

VBS ECC NEWSLETTER

MAY, 2015



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS-

One of the many wonderful things that makes our school so special is our extraordinary teaching staff. Our teachers are committed to excellence as well as on-going professional development. Our parents get to see this in action each day, and this month we are thrilled to announce that more of our teachers have been recognized in our own VBS community and beyond.

VBS has awarded their annual Morah Educators Award that recognizes excellence in teaching to ECC Infant-Toddler and Body Movement Teacher Karen Schwartzman. Karen came to the ECC with her toddler son almost 34 years ago and never left! She's been a teacher here at the ECC for over 29 years, helping countless new moms and dads through our Infant-Toddler classes. The ECC is also blessed to have Karen teaching body movement to our preschoolers, promoting self-esteem and positive body awareness.

The DeLeT Teaching Credential Program @ Hebrew Union College selected ECC Kid's Club Teacher Rachel Rosen as one of their new Fellows. This summer Rachel will attend Hebrew Union College in a special K-8 credential program and come fall will be placed in a Jewish Day School as a student teacher. At the end of this 13 month program we expect many Jewish Day Schools will be courting her for a full time staff position. We will miss Rachel's patience, wisdom and creative energy here at the ECC. We congratulate both Karen and Rachel on these very impressive accomplishments!



MAY DATES TO REMEMBER

- 9 Tot Shabbat 10AM
- 10 Mother's Day
- 12 Parent Assn. Meeting 9:15 AM
- 15 All School Rock Shabbat
5:30pm
- 19 New Parent's Welcome Tea
9:30AM
- 25 Memorial Day- ECC CLOSED

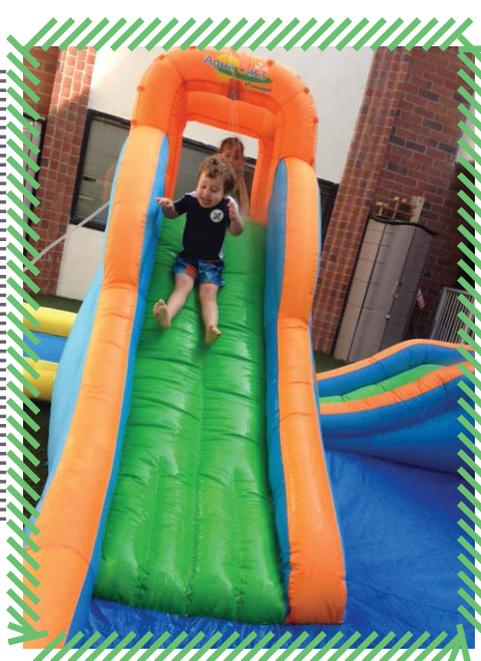
ECC SCHOOL TOURS

TAKE AN ECC
PRESCHOOL TOUR!
Call Marilyn @ 788-0567
to book your tour.
Applications are now being
accepted for the 2015-16
school year.

No one has ever become poor by giving.
- Anne Frank

CAMP SHELANU- THE BEST PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP IN SFV!

Summers are filled with laughter, sunny days and Camp Shelanu memories. Camp registration is now available in the ECC Main Office . Enrollment is limited so don't delay. Enjoy the peace of mind knowing that your children will be campers in the best preschool summer program in the San Fernando Valley with REAL preschool teacher you know and love. You children will feel safe and comfortable in our familiar environment. Everyone is welcome! You don't have to be a temple member to attend our camp so invite your friends and neighbors to join the fun! Give your children an opportunity to make their very own memories this summer at Camp Shelanu.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ISRAEL



Yom Ha'atzmaut was a magical day of flight, food, flags and Israeli fun!

The next
Parent Assn.
Meeting :
Tuesday,
May 12th
9:15AM

At the end of the day it's not about what have accomplished...it's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. - Denzel Washington

ECC WILD WEST EPIC RECAP

A WILD time was had by all who attended our WILD WILD VBS ECC EPIC Fundraiser on 4/18. Co-Chairs Emily Feit and Jamie Weissman went above and beyond with their great committee to plan, solicit, promote and stage a truly memorable evening. Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended and gave so generously of their time and resources.



ECC ALL SCHOOL FAMILY SHABBAT-MAY 15TH

VBS ALL SCHOOL

FAMILY ROCK SHABBAT

Friday, May 15, 2015

VBS Kids Celebrate a Year of Learning & Community

5:30pm: Shabbat Barbecue Dinner and Activities
6:30pm: Family Rock Shabbat Service

Shabbat

RSVP and Pay online at: www.vbs.org/allschoolshabbat
For More Information contact: VBS ECC office at 818-788-0567
Day School office at 818-788-2199 • VBS Eitz Chaim Learning Center 818-788-3584

All School Family Rock Shabbat

Name _____

Reservations: # Adults _____ @ \$13.50 per person = _____
#children ages 3-12 _____ @ \$8.00 per person = _____
Total Cost = _____

Please make check payable to Valley Beth Shalom and turn in by Friday, May 8, 2015
to the VBS ECC, Day School or ECLC office

The Annual All-School Family Rock Shabbat is a great opportunity for families of ALL VBS SCHOOLS to come together for a joyous, rockin', family-friendly Shabbat. Sample delicious food catered by Starlite, run and play on the Day School yard, have some soapy fun with the Bubble Lady and enjoy a special musical Shabbat service that features something for every generation in your family. Adult tickets are \$13.50 per person and Children (3-12 yrs) are just \$8.00 per child. Order your tickets online here: www.vbs.org/allschoolshabbat

Tot Shabbat family services are filled with joyful singing, story telling and family friendly prayers. Join fellow ECC families **MAY 9th @ 10:00am in Burdoff Hall.**

Imagining what it is like to be someone other than yourself is at the core of our humanity. It is the essence of compassion, and it is the beginning of morality.
- Ian McEwan

KIDTALK

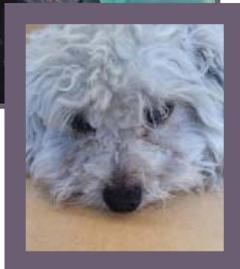
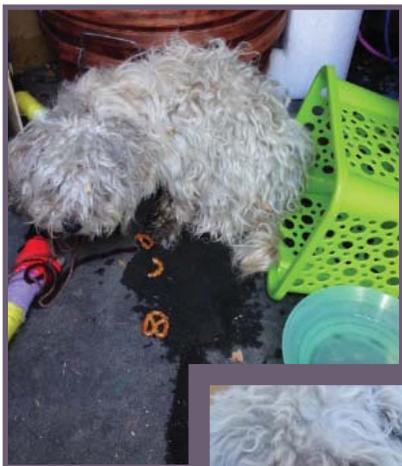
When Room 107 was discussing the Dead Sea, Jonah raised his hand and said "I know what's in the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea Squirrels!" When his teacher asked if he meant the Dead Sea Scrolls, he said "No. They were squirrels that went in the sea and now they are the Dead Sea Squirrels."

As Room 107 walked through VBS they commented that the air smelled delicious, like onions. Rami said, "I tasted onions a long time ago in 2012. They were good!"



LINKS WE LOVE: 15 WAYS TO SAY THANK YOU

THANK YOU are two of the most powerful words in the English language. When your children see you expressing gratitude you are setting a lifelong impression of gratitude in your children. This link gives you some simple, thoughtful suggestions of ways to express thanks: <https://www.happier.com/blog/15-ways-to-say-thank-you-and-make-someones-day>



MEET LILY- THE LUCKIEST DOG @ THE ECC!

It was a Monday morning, the very first day of school right after spring / Passover break when Merav, our Outdoor Classroom Specialist was going through her morning routine, pulling items from the storage shed when she spotted a small, scared dog hiding inside. She was tired and hungry and in urgent need of care. Merav took her to the Veterinarian who confirmed this dog has been abandoned for quite some time, left to her own survival instincts.

Merav and her loving family has decided to nurture this lucky pup back to health, providing a lot of love, grooming, medication, delicious meals and belly rubs.

The Samara family named her Lilly and has decided to permanently add her to their family, which already includes another dog, a bunny and of course their adorable twins Aviv and Liat.

If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.

- Meister Eckhart

ECC 2015-16 REGISTRATION NOW DUE

Registration is required for new AND returning families.

2015-16 ECC registration is filling up fast! If you haven't already done so, Please complete your registration forms and return them to Claire as soon as possible. *You will not be guaranteed a spot next fall without your deposit and your completed registration forms.*



ASK THE EXPERT: Potty-Training Tips

Question: Can you please help me with potty training? Sometimes I think my son is ready and at other times, definitely not. He shows signs that he knows and understands "the feeling to go" but won't stop playing or often does the potty dance and then pees. Should I force the issue and put him in underpants or wait? What is the best way to potty train?

Answer: This is a great question that every parent faces with a young child. So, let's get to it. Here's what is tough about potty training - you can't ever force a child "to go" if they're not physically or emotionally ready. Yes, there are tricks and suggestions I can give you but if your child really isn't ready it's hard to force the issue. It's VERY common with children when there has been a recent addition to the family or another big "life change", for potty issues to become more difficult, so please keep that in mind as well.

Here are a few tips to make potty training easier:

1. Place a potty in every bathroom that your child will be using. Encourage its use as both a toy and a real potty
 2. Allow child to play with dolls and stuffed animals on or near the potty. They can read to them on it, help them go to the bathroom on it and wipe them.
 3. Read potty books to your child and let them read those same books to their dolls and stuffed animals.
 4. Remind them that they will get to pick out and wear new underpants when they've mastered this skill
- After doing this for approximately 2-4 weeks and when you sense that your child really understands, it's time to start the actual potty training.

Pick a date to visually show your child that this is the date when they will start wearing underpants and "go in the potty". Children tend to understand when something exciting and familiar is coming down the pipeline.

As the day draws near, continue to talk about this exciting new change, pick out new underpants and stickers together and create a chart together that shows 21 days from the day you are going to start the training. Tell your child that they will get a "potty party" once they are in underpants for 3 days without accidents.

When potty training day arrives, put up the chart, put them in underpants and GO! Once your child is in underpants, they're in underpants. Don't go back and forth and don't allow your child to "make the rules". When your child is able to go 3 days with no accidents, it's time for a "potty party". Do the potty dance, sing the potty song - you get to make these up. You're proud, right? Tell your child!

ECC | INFANT-TODDLER EXPERT **MARISSA GOLD** can be reached at marissa@intuitparenting.com



We've got this gift of love, but love is like a precious plant. You can't just accept it and leave it in the cupboard or just think it's going to get on by itself. You've got to keep watering it. You've got to really look after it and nurture it.

--John Lennon

VBS DAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT



On Sunday, April 19th, Valley Beth Shalom Day School 6th graders participated in the opening ceremony of the Jewish World Watch 11th Anniversary Walk to End Genocide at Pan Pacific Park. For the eighth year in a row, the sixth grade class provided a drumming demonstration as part of the pre-walk program. All students in 6th grade spend the year learning rhythms with a drum specialist on a weekly basis and performing at various events including Generations' Day and Graduation. This year, 6th grade students raised thousands of dollars, the highest of any school team in Los Angeles, in support of Jewish World Watch as part of their grade level mitzvah of supporting world issues and helping to make our world a better place. Yasher Koach to all!

You are invited to attend the Day School Open House featuring an orchestra demonstration and art & science fairs on Thursday, May 21st at 5:30pm. Please contact the Day School office at (818)788-2199 for more information or to RSVP.

ECLC NEWS

VALLEY BETH SHALOM ETZ CHAIM LEARNING CENTER

Aliyah 2015

TRANSITION FROM ONE MOMENT TO ANOTHER...

VBS Etz Chaim Learning Center is proud to invite you to

The ECLC Aliyah

For grades kindergarten-7th, Family and Friends

Sunday, May 17, 2015 28 Iyar 5775
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Niznick Sanctuary

Refreshments
Etz Chaim Student Project Fair and Open House immediately following the Aliyah Ceremony

LET'S CELEBRATE!
מזל טוב

VALLEY BETH SHALOM
15739 Ventura Boulevard Encino, California 91436
818-788-3584
www.vbs.org info@vbs.org

ECLC TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Tuesdays from 4:00-6:15 p.m.
and Sundays from 9:30-11:45 a.m.

THE ECLC INTRODUCES OUR NEW TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

This program serves as an alternative to traditional Jewish learning for students in grades 5 and 6.

A new innovative Jewish and Hebrew learning experience through technology using computer programming, blogs, and games.

This class satisfies all ECLC requirements.

For more information please contact Keri Loventhal, ECLC Director, at kloventhal@vbs.org or 818-530-4046.

VALLEY BETH SHALOM
15739 Ventura Boulevard Encino, California 91436
(818) 788-6000 www.vbs.org info@vbs.org

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.



Be inspired by our pins!
www.pinterest.com/vb-secc/vbs-ecc-preschool/



Visit us on Instagram!

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

Curiosity about life in all of its aspects, I think, is still the secret of great creative people.

- Leo Burnett