

Schools

Looking at the Past; Planning for the Future

By Dedee Goldsmith, director, Jewish Preschool on Sardis

The Jewish Preschool on Sardis had an amazing summer. Four weeks of camp served nearly 50 children with fun, sun, visitors and incredible staff. With a summer like that, it is hard to say good-bye. But with endings, come new beginnings and with the school year just around the corner, we say "Hello 2012-2013 School Year."

lot about the feelings a child has about her school when she wants to come back to participate in the program as a counselor. The same holds true to have former parents inquire about staff positions available to keep those warm feelings and hold onto those child centric ties a bit longer.

The focus this year is to answer some of those questions for myself and for the Charlotte

our future. If you have a story to share about your JPS experience, please share it with us at 704-364-8395. Interested in hearing the stories we find? Well, keep reading as we will present some in future *Charlotte Jewish News* articles, as well as post stories on our website at www.jpsonardis.org.

While digging around for details on the past, I am also aware that the present needs tending to as well. Fall is a great time at The Jewish Preschool on Sardis as we welcome new families, greet returning families and busily prepare with the staff for one incredible year. Our expanded hours are helping families meet time constraints, our enrichment programs are enabling children to find and hone areas of interests, and our Mommy and Me program is warmly welcoming the youngest JPS students.

I am so excited about the 2012-2013 school year. Watching the classrooms fill with photos, toys, craft materials, I am filled with anticipation for the busy children to reacquaint with familiar friends, meet new friends, learn from new teachers, and continue developing relationships as we pave the way to the future of JPS. The Jewish Preschool on Sardis has a 26-year-old history in the Charlotte community and in this school year, we are more committed than ever to

the mission of nurturing children, helping them develop into self confident and successful children, teens, and adults within the Jewish community and beyond.

For more information about our various school programs, please contact us at 704-364-8395. ☆



Fun at JPS's Summer Camp



Having a year at JPS under the belt now, I've been able to experience and learn so much. With learning, comes questions. What is the history of The Jewish Preschool on Sardis? Who is a part of that JPS history? What made our program grow to where it is now? How can we keep that special past and grow with it into the future? This summer I was able to see some of that JPS history come to life, in the eyes of an alumna turned camp counselor. It says a

Jewish community. We will look at the past by talking to former students, former parents, and former staff. Our hope is to answer some of the questions, one person at a time. We would like to know where our students go to school currently, where their interests have taken them, what they recall about their JPS experience and some of their favorite things they remember about our school. By exploring our past, we can appreciate our present and prepare for

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