B”SD

**Chof Beis Shvat - Sushi Selebration**

Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka - the facts, her story, her life; we know. But who was the Rebbetzin as a person? The girls of Kol Yakov Yehuda decided to find out through a *farbrengen*-style evening in honor of Chof Beis Shvat, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka’s *yahrtziet*.

At 4 p.m. the girls entered the back room of Saba Sushi (a new restaurant in Southern California) to find a beautifully set up room. Flower center pieces (donated by Beis Menachem), pearls, crown and glittered frames with pictures of Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka decorated the tables, with the *pasuk* “***Kol Kevudah Bas Melech Pnima***” proudly hanging overhead. Over the years with more and more stories coming out, we have begun to understand and see how much we can learn from Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka - and the girls were ready to get to know our true queen, the Rebbetzin.

The event began with a “*Middos* Activity”, allowing each girl to look at themselves and re-evaluate their own *middos*. “What would Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka do?” was the underlying message. The girls then took on new *hachlatos* to work on and increase their positive *middos*, to each be a “rose” and a “*Bas-Melech*”! Following the activity, the *farbrengen* began -  the sound of stories and *niggunim* filled the room. Girls then got up on stage and performed a unique talent, each with a special message about the Rebbetzin. Dancers, actors, singers - we really enjoyed all of them! The video about Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka following the talent show, really brought her personality to life.

All the while, everyone was enjoying delicious miso soup, sushi and fries. What an incredible evening! To top it all off, we ended the night with a special raffle - a full-paid ticket to Crown Heights for Chof Beis Shvat where one lucky girl would participate in the *Kinnus* with all the special *shluchos* from around the world!! The girls had been working hard over the past month and a half to earn special “boarding passes” that would enter them into the raffle by coming to Shul each week and participating in the *davening*. They waited with baited breath as the raffle was chosen!! And the winner is.....drum roll please....ESTIE RAV-NOY!! Definitely well deserved....

By the end of the evening, we all felt as if we knew more about who our Rebbetzin was and what we need to do to make her proud!
Thank you to Saba Sushi for hosting us and to our 8th grade hosts for organizing and coordinating this event - Shaina Benzaquen, Simcha Elharrar and Rochel Lubin, it truly was a beautiful Chof Beis Shvat event!