

HACHNASAS SEFER TORAH & ANNUAL DINNER

IN MEMORY OF SHLOMO & MARSHA FREDMAN A"H

This year's guests at the MTI annual dinner had a lot to celebrate. Not only were they appreciating the yeshiva's accomplishments; not only were they exulting in one of the community's first in-person events in a year; but they were especially rejoicing in a Hachnasas Sefer Torah.

Alongside MTI talmidim, the men, women, and children of St. Louis thronged to take part in this community milestone. Rabbi Gidon Nitsun, a shoel

such an inspiring kiddush Hashem. The attendees were electrified and expressed their true celebration of Torah through this Hachnasas Sefer



umeishiv in the bais medrash and a sofer, completed the last 120 letters of the Torah, alongside those who dedicated them. Then, a euphoric procession escorted the Sefer Torah to its new home in the bais medrash. Men and boys sang and danced together with energized achdus, along

Torah." The festivities were also live-streamed so that alumni, parents, and friends of the yeshiva around the world could be part of this monumental event.

The Sefer Torah was dedicated by the Fredman family in memory of Shlomo and Marsha Fredman, A"H, pioneers



with flag-waving children cheering on many fathers' shoulders. Says Rabbi Menachem Greenblatt, Rav of Agudas Israel of St. Louis, "It was an exhilarating experience to be part of

and supporters of the St. Louis Jewish community. The Fredmans found great fulfillment in giving new and restored Sifrei Torah to their beloved shul, and their family is carrying on

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HARAV AKIVA GRUNBLATT VISITS MTI

In preparation for *Kabbalas HaTorah*, the yeshiva was zocheh to a visit from Torah luminary Harav Akiva Grunblatt, shlita, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim of Queens.



The talmidim and hanhala appreciated the kavod of hosting and interacting with a gadol of Harav Grunblatt's stature. This visit was all the more exciting because during COVID, the yeshiva was not able to host guest speakers and visitors.

During his packed two-day trip, Harav Grunblatt utilized every moment to teach and inspire, uplifting the entire MTI community. He gave an insightful shmues to the whole yeshiva about how the double portion the bechorim received in Eretz Yisrael was intended to cushion the blow of losing their elite status in serving Hashem. This chessed demonstrates Hashem's love for us even when we err. (The MTI's Mesivta's Message May edition has a talmid written summary of the shmues at missouritorah.org/publications.) Harav Grunblatt also hosted an open Q&A where he interwove halacha, hashkafa, and stories in addressing a wide array of shailos from the talmidim.

Harav Grunblatt engaged the talmidim in smaller groups as well. He delivered a pilpul shiur to the bais medrash on the sugya of kim li bnafshai. He also gave a vaad on the topic of "striving for gadlus." When he was not with the talmidim, Harav Grunblatt handled various shailos and met with individuals in the yeshiva and the community,

providing guidance and chizuk.

The rebbeim and hanhala also had the opportunity to learn from Harav Grunblatt, during individual and collective meetings. Harav Grunblatt is the yeshiva's address for shailos concerning both general direction and specific issues. He provides regular hadracha to the hanhala of MTI, and his guidance and influence are instrumental to the yeshiva's success. This firsthand glimpse of the yeshiva was tremendously valuable in nurturing this relationship.

Although he spent most of his time at the yeshiva, Harav Grunblatt also gave divrei chizuk to the yeshiva nshei on the topic of recognizing the Yad Hashem in our lives. He also paid a visit to Torah Prep, the local elementary school, where he davened shacharis and addressed the boys of the middle school division about how our happiness as ovdei Hashem can help us overcome any difficulty we deal with in life. Says Rabbi Yossi Golombeck, Menahel of Torah Prep, "Rabbi Grunblatt was our first visiting Rosh Yeshiva guest speaker since the start of the pandemic. It was such a chizuk to hear the words of the Rosh Yeshiva and to see him greet each boy with such warmth. Thank you, MTI, for the opportunity."



MTI was honored by Harav Grunblatt's visit and the opportunity for rebbeim and talmidim to interact with him in learning and hashkafa. We look forward to continuing to benefit from Harav Grunblatt's hadracha.

ALUMNI UPDATE



A number of our alumni traveled to Chesterfield to join the yeshiva for Shavuot. During the uplifting Yom Tov celebrating Kabbalas HaTorah, the bonds of learning and achdus were renewed between alumni and their rebbeim.

Thank you to all of our alumni who participated in our successful Sefer Torah campaign. A special thanks to a number of new alumni who used this opportunity to become monthly givers to the yeshiva. Monthly giving provides a great source of stability to the yeshiva's monthly cash-flow. It is so inspiring that the talmidim want to give back and partner with their yeshiva in the everlasting mitzvah of hachzakas haTorah!



"The community is beautiful. The graduation was incredibly moving."

-Collins Family

"Thank you for an amazing graduation weekend, concluding the wonderful experiences our son had. A special thanks to our hosts, the Friedman family."

-Wasserman Family

"Senior Shabbos and graduation are not something you can fully explain, only experience. The boys and their families form an unexpected bond that unites them through laughter, and sometimes tears. Happy tears. The yeshiva and the Chesterfield community are so warm and welcoming, and we parents get to experience what it is about MTI that our boys have come to love. Senior Shabbos feels like a warm hug from the Yeshiva, saying thank you for sending us your boys. But really, it is the parents who are left with tremendous hakaras hatov."

-Dubovick Family

"MTI was integral in Shiya's positive growth not only as a Jew, but as a young man."

-Kass Family

"A wonderful Shabbos with wonderful graduates and their wonderful families. A shabbos filled with nachas."

-Lefton Family

"I wanted to thank the Chesterfield community, MTI and TICK for welcoming all our families this past weekend. It was an unforgettable Shabbat, full of Torah, warmth, love and achdut. It gave me personally much needed chizuk. I wish the community continued bracha and hatzlacha raba and look forward to visiting again soon."

-Cohen Family

"Senior Shabbos was really unique. Getting to see all our boys together, experiencing the ruach of yeshiva with the rebbeim and meeting all the parents was a very special experience. Wish we could do it again!"

-Pritzker Family

"Senior Shabbos was a unique experience that we are so grateful for. We had the opportunity to see the immense achdus amongst the senior class, how they were such a cohesive unit and how much they all valued every member. We also had the opportunity to see how the rebbeim have truly made MTI a second home for these boys, cared for them, and developed wonderful relationships. Thank you, MTI, for creating this environment for our son and for giving us this opportunity to see it firsthand."

-Genauer Family

"What a beautiful Shabbos! Thank you for the warm and royal welcome and the outstanding hachnasas orchim! It was a pleasure getting to know the rebbeim, students, and families, as well as our lovely hosts! Watching the rebbeim and boys interact reminded us of why we sent Shlomo to MTI—it is a place where middos tovos are modeled and everyone respects and loves one another! We have tremendous hakaras hatov to the rebbeim and their rebbetzins for instilling in our boys a love of Torah and for modeling true giras Shamayim in all of your actions!"

-Krausz Family

"We were so inspired hearing from and getting to know the amazing talmidim in MTI's senior class! It was very special sharing the simcha with other parents, whom we really enjoyed getting to know as well. This was well worth our trip all the way from Eretz Yisroel!"

-Lynn Family

"The senior Shabbos gave us an amazing glimpse of the bochurim our son has grown with over these years. Meeting their families and getting to better know the rebbeim furthered this insight and connection. By the time graduation came, we felt our simcha magnified by the simcha of those around us. What a fantastic tradition MTI has for marking this milestone. It was powerful and memorable. Thank you!"

-Desmond Family

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this worthy legacy. Mr. Stuart Rosenblum, a dinner chairman and a close friend of the Fredmans, characterized them this way: “In a world of upside down values and inconsistent ethics, there are unique true pillars that stand for the proper Torah values and derech erez. The Fredmans reflected those values and took leadership roles guaranteeing their continuance. How appropriate to have a Torah written in their honor to remind us of their legacy.” Talmidim, community members, and supporters of the yeshiva in St. Louis and beyond seized the great zechus of being part of this new Sefer Torah



MAZEL TOV!

October 2020-current

Alumni Marriages

Shmuel Feder on his marriage to Ms. Orly Goldhar of Passaic, NJ
Luzzy Fleishman on his marriage to Ms. Eliora Walles of Denver, CO
Tzvi Klein on his marriage to Ms. Abby Pinter of Bayswater, NY
Yisroel Leb on his marriage to Ms. Rena Glassman of Monsey, NY
Betzael Rosenzweig on his marriage to Ms. Mindy Moskovitz of Cleveland, OH
Moshe Rothman on his marriage to Ms. Henia Green of Far Rockaway, NY

Avlumni Engagements

Donny Hecht to Ms. Chaya Max of Cherry Hill, NJ
Dovi Katz to Ms. Sara Baila Lederman of San Diego, CA

Alumni Births

Mr. & Dr. Ephraim Abrams on the birth of a girl
Mr. & Mrs. Menasha Abrams on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Yosef Kaufman on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Avrumi Lieberman on the birth of a girl
Mr. & Mrs. Dovid Love on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Lyss on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Mermelstein on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Miller on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Yosef Shlomo Morris on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Yaakov Rubin on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Eli Scheller on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Izzy Stein on the birth of a boy
Mr. & Mrs. Amrom Steinberger on the birth of a girl
Mr. & Mrs. Dovid Winter on the birth of a girl

Staff Simchas

Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Chaim and Tzirel Biron on the birth of a girl
Rabbi & Mrs. Efraim and Shulamis Fromowitz on their son Chanoch's Bar Mitzvah
Rabbi & Mrs. Avrohom and Toby Goldman on their son Mordechai's Bar Mitzvah
Mr. & Mrs. Menachem and Debbie Graff on the birth of their granddaughters
Mr. & Mrs. Dovid and Dena Love on the birth of a boy
Rabbi & Mrs. Gidon & Pnina Nitsun on the birth of their granddaughters
Rabbi & Mrs. Shraga and Rifki Zachai on the birth of a girl
Rabbi & Mrs. Shraga and Rifki Zachai on their son Mordechai Eliezer's Bar Mitzvah

by dedicating parshiyos, aliyos, words, and letters. In the auditorium, after the dancing subsided, guests enjoyed words of inspiration from Rabbi Shmuel Wasser, Rosh Yeshiva; Rabbi Moshe Winter, the Rav of Tpheris Israel (TICK); and Rabbi Dovid Fredman, a son of Mr. & Mrs. Fredman. Children celebrated outside with a bounce house, a balloon artist, a magician, and delicious treats. One young participant had so much fun that she asked her parents when she could “go to another Torah party.”

Close supporters and family members then dined in the yeshiva gym, which was transformed into a magnificent ballroom. Guests heard from Dr. Craig Reiss, chairman of the board; Rabbi Mark Karasick, a close friend of the Fredman family; and Rabbi Dovid Fromowitz, Rosh Yeshiva. Rabbi Yitz Staum performed a stirring musical interlude focused on the significance of Torah. Concurrently, the talmidim were served their own festive seudas mitzvah, followed by a lively kumzitz with musicians Yitz Henkin and Yehoshua Solomon, who flew in that day to perform at the simcha.

Two exciting announcements were made at the dinner: Rabbi Moshe Chaim Biron, popular MTI bekiyus rebbe and a former member of the Chesterfield Kollel, will join as a full time mesivta rebbe next year. Additionally, Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Levy, a yeshiva alumnus, will join the yeshiva as a maggid shiur for the yeshiva's growing Bais Medrash program (see back.)



Mr. Rosenblum says the inspiration of the day will continue to enrich the community. “The dinner and Hachnasas Sefer Torah activity remind us of the achdus of the community and the fact that Hashem is always there. He is still with us today and will continue to be with us.” Says community member Mr. Daniel Stark, reflecting on the joy and enthusiasm of the talmidim, “I thought it was very special to see, despite the uncomfortably warm weather, what frum teenagers value, dancing and singing in their suits and hats for kavod haTorah.” To view videos from the event visit our website.



Rabbi Shmuel Wasser, Rosh Yeshiva, explained that Torah is the greatest spiritual force in this world. It will penetrate the lives of those who honor and respect it, as the Fredmans did.



Rabbi Moshe Winter, Rav of Tpheris Israel (TICK), addressed the crowd regarding the importance of the Torah to Klal Yisrael and the Fredman family's commitment to Torah.



Rabbi Dovid Fredman described the important choices his parents made to lead them on a path of living and supporting a life of Torah. He charged the Talmidim to show the utmost respect during Krias HaTorah as a merit for his parents.



Dr. Craig Reiss, Board and Dinner Chairman, gave a “state of the yeshiva address.” He described the yeshiva's accomplishments this past year despite the challenges and shared news of the anticipated increase in enrollment for next year.



Rabbi Mark Karasick spoke about his longstanding close friendship with the Fredmans spanning 50 years. He spoke of the joy they had in giving tzedakah and the exemplary kavod that they showed to rabbanim and Torah leaders.



Rabbi Dovid Fromowitz, Rosh Yeshiva, shared that the Fredmans acted like Shevet Levi with their utmost concern for future generations. They also embodied the principle of אמור מעט ועשה הרבה in their commitment to the community.



Dovid Goldman celebrates his siyum on Seder Moed Mishnayos with the bnei hayeshiva



Students enjoying a newly installed volleyball net in the backyard of the yeshiva campus



Rabbi Rockove's shiur celebrated their accomplishments this year with a pizza party



Rabbi Dovid Goldman gives a shmuess on a recent visit to MTI



Rabbi Fromowitz's halacha shiur makes their own tzitzis in conjunction with their study of hilchos tzitzis



Rabbi Rosner's shiur enjoys an end of year BBQ and kumzitz



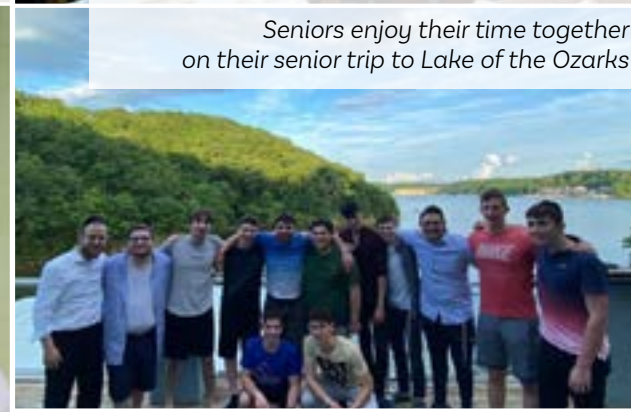
Pre-Shavuot learning seder l'iluy nishmas Eliyahu Nissim ben Avraham A"H



Rabbi Yossi Singer gives a vaad to the bais medrash during a recent visit to MTI



Mr. Stuart Rosenblum addresses students about the ABCs of mortgages as a guest speaker in personal finance class



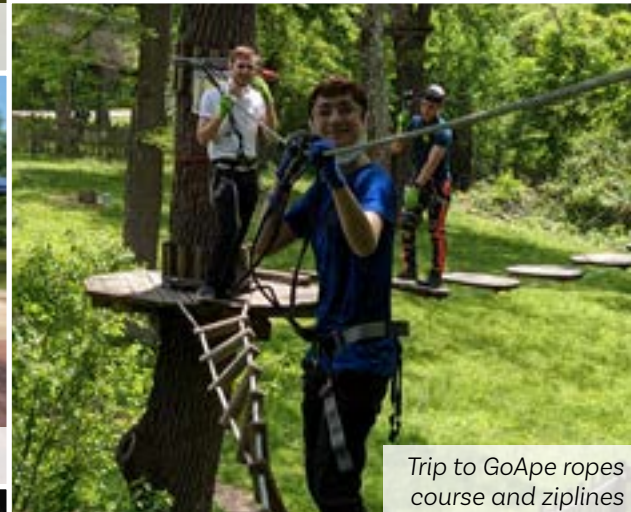
Seniors enjoy their time together on their senior trip to Lake of the Ozarks



Rabbi Yakov Nissan and Rabbi Yehoshua Nissan hosting a Melave Malka and Vaad for the bais medrash during their visit to Memphis



Staff appreciation BBQ at Faust Park



Trip to GoApe ropes course and ziplines



Student initiated and student led "Max Bentch" program completes their second round with a special dinner



The yeshiva ends the year with an exciting rafting trip followed by a delicious BBQ



Rabbi Wachsmann delivers a shmuess to the mesivta talmidim in the auditorium



Post Lag Baomer leibedik dancing at yeshiva Melava Malka



Rabbi Dovid Fromowitz hosts his 9th grade halacha shiur for an end of year BBQ



Optional learning seder during an off-Shabbos weekend



An inspiring Lag Baomer bonfire and kumzits is enjoyed by the mesivta and bais medrash



Dovi Manne makes a siyum on Meseches Bava Kama at the end of year breakfast



Students enjoy raffle steak BBQ after selling the most tickets



Melava Malka minute-to-win-it challenges



Students participated in ACT and AP Computer Science Principles testing at the end of the school year



Rabbi Yehoshua Fromowitz presenting a Vaad during summer Zman to the MTI & FTI Talmidim



Lag Baomer baseball game at Chesterfield Sports Complex



1809 Clarkson Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017
636.778.1896
www.missouritorah.org

GROWING BAIS MEDRASH PROGRAM ATTRACTS TALMIDIM

Baruch Hashem, the yeshiva's bais medrash program has seen tremendous growth over the last number of years. The bais medrash focuses on developing bnei Torah through limud haTorah b'iyun, limud hamussar, a long-term meaningful rebbe-talmid relationship, and an achrayus for klal Yisroel.

The yeshiva hosted a Shabbaton in mid-April to give visiting talmidim a taste of the MTI bais medrash experience. Many of our

recent mesivta graduates will continue on to our bais medrash and will be joined by many new talmidim from other yeshivos. To accommodate this growth, we plan on adding two new shiurim and a new dormitory wing for this coming year.

Our alumni are our best advertisement: they exemplify middos tovos and derech eretz and choose lives as bnei Torah, whether pursuing a life in harbotzas haTorah or a professional career.

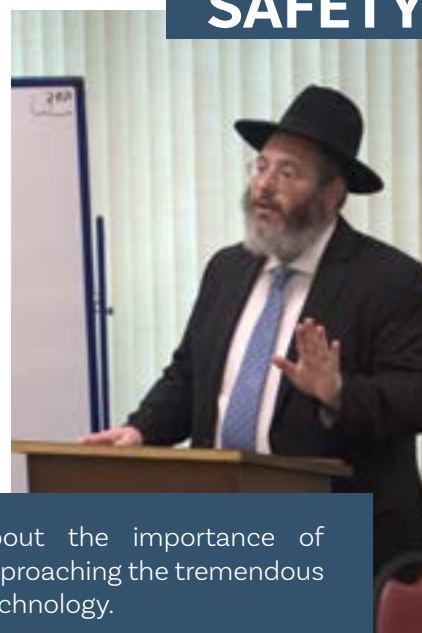


BAIS MEDRASH BOOKCASE DEDICATIONS



Thank you to the Fink and Guttman families for dedicating the first two bookcases in our Bais Medrash. Our 16 new elegant bookcases built by Avraham Zelig Frumhoff really give our seforim a distinguished place in the Bais Medrash!

INTERNET SAFETY



MTI feels strongly about the importance of carefully and properly approaching the tremendous challenges created by technology.

Rabbi Moshe Drew of T.A.G. (Technology Awareness Group) based in Lakewood, NJ, recently spent the day at the yeshiva. He inspired the talmidim to reach higher levels of kedusha and to be more cognizant of the dangers of technology. Additionally, he spent several hours consulting with individuals regarding practical and technical guidance.