

VBS ECC NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017



ECC DIRECTOR'S COLUMN- LOVE FROM MICHELE WARNER

It is impossible for me to put into words my feelings as this school year, and my tenure as the ECC Director draw to a close. I was hired as the VBS Infant-Toddler Director thirty-seven years ago! What a privilege it has been to watch families grow.

I am not saying good bye to VBS. I will remain an active member of the community and a strong supporter of the ECC.

I couldn't have done it alone. Aided by a staff of gifted and dedicated teachers, we have created the very best ECC. I am confident that with the leadership of our new director Abby Mars, our school will continue to flourish. It has been a pleasure working with her this year and I am confident that I am leaving you in very capable hands.

I will never forget your children and the love and joy I felt working with them every day. Their unconditional love, their curiosity and their enthusiasm have brought so much joy to my life.

Thank you ECC parents for your steadfast support, your strong encouragement and most of all, for trusting me with your precious children.



JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

- 6/1 Shavout 1PM Dismissal
- 6/6 PA Meeting 9:15AM
- 6/9 Last Day of Spring
Enrichment Classes
- 6/10 Tot Shabbat 10AM
- 6/12 Class Parties
(Rooms 102-106 & 108)
- 6/13 Class Parties
(Rooms 107, 111-115)
Parents are invited to all parties
1 hour prior to dismissal.
- 6/14 Last Day of School
1PM Dismissal
- 6/15 Step-Up Ceremony 10AM
- 6/18 Father's Day
- 6/19 Camp Shelanu Meet & Greet
5:30PM
- 6/20 First Day of Camp Shelanu
- 6/24 Tot Shabbat 10AM

Forever is composed of nows.

- Emily Dickinson

CAMP SHELANU- REGISTER ONLINE NOW

Camp Shelanu is designed exclusively for preschoolers.

Register online for a summer of fun:

<https://vbsecc.campbrainregistration.com/>

For Camp Kef (grades K-7), please register at campvbs.org



STEP-UP SCHEDULE

All Pre-K and TK families should have received their invitation in the mail to VBS ECC Step-up, a joyful, touching ceremony that transports your preschoolers to TK or Kindergarten. Here's the schedule:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ♥

SCHEDULE - June 15, 2017

- 9:15 AM Begin lining up for Open Seating (outside main sanctuary)
- 9:30 AM Drop graduates at their classroom. Please be ON TIME!
- 9:45 AM Main Sanctuary doors open for reserved and open seating
- 10:00 AM STEPPING UP CEREMONY "PROMPTLY" BEGINS
- 11:20 AM Ceremony concludes.
GRADUATES go back to their classrooms with their TEACHERS for a final friendship circle.
PARENTS and GUESTS go to Burdorf Hall for light refreshments.
- 11:45 AM TEACHERS bring GRADUATES to Burdorf Hall to reunite with their families.

♥ BEFORE YOU LEAVE MAKE SURE TO STOP BY YOUR GRADUATE'S CLASSROOM TO PICK UP THEIR SHABBAT BOX, DIPLOMA & YEAR END PROJECTS. →

You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know when it will be too late.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

RITA ORENSTEIN AND MICHELE WARNER'S LASTING LEGACY

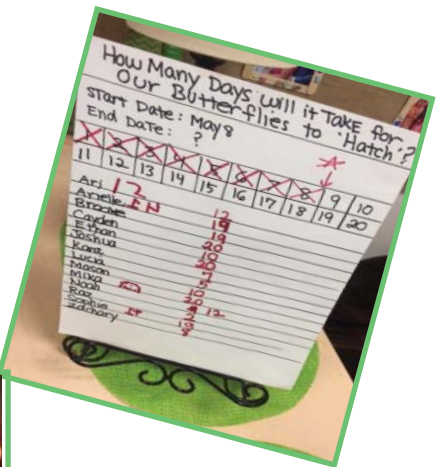


Don't let the school year end without giving these two extraordinary women a BIG HUG as they prepare to retire from their roles as directors at the ECC.

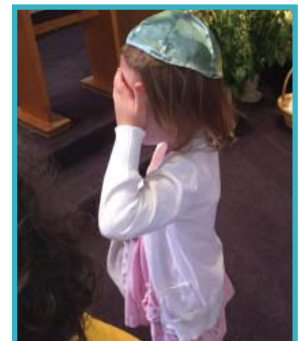
How do we begin to thank Rita Orenstein and Michele Warner for their combined 70+ years of dedicated service to the ECC? As the Infant-Toddler Director, Rita created a nurturing community for new parents and grandparents. Michele went from working with Rita in the Infant Toddler department to heading up the entire ECC preschool with patience, passion and endless love for our community. Fortunately, we don't have to say goodbye. Rita will be teaching ECC Grandparent classes and Michele is launching the Parenting Pros, a parent coaching company located in Tarzana. We wish both Rita and Michele a happy, fulfilling new chapter post-retirement.

BUTTERFLIES ON THE MOVE

One of our preschoolers' favorite spring tradition is watching caterpillars create their cocoons and turn into butterflies right in front of their eyes. It's a touching parallel for many of our Pre-K and TK families who are relishing these final days of preschool before 'flying off' into Kindergarten. Sweet days indeed.



Tot Shabbat family services are filled with joyful singing, story telling and family friendly prayers. Join fellow ECC families June 10th and 24th @10:00am in Burdoff Hall.



It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.

- Frederick Douglas

ECC SUMMER PACKET - IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU

The ECC sent you a 2017-18 Back to School packet filled with lots of important information. In addition to your 2017-18 ECC Parent Handbook, you'll also find a 2017-18 ECC Calendar-at-a-Glance, your fall ECC Friend Request Form and a packet of essential health and emergency forms that **must be completed and returned to the ECC by July 14th**. Please note: Your child's doctor must fill out the Physician's Form and parents fill out the rest of these important forms. ***Your child will not be able to start school without all these completed forms per State of California mandate.*** Please open immediately and don't let this important packet get lost in your summer junk pile!

PARENT ASSOCIATION APPRECIATION

The ECC administration and staff want to thank every single parent who gave their precious time and resources to the ECC this year. Every event, every moment in the classroom and every dollar donated created a spirit of community that is the true, loving foundation of the ECC. We depend on you and benefit from your commitment to our school in so many ways, Extra HUGE HUGS to the ECC Co-Chairs Andrea and Nikki and every room parent, and committee chair and co-chair. Your extra efforts were above and beyond. Thank You!

The FINAL
Parent
Association
meeting of
this school
year is
Tues. 6/6
@ 9:15am



THE L WORD



Parents are understandably concerned and confused about lice. It is a common and unfortunate reality in most schools. Fortunately we have a great resource in Lisa Liss. She has lots of free information available to our parents that debunk common myths (Lice do NOT hop or fly from head to head) and offers sensible treatment and prevention suggestions. Feel free to call Lisa at 747-225-8334 or email her at Lisa@LiceClinicsSanFernandoValley.com

To believe in a child is to believe in the future.
- Henry James

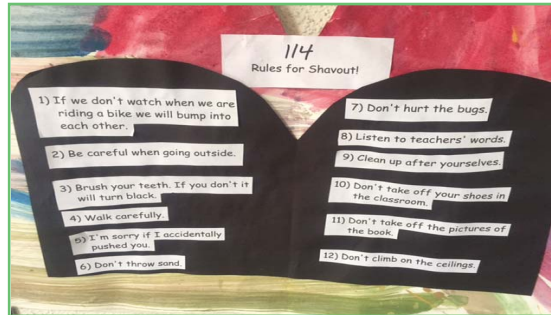
ECLC NEWS

Pre-K and TK families who are headed to public school have a new home at VBS. The Etz Chaim Learning Center is a joyful place for learning hebrew and maintaining community for your children and their friends. To learn more about the ECLC, please contact Keri or Tina at 818-788-3584.



NEW PRESCHOOL COMMANDMENTS

New interpretations of the Ten Commandments never fail to make us smile.



MAKE NEW FRIENDS IN A HAVURAH

Applications are now being accepted for families with infants, toddlers and preschoolers who are interested in joining a havurah. Havurahs are small groups of families who share activities and events on a regular basis. This is a great way to make new friends and become closer with existing ones! Learn more about havurah on the VBS website or visit this link to complete an application: www.vbs.org/havurah



LINKS WE LOVE- BUDDY BENCHES



We've got a Mensch Bench at the VBS Day School. Have you ever wondered about the origin? Thousands of 'Buddy Benches' help lonely kids find friends thanks to this compassionate elementary school student's thoughtful project.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/-buddy-benches>

Another word for creativity is courage.

- Henri Matisse

VBS DAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

VBS Day School Arts Program

At VBS Day School, the academic curriculum is enhanced with an expansive arts program. In Second Grade, the fine arts curriculum includes learning art skills and becoming inspired by the works of famous artists with their Artist Fair. Students develop skills that focus on art techniques, style and personal meaning. Students also participate in both school-wide and grade level performances, including December's all school performance, Generations' Day. These experiences make learning come alive. Students are introduced to instruments through the Orff percussion program where they explore a wide range of instruments in the music room, and in 3rd grade they learn piano through a keyboarding program. This year, the Day School is in the fifth year of its successful orchestra program. By participating in an orchestra program, students develop skills such as self-discipline, concentration, teamwork, and responsibility. Students in grades 4-6 rotate through a series of four instruments: flute, trumpet, clarinet and violin in the first semester, and then choose an instrument on which to concentrate for the second semester of the school year. The orchestra then performs in the spring for parents, the culmination of an exciting year of instruction in the arts.



ONE LITTLE PERSON MAKES A DIFFERENCE!
Get your family involved in social action.

Contact VBS Social Action Chair Brooke Wirtschafter (bwirtschafter@vbs.org) for family- friendly opportunities to make a positive difference in the world.

Catch every fun-filled minute we can capture at the ECC on Instagram. Follow us at :

<http://instagram.com/vbsecc>



Please join our Facebook community!
"Like" the Valley Beth Shalom ECC Preschool page.

Get a joyful glimpse into your child's day. This is a great way for you to share your child's preschool experience with loved ones across the world. We often post great candid shots that you can share friends and family. Remember, for security reasons, please don't tag any children with their names.



We've got a great page on Pinterest! Check out fun-filled activities, crafts, recipes and inspirational ideas specially selected for preschool parents. Search **VBS ECC Preschool** and join the fun.



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER. LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Email fun summer pics to Claire at Cberger@vbs.org. We'll post them throughout the summer.

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.
- Dr. Seuss