

June 8, 2018

25th of Sivan 5778

Shabbat Parshat: Sh'lach

Candle Lighting Friday: 8:57pm

Volume 19, Issue 31

### ONE STEP AT A TIME

Our Parasha ends with a chapter relating the Mitzvah of Tzitzit, the commandment to tie special strings on the edges of all four cornered garments. These Tzitzit serve as a constant visual reminder of the Torah and all its Mitzvot.

One component of the Mitzvah of Tzitzit is to place a *תכלת*, a thread of blue wool, at each corner. This *Techalet* is made with a blue dye that comes from the *chilazon* fish. A sea creature found only once in 70 years!

The Talmud explains the reason for incorporating this "difficult to obtain coloring" into the Tzitzit. "The *Techalet* is similar [in color] to the sea, the sea is similar to the heavens, and the heavens are similar to the Throne of Glory". The idea then, is that when one gazes at the strand of blue wool his thoughts will be directed to Hashem's Throne of Glory.

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein asks why it is necessary for the Talmud to follow a three-step chain instead of simply stating that the *Techalet* is similar to the Throne of Glory, and leaving out the other comparisons. Or, better yet, why not find a color that more closely resembles Hashem's throne and use that for the mitzvah?

The answer, explains Rabbi Feinstein, is that the Talmud wishes to convey a message. Just as one would not expect to be able to master a new skill without first going through the proper steps required to learn that skill, so too is it in the area of spirituality. One should not expect to "Reach the Heavens" without first building to that level.

Therefore, the Talmud relates a series of comparisons before finally mentioning the "end goal." Education works in much the same way. Each school year represents another small step, the laying of another brick, on the foundation of skills that will eventually help us to reach our lofty goals. The upcoming summer break gives us the opportunity to reflect upon what we have learned and to hone our new skills. We will then return refreshed and ready to take the next step as we "Reach for the Heavens."

Shabbat Shalom,

**Rabbi Don Pacht**  
**Head of School**

## PARNES HAYOM

A day of Torah study has been generously sponsored by **The Huberman Family** in memory of Mrs. Esther Steinberg, z"l on the occasion of her Yartzeit.

## IT'S GRADUATION SEASON

Mazal Tov to VHA Alumni Ben Mizrachi and Shaina Gurevich who graduated from King David High School this week! We are so proud of your achievements and wish you much success in all of your future endeavours. Keep in touch!!

## THANK YOU

A special thank you to **Mrs. Altow** for putting together Sports Day!

Thank you to the VHA PAC for providing a delicious end of year Staff Lunch this week. Thanks as well to the parents who volunteered to help make this a special event: **Meira Pacht, Leah Shapiro, Malky Bitton, Leah Estrin, Blossom Karmel-Fox, Rochel Kamin, Yaffa Pavlich, Mitch Freedman and Hannah Amar.**

Thank you to **Chaim Boruch Lichtman** for creating a playlist for our Sports Day!

## SPORTS DAY

VHA's Sports Day was rain AND shine! Everyone had a blast and there was nothing but cheers and fun! Mazal Tov to the Green Team who won the 'Rodef Shalom Trophy' for best Sportsmanship, the Red Team who won the 'Meshugah Sheitel Trophy' for best cheer and team spirit and the Blue Team who won the 'Golden Goal Trophy' for earning the most points in sports activities!

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2018-2019

Please note that ALL payment arrangements for the coming academic year (i.e. payment in full, a VISA number, or post-dated cheques) must be made by June 12, 2018 in order for your children to be allowed to attend school in September 2018.

## SAVE THE DATE

- VHA Annual Garden Party on Thursday, July 26, 2018. Hosted by Jonathon and Karly Leipsic. Honouring our Capital Campaign Contributors.
- Faigen Family Lecture Series Presents: Ben Shapiro in Vancouver. Tickets now on sale. Get your Early Bird ticket today!

## GRADE 7 GRADUATION

Mark your Calendars! VHA Grade 7 Graduation is on Monday, June 18, 2018 5:30pm Graduation Ceremony 6:30pm Dinner

## NUT RESTRICTED SCHOOL

Please keep in mind when preparing snacks and lunches for your children that VHA is a Nut Restricted School. Nuts and nut products are not allowed in the building. Below is a list of nuts that are included in this restriction.

- Peanuts and Peanut Butter.
- Tree nuts (including Almonds, Walnuts, Cashews).
- **Sesame Seeds and Sesame Oil. THIS INCLUDES HUMMUS.**

Products that MAY contain nuts are permitted. As well as the above items, there are other foods that do pose an allergy risk. Therefore, please remind your children that the sharing of food is not allowed.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Jewish Foodbank is looking for volunteers! We need help delivering food parcels to home bound clients in outlying areas such as Burnaby, Richmond, New West, Surrey, Delta. Gas cards will be given out to offset the cost. Parcel pickup is at the Peretz Centre behind Oakridge around 12:30pm twice a month, on Thursdays.

Contact Marnie Greenwald, Food Bank Coordinator if interested or for more details: [mgreenwald@jfsvancouver.ca](mailto:mgreenwald@jfsvancouver.ca).

## PAC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to put in a couple of hours toward your 18 school service hours? The preschool is planting the gardens outside the office. Needed is a parent who would be willing to bring a shovel, garden gloves, empty 11 bags of mulch, mushroom manure and top soil (already at the school) and mix it all together for the preschool to spread. Please phone the office if you are available to help next week. Many thanks for your acts of service.

## PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 2018

- 12 Hot Lunch
- 12 KF & Grade 6 Immunization Clinic at 1pm
- 13 Grade 1 Field Trip to Grouse Mountain
- 14 Non Uniform Day
- 18 Grade 7 Graduation at Beth Hamidrash  
5:30 p.m. Ceremony  
6:30 p.m. Dinner
  
- 20 Preschool Graduation at 11:00am
- 22 Last Day of School (2:00 pm dismissal)
- 22 Term 3 Report Card Pick-up at 2:00 p.m. by  
Parents