

# What's Up?

(What's up?) מה הענינים      February 24, 2011  
 (Ma Ha-inyanim?)                      20 Adar 1 5771

## Important Dates:

*Friday February 25*

*Mara & Tali lead Shabbat  
 Katy & Mor's class will perform their Shabbat song which  
 was cancelled previously due to inclement weather.*

*Friday March 4*

*Betty & Debbie's class lead Shabbat  
 3rd Grade Hagigat Hasafah will sing*

*Friday March 11*

*Beverley & Janet's class lead Shabbat*

*Friday March 18*

*Beverly & Jodi's class lead Shabbat  
 ECC-8th Grade Purim Celebration and Buddy Program*

*Friday March 25*

*Elaine & Amy's class lead Shabbat*

# *Jewish Studies...*

The children in Beverly and Jodi's three-year-old class will serve as our next Mitzvah Mensch leaders. They will help us collect canned food to donate to the Jewish Family Service food pantry! We will be participating in the Feinstein Challenge to Fight Hunger. More information about this important program will follow. The children will have the opportunity to create posters to remind our school community to send in donations; they will also make special announcements and count and sort all of the food! Families will have a chance to help deliver all of our generous donations to Jewish Family Service.

A BIG THANK YOU to Dr. Sander Gothard for visiting us. We really enjoyed learning all about taking care of our bodies and how to stay healthy. It was an excellent connection for the children to learn about the Mitzvah of Bikkur Cholim (taking care of the sick).

Join us on Friday March 18, for our annual Purim Celebration. The celebration will be part of our regular Shabbat service. We will act out the story of Purim, sing a few songs and have a parade. Don't forget to get your costume ready.

Alyse Eisenberg

Jewish Studies Coordinator

# ***PARENT CORNER...***

A question like “What color is that block?” evokes a one-word answer. But an open-ended question, “Tell me about the blocks you are using,” encourages a child to describe the blocks or explain what she is doing. There is no right or wrong answer here.

An answer to an open-ended question gives us a window into what the child is thinking and feeling. And the response is sometimes wonderfully creative. In explaining or describing, children also use language more fully.

In our program, we try to think of good questions to ask children. You might hear one of us say to a child:

- Tell me about your picture.
- What else can you do with the play dough?
- What could you use to make the tower stand up?
- What do you think would happen if?
- Is there another way to?

It is difficult to change the closed-end question habit. But when we ask open-ended questions, children reap great benefits as they think through their responses to express what they want to say. And with their answers, we find out more about what they think and feel.

# **SHABBAT SHALOM**