

BNEI DAVID ELI

R O S H H A S H A N A 5 7 7 7



We wish all our alumni, friends, students and the entire House of Israel a sweet New Year of joy, of good tidings and the realization of our hopes and dreams.



Academic year opens with 700 students in all programs

700 new and returning students began their studies on Rosh Chodesh Elul (September 4).

In preparation for the coming year Bnei David held several one-day seminars for the teaching and educational staff,

to discuss the impact of events over the past year and deliberate the best way to integrate the lessons and challenges of current affairs in Israel into our curriculum, to give our students the best tools and insights for meeting the world beyond the

Beit Midrash. Thanks to our loyal friends, we will be continuing our program of in-depth Mishna and Halacha studies, and our students will be receiving volumes of Seder Moed and Pninei Halacha Moadim as a companion reference book to aid

them in their daily learning. The goal of this program is for the students to complete the study of the entire Mishna before their induction to the IDF. We wish all our students a productive and successful year. ■

"This stone that I have set up as a pillar will be G-d's house – now is the time to build the mechina



After 28 years the time has come to build a permanent Beit Midrash for the mechina. The architectural plans have been completed and we are currently finishing the earth works in preparation for construction to begin. At Bnei David's website you can take a virtual tour of the building and see the Beit Midrash, Memorial

Room and classrooms. We hope to hold the cornerstone ceremony in the coming months. With Hashem's help we have so far raised 30% of the cost of this building. There are many dedication options in this project and we invite you to partner with us in building the best learning environment for the pre-army program students. ■

Second class opens at Ma'aleh Ephraim branch

After a successful first year, a second group of students has begun studies at Bnei David's Jordan Valley branch in the community of Ma'aleh Ephraim.

The 20 second-year students have been joined by 32 new first-year students. In order to accommodate the additional students two buildings have been added to the campus, surrounded by

flower beds that add to the pleasant atmosphere. The Bnei David Ma'aleh Ephraim branch has a special family feeling, and a unique program throughout the year helps the students form a special connection with Eretz Yisrael and its nature trails. ■



The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel | Yeshiva for Discharged Soldiers | Advanced Yeshiva | Jordan Valley Branch | Midreshet Danielle for Young Women

Eli D.N. Ephraim 4482800, Israel • info@bneidavid.org • www.bneidavid.org

Design & publication: Shilo • Barkats Beit-El • Translation & editing: Miryam Blum Jerusalem

Rejoice in Jerusalem all who love her

On Jerusalem Day the mechina students went on a walking tour of Jerusalem, to the first neighborhoods built outside the Old City walls.

Renowned Jerusalem tour guide Eliyada Bar Shaul recounted the courageous deeds of Avraham Michael Kirshenbaum, who died in battle

in 1948 while defending the Yemin Moshe neighborhood facing Har Zion, opposite the Old City. After the tour, the students joined the thousands of other young people who had come to sing, dance and wave Israeli flags all the way from Nablus Gate on the north side of the Old City down to the Western Wall. ■



Smartphone innovations

During the Intermediate Days of Passover Rabbi Sadan was invited to give a short address to a group of high-tech entrepreneurs and investors from around the world, who were visiting Israel to participate in a conference organized by OurCrowd, which is owned by Jonathan Medved, a friend of Bnei David Institutions.

Jonathan's two sons attended Bnei David and he has been following the progress of Bnei David and Rabbi Sadan's vision for many years.

Rabbi Sadan spoke with the investors about the redemption of Israel from



Egypt and the resumption of the sanctification of the material world. He noted that Israel is a startup power in both the material and spiritual spheres. After his address he tried out some of the latest virtual reality inventions and enjoyed seeing the new worlds they opened up for him. ■



Summing up the Class of 2016



The second-year mechina students spent their final Shabbat of the program in Safed, high in the hills of the Galilee, with Rav Yigal Loewenstein and his family.

On Friday they went for a nature hike along Nahal Kziv and on Friday evening and Shabbat morning attended services at a few different yeshivas and ancient

synagogues in this holy city that is the cradle of Jewish mysticism (Kabbala). After Shabbat they enjoyed a musical Melave Malka with Rav Yoel Rechel, who will continue to keep in touch with the soldiers throughout their IDF service. We wish all our soldiers safe and significant service and look forward to hosting them on visits to Bnei David. ■



Bnei David desk calendar

Thanks to technological advances and pursuant to requests from you and problems with the mail, we have decided

to produce and publish a unique desk calendar with photos of events and activities at Bnei David, that will be sent to all those interested in receiving a copy. Please send your mailing address to trumot@bneidavid.org and we will be happy to send you the calendar. We would also be happy to hear your comments on this matter. ■

Danielle program girls embark on National Service

The first graduating class of Midreshet Danielle began their National Service on September 1 and the new class of girls has joined the Bnei David family. The closing event for the Midreshet Danielle program was held in July with the parents of the graduating class, the Sonnenfeld family, the program's staff and the girls, who were very excited and thankful for the wonderful year of studies and special experiences. The speakers at this event included Rav Sadan and Rav Kashtiel. Mr. Motti Sonnenfeld spoke about Danielle's exemplary character and her generous and caring nature, and Rachel Sonnenfeld gave each of the girls a gift and wished them all the best in the coming year. ■



Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations for children of Bnei David alumni

One of Bnei David's alumni programs promotes the connection of the next generation to Bnei David.

At Chanukah there is an event for the Bat Mitzvah girls and on Isru Chag Shavuot there is a full-day event for the Bar Mitzvah boys. This year 30 boys and their parents participated in this event. The day opened with a reunion of the alumni over refreshments, followed by father-and-son learning, a bicycle ride along a singles trail through the forest on the hillside below Eli, and a dip in the pool by the spring at the edge of the forest. Rav Yigal Loewenstein joined the boys throughout the day, accompanying Gilad Klein, the son of Major Roi Klein HY"D. We wish all the boys and girls mazal tov and all the parents pride and joy in their children. ■



An institutional dishwasher for Bnei David

With the expansion of Bnei David's programs and the increasing number of students at the dining hall, Bnei David's board decided to purchase a dishwashing machine to assist with this chore. A large machine has now been installed and will be operated by the students. ■



Evening seminar on the Israeli family

This year's annual summer evening seminar for Bnei David alumni was held at Hibba Center for Israeli Heritage, in Jerusalem.

Over 200 alumni came to hear shiurim on the importance of strengthening the traditional Jewish family, with Rav Akiva Kashtiel, Rav Ohad Tirosh and Rav Eli Sadan. Following the success of this event, similar evening seminars are being planned for the future. ■



Sukkot events for visitors to Eli



New dormitory wing completed

Thanks to our generous donors and hard-working construction contractor, the new dormitory wing that was begun last winter has been completed, adding rooms for 72 more students to the existing complex. ■



During the Intermediate Days of Sukkot we invite all our friends and supporters to
A JOYOUS CEREMONY

TO WELCOME A SEFER TORAH

in memory of Lt. Hadar Goldin, HY"D
donated by the Falic family

**AND FOR LAYING THE CORNERSTONE
OF THE NEW MECHINA BUILDING**

If you are planning to be in Israel for Sukkot, we would be happy to see you here and help you to arrange tours of the area on the day of the event.

Please be in touch with Lior Shtul at liors@bneidavid.org

Meeting the transportation infrastructure challenge in Israel



The 40 students in the Chai Roi combined academic and Beit Midrash studies program recently participated in a field trip hosted by Moriah Jerusalem Development Corp., to gain a better understanding of the challenges facing Israel's transportation infrastructures sector.

The day began at the Prime Minister's Office, where Bnei David alumnus Eli

Groner is currently director general of this office. His presentation reinforced the principle of being the best we can be at whatever task we are doing at any given time, wherever we are, and to be passionate about our work. Eli explained how the business sector's ability to affect policy decisions and influence society is no less than that of the public sector.

The students toured current infrastructure projects under construction in Jerusalem,

and met with another Bnei David alumnus at the Transportation Ministry and with officials who deal with issues affecting the Jerusalem Light Rail.

The highlight of the afternoon was a question and answer session with a panel of three Bnei David alumni who are working in the civil service – in the Fuel and Gas Administration, the Chief Scientist's Office and the Beit El Town Council. They discussed the dilemmas

facing infrastructure planners and how each decision affects the whole system. They also touched on the types of civil service positions the students could fill after they graduate. The field trip was a great success, as the students saw how civil engineers can have a positive impact on life in this country, and at the end of the day felt a stronger connection to the public works sector in Israel and the importance of integrating into it. ■

By Yossi Sternhel

Bungalow, hotel, motel, trailer, campsite...Where do you go on vacation and what do you do? I am happy and feel the need to share with you my personal experience vacationing with students in Bnei David's post-army yeshiva.

I studied and taught at Bnei David for 10 years (not including my army service following the mechina program). Now, two years after leaving Bnei David for a teaching position in the Negev, I felt a profound need to recharge my batteries at the yeshiva – to return to the source of our lives, to the Torah, and for more than just a one-day immersion in the

Constructive vacation



Beit Midrash. I brought my wife and five children to Eli for three whole days, during which I attended shiurim, and the rabbis – my former teachers – made time in their busy schedules to have heart-to-heart conversations with me. I sat in the Beit Midrash surrounded by the sweet sounds of chavruta study pairs learning Gemara. I took full advantage of every moment, from morning till night, and left feeling refreshed and invigorated, with renewed strength and tremendous inner happiness. There were plenty of things for my wife and children to do at the swimming pool, playgrounds, sports complex and special locally organized summer activities. Thank you Bnei David for a vacation better than any 5-star hotel. ■

USA

Bnei David-Eli C/O
One Israel Fund,
445 Central Ave. Ste. 210
Cedarhurst, NY 11556,
United States

Canada

The Mizrahi
Organization of Canada
Israel Resident Committee
Remittance,
296 Wilson Ave.
North York, ONT. M3H 1S8

England

Friends of Bnei David
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead London
NW6 2EG

Panama

Friend of Bnei David
Ezra Cohen
PH Mirage # 2
Punta Paitilla
Panama
Rep of Panama

Israel

Bnei David- Eli,
The Military Yeshiva
Academy of Israel
Eli D.N. Ephraim 4482800, Israel,
info@bneidavid.org
www.bneidavid.org

