

CJDS: A Model for Success in Teaching Jewish Pride

Charlotte Jewish Day School is recognized by such prestigious organizations as RAVSAK, the Jewish Community Day School Network, and PEJE, Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education as a model for success in the teaching of core principles of Judaism to its multi-denominational student body. CJDS recently welcomed four representatives of the Abraham Joshua Heschel School of Los Angeles. Heschel's head of school, middle school administrator, Judaica director, and chairman of the board are currently paired with Mariashi Groner under the professional mentor program of Project SuLam, sponsored by RAVSAK.

Mariashi summarized CJDS' approach to Judaic studies as follows:

~ Judaism has survived and thrived through the ages because of adherence to three core principles: respect for the divinity of the Torah; love of God; and love of

fellow human beings.

~ The compromising of these principles would be confusing to children. If principles are presented as being subject to change, children think that there are no principles, and teachers lose credibility.

The key to the success of CJDS is the fact that it believes in the above principles, and it provides a comfortable zone for children from all backgrounds. Teachers seek out the positive experiences found in the tradition that all Jewish children can appreciate.

Charlotte Jewish Day School is blessed with Judaica teachers who exude confidence in what they believe and can therefore imbue the students with a true love and respect of Judaism. The school teaches respect for the multi-cultural aspects of Judaism by finding and celebrating common ground.

We are proud to be a school that brings recognition to the Charlotte Jewish community. ☆

Pajama Day at CJP

Some days you just feel like staying in your pajamas. On February 7, that's exactly what all the children at CJP did. The children spent the day in pjs and went from room to room visiting

friends and sharing in different activities that explored Bedtime concepts. Children had pillowcase races, "woke up" to a pancake breakfast, heard favorite bedtime stories, and listened to soft "good-

night" music. Morah Elka shared different brachot for bedtime and morning wake up time with all the children. We guarantee that this busy day helped everyone sleep well that night. ☆



CJDS Celebrates Tu B'Shevat

Students at Charlotte Jewish Day School were recently treated to a special program in honor of Tu B'Shevat. This holiday celebrates the New Year for the Trees, which are beginning to bloom at this time in Israel. Our Community Shlichah, Tair Zaeh, set up a huge Jewish Monopoly™ board game on the third floor hall. Students from each grade rolled giant dice to move around the board and worked in teams to answer questions about the land of Israel and food, customs, and events related to Jews around the world. Questions such as "How do Jews in Australia celebrate Rosh Hashanah?" helped the students realize that we are all share in our Jewish heritage. ☆



First graders view the land of Israel through a giant magnifying glass on the Jewish Monopoly™ board.



Community Shlichah, Tair Zaeh, explains the rules of the game.



Amanda Kurtz rolls the die for her team.

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Store will be closed on March 5 to stock Passover Goods

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