

L'Shanah Tovah Choo Choo

By Elka Bernstein and Becca Weiner

The Charlotte Jewish Preschool has welcomed all our stu-

dents back for the 2013/14 school year. July 29 began the new school year for our full day stu-

day back for all our half day students. Our staff is happy to have everyone together again under one roof. Both the full day program

and half day program started a week earlier this year in order for our students to adjust to their new classrooms before the High Holy Days.

Along with starting the new school year, our children will become acquainted with the Jewish New Year and all the holidays that quickly follow. The Charlotte Jewish Preschool was fortunate to send our amazing Judaic teacher, Morah Becca, to the NewCAJE (Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education) conference in Dudley, MA. This conference is an opportunity for Jewish educators of any denomination to come together in a collaborative exchange of ideas. For four days, Morah Becca worked with Jewish educators and collaborated to improve school classrooms and lesson plans. NewCAJE energized Morah Becca with exciting ideas for the upcoming school year.

With the new school year upon us, it is vital that we hit the ground running with renewed vigor and energy. It is fitting that at the beginning of our school year we celebrate Rosh Hashanah. It is a great time to create classroom goals with our students and fellow educators so that we can work toward achievement throughout the year. While we are off to a very busy start, Morah Becca along with our clergy will make the holiday learning experience fun, interactive and educational. All our students from the ones to the fives, will all hop aboard the L'Shanah Tovah Choo Choo. Each stop of the L'Shanah Tovah Choo Choo will take us on a ride through September as we explore the start of the new school/Jewish year. Students will toss away their "baggage" and blow the shofar to announce their arrival at each station. The L'Shanah Tovah stations will also introduce our students to Sukkot and Simchat Torah so they can get a taste of each holiday that makes the beginning of our year special and exciting.

As we take a ride on our train, our fours and PreK will be the

first classes to experience our new initiative to teach children to stand up and support friends when they see an injustice. With the help of a very special CJP parent, Jenny Tucker, we were able to create a program that is age appropriate and positive for our young

students. Jenny Tucker has many years experience as a teacher and school counselor. Our new Kavod curriculum comes from our recent Joined in Education program, Stand Up to Bullying. After hearing Lee Hirsch and Barbara Colroosa speak, we were energized to find a way to teach our preschoolers *kavod* (respect), and *chesed* (kindness) for each other. This curriculum is a great kickoff to our holiest time of year where we reflect on the past year and reflect on how to be a better person. Our Kavod program will provide a hands on experience, as well as, acknowledgement of proactively looking for opportunities to be a good friend.

Another benefit to attending NewCAJE was the connections made by Morah Becca. She became part of a social networking group for early childhood educators. As a member of this group, she will have the opportunity to stay in close touch with her peer group and swap ideas as often as needed. She can pose questions to other early childhood educators and help others with the knowledge she has garnered by working at the CJP. The new knowledge and connections made at NewCAJE will benefit all our families and staff.

With the High Holy days quickly approaching, CJP would like to wish everyone *L'shanah Tovah Tikatevu V'taihatem*, may you be inscribed and sealed for a good year.

Learn. Grow. Connect. with our staff and families at the Charlotte Jewish Preschool. For further information on how to enroll your child into our wonderful world of learning, please contact Alyson Kalik at 704-944-6776 or alik@shalomcharlotte.org. ✨



Charlotte Jewish Preschool

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Questions??? Contact Tair Giudice,
Director of Outreach & Engagement
tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org
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10:00 am

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Register online at
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Activities will include:

- Tour of the farm
- Feed the animals
- Craft
- Snack

Questions??? Contact Tair Giudice
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