

Schools

A JPS Parent's Bittersweet Farewell

By Amy Mullen

As new mothers, we look to our friends and family for advice on parenting, from the little things like diaper brands to bigger decisions, such as which preschool your child should attend.

In 2000, I was one of those mothers. When my daughter Sarah was 18 months, I simply chose JPS because my nephew and some of my friends' kids went there. I'm not sure I even toured the school. With 18 months of parenting under my belt, what did I know?

Now, ten years later and a mother of three, I know a lot more about parenting. My daughter Sarah, 11, is a fifth-grader at Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS); Luke, 9, is a third grader at The Fletcher School; and Tess, almost 5, is anxiously awaiting her kindergarten year at CJDS. Thankfully, they've all had the opportunity to attend the Jewish



The Mullen kids—Luke, Tess (middle), and Sarah—can each share happy memories of their time at JPS.

and care that each child is shown comes directly from the top. First, it was Fern Sanderson, and now we have Jen Lahn. While different in many ways, parents can't deny that their children are loved by these women along with the teachers and staff.

Sarah, Luke and Tess were loved. With their own strengths and weaknesses, each of my children was appreciated for who they were, not for what they should be. They were taught the beauty of kindness and tzedakah. They were allowed to learn, and even to fail. They were taught about the Torah, and each has developed a love for Judaism. More importantly, they each take pride in their religion and in themselves.

As my children grow, I look back and know that their early years at JPS have helped shape who they are now. And personally, I think they are terrific. I can

Preschool on Sardis.

JPS is an extraordinary place, and as a community, we couldn't be luckier to have this school as an option for our children. The love

assure new mothers at JPS that their children will be loved, and "old" mothers, like me, can look back and thank God JPS was there. Thank you Jen, Fern, and all

of the teachers and staff for being by my side and helping me teach my children how to live beautifully. ☆

A Moment of Truth

By Nancy Zolotorofe

When my youngest of two, Luke, was in his final year of JPS, I often got the question, "Are you ready to be done with preschool?" Without flinching, I always responded definitively, "Yes." I wasn't the sentimental mom who missed the baby years; Luke was ready for kindergarten and I was thrilled about the idea of having my two kids on the same schedule. But as Luke was wrapping up his JPS "career," I suddenly wanted time to slow down. A month

before graduation, Ms. Terri lifted Luke out of the car at drop-off and remarked, "Look at you now, Luke. I remember when you came here in the ones and couldn't even walk yet." I flashed back to Ms. Terri pulling Luke around in a red wagon. Then, at the Shabbaton for the fours, Morah Jayme, gave my daughter, Sydney, a first-grader and former JPS student, a big hug and encouraged her to join in a Judaica song as if my daughter had never left. Finally, when I got a call from Ms. Jen that Luke hurt his leg on the playground, I nervously walked into Luke's classroom and there was his teacher, Ms. Kate, hold-

ing an icepack on Luke's shin with a look of concern. Luke was totally fine, but I felt a little choked up. I realized how difficult it was going to be to leave JPS. The staff and teachers had watched my two children grow right along with me. They cared about my kids and knew them so well. They had become a part of our daily conversations at home—and a part of our family. Parenting through the preschool years can mean blurry days, but as those days came to a close for me, I gained focus: JPS will always hold a special place in our family's thoughts and hearts. ☆

Talmud Torah Opens Registration for the 2010/2011 School Year

After a successful year of Hebrew School classes for grades K-7, Talmud Torah is pleased to announce that registration has begun for the 2010/2011 school year. Talmud Torah is an interactive Hebrew School program for children that meets every Sunday and Tuesday for a range of Jewish subjects, including Hebrew Reading using our Aleph Champ program. Similar to karate, everyone starts off with a white belt and as they advance in their Hebrew reading, so do their belt colors. Also included in the Talmud Torah curriculum this year was a special "Hang with the Ten" program that teaches the students the relevance of the Ten Commandments to us



today. Throughout the year, there were several family programs including a Shabbaton and Shabbat services that were led by the Talmud Torah students.

For more information, please feel free to contact us at 704-366-3984 or info@TalmudTorah.net. ☆

Doctors talk about their experiences as volunteers in Haiti.

Visit www.charlottejewishnews.org and click on Local News.

Josh Rubin's Plumbing, LLC



LICENSED - BONDED - INSURED
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

Layouts for slabs - Rough-in and Finish
Water Heater Repairs and Replacement
Kitchen/Bath Remodeling
Toilets, Tubs, Faucets, Sink, and Disposal
Repairs/Replacement

~ 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE ~

NC State Lic. #29197

SC State Lic. #M110508

704-517-4918

FOOT DISCOMFORT?

Find expertise, answers & comfort at Foot Solutions.

Our custom-molded inserts, therapeutic & specialty shoes fit *your* unique needs:

- Flat Feet • Diabetes • Sports Injuries •
- Arthritis • Uneven Leg Length •
- Heel Pain • Achilles Tendonitis •
- High Arches • Gait Problems •
- Unusual Sizes •

1235-K East Boulevard • Charlotte, NC 28203

704-335-4070

www.footsolutions.com

charlotte@footsolutions.com

aravon



FOOT SOLUTIONS
better health through your feet™



Insurance & financial security should go HAND-IN-HAND.

An Allstate agency can help you with both your car insurance and financial needs—to help you prepare for what's coming down the road.

PROTECT YOUR CAR



\$338 On average, that's how much drivers saved when they switched to Allstate. With discounts like these, the savings can add up fast.

Safe Driver Discount

Avoid tickets and accidents, and you could save up to 15%

Good Student Discount

If your teenage driver has a "B" average or better, you could save up to 10%

Home & Auto Discount

Insure your house and car with Allstate, and you could save up to 10% on each policy.

Personal service from an Allstate agent

They'll work to help you find all the discounts you qualify for.

PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE



With a variety of financial products, an Allstate Personal Financial Representative can help you achieve your goals.

Care for your loved ones.

Plan today to help ensure your family's financial security in case the unexpected happens tomorrow.

Put your money to work for you.

Use tax deferral to help fund your retirement.

Learn about education savings.

Start saving for your child's future with a tax-advantaged college savings account.

Live comfortably in retirement.

The right financial products can provide retirement income while preserving your nest egg.

You deserve an agent who does more than just insurance as usual. That's Allstate's Stand.



Michael Littauer
704-573-1113
7032 Brighton Park Dr
Charlotte

Allstate
You're in good hands.

Savings based on information reported by new Allstate customers. Actual savings will vary. Insurance subject to availability and qualifications. Auto insurance written by Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company. Life insurance and annuities offered through Allstate Life Insurance Company (Home Office: Northbrook, IL). Securities offered by Personal Financial Representatives through Allstate Financial Services, LLC (LSA Securities in LA and PA). Registered Broker-Dealer. Member FINRA, SIPC. Main Office: 2920 South 84th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506. (877) 525-5727. (C) 2007 Allstate Insurance Company