



Advancing

YOSS Spring Newsletter 2022



MARCH 6, 2022
SEE DETAILS INSIDE

65
ANNUAL
DINNER

A Message from the *Rosh Yeshiva*



Dear Friends,

If there is one word to describe the mission of Yeshiva of South Shore, it is "Genuine."

Since my father, Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky, zt"l, founded YOSS 68 years ago, we have always stayed true to genuine chinuch, genuine devotion, and genuine understanding of the needs of our talmidim.

The dynamic team of vibrant mechanchim and educators leading the Yeshiva are forging its future with the same mission each and every day, along the carefully laid path of the mesorah which has defined our yeshiva since its founding nearly 100 years ago in East New York and replanted on Long Island.

Our talented and devoted menahalim, Rabbi Zev Davidowitz and Rabbi Avraham Robinson, permeate the yeshiva with warmth and love, and blend the spirit beautifully with our principals, Mrs. Leah Girnun and Mr. Daniel Winkler. From the very first school years under the direction of Mora Elana Fertig in our Early Childhood Center, the spirit of professionalism and warmth infuses our 700 students each day with love of Torah, education and self-esteem.

It is no wonder that so many alumni along with many newcomers to the Five Towns are choosing Yeshiva of South Shore to educate their sons. We are honored with their trust, and we are committed to providing our signature genuine chinuch for each and every talmid who joins the YOSS family.

Every Mishkan and institution of Torah must blend the deep roots of the trees planted by our fathers with refreshed methodology and applicable technology created for our generation.

At YOSS, we honor our long-standing commitment to our mesorah, even as we implement innovation, and excitement within the yeshiva. Our Rabbeim and teachers are devoted to their students in an unparalleled way, as they apply cutting edge modalities of chinuch and teaching, nurturing with love, fostering growth, and enabling them to radiate with ahavas yisroel and midos tovos.

Each and every day, our Yeshiva is hopping with exciting programs and wonderful experiences. So as you read this newsletter and glean some snippets of the daily life of our boys, please understand that we have only selected a few.

It is a joy for me to allow you a glimpse of some of the inner workings of Yeshiva Toras Chaim – Bais Binyamin – The Louis and Gertrude Feil Torah Center.

Looking forward to greeting you personally at our Annual Banquet on March 6, 2022 at The Seawane Club in Hewlett!

Warmly,

Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky
Rosh Yeshiva





KEEPING TECH IN CHECK

This is not a Program...

This is a Movement!

Yeshiva of South Shore shifts the conversation about technology, empowering parents and children to set boundaries for tech usage.

After months of planning and discussions with psychologists, social workers and rabbonim, last month, YOSS introduced the "Keeping Tech in Check" workshops and follow up program.

The "Keeping Tech in Check" program focuses on the foundation of a Jewish home, and how adults and children alike have the power to make daily decisions which have maximum impact.

Using technology responsibly, or "Keeping Tech in Check" is "the first step to enriching your lives, the lives of your families, and your children," explained Rabbi Shmuel Kamenetzky, Director of Advancement at YOSS, in his introduction to the program.

The solution-based program is focused on two areas - awareness, and skills. "We at the Yeshiva of South Shore, are here to shift the conversation," explained Rabbi Avraham Robinson, LCSW, Menahel of the Elementary division, and creator and presenter of the workshop. "We are here to work together to keep technology in check, by educating parents to create sustainable boundaries that will empower their children to navigate and control their own tech usage, resist peer pressure, and create a much healthier home environment."

After explaining several practical ways to create boundaries, such as tech-free times and tech-free zones, and creating "family devices" instead of "personal devices," he explained that parents must believe that these measures should be implemented out of love for their children, and not out of frustration.

Rabbi Zev Davidowitz, Menahel of the Silber Mechina, also addressed the audience.

"The effects of technology without boundaries and limitations are real and tangible. We have witnessed talmidim become lost and despondent when just a few years earlier they had a spring in their step and a sparkle in their eye."

To date, over 175 YOSS families have signed up to join "Tech in Check" and many mothers have joined "LinkUp" groups to bond together to share ideas and advice, and to gain valuable chizzuk and camaraderie with one common goal.

YOSS talmidim who signed up were already treated to incentives and prizes, and will earn special recognition for doing their part to keep their tech in check.

"Keeping Tech in Check is not just a program," Rabbi Robinson concluded. "This is a movement - which has already begun!"



Groundbreaking

of the Friedman Family Building

Marks a New Era at YOSS



On Sunday, November 21, 2021 YOSS held the groundbreaking event for the new **Friedman Family Elementary Building** and street renaming ceremony.

The beautiful new two-story yeshiva building, will serve the needs of our expanding student population, containing 15 new classrooms, a large resource center, a spacious library and science/STEM lab, and executive office and conference room space. It will link to the future Student Torah and Recreation Facility (Phase II) which will house a large Beis Medrash, lunchroom, gymnasium, and auditorium.

Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, Rosh Yeshiva, spoke about the spirit of his father and the mesiras nefesh and love that still permeates the hallowed ground of William Street – which is now, Rabbi Benjamin Kamenetzky Way, indeed, he said, “Everything we try to do at the Yeshiva, is truly, the Rabbi Kamenetzky Way.”

Rav Sholom Kamenetsky, shlita, Rosh Yeshiva of Philadelphia, was the guest speaker, and Nassau County Executive, Bruce Blakeman, longtime friend of YOSS, and upcoming honoree at the YOSS 2022 Banquet, addressed the event as well.

The ceremony ended with the street renaming ceremony and unveiling of “Rabbi Benjamin Kamenetzky Way,” by Councilman Anthony D’Esposito, and the groundbreaking by distinguished donors and community leaders, among them Mr. David and Mr. Mark Friedman, patrons of the Friedman Family Building, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Feil, longtime patrons of the Yeshiva of South Shore Louis and Gertrude Feil Torah Center.

The uplifting ceremony was attended by hundreds of community members, scores of Rabbanim and Roshei Yeshiva and political dignitaries from across the community and political spectrum, displaying wonderful unity.



Groundbreaking



WATCH
THE VIDEO
OF OUR
GROUND
BREAKING
EVENT



YOSS Welcomes *Mr. Eli Fogel*

**as Director of
Guidance and
Counseling for
the Abraham
& Sara Silber
Mechina**



YOSS is excited to have established a new position to meet the growing needs of our students and our times. We are excited to welcome Mr. Eli Fogel, LMSW, as Director of Guidance and Counseling for the Mechina Toras Avraham - The Abraham and Sara Silber Middle School.

Mr. Fogel, a LMSW with years of experience at Ohel and Madreigos, has worked many years and in the Five Towns/Far Rockaway area, has developed a keen understanding of YOSS's unique mission.

Working collaboratively with the Hanhallah, Rebbeim, teachers, students, parents, and outside professionals to help each talmid thrive, Mr. Fogel's expertise has already helped improve the social, behavioral, and emotional well-being of many of our talmidim.

Mr. Fogel sets weekly meetings and check-ins, and is constantly in touch with Rebbeim and teachers for real-time updates on the students' progress. By setting goals and benchmarks tailored for each individual talmid, we have assured a healthy emergence into adolescence.

Together with the YOSS resource department and mental health team, including Rabbi Yehuda Kamenetzky, Student Services Coordinator, and Dr. Ethel Cwibeker, School Psychologist, Mr. Fogel also includes outside professionals to determine and execute the best plan of action to ensure the academic, social, and emotional success of every boy.

With the addition of Mr. Fogel, YOSS looks forward to a year where each and every talmid will grow and achieve his full potential.

“The commitment of our Hanhalla, Rebbeim, and teachers to help each Talmid grow and succeed in a wholesome and warm environment is palpable” - Mr. Eli Fogel



ECC Boys use senses and imagination in TREErific Activities

This Tu B'shvat, the boys explored much more than a tree! They tasted, smelled and compared the shivas Haminim, and delved deeper and discovered that so many different items come from a tree, wood, paper, cardboard, tables, shade and so much more. Of course, every boy painted his own tree as well, after enjoying tree-riffic games in the Imaginarium (Sensational Gym).



PTA Sponsors Exciting New Playground

The ECC boys are used to seeing many construction vehicles entering and exiting the site across the street, but now, standing prominently in front of the ECC, they have a gigantic truck of their own!

Thank you PTA of YOSS for graciously sponsoring a brand new giant Dump Truck "Climb, Slide and Play Center" for our Early Childhood Center boys!

Scenes
from the ECC





YOSS Wins Shomrei Halashon Prize!

Rabbi Adler's 5th grade class with their prize - a chocolate fondue fountain - from the **Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation's National Shomrei HaLashon Program** that teaches students to guard their speech and build life-long habits of shmiras haloshon through a curriculum that includes true-to-life illustrated stories and weekly and monthly reviews.



YOSS Students Spend Their Gelt!

The boys' smiles were shining bright as they spent their hard-earned BC Bucks (through their outstanding performance in the PBIS program) "gelt" on their favorite prize!

PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) is a school-wide program led by the Elementary School General Studies Principal, Mrs. Leah Girnun, promotes positive behavior in all areas of the school, which is the hallmark of Yeshiva of South Shore.

Thank you to the YOSS teachers, YOSS PTA and parents for helping make the children's reward day extra special!



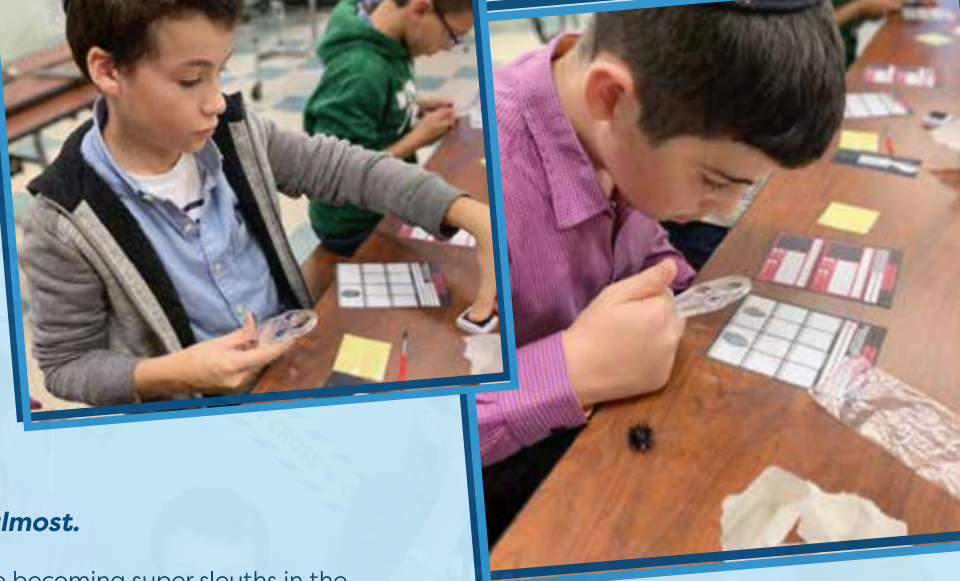
Torah Miles + Prizes at YOSS

The Torah Miles Auction was the culmination of hours of voluntary learning at home. Congratulations to all of our Masmidei HaChofesh on their vacation-learning and successful completion of our Hilchos Brachos curriculum.



Shnayim Mikra in Yeshiva of South Shore

Over seventy boys from second to fifth grade participated and completed Shnayim Mikrah in Sefer Bereishis! Congratulations to the grand prize winner, Yaakov Lasry who won a Hoverboard!



Forensics Club at YOSS

YOSS Talmidim are solving crimes! Well, almost.

The Abraham and Sara Silber Mechina boys are becoming super sleuths in the forensics club led by Mrs. Christina Fitzpatrick. Through the scientific method, they are gaining insight into crime solving and criminal justice while working together as a team. Analyzing an array of “evidence,” including ink prints, latent prints, loops, whirls, arches in handwriting, fingerprints, odontology (teeth), hair and fibers, handwriting, (think check and money fraud), and blood type, are all part of their regular studies. Sounds intense?

The goal of the club is to promote an interest in forensic science, while allowing the students to experience simulations of real crime situations and investigations. The content also explores many veins of scientific study, including chemistry, genetics, biology, and entomology.

Sherlock - need any assistance? You know who to call!



Invention Convention

As part of our STEM Curriculum, the fifth graders have begun a unit in engineering which will culminate with the Invention Convention.

Inventions are made to fill a need. Following the old adage “Need is the mother of invention”, boys will use their ingenuity to design and create innovative products that can be utilized as a useful item for society. Our budding engineers will work together to brainstorm, research, plan and develop a prototype.

With the motto, “Failure is only an opportunity to start again more intelligently,” the boys keep an open-minded attitude toward overcoming difficulties with their invention. Judges will evaluate the students based on their creativity, research and working prototypes.

In-House Shatnez Factory at YOSS Mechina

Rabbi Avrohom Berenstein, Mechina Kriah specialist, certified Shatnez Checker, and director of the Bayswater Shatnez Laboratory gave a hands-on, interactive shatnez presentation to Rabbi Rosenwassr’s 8th grade class. The boys learned halachos and practical applications of shatnez, from procedures in wool and linen thread manufacturing, down to examining fibers under a microscope! The lessons were exciting and engaging, and extremely enlightening!



"Fish Tank" Competition Incubates Creativity at YOSS

The "Fish Tank" competition, the brainchild of Mrs. Rina Korman enables students to experience and learn the hands-on engineering and design process. Working in groups, students develop team building skills as they develop their product, build a working prototype, create a slide presentation, a business plan, and pitch their product to "investors".

They pick up invaluable skills along the way, including creativity, working collaboratively, time management, and public speaking, all while having fun and learning science and the engineering design process!

The students never cease to amaze us with their ideas and how they can implement this entire process on their own!

Looking forward to seeing if the investors bite!



Chevra Mishnayos at YOSS Mechina

Rabbi Yehuda Neuman, an 8th grade Rebbe, is leading a mishnayos movement in YOSS which has attracted the voluntary participation of dozens of boys. The Chevra Mishnayos learning program, designed to help the students gain knowledge in Mishnayos not generally taught as part of their curriculum, was embraced by over 40 eager eighth graders who excitedly took up this challenge. The boys learn four mishnayos every day on their own time, and review them on Shabbos, and participate in live game-shows testing their clarity and vast knowledge in all areas of shas.

To date, the boys have already collectively learned over 10,000 Mishnayos, and earned "merch" such as sweatshirts, water bottles, pens, and soon – football gloves! They meet monthly over Carlos and Gabby's lunch and discuss how to achieve their goal of completing Seder Nashim, Nezikin, Moed, and Kodshim.

Now, it's normal to see the Mechina talmidim learning after Shacharis, during breaks, and even during recess!

"It's a chizzuk to the entire yeshiva when our 8th graders devote themselves to extra learning on their own time, and serve as role models to the rest of our talmidim! I look forward to joining in a massive Siyum Celebration of all six Sedarim of Mishnayos!" – Rabbi Zev Davidowitz, Menahel HaMechina

Special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Gila Gluck for sponsoring the "merch"!



Board of Directors Joins
Hanhalla to Honor Rabbeim
and their wives at the Annual

Rebbeim Appreciation Melave Malka



The beautiful evening on Motzai Shabbos Parshas Va'aira featured divrei chizzuk from the Rosh Yeshiva, Rav Mordechai Kamenetzky, the Menahalim, guest speaker Rav Yaakov Reisman shlita, and a kumzitz with our very own Rabbi Natan Wolf, Rabbi Noam Singer, and Board Member, Sholom Jacobs. Thank you to Mrs. Yael Schulman and wives of the Board of Directors for their sponsorship and coordination to ensure a beautiful evening!



Rav Zev Leff, Rav of Moshav Matisyahu
visits YOSS Motzei Shabbos Learning



Leonard Goldstein
Memorial
*Motzei Shabbos
Learning*

Uninterrupted learning even in a snowstorm!

65 ANNUAL DINNER

Genuine
GROWTH
INNOVATION
CHINUCH
DEVOTION
EMENT

With great pride in the growth and vitality of our Yeshiva, we are honored to invite you to join us at our 65th Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet, as we pay homage to special individuals who represent some of the best we have in our community.

Our Guests of Honor, Ari and Miriam Goodman, are well known in our community for their work on behalf of the Klal. They are the devoted parents of our talmidim, Ben (1st grade), Nathan (5th grade), Gavi (YOSS 2021) a 9th grader at DRS, and Eli (YOSS 2017) learning in Eretz Yisroel at Mevaseret. Ari, an incredibly involved member of the Yeshiva's Board of Directors, and Miriam is an integral part of the PTA

Our Parents of the Year, Pinny and Yael Farkas, are the proud parents of YOSS talmidim, Yaakov in 2nd grade, Shalom in 5th grade, and alumnus Moshe (2021). Pinny, an alumnus of YOSS is a member of the Young Leadership Committee, and Yael is part of the very fabric of YOSS as an English Language Arts teacher and as Admissions Coordinator.

Rabbi Natan Farber, (YOSS 2000), recipient of the Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky Alumnus Award, is a popular 10th Grade Rebbe and Director of Student Programs at DRS Yeshiva High School. A musmach of RIETS and Director of Camp Dina, R' Natan is known for his sense of humor and creativity in the classroom.

R' Natan's connection with Rabbi Binyamin Kamenetzky began as a young child, when he spent time davening with the Rosh Yeshiva at "the Shteeble". R' Natan and his wife Tanya reside in North Woodmere and are the proud parents of YOSS talmidim, Avi, Meir, and soon iy"H, Ezra.

Our Man of the Year, Nassau County Executive, Bruce Blakeman, cherishes the close connection he had with Rav Binyamin, zt"l, and currently has with Rav Mordechai Kamenetzky, ybl"e, and the Jewish community at large. As Presiding Officer of the Nassau County Legislature or more recently as a Hempstead Town Councilman, Bruce has always been there as an outspoken supporter for the State of Israel and a bulwark in the fight against BDS and anti-Semitism. Bruce and his wife Segal, a Cedarhurst Court Justice, are parents to three children.

As a gesture of gratitude, we are proud to bestow BankUnited, represented by Mr. Charles Marchica and Mr. Gene Sullivan, with our Community Builders Award. BankUnited is providing the financing for the Yeshiva's construction project as well as helping other institutions in the neighborhood.

Yeshiva of South Shore's dinners are known to be informative, warm and entertaining. We hope to see you on March 6th at The Seawane Club.



Ari and Miriam Goodman
GUESTS OF HONOR



Pinny and Yael Farkas
PARENTS OF THE YEAR



Rabbi Natan Farber
RABBI BINYAMIN KAMENETZKY ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



Honorable Bruce Blakeman
Nassau County Executive
MAN OF THE YEAR



BankUnited
Represented by Charles Marchica and Gene Sullivan
COMMUNITY BUILDERS AWARD



YESHIVA OF SOUTH SHORE • ישיבה תורת חיים - בית בנימן THE LOUIS & GERTRUDE FEIL TORAH CENTER

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OUR DIVISIONS

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Toras Chaim Elementary Division
Abraham & Sara Silber Middle School

Dr. Manfred R. & Jamie Lehmann Campus

