

# Bais Rivkahy

שבט תשפ"ה , VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1, שבט

THE RHYTHM OF GROWTH AND ACTIVITY IN BAIS RIVKAH





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### Letter from the Executive Director

#### Dear Parents, שיחיו

"What is in a name?" It's a famous question that is often asked.

In Torah, the answer is: Everything.

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As we usher in the month of Shevat, the date of Yud Shevat takes center stage, marking the Histalkus of the Frierdiker Rebbe and the transition to the Rebbe's נשיאות.

However, the first Yud Shevat ever commemorated by Chassidim is that of the Histalkus of Rebbetzin Rivkah, the grandmother of the Frierdiker Rebbe με.

When the Rebbe Rashab founded Tomchei Temimim, the first formal Chabad yeshiva, his mother, Rebbetzin Rivkah, devoted her life to the bochurim.

It was she who embraced them as a true mother, ensuring their care and sustenance. She molded Tomchei Temimim into being not just a Yeshiva, but a true home for the talmidim.

As a tribute to Rebbetzin Rivkah, the Frierdiker Rebbe named the girls' school "Bais Rivkah", after his grandmother. This name encapsulates the heartbeat of our school.

Rebbetzin Rivkah gifted us with a most important legacy, tapping into a student's emotional and physical needs. All she invested into Tomchei Temimim is now being perpetuated, not just in name, but as the neshama of the school of the Rebbe's kinder.

There is an expression, "You don't live in a house, you live in a home." What does the word "בית" really mean?

Students spend more time in school than they do at home. In order for a TOIN to be successful, the students must feel that they are at home. They need their emotional needs met, before they can even begin to learn.

Our school is not a group of classrooms. It is not a house; it is a home of caring and warmth. These are the prerequisites to the high level of education that you seek for your children.

On the date of Yud Shevat, in the Sefer HaYom Yom, the Frierdiker Rebbe chose the entry to be about Rebbetzin Rivka and included the famous story "One must eat in order to daven, not daven in order to eat".

In Bais Rivkah, physical sustenance is primary, with nourishing breakfasts and generous lunches served in both of our campuses. We start our talmidos off to be in a good space, in order to daven as a Bas Chabad.

When we say "chassidim zeinen ein mishpacha", that becomes true of every place where chassidim gather. Where do our students gather more than in the classroom?

As home and school partner together, we become "איין משפחה, nurturing your children, our children and most importantly: the Rebbe's kinder.

#### Warmly,

Rabbi Sholom Goldstein



# FEEL THE PULSE:



#### א-ב

In Bais Rivkah Preschool, learning חורה is sweet – and learning ש-א is fun! We discover and review ש-א through tactile activities, such as tracing the letter with our fingers, tracing in the sand, outlining letters with push-pins and Wikki Stix, shaping them with magnets and rocks, and playing matching games. One class even had a fancy lady tea party when they learned the letter 'U! These activities foster many life skills as well, including self-sufficiency, hand-eye coordination, short term/long term memory, and auditory skills.







#### יומי דפגרא

The special חידישע ימים טובים on are really felt school-wide! Our classrooms look festive, and the girls are so proud of their carefully crafted crowns. With a פארברענגען and special activities, our devoted morahs bring every חידישע יום טוב

In many classrooms, in addition to a מיידעלאך for כי, the מיידעלאך, the מיידעלאך learned about different forms of light. They talked about light from electricity, sunshine and candles – and they also explored being a "lamplighter," as the בי רש"ב taught us.











#### ראש חודש כסלו

In honor of ראש חודש כסלו, Bais Rivkah Preschool visited the Rebbe's room in 770. Every girl had the דכות to give פרוכת, kiss the פרוכת, and say one of the 12 פרוכת. On the way back to school, we also stopped to visit the Rebbe's house and kiss the מזוזה.

#### Our girls had the best comments and questions! Here are some of them:

"Morah, will the Rebbe give us a treat?"

"Morah! We need the Rebbe to come back so we can see the געזונט!"

"Are we going to see the Rebbe's doctor?"











#### פרשה

In our preschool classrooms, פרשה isn't just stories! Come visit – you might find a ladder for "עקב"s dream, a working well for פרשת חיי שרה – or you may find us packing a suitcase for יועקב הלך לדרכו. Tents pop up in our rooms, the מיידעלאך have mini mock weddings, and classes visit other classrooms to practice the important מצוה of מצוה.











#### FEEL THE PULSE:

#### א-ב סיום

Pre-1A begins the year reviewing the ב-א, to ensure a strong foundation before moving on to learning דוס. They go through each and every letter, reviewing with consistent practice and fun activities. The classes play א-ב games, draw the letters in sand, shape them with pretzel sticks, and other interactive activities.

Before starting to learn the נקודות, the Pre-1A נקודות, the Pre-1A א-ב סיום had a beautiful א-ב חיד עלאך. They played an א-ב bingo game, and shaped א-ב cookies. We are so proud of them, and so excited to move on to learning how to read with בקודות.











sometimes, it's with the entire Pre-1A!

#### PARTIES חנוכה

In honor of חנוכה, the Pre-1A classes invited their mommies to their classrooms for חנוכה parties! Mommies and girls did fun חנוכה activities together, including decorating donuts and dreidels, and sewing חנוכה געלט – may they continue to bring their parents much נחת!









In honor of חנוכה, Morah Dassy's Pre-1A class visited the Shalom Senior Center! The girls davened and gave אַדקה with the seniors, sang חנוכה songs, and gave out מיידעלאך cards. The מנוכה מיידעלאך were so happy to spread the joy of חנוכה, and had a wonderful time doing this great.

#### PUPPET SHOW חנוכה

On the first day of חנוכה, the Pre-1A and Transition מיידעלאך watched a חנוכה Puppet Show. The Small Wonder Puppet Theater kept the girls engaged, laughing and excited throughout the performance. It was such a joy to see their faces light up with delight!











## BIRTHDAY PACKAGES

Order online at bethrivkah.edu/birthdays





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# FEEL PULSE:

**BAIS RIVKAH PULSE** 

#### היום יום

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#### י"ט כסלו

י"ט כסלו was a meaningful and engaging day for our Bais Rivkah Primary students! As breakfast was served on Friday morning, students united for an hour of פסוקים, songs, and inspiration. It was fun to welcome the Pre-1A classes to our special program, adding to the חיות and אחדות of the day!

The program's theme was "תניא: the תורה שבכתב of חסידות," and each grade contributed masterpieces in honor of the event. First graders prepared heartthemed centerpieces, second graders decorated posters depicting ideas from תניא, and third graders performed with song and dance. In addition, second graders brought precious family תניא's printed in all sorts of locations, displayed in a beautiful exhibit which all classes got to view and enjoy.

#### חנוכה

The spirit of חנוכה was felt in our hallways as both morning and afternoon classes held special חנוכה activities, including interactive centers and creative projects. It was especially exciting to welcome the mommies who brought חנוכה themed crafts and baking activities to many lucky classrooms!

Special shout-out to our talented creators, builders and inventors for the most amazing מנורה display. With hundreds of beautiful מנורה creations, the entire school enjoyed a wonderful "מנורה Museum!"



of our beautiful מנורה museum!















#### Nurturing Young Readers:

#### FIRST GRADE READING GROUPS

In our first grade classrooms, we're committed to helping every student learn to read with confidence! We work to build vocabulary, and make reading a positive and enjoyable experience that will foster a life-long love for learning.

Daily reading groups provide a supportive and personalized learning environment for each child to grow at her own pace, providing the tools to succeed as readers and learners. We're proud of our first grade developing readers, and are excited to see them tackling texts with new skills every passing week!

Our dedicated team of first grade teachers share ideas, resources, and best practices to create a dynamic and successful learning environment for nurturing our young readers.

#### **ELECTIONS**

This November, our students were abuzz with excitement as they learned about the U.S. government and the election process. Our girls explored the significance of being a citizen and using our vote to have an effect on אידן in this country, as well as our sisters and brothers in ארץ ישראל. The girls especially enjoyed writing persuasive compositions titled "If I Were President," and participating in mock elections.

The excitement was palpable as students lined up to cast their private ballots in a colorful voting booth, and eagerly awaited the results. The winner was later announced on the loudspeakers: Bais Rivkah Primary future voters overwhelmingly voted for Donald Trump as president!



#### Hands-On Learning:

#### USING MANIPULATIVES IN SECOND GRADE MATH

Our second grade classes incorporate manipulatives in their math lessons, providing students with a solid foundation in mathematical concepts. These hands-on, tangible tools help students develop a deeper understanding of numbers, making them more accessible and fun!

Manipulatives like popsicle sticks, dice, base ten blocks, and colorful connecting cubes allow students to build a strong concept of ones, tens and hundreds, preparing them for moving on to complex 2 and 3 digit number problems. These hands-on tools help develop problem-solving skills, and they also combat a common fear students may have of math – replacing it with confidence!

#### Readers Are Leaders:

#### THIRD GRADERS SOAR IN RED CONTEST

Our third grade students are taking part in an exciting "Read Every Day" (RED) contest! This initiative encourages the girls to develop a daily reading habit at home, fostering a love for reading and improving their literacy skills.

The contest is simple: students earn points for reading from a book of their choice every evening. As they accumulate points, they reach milestones and win prizes!

While the prizes are certainly exciting, the real reward is the improvement in our students' reading skills. Reading every day enhances fluency, accuracy, and comprehension. We're proud of our third-grade students for embracing this challenge – our readers of today are our leaders of tomorrow!





#### FEEL THE PULSE:





#### **SCHOOL THEME**

Bais Rivkah Elementary's school theme for שנת Every בבת עינו של הקב"ה" is: "ה' ה' בבת עינו של הקב"ה – Every Yid is the Apple of ה's Eye!" This powerful message reminds us of how special עם ישראל is, and how much ה' loves each and every one of us. Our theme presents itself in various ways throughout every day:

- In the Classroom: Specific lessons and activities help the students understand the privilege of being treasured by 'ה, and the responsibility of making sure that קדושה is reflected in their behavior, choices, and interactions with the world.
- Character Development: We focus on fostering חודת and encouraging students to treat one another with kindness and respect.
- School-Wide Awards: Students in grades 4-8 are rewarded for behaviors that befit a ד.ם. חבת הרכינה "Positive Office Referrals," "You Were Spotted" Cards, or for any positive reports, students receive apple charms to keep on an especially made bracelet (grades 4-5) or keychain (grades 6-8).
- We encourage you to join us in bringing this theme to life at home, too!



#### **SUNDAY PROGRAM**

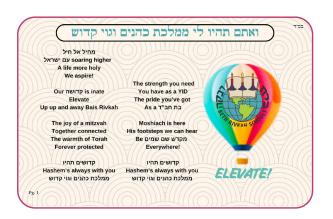
We are so excited to share our newly created Sunday morning curriculum, entitled "קדושים תהיו." Connected to our school theme, this thoughtfully designed program aims to instill a deep sense of pride in our identity as קדושה about the יקדושה that surrounds each of life's milestones, beginning from the way parents introduce קדושה even before a child is born! Also explored is how we prepare for every new stage in life.

Every few weeks, at the conclusion of a topic, students complete assignments in a custom-designed workbook. These assignments encourage thoughtful reflection, and focus on internalizing the key messages. To strengthen the connection between home and school, every assignment includes one question that invites parental

involvement. This provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to discuss and further inspire their daughters about the concepts they've learned.

Another exciting feature of the Sunday curriculum is our bulletin board submission contest! Students are encouraged to submit a creative expression – a writing, photo, or artwork – that reflects their personal connection to a lesson learned in the program. All entries will be rewarded, and winning submissions will be proudly displayed on our new "Elevate" bulletin board.

Finally, a special song, composed by our very talented Miss Herman, is performed on Sunday mornings and at school events. This inspiring, upbeat song serves as a constant reminder to our students of their identity as "ממלכת כהנים," and reinforces the values emphasized in the program with שמחה !







#### חסידישע ימים BRINGING THE טובים TO LIFE

In our classrooms, the יומי דפגרא – the special days on our חסידישע calendar – are brought to life through engaging, hands-on experiences. These activities are designed to connect our students deeply with the significance and essence of each day, making learning meaningful and memorable.

By immersing our students in these experiences, we aim to foster a personal connection to the רבי, to סידות, and to our heritage, ensuring that these days remain vibrant and impactful in their lives.











#### Connection Point:

#### **STRENGTHENING OUR CONNECTION TO THE REBBE**

One of our primary goals at Bais Rivkah is to strengthen our students' רבי to the רבי. To assist us in achieving this, we are proud to join the many schools participating in the Connection Point program.

This program helps children connect with the רבי in a relatable, meaningful way, through learning from and about the Rebbe. It features children's rallies with the Rebbe, and includes weekly question sheets to guide students. The question numbers are displayed on the screen as the Rebbe addresses them, ensuring that students can follow along and grasp the key points. We aim to inspire and engage every student through this program, fostering a deep and lasting התקשרות!

#### INDEPENDENT LEARNING

At Bais Rivkah, we strive to not only teach our students, but to instill within them the ability to learn on their own - to really feel ownership over their learning journey.

To achieve this, we have incorporated Independent Study classes into our curriculum. These sessions provide students with the opportunity to learn בחברותא, encouraging collaboration, critical thinking, and self-driven exploration of the material.

By engaging in this format, students not only deepen their understanding, but also develop the skills and confidence to take full ownership of their learning. Our goal is to empower them to become lifelong learners, equipped to explore and grow independently throughout their lives.























#### **HISTORY DIORAMAS**

Fourth grade students engaged in a creative project to model their understanding of Native Americans. They created dioramas, three-dimensional models, representing different aspects of Native American life, such as their homes, landscapes, and daily activities.

Students researched the housing they had, the tools they used, and the environments that various tribes lived in, such as the Plains, Woodland, or Southwest Native Americans. Students then used materials like clay, paper, and natural elements like twigs or moss to construct different scenes. They depicted traditional dwellings like wigwams, longhouses, and pueblos, as well as tools and clothing.

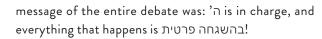
This project encouraged creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking. It also integrated history, art, and storytelling, helping students develop their creative talents. We are so proud of our fourth grade students!



#### **ELECTION DAY DEBATE**

On Election Day, the Bais Rivkah lunchroom buzzed with excitement! Eighth graders took center stage for the school-wide debate and mock election. Serving as both moderators and candidates, the graduation class showcased their public speaking, critical thinking, and leadership skills in front of the captivated student audience of grades 4-7.

The event began with opening remarks from the debate moderators, who set a professional and engaging tone for the afternoon. Then, with thoughtful arguments and persuasive ideas, candidates tackled challenging topics, ranging from school policy proposals, immigration, and unconditional support for ארץ ישראל. The overarching



After the debate, the entire school participated in a mock election, casting ballots to determine our next president and vice president. This activity gave students a handson lesson in our democratic process, emphasizing the importance of informed voting. Bais Rivkah students have no doubt that the nationwide election results are a reflection of the Bais Rivkah debate and election!







#### AND SCIENCE מנורה

Eighth graders had the special opportunity to participate in an "illuminating" מנורה program led by Rabbi Albukerk. First, they explored the unique properties of oil, including its ability to float on water and burn brightly. Then, Rabbi Albukerk used a centrifuge to demonstrate the process of separating the purest oil, the שמן זית זך, from the less pure oil. Girls were excited to see how this relates to their science curriculum, which covers the methods used to separate matter, one of which is centrifugal force.

Through hands-on experiments and thoroughly engaging explanations, students truly deepened their understanding of the science behind oil. And as Rabbi Albukerk expressed, the girls can now go out and kindle others with their light – be נרות להאיר!

Adding a special touch, Rabbi Albukerk presented a beautiful replica of the Rebbe's מנורה in 770 as a gift to Bais Rivkah. This מנורה will be prominently displayed in our halls!

# Bais Rivkah's Upcoming Events



#### BRHS PRODUCTION

This 1.5 hour original drama features BRHS talent and a powerful, relevant message. Save the date for a show that'll keep you on the edge of your seat!

FEBRUARY 23RD כ״ה שבט



#### ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Gear up for our annual fundraising campaign!

MARCH 23-24 C"ג - כ"ד אדר



#### EMBRACE LIVE

The Bais Rivkah
Alumnae
EVENT OF THE YEAR!
Don't miss out on this
night of nostalgia,
inspiration and fun!

MARCH 8TH ח' אדר

# FEEL **PULSE: BAIS RIVKAH PULSE**

#### <u>A JOURNEY THROUGH</u> THE מחזור

This year, being that we had classes for almost a full month before ימים נוראים, we took the opportunity to teach מחזור teachers in every grade of high school received a booklet packed with information, stories, and explanations about the main parts of davening, instructions for shul, inspiration, and more.

After the מים נוראים, we received excellent feedback from parents and students alike, many girls were able to come to shul and feel comfortable, knowledgeable and ready to daven!

#### ידיעות PROGRAM כלליות

A new ידיעות כלליות program has been launched in the ninth grade! Students have received a booklet containing important general Jewish knowledge. Mrs. Rendler, the ninth grade מחנכת, reviews the information with the girls, and quizzes them once a month.

Every other month, girls with an average higher than 80 on the past 2 tests are entered into a class raffle for a \$175 gift certificate from Kirsh Jewelers! At the end of the year, there will בעז"ה be an accumulative test on all the information learned. One girl per class will win a \$225 gift certificate.

This project was initiated לעילוי נשמת Mrs. Chaya Kirsh ע"ה, who had a love for learning and ידיעות כלליות. We thank Kirsh Jewelers for their generous donation to this project!

#### CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS

#### INITIATIVE פרשה TENTH GRADE

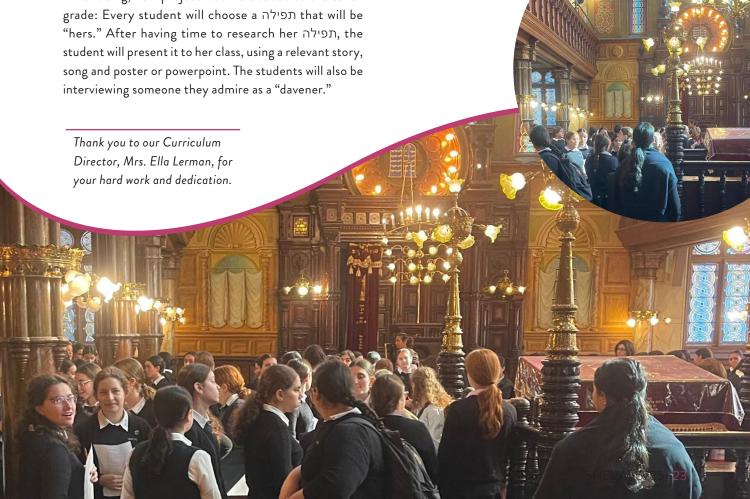
Mrs. R. Kotlarsky initiated a new program in her tenth grade פרשה class, geared toward enhancing her students' independent study skills. Every week, the girls have class time to answer 10 questions on the פרשה. There are copies of the weekly חיינו available if a student needs help with translation. After the answers are reviewed, students plot how they did on a graph, tracking their weekly progress. The goal of this program is to help girls become more familiar and comfortable with opening a on their own, and working to understanding the basic פסוק and רש"י.

#### **ELEVENTH GRADE JEWISH HISTORY TRIP**

11th grade students went on an educational trip to The Museum at Eldridge Street, a beautiful shul built in 1887. Girls were fascinated as the tour guide shared the story of the shul, and truly felt the dedication and pride of the אידן from the Lower East Side.They then went on to have lunch at the LES Chabad House, run by Rabbi and Mrs. Stone. Rabbi Stone shared many incredible stories about his מבצעים experiences, and about being a proud רבי of the חסיד.

#### TENTH GRADE ביאורי PROJECT תפילה

An exciting, new project was introduced to the tenth grade: Every student will choose a תפילה that will be "hers." After having time to research her תפילה, the student will present it to her class, using a relevant story, song and poster or powerpoint. The students will also be



#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS**

#### תשפ״ה G.O. THEME

A grand cooking "טעם-petition" left BRHS students perplexed. They watched the judges rate dishes, without any of them taking a single bite! The contestants probed the judge to just try it and see how good it is!

This year's G.O. theme is "טעמו וראו" – Try It!" Through "tasting" – learning חסידות חסידות הוא enabling us to experience כי טוב הוי – that 'a is good.











#### 50 YEARS OF מבצע נש"ק!





#### י"ט כסלו

In honor of יייט כסלוי, our students enjoyed an inspiring and engaging program, beautifully created and executed by our very own 12th graders. This year, the יייט כסלו committee brought the words "בכל דרכיך דעהו" to life through the lens of חסידות. The packed day included:

- Exhibits: Students were led through a series
  of breathtaking exhibits, each exploring a
  different בכל דרכיך דעהו on בכל דרכיך, and how
  it can be applied practically.
- Production: A captivating musical performance transported students back to the times of the השכלה movement. They followed Faigel's journey as she rose above her struggles and doubts, coming to realize that her challenges were ultimately there to bring her closer to 'n.
- Talks: Students delivered meaningful and impactful talks to their fellow classmates, sharing personal reflections on how they connect to 'n in their daily lives.
- Workshops: Workshops highlighted the famous אלטער רבי of the אלטער רבי. Students were fascinated to hear about their history and inner meaning, and were excited to hear a brand-new medley of the ניגונים, featuring BRHS talent!























#### חידון לימוד תורתו

An annual highlight in Bais Rivkah High School, the חידון לימוד תורתו was started 6 years ago לעילוי נשמת Rabbi Yona Avtzon ע״ה. This year, the ספר בראשית on ספר בראשית.

Students chose between two track options: track 1 – learning two שיחות a week, and track 2 – one שיחות a week. After weeks of learning, students in track 1 with the highest average in their grade will compete in a grand game show. Winners will receive a trophy, along with a set of פרים and a \$200 gift card to Tzfasman's Jewelers. Students who consistently take the tests and receive high averages will be eligible for exciting incentives, including a מרים sweater, plaques, and פרים. An exclusive event will take place for those who take and pass all 5 tests.

We look forward to seeing our students shine at the grand gameshow!

#### Grade Highlights

#### 9TH GRADE

9th graders enjoyed a memorable grade Shabbaton, full of inspiration and energy. Focused on התקשרות and לייברא התקשרות and לייברא, program highlights included: teacher-led workshops, a teacher-led workshops, a with Mrs. Yehudis Bluming, student reflections at Bluming, student reflections at auction, and joyful dancing in honor of incompandiated of the dedicated 9th grade staff and shluchos for all their hard work!







#### **10TH GRADE**

Preparations for the upcoming 10th grade Shabbaton are in full swing! Students are looking forward to a weekend of excitement and growth, and are excited at the opportunity to connect as a grade.

#### 11TH GRADE

11th graders returned from their Shabbaton inspired and empowered. The program was jam-packed with meaning and fun, with highlights including: round-table discussions, in-depth learning with teachers, and a פארברענגען with Rabbi and Rebbetzin Shmuly and Adina Altein. The girls especially enjoyed interacting with and learning from their teachers and staff outside the regular school setting!

#### 12TH GRADE

The annual Seniors Retreat is a highlight for every 12th grader in BRHS. This year's program was an unforgettable experience, complete with a blend of inspiration and fun. Meaningful workshops featured Mrs. Gitty Rapoport, Mrs. Goldie Plotkin and Rabbi Herman. The girls had the opportunity to hear from fellow students at a student panel, and enjoyed lively dancing, a game, and kumzitz. The evening concluded with a פארברענגען led by Rabbi Herman, lasting through the night. A big אחנכות for making this event happen!



#### · Kids Corner · · · · ·

#### **COLORING PAGE**



#### **CAN YOU SOLVE THE CODE?**

#### BAIS RIVKAH WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SUPPORTERS:







#### THE UNIFORM SHOP

School should feel like a comfort zone, starting with what you wear. That's why we've designed a collection of breathable, stretchable, and comfortable uniforms to become your new favorite.

Crafted with input from children, our school basics feature custom-engineered fabrics for durability and a designer-quality fit. From combed cotton polos to seamless collar inserts, every detail is made for comfort and sensory sensitivity—all at the most affordable prices.

For a uniform as unique as you are, we've got you covered.

#### THEBRUNIFORMSHOP.COM



#### **DEDICATE A DAY**

Imagine: 2,500 Children Learning in Your Merit

Make your special day unforgettable by sponsoring a day of Torah learning for our children. This meaningful gesture is a beautiful way to honor the memory of a loved one on their יארצייט, celebrate milestones like birthdays and anniversaries, seek additional זכותים for good health, or express gratitude and respect.

Your sponsorship will be acknowledged with a prominently displayed dedication at 470 Lefferts Ave., and a photo of the display will be emailed to you or the person of your choice.

Make an impact that lasts forever

#### BETHRIVKAH.EDU/SCREENS



#### **BIRTHDAY PACKAGES**

Bais Rivkah Development is excited to offer a convenient way to celebrate your daughter's birthday at school.

With our Birthday Packages, you can order delicious donuts or danishes at a low cost for her class to enjoy. Simply place your order online, and your daughter can pick up the treats from our kitchen.

Visit our website to make her school celebration sweet and memorable!

BETHRIVKAH.EDU/BIRTHDAYS



#### **DECLUTTER FOR A CAUSE**

Support Bais Rivkah and Crown Heights Families

Bais Rivkah has set up Tzedakah drop-off bins to benefit our school and local families in need. You can donate clothing, shoes, handbags, linens, towels, stuffed animals, and accessories. Please note that toys, games, and housewares are not accepted.

Our drop-off bins at 489 E New York Avenue. Please help keep the area clean by avoiding trash or clutter.

For at-your-door pickup in Brooklyn, please contact us to schedule.

#### CBRONSTEIN@BETHRIVKAH.EDU



#### BAIS RIVKAH ALUMNAE

Here's a space dedicated to connecting, inspiring and enriching your life, wherever you're holding.

Spread across the globe, our alumnae lead diverse, multifaceted lives. You serve as leaders within your communities, nurturing mothers and proud grandmothers, dedicated educators, accomplished artists, and seasoned professionals.

Yet one thread unites us—Bais Rivkah. Feel the Bais Rivkah spirit.

Learn more at:

#### BETHRIVKAH.EDU/ALUMNAE



For Bais Rivkah mothers, BRanches is here to support and inspire you on your Chinuch journey.

Through monthly podcasts, live and virtual events, and through creating bonding experiences, BRanches is here to empower you to raise the treasures you were given.

Learn more at:

#### BETHRIVKAH.EDU/BRANCHES



#### THE OPTIMIZING MOTHERS PODCAST

The podcast that's intriguing,



BETHRIVKAH.EDU/BRPODCAST

### Behind the Scenes

#### VISITING THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE!

Located in an office space most people can't find, you've probably never heard of Bais Rivkah's development office – but you sure know about their programs. Ever heard of EmBRace? Ever thought about who runs the BR fundraisers? How about the Pulse Magazine you're reading right now? Let's catch a chat with the Development Office staff themselves!

#### We are so excited to learn all about the development office and what it accomplishes for Bais Rivkah. What can you tell us about your programs?

Hello there! The development team runs a few departments. There's the Alumnae Association, which is for women who have graduated from Bais Rivkah. Then there's BRanches, which is for mothers of students in Bais Rivkah. And of course, there are programs for Bais Rivkah itself, like teacher appreciation events, the annual fundraiser, and more!

#### Wow! That's a lot! How do you have time in your day for everything?

Time management! We make sure to set a specific time for each program and project that we're working on. For example – before lunch, we usually work on Alumnae projects. After lunch, we focus on BRanches.

#### Let's go into that! What are the specifics of each department? What programs do you make for alumnae?

Our biggest event of the year is EmBRace Live! It's a live streamed show, featuring alumnae from all over the world, nostalgic musical presentations, and lots of trips down memory lane. We also recently concluded our first-ever Tanya Summit for 1700 0"1, which had over five thousand views!

Directed by Mrs. Sara Blau, we also produce the EmBRace Magazine, which is ה"ם enthusiastically received by over 6000 alumnae and parents. In addition, we host smaller zoom events which usually feature an inspiring speaker, and then a creative activity, like making charcuterie boards, easy delicious recipes, tablescaping, and more!

#### What about BRanches? How is that different from Alumnae?

BRanches is for the Bais Rivkah mothers community. Simply put, we work to create events that support our mothers. Thousands enjoy our chinuch podcast called The Optimizing Mothers Podcast, which can be found on all platforms. We also organize a yearly mental health event, and we just finished our second annual ProTECHtion event, which had over 1000 people watching live!

#### Sounds like the Development Office is always busy! What is the main goal of all your work?

I would say our goal is to create a community among our women. Our alumnae are so widespread throughout the globe, and joining together as one really ignites a force that's so powerful! For BRanches, it's to inspire and support our mothers in their journey through whatever means possible.

#### May you have Hatzlacha to continue in all the beautiful work you are doing!

Thank you! And we can't wait to see you at one of our future programs;)





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