

# CAMP GAN YISROEL

## Minnesota

### NEWSLETTER



# Connect & Effect

## Reminders:

- ~ Make sure to bring sunscreen, bug spray!!
- ~ Please label everything that comes to camp.

**Parashas Balak**  
Candle lighting time:  
8:43p.m.  
Shabbos ends:  
9:59p.m.

# *A Toast of Torah*

A king was waiting anxiously with a crowd of people. From afar they were able to see a man walking slowly. The man looked strange: he could see with only one eye, and that eye had come out of its socket.

As he began to speak, the crowd of people turned away from him. Some were disappointed, and others were angry. But the man ignored them and continued speaking as if a spell had been cast over him.

This story repeated itself twice more. Each time, fewer people came out to see and listen to the strange man, while others even began to mock and laugh at him. The king finally became upset with the man and sent him home in disgrace.

Who was this king and why was he so disappointed?

The king was Balak. He ruled in ancient times, when people believed in magicians and wizards. Balak called the master magician of his time, Bilaam, to try to curse the Jewish people.

But Bilaam did not curse the Jewish people. Instead, he blessed them with words *Ha-Shem put in his mouth. His prophecies contain great blessings for the Jewish people and for the entire world.*

Bilaam prophesied about the coming of the *Mashiach*: *“I see it, but not now. I can gaze upon it, but it will not be in the near future. A star shall go forth from Yaakov and a staff shall arise in Israel.”*

The *Rambam* explains, *“‘I see it, but not now,’ is King David. ‘I can gaze upon it, but it will not be in the near future,’ is King Mashiach. ‘A star shall go forth from Yaakov,’ is King David, and ‘A staff shall arise in Israel,’ is King Mashiach.”*

Why does the prophecy mention King David together with King *Mashiach*? *First of all, to strengthen our faith that Mashiach will come. David was born many hundreds of years after Bilaam’s prophecy. We have been waiting even longer for Mashiach. However, we can be sure that the second part of the prophecy will be fulfilled, just as the first part came to pass.*

There is also another lesson. Putting the two kings together in the same prophecy shows us that they will do similar things. *David spread the study of the Torah and the observance of the mitzvos among all the Jewish people. He defeated all their enemies and brought peace to the land. He brought the Aron HaKodesh to Jerusalem and prepared for the Beis HaMikdash to be built.*

These are the type of thing *Mashiach* will do. *Mashiach will bring all the Jewish people to keep the Torah. He will lead them to Eretz Yisrael where they will live in peace. And he will build the Beis HaMikdash. (Adapted from Chidushim UBIurim B’shas, Vol. II, p. 262ff)*

Our 1st week in a flash!

Wow! What a week we had! On Monday we found out what bunk we were in. We had a yarn hunt and decorated our bunk rooms, boy was that fun! In honour of 12 and 13 tammuz, we had a special farbrengen with treats, while Rabbi Feller senior spoke to us all about this special day. Before we know it it was Tuesday and we were swimming, swimming in the swimming pool!!! When days are hot when days are COLD!!! Right after we boarded the vans to.....PUMP-IT-UP! We had so much fun jumping and sliding. Was I tried when we came back to camp!! Wednesday, it was birthday day, The whole day we did different birthday activities with our bunks including baking a birthday cake. We ended off with a big birthday party for Camp Gan Izzy! On Thursday we went Straight to Afton Apples to pick berries!! We had a lot of fun on the hayride and had a blast in the park!!! Friday, was twin day, everyone dressed up in pairs. We baked challah and had a guest speaker during shabbos party. Oh My!!! The week flew by soooo quickly. We can't wait to see you next week! For another Smashing week at Gan Izzy!

Love,  
Nechama, Moussie, Kayla, Lieba, Mushky G, Mushky W and Chana Dina

To the most awesome, amazing bunk ever!!!!!! (Mitzvah Clicks :) )

Wow! I can't believe the week is already over! It flew by so fast and we did so much! From soccer to pump it up to birthday day to strawberry picking to swimming, twin day and much much more we had the most smashing week ever! Can't wait for next week and keep on cheering: "We're boys, we're boys....." :) )

From your counselors,  
Moussie & Mushky

Hey Moshiach Magnets!

This week has been amazing! We love being your counselors, and we are so happy that you guys are our campers!

You guys are AWESOME! You're always cheering for our bunk with a lot of !חיות! You guys participate in the activities beautifully. And you're SUPER excited when it's swimming time!

We can't wait to see you next week!

Have an great !שבת!

Love,

Dear Simcha Chains ( best bunk ever!),  
I had an amazing week with you guys! Always cheering and happy to do the activities even if it wasn't a favorite. Keep up the camp spirit! We are the oldest bunk and you guys can do it! Cant wait to see you next week!  
Love, Lieba

## A Sneak Peek of next week!

Next week is going to be filled with **fun & amazing** STUFF!!! *Starting with banana Monday (we're going to go bananas!). Next comes Tuesday, Gan Izzy will be going Hiking!! Wednesday is when you can roll straight from bed into camp with your PJ'S!!! Thursday we will be going to GRAND SLAM! Finally, Friday well go swimming and bake Challah! Can't wait to see you in camp!!*



