



# Charlotte Jewish Day School



## First Graders Travel Back in Time

The first-grade students of Charlotte Jewish Day School have recently returned from a trip back in time. Throughout the month of November, the children experienced life as Wampanoag Indians living in Massachusetts in 1621. The students created murals depicting the environment of the eastern woodlands. As the seasons changed, the murals reflected the shifting appearance in the landscape. The students also created Wampanoag summer villages by constructing wetus (summer



Students in class 1B work on their Wampanoag Village.



Eastern woodlands mural and village.



Ben Greenberg trying archery.

variety of games. The children had a chance to practice archery skills and play games such as the pin game and tug-of-war. ☆



Henry Gorelick playing the pin game.

homes), building fires, forming planting mounds, and designing three-dimensional trees. Each student had the opportunity to become a member of a Wampanoag family, determining their character's age, role in the family, strengths, and personality traits. When summer arrived, Squanto visited our village to gain the leader's permission to help the English settlers. He returned in the fall to invite everyone to a feast of thanksgiving. Following a meal of samp (seasoned grits), fruits, and vegetables, the children enjoyed a



## New Reading Incentive Program

Charlotte Jewish Day School is now participating in the Reading Patch Club. This is an ongoing incentive program that rewards children for extra-curricular reading.

The students' goal is to earn patches for special bookbags that are provided by our PTO. There are different patches for various genres, such as history, sports, biology, science, and technology. In addition, we have designed original patches for Judaica fiction and Judaica nonfiction.

The program encourages parental involvement by including "Read-To-Me" patches.

Since a large amount of reading is required for each patch, the goal is for a child to earn three or four patches per school year. This ongoing program will continue from year to year.

This project has been implemented with the able guidance of Tara Grindrod. It promises to encourage our students to read for enjoyment. ☆

## Why Teachers Choose Charlotte Jewish Day School

Recently, teachers were asked why they chose CJDS as their place of employment. Following is a sampling of the various responses:

"I chose to work at CJDS because of the wonderful school atmosphere I found here. I continue to enjoy working at CJDS because of the special things that happen here daily." (Rachel Moore, Second Grade Assistant)

"I came to CJDS because I was looking for a family environment. I have truly found it here." (Jessica Sammis, First Grade Teacher)

"I wanted a school with children who wanted to learn and who came from families who valued a good education. Prior to CJDS, I taught for five very happy and successful years in Florida. After moving to Charlotte in 1993, I spent a difficult month in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system before resigning. I missed the children and the classroom, so I decided to look for a job in the private school sector. I found my niche at CJDS and have been here and happy since 1994." (Debbie Lipscomb, Fifth Grade Teacher)

"I found the small class size very enticing." (Ashley Holmes, Kindergarten Teacher)

"I chose to work at Charlotte Jewish Day School for three different reasons: (1) the supportive faculty and parents, (2) the Jewish environment, and (3) the amazing student body. CJDS is one big family, and I love being a part of such an incredible school." (Jaime

Cojac, Second Grade Teacher)

"I loved the school from the beginning. Everyone is incredibly nice. I love being part of a school that continues to grow. I guess what made the final decision for me was that CJDS is a place I would send my own child—a school that is full of kindness, and loving people, and full of learning." (Christina Kelly, Third Grade Teacher)

"I wanted to be back in a day school environment. My interview with Mariashi is what sold me on CJDS. I feel truly lucky to be working within such a caring community." (Mara Rosenberg, First Grade Teacher) (P.S. After teaching at CJDS for a month, Mara transferred her own daughter to our school.)

"Why wouldn't anyone want to teach here?! I came back because of the great director and the terrific families involved with our school. The children are kind and eager to learn. We always have a great group of teachers, and I love what I do! This is a caring community." (Patty Blais, Fourth Grade Teacher, who returned after nearly a year's absence)

"After being retired for a year, I really missed being with children. Last year was a great experience for me after so many years of working with children. I found Charlotte Jewish Day School to be the environment I had wished for, with such great children and support from the school and staff." (Kay Solomon, Kindergarten Assistant) ☆

## CJDS Open House

Charlotte Jewish Day School recently held an open house for parents of children who will enter kindergarten or first grade in August 2002. Teachers of all CJDS grades were at the program. Gale Osborne, president of the

CJDS Board of Directors, and Mariashi Groner, CJDS Director, both addressed the visitors. Mrs. Channie Weiss presented a Hebrew immersion lesson. The program concluded with a tour of the school. ☆

## Registration Now Open to the Community

Registration for the 2002-2003 school year is underway at Charlotte Jewish Day School. There are very limited spaces available in kindergarten through grade 5. Children who do not

have a day school background can be considered for admission.

To request a registration packet, call Mrs. Linda Bishop at the day school office, at 704-366-4558. ☆

## CJDS Families Do Their Fair Share

The Fair Share program is one of the driving forces behind the school's many successful programs. Fair Share requires that parents perform a specified number of volunteer hours during each school year. Families with one child in school contribute twenty hours, while families with two or more children work a total of twenty-five hours.

Although parents may buy down their time for \$25 per hour, very few exercise this option. Most parents prefer to work with

the children at holiday events and on field trips. Credit is also earned by serving on committees and by working at our new thrift shop.

Chris Feldman, who chairs Fair Share, remarks that, "...without Fair Share volunteerism, our wonderful programs could not happen. Fair Share helps keep tuition down and allows parents to get involved and see their kids in action."

Charlotte Jewish Day School is grateful to our parents for their support of this very meaningful program. ☆



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