



Class of 2024

Graduation & Senior Shabbos Reflections - pg 7

## RABBI YAAKOV BENDER'S CHIZZUK TRIP to St. Louis

We were honored to host Harav Yaakov Bender, Rosh Yeshiva of Darchei Torah in Far Rockaway, NY, who accepted our invitation to visit. The Rosh Yeshiva uplifted the entire Yeshiva with divrei chizuk, urging the talmidim to resist the allure of the outside world and inspiring them to elevate themselves with kedusha and dignity.

Rabbi Bender also visited the other mosdos in the community, held two

separate chinuch sessions—one for the rebbeim and another for the moros—met with both community kollelim, and conducted a private session for the community rabbanim.

In a special session with our hanhala, Rabbi Bender shared valuable insights from his years of experience building and running his world-renowned yeshiva and visiting many yeshivos across the country. “Rabbi Bender

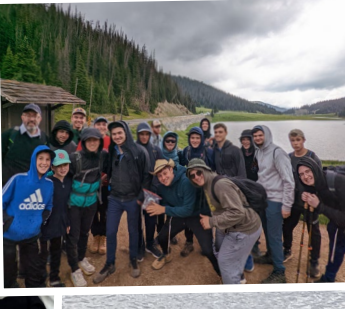
shared his vast chinuch experience,” says Rabbi Mendy Rosner, “covering topics such as strengthening tefillah, finding enjoyment in learning, and building connections with each talmid.”

The hanhala was thrilled with Rabbi Bender’s positive feedback about our Yeshiva, and we, in turn, deeply appreciated the meaningful impact Rabbi Bender had on us.



## BAIS MEDRASH Summer Zman

Following a very strong summer zman in St. Louis, the Bais Medrash bochurim and their rebbeim capped off the zman by experiencing the Niflaos Haborei in the Rocky Mountains, celebrating a year of shteiging and growth.





## RUNNERGIZE

MTI talmidim learned to stretch themselves and their perseverance in a fun, healthy way with the “Runnergize” exercise program. Under the guidance of

their coach Meir Kaniel, the boys learned how to stretch before and after running, utilizing techniques to maintain stamina. Participants met impressive running goals

and enjoyed a post program celebration, feeling tremendous satisfaction and accomplishment.



## FROM TORAH to TOTALITY: *Experiencing the Amazing* SOLAR ECLIPSE

To gain a proper appreciation and perspective on the significance of a solar eclipse for Klal Yisroel, we were privileged to hear a shiur from Rabbi Dovid Heber, Rav of KAYTT in Baltimore and a Kashrus Administrator at Star-K. Rabbi Heber discussed the halachic and hashkafic dynamics of the solar eclipse. Several days

later, the Niflaos Haborei came alive as the talmidim traveled to Farmington, Missouri to witness the solar eclipse in its path of totality. The awed talmidim gained a new appreciation for the daily gift Hashem provides with the rising sun, a feeling that will stay with them long after this wondrous experience.

## RETZIFUS LEARNING INCENTIVE PROGRAM TAKES A TRIP TO CHICAGO

In a grand culmination of MTI's Retzifus Learning Program, the hard-working talmidim headed off on their well-deserved trip to Chicago. The Retzifus Program has been called the “MTI workout,” but this is no ordinary workout. Over the course of the fifteen-week program, the talmidim worked on building up the ability to learn without interruption until some were learning b’retzifus for two hours! “Watching the boys after they’ve learned for two

hours, you see them glowing,” says their rebbi and program organizer, Rabbi Moshe Chaim Biron, “Bochurim have commented that they feel that this program is a big part of their growth in yeshiva.”

The boys began their trip to Chicago with a Dunkin Donuts breakfast, after which they stopped in the Khal Chassidim Shul. There they were addressed by the Rav, Rabbi Efraim Twerski; followed by spirited dancing. They danced to the words

“ashrei misheamala baTorah,” their words sparked by weeks of real ameilus in Torah. The boys joined the Chicago Community Kollel for a Retzifus learning seder, and then spent an enjoyable day touring the city. The trip ended with a beautiful seudah and a siyum on Meseches Taanis by MTI talmid Eli Nimchinsky. What a fitting way to celebrate such a valuable program! Yasher Koach to those who sponsored this incredible experience for the talmidim.



## TALMIDIM VISIT *Delmar Gardens*

In keeping with MTI's strong connection with the community, the talmidim visited Delmar Gardens, a local senior living facility. Mrs. Gay Lee Freedman, Director of Special Projects at the yeshiva, shared how the bochorim engaged in conversation with residents, and particularly enjoyed using their musical talents

to create performances that brought joy to all involved. “These meaningful interactions not only uplift the spirits of the residents,” says Mrs. Freedman, “They also leave a lasting impact on the students, shaping their perspectives and inspiring empathy and compassion.”



## TEFILLIN AWARENESS *Project*

The “Tefillin Awareness Project” brought experienced sofer Rabbi Yosef Heinemann to MTI. After Shacharis, he checked the talmidim's tefillin placement to ensure it

was correct and touched up any retzuos or batim that needed to be blackened. Following this, the yeshiva enjoyed an interactive demonstration of the tefillin-

making process. The visit was sponsored by the Yankowitz/Wilhelm family in memory of Yitzchak Shlomo ben Moshe.





1. Friday afternoon visit to the St. Louis Botanical Gardens



MTI SEED program in Omaha, Nebraska



Bais Medrash talmidim visit Rav Shmuel Kamenetsky, shlita



Rav Akiva Grunblatt giving a Vaad to the Bais Medrash



3rd year Bais Medrash talmidim on a retreat in Grayville, Illinois



Rabbi Yirmiyahu Benyowitz giving a shiur on Hilchos Chalitzta



Talmidim preparing for a fundraiser to benefit Eretz Yisroel



10th grade Shabbaton in Memphis, Tennessee



Rabbi Wasser giving divrei zikaron for Rav Henach Leibowitz, zt'l



Bain Hazmanim Mussar program participants enjoying a delicious treat.



Bais Medrash talmidim take visiting Beth Medrash Govoha (BMG) in Lakewood, NJ with CEO Rabbi Yosef Heinemann



Yehuda Zev Markowitz celebrating a siyum on Mishnayos Seder Kodshim



Rabbi Moshe Winter giving a Vaad to the 9th graders



Moshe Glazer making a siyum on Meseches Bava Basra



Rabbi Dovid Lintz visiting with talmidim who work in Camp Chaverim



Rabbi Rosner's shiur on a hike at Lewis and Clark Trailhead



Pizza lunch for the winning team of a pre-Pesach competition



Bais Medrash talmidim hear divrei chizuk from Rav Aharon Feldman, shlita



Erev Shabbos volleyball



Rabbi Yaakov Berkowitz speaking to the Bnei Hayeshiva about the Chashivus HaTorah



CPR course administered by the Monarch Fire Protection District



JUMP Staff picture (Jewish Unity Mentorship Program)



Brothers of talmidim pay a surprise visit



Lag Baomer Bonfire which was followed by a delicious BBQ



Making pizza at Rabbi Rockove's house



Spring Robotics Elective



Slideshow presentation at the End of Year Celebration



Chesterfield Mayor Bob Nation visits and meets with Rabbi Dovid Fromowitz and Chef A.J. Moll



Special Breakfast for the participants of the Kedushas Hapeh Program



Mr. Michael Towerman expressing his hakaras hatov to the talmidei hayeshiva

## MAZEL TOV!

### Alumni Engagements

Yekusiel Adler on his engagement to Ms. Laila Guttman from Brooklyn, NY!  
 Moshe Levinger on his engagement to Ms. Ruti Adler from Brooklyn, NY!  
 Moshe Marcus on his engagement to Ms. Miriam Pearlman from Brooklyn, NY!  
 Yosef Steinberg on his engagement to Ms. Esther Meth of Boca Raton, FL!  
 Yehuda Tropper on his engagement to Ms. Shira Pomrantz from Clifton, NJ!

### Alumni Marriages

Ari Finkelstein on his marriage to Ms. Yael Bauman from Far Rockaway, NY!  
 Ezra Kolsky on his marriage to Ms. Fruma Danese from Brooklyn, NY!  
 Elisha Porush on his marriage to Ms. Yehudis Greenstein from Brooklyn, NY!  
 Yitzchak Meir Reihani on his marriage to Ms. Tovi Leiter from Manalapan, NJ!  
 Shimon Rosenstock on his marriage to Ms. Sarah Mounessa from Cedarhurst, NY!  
 Gedaliah Slater on his marriage to Ms. Rivka Blank from Los Angeles, CA!

### Alumni Births

Mr. & Dr. Ephraim Abrams on the birth of their son!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ari Becker on the birth of their daughter!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yitzchak Davidowitz on the birth of their son!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Menachem Glazer on the birth of their daughter!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eli Guttman on the birth of their daughter!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yehuda Zev Kasnett on the birth of their son!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dovi Mandel on the birth of their son!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Shmuel Meth on the birth of their daughter!  
 Mr. & Mrs. Josh Small on the birth of their daughter!  
 Mrs. & Mrs. Avrami Walles on the birth of their daughter!

### Staff Simchas

Mr. & Mrs. Naftali and Ditzza Friedman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Dovid!  
 Mazel Tov to Rabbi & Mrs. Efraim Fromowitz on the birth of their son!

"The graduation shabbos was incredible. It's amazing to see how they highlighted the strengths of each graduate. Watching the rebbeim interact with the talmidim was so inspiring! Now I know why my son was so happy there all these years!"

## GRADUATION & SENIOR SHABBOS Reflections

"Senior Shabbos was just lovely. I was able to meet my son's friends and their parents. The community and rebbeim were welcoming. The graduation ceremony was a true reflection of what MTI does for our boys. I am so grateful for the opportunity to celebrate my son and his class. The boys demonstrated amazing achdus over the Senior Shabbos. Our son has shown tremendous growth since starting at MTI."

"It was really enlightening to finally meet Dovid's classmates and their families; and see how boys from very different backgrounds mesh together. How they value each member of the group and respect and appreciate each other. How they appreciate what each boy brings to the table, and accept each boy and their various personalities in such a way that they each come out stronger and confident in their strengths. We were so impressed by the rebbeim and how invested they are in each boy's growth and success."

"WE ARE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO THE HANHALA, REBBEIM, FACULTY AND STAFF OF MTI FOR THE EDUCATION THEY PROVIDED FOR OUR SON, AND THE WAY THEY CARED FOR EVERY ASPECT OF HIS PERSONAL GROWTH DURING HIS TIME IN YESHIVA. SENIOR SHABBOS WAS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO EXPERIENCE FIRSTHAND THE WARMTH OF THE YESHIVA COMMUNITY AND MEET OUR SON'S TERRIFIC FRIENDS. THE GRADUATION CEREMONY BEAUTIFULLY DEMONSTRATED HOW MTI CULTIVATES EACH TALMID'S INDIVIDUAL QUALITIES."

"The graduation Shabbaton was a great experience. It was wonderful to spend a complete weekend getting to know our son's friends and connecting with their parents. The school should duplicate this experience for tenth grade as well! The genuine warmth and focus on each talmid's individual needs are what make the rebbeim and hanhala at MTI so special. Our son has gained so much from their patient guidance. Thank you!"

# 17TH ANNUAL DINNER

MTI was proud to host its devoted friends and supporters at the Yeshiva campus for our 17th annual dinner, where guests enjoyed a scintillating event in celebration of the Yeshiva's goals and accomplishments. The event was remarkable for the unveiling of the "Leave a Lasting Legacy" campaign, which creates a chance for the yeshiva's



supporters to cement their connection with the eternal values of MTI. At the commencement of the campaign, Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Shmuel Wasser urged supporters to "Take a moment to consider the future of the school; the ongoing stability of an organization

which is supported through legacy gifts, and take a moment to consider the incredible merit that you will be creating for yourself and your family for eternity." The Legacy Campaign will establish the yeshiva's ability to continue inspiring Bnei Torah for generations to come.



"There are many organizations that need help," explained Mr. Bob Hardcastle, President of Delta Investment Services, "But when you look at MTI you see the future of Judaism. It's not just for today; a legacy goes on forever." The greatest benefits; however, are reaped by the donors themselves, who receive the gift

of a transformative connection to the yeshiva. "What better way to take care of our children and families," encourages Dr. Craig Reiss, Chairman of the Board, "Than to make sure that within our wills are our priorities - in this world and the next. By doing it, we give a sense of what our purpose is, and it sets a goal for the entire family."



The evening included a touching memorial for MTI supporter Joel Fink A"H, along with the establishment of The Fink and Shanker Scholarship Fund. "My husband and I had a long-term dedication and commitment to the yeshiva. We were both completely

We just completed our second year of the Chabura High School Summer Zman, and it was a tremendous success!

Rabbi Yisroel Friedman, director of the Chabura program, expressed that "we were pleased to welcome 40 young men from yeshivos in Miami, Queens, Dallas, Great Neck, Boca Raton, Las Vegas, and, of course,



Mornings were filled with shiurim from Rabbi Rosner, Rabbi Rockove, and Rabbi Friedman. Afternoons were packed with enjoyable trips, sports leagues, swimming, and more!

It was truly beautiful to see all the boys coming together as a "Chabura" of Bnei Torah, spending their summer in a Torah-driven and fun-filled way.



a strong MTI contingent. Our Mashpiim (counselors) were our very own MTI alumni, who greatly enhanced the program."





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17th Annual Dinner - continued from page 7



supportive of the idea of learning, creating another generation,” says his wife, Dr. Debra Fink, “The idea of directly helping a student go through the yeshiva would be something very important to my husband and I hope that this association will be an Aliyah for his Neshamah.”

We were also delighted to take the opportunity to honor Mr. & Mrs. Daniel & Chaya Manne at the dinner. Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Avrohom Goldman shared that “Daniel came to the yeshiva as a young man in high school and has developed into a superb mensch and a

ben torah that the yeshiva is truly proud of”. The Torah values Daniel received from MTI are evident throughout his life as a member of TICK morning Kollel, CEO of Breeze Hospice, and caring husband and father. Watching Daniel and his family grow within the community is a



nachas to both his rebbeim and friends, as his friend and fellow alumnus Mr. Jordan Rosenblum affirmed, “To see Daniel now supporting the yeshiva and the community is inspiring.”

The dinner concluded with a siyum made by current talmidim, followed by dancing and dessert. It was a beautiful experience that left attendees feeling uplifted and connected to the yeshiva. Mr. Leslie Sabol, community member and a frequent attendee of the Yeshiva dinners over the years exclaimed that “the presence of the Yeshiva raises the Kedusha and Yiddishkeit of the entire region of St. Louis and for that we are grateful to Hashem!”



## LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

A well-designed planned gift affects the yeshiva for years to come, benefiting you, your heirs and Missouri Torah Institute.

## PLANNED GIVING



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