



Shmuel Bass

# TORAH ACADEMY

of San Antonio

## THE TASA TIMES

### TASA Kicks Off 8th Year

After much anticipation and many weeks of planning and preparation, TASA got off to a fabulous start for its 8th year of academics. Prior to the student's start date, teachers and administration spent approximately two weeks setting up, participating in training and in-service implementing all the changes necessary in order to start the school year in a safe and COVID appropriate manner.



“While we certainly faced many changes for this school year, we are excited and absolutely committed to doing everything we can to give our students a safe and meaningful learning experience after so many months at home” said Rabbi Yossi Marrus, Dean of Students.

“From spraying the entire school with Enviroshield Microbial spray, moving around furniture and desks, installing acrylic barriers and putting together robust and practical protocols we are looking forward to what will be, G-d willing, a great year for all” said Mrs. Jessica Diric, Director of General Studies. “We will continue to be vigilant and follow all the protocols and safety precautions.” she said.

For more Covid-19 information and our weekly reports, please visit the following link at <https://www.torahacademysa.com/covid-19-updates/>

### Gift for new sports equipment



We would like to give a Texas size Thank You to former TASA student Yisrolik Marrus who donated new sports equipment to our school with some of his Bar Mitzvah money. We thank him for his generosity and for thinking of TASA. Kol Hakavod!

KI TAVO

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### Welcome Mrs. Stephanie Nelson

We would like to extend a hearty welcome and Beruchim Ha'baim to Mrs. Stephanie Nelson who has joined our TASA school community this year. Mrs. Nelson will be teaching general studies in Kinder and First grade, as well as other general studies subjects throughout different grade levels.



Mrs. Stefanie Nelson graduated from The University of Texas at San Antonio and received her B.A in Psychology. She is a Texas certified teacher, and qualified to teach Early Childhood through sixth grade. Mrs. Nelson loves to spend time with her family, journal, go on long leisurely walks, and play with her adorable toy poodle, Molly. She enjoys arts and crafts, and is also an avid reader. Mrs. Nelson is very excited to share her enthusiasm for learning with her students, and to be a part of the TASA Family!

### New Students & Families ברוכים הבאים

We are excited to announce that we have new additions to our TASA Student Roster and would like to embrace them and their families into our TASA Community:

- ◆ Yehonathan Ashkenazi - Kindergarten
- ◆ Moriah Bernard - 1st grade
- ◆ Yair Ederi - Kindergarten
- ◆ Ezra Goldblum - Kindergarten
- ◆ Sage Lev - 3rd grade
- ◆ Lily Michelle Moszkowicz - 1st grade
- ◆ Jacob Radkay-Gonzalez - Kindergarten



# What's New TASA Crew!



## Coming Soon!!

- \* **Monday, September 7th** - Labor Day, No School
- \* **Friday, September 18th** - Erev Rosh Hashanah, Noon Dismissal

## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

### Attitude of Gratitude

#### Parshat Ki Tavo

Judaism places great value on the little things. For example, how should we begin our day? According to Jewish tradition as we open our eyes each morning, the first words that should be said are;



**מודה אני לפניך מלך חי וקיים שהחזרת בי נשמתی בחמלה. רבה - לאמונתך**  
***thank you, living and enduring king, for You have graciously returned my soul within me. Great is your faithfulness.***

This short and meaningful twelve-word prayer focuses on the attribute of being thankful and grateful for everything we have, including something so basic, as our lives. We thank Hashem that we are alive and pledge to make a difference in the world.

In this week's Torah portion of *Ki Tavo*, we read about the beautiful *Mitzvah* of *Bikkurim*-the First Fruits. The Torah commands us that when we will enter *Eretz Yisrael* (Israel) and finally be the proud owners of our own lands, we should bring our First Fruits as an offering of thanks to G-d. This *Mitzvah* teaches the importance of being grateful and making sure to verbalize our gratitude.

But there is another lesson to be derived from *Bikkurim*. As we begin our day, we also set aside some time to communicate and connect to G-d. These are the moments of *Teffilah* (prayer) and *Limud Ha'Torah* (study of Torah). We dedicate the "first moments" of our day, to a holy and noble cause, in order to start our day off on the proper footing.

One of the most beautiful aspects of a Jewish Day School, and Jewish life in general, is the morning rituals of *Teffilah*/Davening and Torah Study. The prayers, songs and tunes that children learn in their elementary years remain with them throughout their lives. But more importantly, is the message transmitted, that as we start our day, we should make the time to express our gratitude to Hashem for all His wonderful blessings and gifts, every single day.

*Shabbat Shalom*  
 Rabbi Y. Marrus

## MAZAL TOVS! - GOOD NEWS! מזל טוב

To Rabbi Avraham & Michal Scheinberg and Chava Faiga, Rus & Ada (grades 5,3,1) on the Upsherin (haircutting ceremony) of their son/brother Yoseph.

To Rabbi Ari & Chaya M. Weingarten and Matti (grade 1) on the birth of their son/brother Sholom Osher.

To Louis & Shira Ederi and Yair (grade K) on the birth of their son/brother Lael Moshe.

To Rabbi Yossi & Malkie Marrus on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Yisrolik.

To Rabbi Yossi & Malkie Marrus on the birth of a granddaughter Tziona Leah.

To Yosef & Sarah Endzweig and Nechama, Devorah (grades 6,1) on the purchase of a new home.

## Siddur Covers

Friendly reminder for those students that were given covers for their Siddurs, please finish decorating them and bring back to school next Tuesday, September 8th to protect and identify your book of prayers.

