BNEI DAVID ELI

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BNEI DAVID INSTITUTIONS WISH ALL OUR STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND THE WHOLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL A VERY HAPPY FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM



for you have wings of the spirit"

Congratulations to Advanced Yeshiva student First. Lt. Y., who received his pilot's wings in the traditional ceremony, after completing the arduous threeyear course.

There was more excitement than usual at this ceremony, as Y. is the first Israel Air Force pilot who is the son of Ethiopian immigrants. Rabbis Eli Sadan and Yehuda Sadan attended the ceremony honoring Y., who studied at Bnei David's Advanced Yeshiva for three years before his induction to the IAF, and offered him words of encouragement for the long years of service ahead. At the ceremony the rabbis met with other Bnei David alumni who are IAF cadets in various stages of the pilots course. We wish them all much success in the future.

The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel Yeshiva for Discharged Soldiers Advanced Yeshiva • Ma'ale Ephraim Branch Midreshet Danielle for Young Women



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Hadar Goldin нү"D and Path of the Just

At the initiative of Hadar's classmates, Bnei David's 22nd cohort, the book *How to Build Your Life – Studying Path of the Just with Hadar Goldin* has been released by Maggid Publishers. The book is a compilation of Hadar's notes on the shiurim of Rabbi Eliezer Kashtiel. After Hadar's death, his parents found his notebooks, which included his own insights and conclusions from each shiur.

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With the approach of Pesach each year, dozens of Bnei David graduates join the various IDF units as part of the March induction group. Many events are held at Bnei David in the different programs.

The mechina students in Eli and Ma'ale Ephraim went on a bicycle tour and hike through the Eilat Mountains, ending with water sports and a boat ride in the Gulf of Eilat. A successful Shabbat program was held

in Eli for the parents of Bnei David's 30th cohort. Throughout Shabbat they met with the rabbis and experienced the special spirit of Bnei David. On Saturday evening the parents and students watched a roundup film prepared by the students, who each received a book and blessings from the rabbis. We were very touched when one of the mothers decided to say a few words on behalf of all the parents, thanking the rabbis



and staff for their dedication, concern and hard work. We wish all our newly inducted soldiers meaningful service, and look forward to seeing them back at the yeshiva whenever they have a day off, or for Shabbat.

Bnei David Business Forum

A new initiative by Bnei
David alumni who have
entered the business world is
building a network to connect
with other alumni who are in
executive and management
positions in order to learn
from one another and
promote their respective
businesses for everyone's
benefit.

The first gathering of the forum was held in March and was attended by over 80 alumni, who listened to the insights of forum members on a wide variety of topics, including ethics and capitalism, values in business and the future of medicine. Another gathering is planned for after Pesach.



Hadar Goldin HY"D and Path of the Just

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The handwritten notes were typed into a computer by his fiancée Edna and his brother Tzur. Hadar's classmates also formed Havurat Hadar, and go to high schools, youth groups, mechinot and IDF bases to tell the students about Hadar and distribute the book. So far 12,000 copies have been sold. Dozens of copies were purchased with a designated donation in a project for distributing the book to second-year students at the

mechina, so that they could review *Path of the Just* in Hadar's memory, accompanied by his notes. This project was launched at a special evening event that was addressed by Rabbi Sadan and Rabbi Kashtiel, who spoke about Hadar and about the book. The event concluded with a panel discussion by his friends and classmates, who spoke about his special personality and character. We continue to remember Hadar and pray for his speedy return for burial in Israel.

Welcoming students from the Diaspora

Every year a few students come to Bnei David from the Diaspora. At the beginning of this school year a student arrived from the USA and after Chanukah he was joined by students from Chile and Australia – in the southern hemisphere, where the school year begins in January. Asher, who came by himself from Australia, was welcomed at Ben-Gurion Airport by mechina students waving flags and signs. Despite the long flight, Asher had the energy to join in the singing and dancing in the arrivals hall before the drive to Eli. We wish all our Diaspora students a successful integration in Bnei David and Israel.





Recently there have been many horrific car accidents on Route 60, the highway adjacent to Eli. One of these accidents took the lives of Tom and Rivka Kapshuk, z"l, who had celebrated their wedding just two weeks before. Tom was an alumnus of the Advanced Yeshiva in Eli. In order to increase road safety awareness, we invited Asher Kantrowitz of "Driving by the Book" to give defensive driving workshops to dozens of students, who practiced on a simulator that presented them hazardous road situations and helped teach proper responses. Special lectures on the importance of life and protecting it were held in every Beit Midrash.



Learning, remembering & honoring those protecting our country

On Rosh Chodesh Adar Bet (8
March) we dedicated a new
classroom at the mechina,
donated by friends of Bnei
David in honor of their son's bar
mitzva and in memory of IDF
soldiers Yosef Cohen and Yuval
Mor Yosef, who were murdered
in the terror attack at Givat
Assaf Junction last December.

The parents of the two soldiers honored the event with their presence and spoke about how touched they were by the memorialization of their sons in a place that combines dedication to the Torah and the State of Israel, and the special connection Yosef and Yuval had to the Torah and their country.

Yoav Gallant visits Bnei David

Minister of Construction and Housing Yoav Gallant visited Eli to meet with Rabbi Sadan, and we were very happy to see that one of his aides is a Bnei David alumnus who is now working



to promote the interests of the State of Israel.



We were very happy to join hundreds of Beit Midrash students in a special day organized by the Association of Hesder Yeshivas, in Jerusalem. Throughout the day hundreds of students gathered in the International Convention Center and completed a reading of the entire Talmud in a single day. Representatives of the mechina classes, headed by Rabbi Yishai Tzur, joined the students and learned 8 pages of gemara as their share of this project.

New at Bnei David – ambucycles!

Bnei David has trained volunteer first responders who are ready to help on campus or assist Magen David Adom teams in Eli as necessary. Last month the volunteers received an ambucycle that will help them reach any part of Eli quickly. We hope it will not be used often and wish all our students and residents of Eli good health.





Getting to know Am Yisrael in Bnei Brak & Lod



Meeting with other groups in Israeli society is an important part of the mechina's curriculum. One wintry Shabbat the students were hosted in Lod and met with representatives of the city council, the community outreach center and Maagalim, a volunteer educational organization that nurtures at-risk teens. On Friday the students helped clean out

an Ottoman era building that was used as a marketplace and is being converted into a tourism visitors center.

On a different Shabbat the students visited Bnei Brak, where they met with Haredi and Hasidic rabbis, were hosted by families and learned about the various chesed mutual aid programs in the city. On Saturday evening there was a musical program with the leader of the Spinka Hasidim. Girls from Midreshet Danielle also spent a special Shabbat in Bnei Brak, where they met with the women and learned about their chesed activities.

Visitors at Ma'ale Ephraim

We were honored with visits by Israeli Chief Rabbi David Lau and representatives of the ministries of education and defense. As Rabbi Lau was arriving, a suspicious figure was spotted near one of the buildings. Rabbi Lau later told the students that while he was delayed at the entrance gate, he recited psalms for the success of the security patrol. When the



report came in that the person had been apprehended the students sang psalms and songs of thanksgiving.

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Ma'ale Ephraim -Connecting with the land and the people

During the winter months the Ma'ale Ephraim mechina students participated many nature hikes trips and encounters with Israeli society, including meeting the Haredi community in Bnei Brak. The students learned about the challenges of keeping Shabbat in Tel Aviv, hiked parts of the Israel Trail, helped farmers in their fields, held joint athletic activities with the youth groups in Ma'ale Ephraim and most of all got to know one another better, nurturing their own personal growth and Torah studies.

Interest in the Ma'ale Ephraim program continues to increase, and dozens of 12th graders have visited the yeshiva. Over 30 of them have already registered for the coming school year.



Winter warmth at Midreshet Danielle

studies attended open house

days, and 40 of these girls

have already registered for the coming school year. After

Chanukah the students went on

an overnight trip to Eilat, where

they participated in nature hikes

and workshops and water sports

in the Gulf of Eilat. Mr. Reuven

Pinsky, the new director of the

visited Midreshet Danielle to

speak with the girls about his

plans to improve the authority,

and former Knesset Member Orit

Struk came to talk to the girls

about the power of femininity

from her perspective and the

ability of every woman to play a

authority,

National Service

role in any field.

"There was light, joy, gladness & honor"

Before and during Purim there were iovous celebrations at Bnei David. On the Thursday evening before Shabbat Zachor, a festive tish was held for the Advanced Yeshiva. The rabbis led the students in singing and divrei Torah and the students themselves prepared a sumptuous meal of challahs, kugel and cholent. The students' wives also held a special evening event, to get into the spirit of the holiday and get to know one another better. On Purim night



parties were held in each of the Batei Midrash, with musical accompaniment and singing and dancing till the wee hours of the night. On Purim day the students were hosted in the rabbis' homes for festive meals and more merriment.

