

# THOUGHTS AND NEWS FROM OHR SHLOMO

A Short and Insightful Newsletter From Ohr Shlomo Yeshiva High School

## Upcoming Trip to Fireball Mountain

Baruch Hashem, this week Tuesday, B'Ezras Hashem, we plan on bringing the entire Yeshiva to **Fireball Mountain**. An email has been sent out with information. We are all looking forward to an exciting and productive day!

## Clubs

This week every student signed up to join one of the many **clubs** available at Ohr Shlomo. Please speak to your son about his choice. Baruch Hashem, we plan on starting some clubs this week, as the **Chess Club** already has an event planned for this coming Tuesday (details to follow), the **Ohr Shlomo Sharks** will soon be having tryouts, and the **Music classes** should be stating this Monday (all students are required to have an acoustic guitar).



**OHR SHLOMO**  
Yeshiva High School

## A Thought on Ki Seitzei

וְרָאִיתָ בַּשְּׁבִיָּה אִשָּׁת יִפְת־תָּאֵר וְחִשְׁקָתָּ בָּהּ וְלָקַחְתָּ לָּךְ לְאִשָּׁה,  
**And you see among the captives a beautiful woman and you desire her and would take her [into your household] as your wife.**" (21:11)

In this week's Parsha the Torah begins by discussing the Halachos of the אִשָּׁת יִפְת־תָּאֵר, the captive beautiful woman. In short, the Torah describes a unique Halacha about a Jewish soldier who encounters a non-Jewish woman in the midst of a battle. The woman, like many women with not-the-greatest reputation, dressed herself up in the hopes of helping out her military by seducing the Jewish soldier. Instead of restricting the Jewish soldier from even going near her, the Torah actually details the process of which he could approach her in the hopes of marriage. While the conditions for this process are worth learning (see Perek 21, 10-14), we will focus on **Rashi's** incredible thought in explaining this remarkable Halacha.

**Rashi** says, "לא דברה תורה אלא כנגד יצר הרע, שאם אין הקב"ה, מתירה ישאנה באסור. The Torah is speaking in recognition of man's temptations. For if Hashem would not permit her to him as a wife, he would nevertheless marry her although she would then be forbidden to him."

**Rashi** is teaching us an incredible idea. Hashem understands our challenges. Hashem knows our temptations and what attracts us. Hashem built us. Hashem gets us. While marrying this woman is certainly not a recommended Shidduch for any fine Jew, this test is generally beyond the capability of a normal person. Hashem permitted her to the Jewish soldier - so long as he follows the Torah's detailed process.

The **Shach al HaTorah** (a student of the **Arizal**) adds a point to this explanation. Part of the attraction that we may have for this

**CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES**

Brooklyn - 6:49  
 Lakewood - 6:50  
 Monsey - 6:50  
 Woodmere - 6:48  
 Ramat Beit Shemesh - 6:06  
 Yerushalayim - 6:07

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woman is **the very fact that she is forbidden!** "Stolen waters are sweet," says **Shlomo HaMelech**. So long as she is forbidden to us she is very attractive, the moment that the Torah permitted her to us - she becomes **less** attractive. He bases himself on a story in the **Yerushalmi**. Once R. Mana went to visit R. Chaggai who was very sick on Yom Kippur. When R. Mana saw how sick R. Chaggai was and how desperately he wanted to break his fast and drink, R. Mana told him that he was permitted to drink. Immediately R. Chaggai responded that he wasn't thirsty anymore! He explained that it was the very fact that the water was forbidden that had attracted him to it - even on Yom Kippur. Once it was permitted he no longer felt the desire for the water. This is the reason that the Torah permitted a Jewish soldier to marry the non-Jewish captive.

We need to remember: Hashem made us. As the **Ramban** points out, Hashem will only give us a test that we can handle. If he put the test in front of us, then he believes in us and knows we have what it takes. May we make him proud!

**9/11 Memories, Sports, and Smiles Everywhere**

This week at Ohr Shlomo we remembered the tragic days of 9/11. In our Jewish History classes, **Mr. Itzkowitz** shared personal memories of his time responding to the attack on the twin towers and the chaotic days that followed. Our students watched a video, prepared by **Rabbi Dr. Engelberg**, recounting stories and perspectives from that day and internalized the eternal message of **הנה לא ינום ולא יישן שומר ישראל**. **Rabbi Zakheim** also shared some stories about his father, **R' Shlomo Zakheim ז"ל**, and his miraculous survival while saving lives beneath the towers.

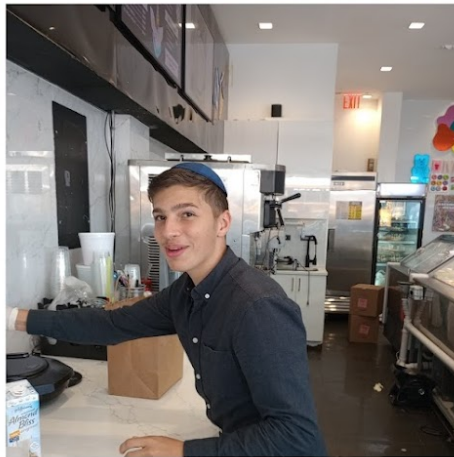
With the gracious kindness of the **Zanzipper family**, our students went on their weekly outing to play basketball at a local gym - and the competition was intense! The squeaking sound of sneakers were quickly drowned out by the cheers on all sides as the players rained down threes and hustled for rebounds.

Baruch Hashem each day brings excitement and joy, warmth and kindness. This week the **Chessed Club**, and its Chested Captains, **Ariel Cohen** and **Nachman Berman**, began planning a wonderful campaign, taking place this Tuesday night. We wish them tremendous success and KEEP GIVING US NACHAS!

As always we continue to pray for our brothers and sisters around the world and specifically in Eretz Yisrael.

**Wishing everyone a beautiful Shabbos! Good Shabbos!**

## This week at Ohr Shlomo...





## ...and a bit more...

