

VBS ECC NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2015



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS-

Welcome Back! We hope that your Passover and Spring Break were meaningful for you and your children! Spring is a time when everything around us is in bloom, including your child's development! We notice that your children came back to school just a little taller, with more language, and feeling very confident and exuberant in their classrooms! This is a pleasant reminder of the growth and development that has been taking place over the course of this year! This is a great time to encourage and reinforce the growth and independence that you are seeing in your children! Help them notice the things they can do now, that they couldn't do before: putting on their shoes, carrying their belongings to and from the car, using clear words, using the toilet, etc. Encouragement (such as: "Wow, you're really working hard!"), unlike praise ("You're doing a good job!") motivates children, and helps them develop a strong sense of personal power and efficacy. With Summer approaching, along with changes in their schedules, this is a great time to empower them and reinforce their capability and readiness for upcoming changes.



APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1-10 Spring Break- ECC Closed
- 11 Tot Shabbat 10:00am
- 13 Classes Resume
- 15 Camp Shelanu Early Bird Pricing ends today
- 18 ECC WILD WILD VBS EPIC 7:30pm
- 21 Parent Association Meeting 9:15am
- 25 Tot Shabbat 10:00am

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.

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.***

CAMP SHELANU EARLY BIRD PRICING ENDS 4/15

Summers are filled with laughter, sunny days and Camp Shelanu memories. Make sure to take advantage of our Early Bird pricing which ends April 15th. Camp registration is now available in the ECC Main Office . Enrollment is limited so don't delay. Lock in the low price and enjoy the peace of mind knowing that your children will be campers in the best preschool summer program in the San Fernando Valley. 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.



Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.

- Margaret Mead

SADDLE UP FOR THE ECC WILD WEST EPIC - 4/18

Howdy Partners. Have you bought your tickets for the ECC's Wild Wild VBS EPIC yet? Our western saloon themed EPIC Fundraiser is on 4/18! Enjoy dinner & dancing, a whiskey tasting, casino games, photo-booth and the live & silent auction. This year's auction items include ECC Teacher Playdates, local restaurant & hotel package gift certificates (we all need date nights!), concerts, VIP VBS parking spot, Kids Camps, Fitness Classes, diamond rings and more. Also, don't miss your chance to win the race car bed of your child's dreams (Twin Size Bed Mattress not included, \$400 value!). Raffle tickets are \$5 each and the winner will be announced at EPIC. STILL NEED TICKETS? Buy tickets online right now: <https://www.vbs.org/2015epicecc>



Tot Shabbat family services are filled with joyful singing, story telling and family friendly prayers. Join fellow ECC families April 11 and 25th @10:00am in Burdoff Hall.



BORROWING SHELF BONANZA

We are grateful to our ECC families who have cleaned out their playrooms and toy chests to donate to Claire's Borrowing Shelf. This little shelf has become an important lesson in sharing, responsibility and community. Thank you to every child who remembers to return a borrowed toy and thank you to every parent who helps to inspire their children to share with others. Small lessons such as these plant mighty, menschy seeds in our preschoolers' hearts and minds. We keep the shelf up and running thanks to your generous support.

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

- Leo Buscaglia

LINKS WE LOVE: THE CONTENTMENT HABIT

When is enough enough?
The next time you find yourself wishing for someone else's job/ home/ family/ life, consider developing a new habit of contentment. This link gives you some valuable suggestions to move you in the right direction: <http://www.dailygood.org/story/988/the-contentment-habit-leo-babauta/>



PASSOVER EXCITEMENT @ THE ECC



Making matzahs in our very own matzah factory....Building pyramids in the Play Yard....Living the life of slaves in ancient Egypt....Making bricks out of mud...These are just a few of the creative ways your children learned all about Passover. Prayers, songs and stories, even an imaginary journey through the Red Sea (who knew preschoolers could part water?!) made for vivid, playful experiential learning. Hopefully, your preschoolers had much to contribute to your family Passover Seders.



It isn't what you have or who you are or where you are or what you are doing that makes you happy or unhappy. It is what you think about it. - Dale Carnegie

PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

We are so excited to welcome everyone back from spring break and we can't believe that our annual Epic fundraiser is right around the corner. April 18th's Wild Wild VBS will be an incredible night for ECC parents, teachers, and the whole synagogue community! We are anxious to see what great fundraising can be done with a night of casino fun, auction, entertainment and delicious dinner! Tickets are still for sale on line at <https://www.vbs.org/2015epicecc> and the committee is still looking for parent volunteers to help set up and work that night: <https://www.slotted.co/2015epicecc>. Get our your western gear and make sure your babysitter is all lined up because its a night that you will not want to miss!

Don't forget to turn in your Square One Art order form by April 14th. Pick out something fun to keep your child's art alive in your home, and help raise money to support our ECC programs!

Also, do you like shopping? Do you need some new spring clothing? Join your fellow ECC moms to go shopping at Blush in Encino anytime from April 28-May 3 and the store will donate a portion of sales back to the ECC. Blush is also a great place for dad's to buy Mother's Day gifts!

See you all at our next PA meeting on Tuesday, April 21!

**Next Parent
Association
meeting is
Tuesday,
4/21@
9:15AM**



The only impossible journey is the one you never begin.

- Tony Robbins

VBS DAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

6th Grade Partnership Delegation Visits Israel

6th grade Day School students and two staff members recently embarked on a twelve day journey to Israel as part of the Los Angeles-Tel Aviv Partnership program of the Jewish Federation. The students are paired with host students and their families as part of the partnership with the David Bloch Elementary School in Tel Aviv. They experience life as an Israeli by attending school with their partners to celebrating Shabbat to touring some of Israel's most notable sites. The delegation's experience is enriched by unique opportunities including floating in the Dead Sea, visiting Masada, Independence Hall and a kibbutz, touring a Bedouin Tent, and riding on a camel. This trip of a lifetime is highlighted by the lasting friendships made with the Israeli students which began last fall when the Israel delegation visited Los Angeles. Stay up to date on the Day School Israel Partnership by visiting the blog at www.vbsdsbloch-partnership.blogspot.com.



ECLC NEWS - PASSOVER PRIDE

Each Pesach we tell the story of Passover and how our ancestors were led out of Egypt from slavery to freedom. As the story of Passover is told, there are many different Haggadot to illustrate the story. The Rabbis teach that we are required to tell the story of Passover in four different learning styles so that each time we tell the story we are representing one of the four sons. During our "Taste of ECLC," the Kindergarten class and ECC friends had an opportunity to share in a Seder telling the story through costumes, singing, and using our senses. What a wonderful experience to see the children interact while continuing the tradition of the Passover Seder.

For more information about the ECLC or to schedule a tour contact the Etz Chaim Learning Center's Administrative office (818) 788-3584 or email etzchaim@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.

facebook

Be inspired by our pins!

www.pinterest.com/vb-secc/vbs-ecc-preschool/

Pinterest



Visit us on
Instagram!

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

Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.

- Demosthenes