeit of Dikla's father, Mr. Nissim Max Ohayon, z"l, on the 18th of Sivan.

FAREWELL

We bid farewell and say a heartfelt thank you to the following staff members who will not be returning to VHA next year: **Ms. Alaina Smith, Morah Shifra Feigelstock, Miss Dana Whelan, Ms. Genna Cohen, Morah Yonit Segal and Morah Tova Feigelstock.** We will miss you at VHA!

We also bid farewell to the following families who are leaving VHA as they move out of the city: **Niders, Wolfsons and Mandels.** We will miss you all!

MIDDOS MINDER PRIZES

Thank you to **Rabbi Shlomo and Leah Estrin and Family** for sponsoring the Middos Minder Prizes this week in honour of "our wonderful VHA, which has served to give top education and care to all of our children!" Congratulations to the prize winners: **Ora Yeshayahu and Avraham Brody.**

LOST FOUND

The Lost & Found is overflowing. Please look for your children's jackets, sweatshirts, and water bottles as soon as possible. All items will be on display TODAY in the undercover area at dismissal time. **Any items not claimed will be donated to charity.**

BOOK AND SUPPLY ORDER FORMS

Textbook and school supply order forms will be mailed to your homes in early August. We ask that you please forward completed order forms to the school office by **August 25th, 2017.**

GRADE 7 GRADUATION CEREMONY AND DINNER

Thank you to all those who worked so hard to make our Grade 7 Graduation Ceremony and Dinner such a wonderful event. Thank you to the **grade 7 parents** for their help in organizing the event. Special thanks to **Rabbi Tzvi Goldman and Ms. Alaina Smith** for all their efforts to make this such a special occasion.

GRADE 7 GRADUATION & PANORAMA PHOTO

Order your grad or panorama photo(s) online at: www.lifetouchevents.com. Use this password: vha2017. Photo(s) will be mailed directly to your home. Please note: There will be a \$7.00 shipping and handling fee applied to each order.

SAFeway CARDS

Going to Safeway for your grocery shopping? Don't forget to pick up gift cards at the VHA office. Get your shopping done and help support YOUR PAC!

NACHAS NOTES

Do you have a Nachas story you would like to share? Please email us at vha@vhebrewacademy.com

ORDERING SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Just a reminder for parents to please have your orders for school uniforms to Cambridge Uniforms by early July. This will ensure that your child will have their uniforms ready to wear when school begins on September 5th. Contact Cambridge at [604-924-9069](tel:604-924-9069) for more information. ***Please see the attached letter for more information.***

ROYAL BC MUSEUM COUPON

The Royal BC Museum in Victoria would like to provide one free admission to the museum for children in grades K-7. One adult paid admission is necessary to use these coupons until September 4, 2017. Please print out coupons (see digital newsletter) for children if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity during the summer. A limited number of printed coupons are available in the school office.

2017-2018 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Thank you to Esti Loeub for creating a Google Calendar that includes all of the important dates. To download the .ics file (needed to import it into your Google Calendar) please view our digital newsletter. To view the calendar please go to our website: <http://vhebrewacademy.com/calendar.php>.

VHA PAC VOLUNTEER HOURS

Our family participation/school service program requires each family to contribute 18 hours of time assisting in various school programs throughout the year.

Please submit your PAC hours as soon as possible to vha.pta@gmail.com with HOURS written in the subject line. Many of you have done hours and unless you let us know, we will not be able to credit you for them. **If we don't hear back from you, your school service cheque will be cashed the last week in June.**

Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of our children.

TEFILLIN & MEZUZA CHECKING

The Orthodox Rabbinical Council has arranged to bring in a Sofer to check Tefillin and Mezuzas. He will be available for checking Monday, July 17th – at the Kosher Check office and Tuesday and Wednesday, July 18th-19th – at Schara Tzedek. The price of checking will be \$100 per Tefillin set and \$10 per Mezuzah. For those requiring their Mezuzas checked, we ask that you remove them from their cases to make it easier for the Sofer. If you have any questions, please contact Richard Wood at richard@koshercheck.org.

THE TZEDAKAH PROJECT

Dear VHA Parents,

Our friends at [The Tzedakah Project](http://TheTzedakahProject.com) are inspiring members of our community to connect with the importance of giving Tzedakah. They are currently offering a one-one match for any donations made to VHA through [The Tzedakah Project](http://TheTzedakahProject.com). Every dollar we receive means so much to us, so please consider taking advantage of this match and please share this (<https://chimp.net/groups/vancouver-hebrew-academy-vha>) with your family and friends! To find out more please visit [The Tzedakah Project](http://TheTzedakahProject.com) where you can claim a free \$18 charity gift, easily find and give to any Jewish charity in Vancouver and have your donations matched. Giving Together Is Better!

Please mark your calendar

June 2017

- 23 Non-Uniform Day
- 23 Last Day of School (Preschool-Gr.7)
(2:00pm dismissal)
- 23 Parents Pick-up Report Cards at 2:00pm in
the gym
- 26 Administration Day (no classes)

Community Announcements

1. **Summer Spunk** – an active and exciting week-long experience. Jun 26-30, 9:30am-2:30pm at the Kamin home: 1068 West 41st Avenue. For ages 3-12 – groups will be divided according to age. \$25/day or \$100/week. Contact Henna Chaya at henchy123@gmail.com.