

The Daily Portion - Sivan Rahav Meir

The real school year begins now

Translation by Yehoshua Siskin

Mazal tov on the new school year which begins this week! According to Rav Yaakov Edelstein, although summer vacation starts now, this is when kids' education truly begins:

During the year, the Rav explained, students are in a structured environment. There are classroom rules of conduct, bells and breaks between classes, and homework. But during summer vacation, students set their own schedule.

Rav Edelstein would tell young people that this is an opportunity to be who they really are. Especially when there is no outside structure imposed on them, when there are no teachers or exams, and they can express their true, best selves. They can create their own daily schedule – when to go to sleep and when to wake up, when and how to spend time with parents, siblings, and friends. Most importantly, they can choose the content that will fill their extensive free time. This is not just a taste of what life is like as an adult, but an opportunity to get better acquainted with the person they are meant to be.

So to millions of students: have a successful school year!

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