

Rambam Record Parshas Vayishlach

Wounded IDF Soldier Shares Words of Healing at Rambam

Last Tuesday the Rambam, students and faculty had the extraordinary opportunity to hear an inspirational story from Lior Ofir, a former soldier in the Tzanchanim (Paratrooper Reconnaissance) unit in the IDF.

He shared his experience from 2000, when he was a young soldier of 20 years old stationed up north near the border with Lebanon. They had received intelligence about Hezbollah terrorists who were planning on attacking a nearby Israeli town, and therefore prepared for an operation to take out the terrorists before they were able to carry out their mission. After intense training and preparation, they entered Lebanon in the harsh, freezing winter night. Lior and his brothers-in-arm were discovered, and quickly dropped into the snow to avoid the gunfire raining down upon them. It was soon after discovered that Lior's friends, Ethan and Liraz, had been shot and needed immediate assistance. With Liraz on his back, Lior began to flee the scene to avoid further injury to himself or his friend. But before he was able to get away, Lior was shot as well, and collapsed to the floor, no longer able to help himself, let alone Liraz. With the assistance of the medic, Kobi, Lior made it to the hospital and after weeks of treatment, survived, although with significant motor damage. His friends Liraz and Eitan, however, did not make it.

Lior never gave up. After months of therapy and his army career now over, he decided to find another way to contribute to Klal Yisroel. He now learns Torah at Yeshivat Har Etzion and works in the Bet Aviv hostel for autistic children.

To personally hear this story from a man who started off his story describing his seventeen year old self playing basketball with his friends, just like us at Rambam, is truly inspiring. No matter what he faced, Lior continued to fight for his people, both on and off the battlefield. If we can take one message from his inspiring words, we should always remember that no matter what life throws our way, be it a loss in a hockey game, a bad grade on a test, or a bullet on the battlefield, we must always keep pushing forward.

By: Gabriel Greenbaum (12th Grade)



Epic Rabbi Young Shabbaton!

11B Getaway Shabbaton

This past weekend, Parshat VaYetzeh, Rabbi Aryeh Young took his Talmidim on a trip that they'll surely not forget anytime soon. The trip was filled with sports, ruach, cheering, food, and fun!

It all started last Thursday when right after school, all the students helped pack up the cars of Rabbi Young and his advisors and we started our trek up to the beautiful mansion in Monsey! Once we got there, we quickly changed into our sports clothes ate some delicious pizza and hopped into the cars and went to the Superdome in Waldwick New Jersey to play football and soccer for a few hours. When we got back to the house, we all had the night to relax, go swimming in the indoor pool, and play knee hockey, or ping pong.

The next day we had Shacharis followed by a nice breakfast which included bagels, croissants, and cereal amongst other things. When then went back to Superdome to play more football and soccer and also some optional basketball! We then went to 7/11 to get slurpees and rushed back to the house to get ready for Shabbos!

Shabbos started with a beautiful Carlebach Kabbalat Shabbat lead by advisor and Rambam Alumnus Eric Grossman. We then had a delicious Friday night meal made by the students' parents. The meal was filled with Z'mirot, D'verei Torah, and great food! Later that night, after a shiur led by Rabbi Young, we had a Tisch filled with more singing of niggunim, desserts and a great D'var Torah by Rabbi Daniel Coren. The rest of the night was filled with a postgame Tisch, a knee hockey tournament (which Benny Csillag and I won, of course) and some fun ping pong.

The next morning was started with another beautiful Shacharis by Eric Grossman and a nice Drasha in the middle by Rabbi Young. Immediately following Mussaf, we davened Minchah, followed by lunch. The lunch, once again made by the parents was equally delicious as the meal from the night before. After a few hours of break, we had a Tisch by Shalus Shudus followed by Ma'ariv and a beautiful Havdalah.

Motzei Shabbos festivities started with a fun trip to Sky Zone where Talmidim played trampoline dodgeball and volleyball. After which, we drove to Teaneck, NJ where we invaded TABC and we cheered on our team to a 44-40 Varsity win of TABC.

After the game, we celebrated with the team ta Dougie's were we ate delicious food! When we got back we went to the pool, hot tub, played games and overall just had fun!

On our last day, Sunday morning we davened Shacharis and ate a delicious hot breakfast

made by Rebbetzin Young, we then packed up the cars and left the mansion in which so many fun memories were created.

Thank you to everyone who lained, gave D'verei Torah, davened for the amud, were in charge of tournaments, etc.

Thank you to all advisors who drove us all over the place, created actual bonds with us, kept everything organized and were overall awesome.

Thank you to all 11B parents who a) let their children come on the trip and made it awesome, and b) made delicious food that all the kids enthusiastically enjoyed.

And last but certainly not least; a HUGE thank you to Rabbi Young who made the whole trip happen by organizing all the fun events, the advisors, the food, the trips etc. we all appreciate it and we greatly thank you.

By: Gavriel Haviv (11th Grade)



Varsity Basketball Winning in Boston!

Varsity basketball is taking the "Maimonides Invitational Basketball Tournament" by storm! Early Thursday night they trumped Hyman Brand 62-25 led by Aaron Azose with 18 points and Donny Moskovits' 15 rebounds!

Today they handled Miami 47-32! With that win, they have clinched a spot in the championship game this Sunday!

Go Ravens and big congratulations to Coach Howard and Coach Babayov on what is already a very successful season!

