

# What's Up?

(What's up?) מה הענינים January 27, 2011

## Important Dates:

*Friday January 28*

*ECC OPEN HOUSE 9-11AM*

*Friday January 28*

*Barbara & Tobe's class lead Shabbat*

*PRE-K DEDICATION OF TREES,  
10am on Hillcrest play area  
All parents are welcome to attend*

*Friday February 4*

*Katy & Mor's class lead Shabbat*

*Friday February 11*

*Jenny & Shira's class lead Shabbat*

*Buddy Family Shabbat service & dinner  
ECC 3's & Third Grade Families  
6:15 pm in Beit Aryeh*

*Friday February 18-  
Monday February 21*

**PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**SCHOOL OFFICES CLOSED**

*Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.*

A special thank you to the Pre-K parents for donating 3 beautiful Magnolia trees to our school. On Friday January 28 at 10am the Pre-K children will help plant the new trees in our Hillcrest play space. All parents are welcome to attend the planting celebration.

Special thanks to Nancy Sadicarios who brought the idea to Pre-K parents.

# *A note from Sheryl:*

## *A change in Pre-K for next year*

We have been carefully examining our Pre-Kindergarten curriculum. While our Pre-K students need time for free choice play and socialization, they also need adequate time to engage in units of study which include: language arts, math, science, social studies, Jewish studies, music, physical education, Hebrew language and the added Smart Table technology and Outdoor Classroom gardening experience.

For this reason, we feel the need to extend class time next year, to properly implement our curriculum goals. Starting next academic year, our Pre-K students will attend class until 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Your children are our first consideration and we want to present our enhanced curriculum in a relaxed and sufficient time frame. Serving on the Directors Council of the Jewish Federation has allowed me the opportunity to examine other Early Childhood Pre-K programs that have implemented two day Pre-K extended hours with much success.

I apologize for the delay in letting you know of this change. Re-enrollment time is upon us: if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact myself or Gail. Thank you for choosing Levine Academy's Early Childhood Center for your children.

# *Jewish Studies...*

Yasher Koach to our Mitzvah Mensch class. The children in Katy and Mor's Pre-K class did a great job spreading the word about recycling and taking care of our world. They enjoyed walking all around the ECC collecting our recyclable items and showing all of us how much trash we generate during just one lunch time. It was wonderful seeing all the reusable items being used during our BIG effort to have a Waste-Free Lunch. We appreciate your effort and challenge you and your family to continue to find ways to help take care of our earth.

Tu B'Shevat was an exciting and fun holiday for all of us in the ECC. Our Toddler and 2's enjoyed celebrating the holiday by planting seeds, making a tree to "plant" in Israel, tasting oranges, and planting paper trees in play dough. They especially enjoyed waving the flag of Israel and singing special songs together.

Our 3's and Pre-K classes enjoyed their Buddy Tu B'Shvat Celebration. They enjoyed over 10 tree and recycling related activities all around our gym. A special THANK YOU to our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders for sharing their time with us. They did a wonderful job manning the activities and helping their buddies. We appreciate all of their help.

Our Friday morning Shabbat Service is one I'll always remember . I don't think it gets better than having Rick Recht bless our children in song. It was a beautiful moment for all of us.

Our Pre-K Bracha Fair will take place on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to a very meaningful experience. The children will have the opportunity to explore many yummy food related activities and say the proper bracha and taste their wonderful creations.

Alyse Eisenberg

Jewish Studies Coordinator