

VBS ECC NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2014



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS

Each new year brings anticipation and a great sense of possibility for all of us here at the VBS ECC. We are excited to welcome back many familiar, happy faces, and eagerly look forward to welcoming and getting to know so many new members of the ECC.

One of the unique qualities of our community is the long-standing traditions and roots holding us all together. Many of our families came to this preschool as children, were bar/bat mitzvah'd and married here, too. But what makes our preschool even more special and unique than the long-standing traditions is the warmth and love with which we embrace new comers into our VBS family!

So if you are a returning family, we urge you to look around and seek out other ECC parents. Let them know what you love about this community and find out how you can help them become a part of it. If you are a newcomer, look around find someone who seems familiar with the community, and ask them for some guidance or recommendations.

Beyond our outstanding teachers and wonderful, enriching curriculum, this is what will make your preschool experience not just special, but truly transformative - for you and your child!

We are grateful for the opportunities we have to expand and deepen the relationship within VBS ECC . We extend our warmest wishes to all of our families for a happy, healthy, and new year.



ECC OCTOBER DATES TO REMEMBER

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|--|------------------------------------|
| 10/1 Back to School Night 6:30pm | 10/21 Fall Harvest Festival |
| 10/2 Picture Day | 10/25 Tot Shabbat 10AM |
| 10/6 Enrichment Classes Begin | 10/29 PA Wine & Cheese Tasting 7pm |
| 10/3 Erev Yom Kippur ECC CLOSED | |
| 10/9 Sukkot 1pm Dismissal | |
| 10/10 Sukkot- ECC Closed | |
| 10/11 Tot Shabbat 10AM | |
| 10/12 Family Fun Day 3PM | |
| 10/14 PA Meeting 9:15AM | |
| 10/15 Director's Chat-"FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE" | |
| 10/16 Shmini Atzeret ECC CLOSED | |
| 10/17 Simchat Torah ECC CLOSED | |

Shanah Tovah!

A happy, healthy new year to you
and your family from everyone

at
VBS ECC

MAGNUS ONLINE HEALTH UPDATE

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY UPLOADED YOUR HEALTH AND EMERGENCY FORMS ONTO MAGNUS, PLEASE DO SO TODAY!

All health and medical information must be submitted online, directly to Magnus. Please call MAGNUS immediately by phone : 877-461-6831 or via email: service@magnushealthportal.com
California State licensing requires you to complete all forms.

IMPORTANT KID'S CLUB INFO :

Attention all Kid's Club/ Extended Care Parents: **Please remember that no child may be dropped off without registering in advance.** All full year Kid's Club/Extended Care registration must be completed by October 3rd. All Early Drop- Extended Care required after this date must be requested **in advance** though Marilyn's desk in the Front Office. Please don't be late to pick up your children. After five minutes past your registered time you will be charged \$1 p/ minute up to ten minutes late. If you are more than ten minutes late you will be charged \$15 for the full hour of extended care. We respect your time and child care needs and ask that you respect the needs and schedules of our teachers. Thank you for your cooperation.

ALL NEW ENRICHMENT CLASSES AT THE ECC

5 Star Enrichment classes began Oct. 6th. If you are interested in registering your child for a class, please visit www.5starenrichment.net. Science, sports, dance, art and much more are available as after school activities. So much learning! So Much FUN!



ONE LITTLE PERSON MAKES A **BIG 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.

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

- Benjamin Franklin

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT - TUESDAY OCTOBER 1st - 6:30pm



Meet your ECC teachers and learn about daily schedules and goals for the year. Make friends other parents and hear from your directors and rabbis.

Please plan to attend without your children.

This evening is just for parents!

ALL SCHOOL FAMILY FUN DAY

Don't miss the FUN on Sunday, October 12th from 3-6pm on the Day School yard. It's going to be an afternoon of fun, food and friendship. All the VBS school families are invited. Cost: \$18 per family and tickets will be available at the event.

Need more info? Please email
aileedembo@gmail.com
nicolecisaacson@aol.com



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

We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now.

- Martin Luther King, Jr. -

ECC YOUNG FAMILY RETREAT

Please plan to join us for a memorable weekend with other ECC families connecting through nature, Judaism and joy at the ECC Family Retreat, Friday, November 14-16th at the beautiful Brandeis-Bardin Institute in Simi Valley. Comfy beds, private bathrooms, three delicious meals (and snacks!) set in the mountains is the perfect 'glamping' experience for your family. We even provide evening babysitters so grown-ups can have fun too! Registration is limited, so please sign up soon. Registration brochures are available at the front desk and on EduLoops Forms & Flyers and in Claire's office.



ECC PARENT ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Thank you VERY much to all of the amazing parents that have volunteered for the Parent Association so far this year. From our board members to our committee members to our Room Parents, we appreciate all of you for stepping up to make this year great! For those of you who are still looking to get involved, you can still sign up online at: <http://www.slotted.co/lrmvdh1p>. It's never too late to join in on the fun! The year is already off to a great start with a successful fundraiser at Menchie's. Thanks to all that came out to support our school! Get excited because soon you will be able to purchase ECC t-shirts and hoodies for your kids—the absolute perfect way to show school spirit! And, just around the corner is our annual Harvest Festival (formerly known as Fall Ball) on October 21. Volunteer opportunities to help at **Harvest Festival** will be communicated soon!

See you at our next PA association meeting on October 14th at 9:15AM.



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.



Follow us on Instagram!
<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,

"Sometimes", said Pooh, "the smallest things take up the most space in your heart."
- AA Milne

KIDTALK:

We love the honesty, the imagination and the humor of your children. Here are a few precious quotes over heard this month:



Since most preschoolers wear a crown on their birthday, Naya was asked if it was her birthday. "No," she replied. "This is my everyday crown."



Dylan's mom heard that the rabbi visited his class to talk about Rosh Hashanah. When she asked him to tell her more, he said "God came to my class today and blew a shofar!"



Violet rounded up a group of friends in class. She said, "Let's play family. Royal Family. I'll be the queen!"

LINKS WE LOVE:

When artist Ruth Osterman collaborates with her two year old daughter Eve, creativity takes on a whole new dimension. If you enjoy art projects with your children, check out Ruth's blog:

[The Mischievous Mommy. blogspot.ca](http://www.themischievousmommy.blogspot.ca)

Watch Ruth and Eve paint together in this entertaining video: <https://youtube.com/watch?v=40lffBm-Gf4>



Encourage your children to see nature as an artist's palette. Count how many shades of green can be found on a single leaf or how many shades of blue can be found in the ocean, Check out this link for more inspiration:

<http://www.community-playthings.com/resources/articles/2014/the-wonder-of-natures-colors>



Dear God, Who draws the lines around the countries?

-Nan, in 'Letters from Kids to God'

ECC DIRECTOR'S CHATS

Here's your chance to get up-close personal time with with ECC preschool directors Michele, Rita and Brenda. Throughout the school year, join them for the Director's Chat where they will be hosting an hour focussing on a topic close to your heart as preschool parents.

Our next Director's Chat will be October 15th at 9:15 am. The topic: "FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE" is essential for parents with children of all ages. All Director's chat dates are listed on your ECC calendar.



VBS DAY SCHOOL NEWS

This year, the Day School is proud to expand the successful one-to-one iPad program launched in 2013. In addition to the 3rd and 4th pilot grades from last year, 2nd and 5th grades now have one-to-one iPads, as well as a 1:2 ratio of iPads in Kindergarten and 1st grades. This innovative program has opened up a new world of exploration for both our students and teachers. Through the use of the iPads, students are learning important 21st century skills that will help them succeed in the future. Special apps allow students to turn in their work "virtually" to their teachers and receive teacher feedback via Google Drive, lessening the amount of paper used in classrooms and improving efficiency in communication. The technology program also includes interactive SMARTBoards in every classroom, 6th grade one-to-one laptops, a multi-media Mac Lab and award-winning Robotics Program. This year, the Day School will launch a Green Screen Production Studio which will enable our students to be videotaped live presenting the morning message newscast each day seen by students on the SMARTBoard in their classrooms. Technology instruction begins in kindergarten and is integrated into the daily life of students from the moment they enter our classrooms.

Come see the Day School in action at an upcoming Prospective Parent Open House:

October 22, 2014 at 9:15am

November 19, 2014 at 9:15am

January 21, 2015 at 9:15am

We expect a full kindergarten for next year, so please submit applications as soon as possible. Financial aid is available. For more information, please contact Cindy Goodman, Director of Admissions, at (818)788-2199. To RSVP for an Open House, please visit www.vbsds.org/admissions.

EDULOOPS QUESTIONS?

Contact Claire Berger,
cberger@vbs.org for assistance.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Please contribute to the ECC Newsletter!
Email your thoughts, suggestions, interesting links and adorable pictures to me, Claire Berger, your ECC News Gatherer. My email is: cberger@vbs.org
We value all your contributions.

Home is knowing. Knowing your mind, knowing your heart, knowing your courage.
If we know ourselves, we're always home, anywhere.

- Glinda, the Wizard of Oz -