

REMINDERS

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, September 29

Erev Rosh Hashanah
JCC Closes at 3:00 pm

Tuesday/Wednesday

September 30/October 1

Rosh Hashanah
JCC Closed

Wednesday, October 8

Erev Yom Kippur
JCC Closes at 3:00 pm

Thursday, October 9

Yom Kippur
JCC Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday

October 14/October 15

Sukkot
JCC Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday

October 21/October 22
Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah

JCC Closed

Important Dates

School Pictures
Individual and Class
Monday, October 6
Schedule by Classes

Lauren and Mandy
Eileen and Tearena
Amira and Heather
Bonnie and Ilana

Tuesday, October 7

Toddler 101
Toddler 102
Janet and Ricky's

Ivy and Cheri

All Day School

Wednesday, October 8

Infant 101

Infant 102



Y'DEEYON NEWSLETTER

September 8, 2008

8 Elul 5768

Janet and Ricky's Fab 4's

Janet & Ricky's Fabulous Fours got off to a fishy start this year.

Their first thematic unit of the year was ocean. They learned various things about fish including body parts, how fish breath underwater, and how a fishes tail is different from a whales tail (fluke) This unit included singing, writing, math, and art activities. One of these art activities was to make prints form a "real live dead fish."

This year Janet brought in a 5 pound carp. It was really big! Before the children painted the fish to make prints, they got to see the gills, the eyes, and the scales. It one thing to talk about a something but its another to see it, touch it, and SMELL it! Janet "toured" the school with the fish to give all the children this amazing experience.

This month the class will start learning about the High Holidays. Some of the activities will included making round challah covers, honey jars, tzedakah boxes, apple sauce, book writing, graphing favorite apple color, etc. Their other topic unit is apples and fall. Developmentally appropriate practices are used in the classroom, so while the children are "playing and exploring" they are really working on reading, writing, and math skills. The learning is incorporated in all daily activities.



Toddler 101 and Toddler 102

The Toddlers are off to a great start. They enjoyed a summer of fun and are excited for new beginnings and new friendships. The groups will continue to use the "high Reach" curriculum. This month's theme is "From Home to School." What's new with the program is the activities that can be gone at home with the children. We ask that you send them back to school and share your experiences with us. All the toddlers have enjoyed painting, making food collages and learning about colors. We look forward to experiencing the sights, sounds and tastes of the Jewish New Year.



Infants 101 and 102

The Infants are growing, growing, growing! We are excited to be implementing the new infant curriculum through the High Reach Learning. This month's theme is "I Can." The infants are enjoying the music, puppets and stories that come with the program. The little ones also have done handprints that formed a caterpillar. We are looking forward to a great year of improving our skills.



Lauren and Mandy's 2's

These last couple weeks the children have been keeping busy in this 2 year old room. They love practicing their gross motor skills in the multi-purpose room. Besides running, playing catch and basketball, the children love to chase their teachers around the gym. They are quick on their feet!

The colors yellow, green, blue and purple have been introduced. The children learned the "Bumble Bee" song during yellow week and created a blue sky with paint and sponge stars during blue week.

We are now looking forward to learning about the Jewish New Year—Rosh Hashanah.

Eileen and Tearena's 2's

This Two Year Old class had a very colorful beginning weeks of school because they learned all about different colors. Colorful projects included yellow stamp printing and using shaving cream to mix yellow and blue paint to make green. September promises to bring more colorful activities with purple, red (red apples and honey for Rosh Hashanah), brown shofars and golden honey cake. The children will also be learning many new songs to welcome the Jewish New Year.





Amira and Heather's 3's

What a great start to the new year of school! Everyone is so eager to make new friends and enjoy all the activities that happen each day. We have been busy practicing our cutting skills and recognizing the first letter of everyone's name.

As Rosh Hashanah approaches, we will talk about new beginnings and wishes for the coming year. We will also be tasting the flavors of the new year—apples, honey, round challahs and honey cake. We'll be singing songs, learning blessings and hearing the sounds of the shofar.

We'll get to do all of this at our classroom celebration on Sept. 29

Shana Tova to everyone!



Bonnie Joy and Ilana's 3's

This group of 3's is off to a wonderful new school experience. We will be doing lots of process type art of activities that will include painting, gluing and drawing. We have already started this with making our shape collages.

Wait until you see the shofars that the group will be making for Rosh Hasanah. All the children will be practicing their "sewing" skills. We will also be busy making a special book for the Jewish New Year. Let your nose lead you to this classroom because we will be making challahs and honey cakes for the New Year.



Ivy and Cheri's PreK

What a great start to the school year! The ocean was our first unit to the year. We had a lot of fun learning about the creatures that live in the sea. We made fish prints, octopi and drank octopus bubbles. We have also started letter recognition and writing.

Rosh Hasanah is our next unit. We will be lots of cooking—applesauce, honey cakes and round challahs. Some of our projects will be apple prints, challah covers and apple books. We will also be learning some of the special prayers for the New Year.

Shana Tova!



Did You Know ...



Now that we are a month into the new school year, do you remember the first day jitters? Many children had to get acclimated to a new environment, teachers and classmates. Even those that had been here year last year or during the summer, still needed some reassurance that “everything would be fine and mom or dad would return later to take you home.” Now when we walk through the halls we hear the laughter of children playing, see teachers reading stories and hear entire classes singing new songs. The teachers and assistants worked hard during the first weeks to create classroom “traditions” and to make all the children feel part of the community.

With the new school year here and the Jewish New Year approaching quickly, this may be the time of the year for families to start their own new traditions. One tradition could be to invite a new family from the class to your house. You will be building a new friendship with the children and showing the children the mitzvah of *hachnasat orchim*—welcoming guests. Another tradition to start would be talking about your day at the dinner table. Give everyone seated a chance to tell 2 special things that happened at school or work. Mom and Dad also should take part in this activity. Children get to practice their language, wait their turn and recall details; all great readiness skills. You may also want to start a family library day. Make it the same day of the week, everyone in the family gets to select a determined number of books and then each child can pick out a favorite for bedtime reading. Another tradition that you can practice is one that we use at school—giving thanks for the food we eat. Make the blessing special for your family and say it each time you are all together for a meal. Special times together as a family are very important for bonding and respect. Decide on ones that will fit your family style and make them part of your week.



Upcoming Events

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT—
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
6:30—11:00 PM

COST—
MAKE RESERVATIONS AT THE FRONT DESK

Sukkot Family Dinner

Thursday, October 16
5:30—7:00 pm

Dairy dinner, activities and fun for
the entire family

Save the Date

High School Musical—3

Saturday, October 25

Harkins—Chandler Fashion Mall

Details to Follow

Early Childhood Learning Center

Fundraiser

INNISBROOK

Gift wrap, chocolates, gift items and food items

Order online at www.innisbrook.com

50% of all sales goes directly to the JCC

Proceeds benefit the Early Childhood Learning

Center and the Teacher's Laminating Fund

Orders due by Wednesday, September 17

Become part of the Coffee Club

Get your “Joe at the J”

Details at the front desk

