

Hebrew Day Institute

לכבוד שבת

L'chvod Shabbat



February 8, 2008

"In the Tradition of Joey's Tzedakah Box" Curriculum

Each month, Hebrew Day Institute selects an organization to receive the Tzedakah money collected during daily Tefilla and our weekly Kabbalat Shabbat program. Thank you to all of the families who support this weekly mitzvah. Please give, and give as generously as you can.

This month, we are supporting **Save a Child's Heart**. Each child will bring home a tzedakah box from SACH and we ask that you put your extra change into it every day!

Save A Child's Heart came into being in 1995 when Dr. Cohen was contacted by an Ethiopian doctor referred to him by a mutual friend at the University of Massachusetts. He asked for Dr. Cohen's help with two children in desperate need of heart surgery. From this beginning, the SACH medical team of highly skilled doctors, nurses and paramedics, has operated on hundreds of children, and the number is growing every day! The astounding success rate of 96% has been achieved with hardly any publicity, public relations, and little money.

Our greatest achievement is that all the children, regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or religion are treated free of charge with the finest medical care at the cutting edge of technology, provided by Save A Child's Heart in co-operation with the Wolfson Medical Center.

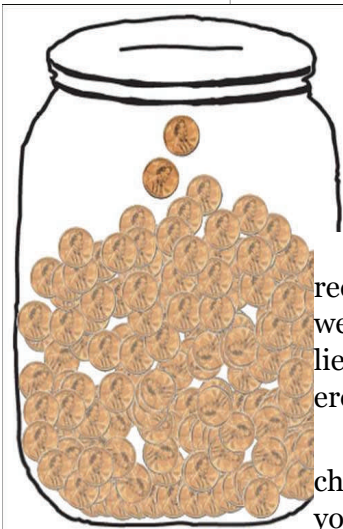
The demand for our services is overwhelming. Since our inception in 1995 the number of operations has grown from near nothing to a total of more than 1,000 children as of March 2007. It is important to note that since Save A Child's Heart began we have examined over 4,500 children. We are planning to expand our services in order to achieve our goal of 250 operations annually by the year 2008.

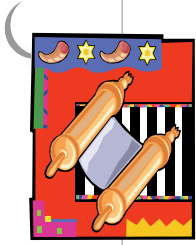
Upcoming Dates to Remember

School Closed

School will be closed on Friday, Feb. 15th and Monday, Feb. 18th in observance of President's Day.

Please send your children to school on Fridays wearing their blue school shirt and remind them to bring their tzedakah!



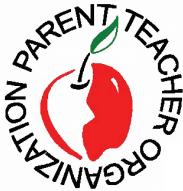


Torah Fair

By Madeline Rothbard

The Torah Fair project will be introduced to the students on Monday, February 11th and complete packets will be distributed. The entire packet will also be placed on the website under “curriculum”. The Annual Torah Fair is on May 22.

As with the Science Fair, students in grades K–2 will work on class presentations and students in grades 3–6 will work on individual projects. A great deal of the work will be done during class time.



PTO Corner by Edith Calem

Parent coffee - Friday Feb 8th - Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for coffee and nosh. We really appreciate your support and participation.

Barton's candy sale - due Thursday Feb 14th

Our February PTO meeting will be held this **Sunday, February 10th** at 9:30 am. I hope to see you there!

Volunteer — It's good for your soul!

**Shabbat Shalom from the Faculty and Staff at
Hebrew Day Institute**



Parsha Talk By Rabbi Philip Pohl (a proud Hebrew Day Institute parent)

Parshat Terumah provides us with the details involved in building the “Mishkan – Tabernacle.” This was the portable house of worship built by the Children of Israel which they transported as they traveled through the wilderness after the Exodus from Egypt.

When I was in rabbinical school these were the most boring portions to study. What I didn't realize then is that a religious community is always going through a building process. There is always a need to maintain the physical structures of the community. We also continually provide support to the spiritual foundation upon which, metaphorically, the synagogue structure must rest. Therefore Parshat Terumah, and the subsequent Torah portions which conclude the Book of Exodus, provide us with many important lessons.

For example, the Tabernacle built by the Children of Israel in the wilderness consisted of three walls. On each wall there were rows of bars used for support.

Exodus26:28 states:

והבריח התיכן בתוך הקרשים מברח מן-הקצה אל-הקצה

“The middle bar in the midst of the boards passed through from end to end.”

This middle bar extended the length of the entire wall while the other bars were shorter. Because of its special length, our tradition has assigned special significance to this middle bar.

The Midrash tells us that this middle bar of the Tabernacle was originally the staff of Jacob, our patriarch, which he carried with him when he went down to settle in Egypt. Legend informs us that Jacob told his sons, “When you will be redeemed from Egypt, take this staff with you.” Therefore when the Israelites actually left Egypt, they decided they would use Jacob's staff for the middle bar in the Tabernacle. Upon doing so it was declared, “Let this staff come and atone for us so that we will never again need to take a staff of wandering in our hands.” So the Israelites kept this “staff of wandering” as a relic from their past. It became a reminder of their austere beginning when God's presence seemed distant and vague. What was once a staff used for direction and support by our ancestors while they wandered and searched, now became the foundation of the Tabernacle wherein God's presence would be more clearly focused.

This Midrash epitomizes the tendency of Judaism to look toward the future while always retaining key memories from the past. This is both true for us as individuals and our community. At HDI it is and will be our love of Torah and learning which will both lead us into the future and always keep us connected to the lessons from our past.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Philip Pohl



Hebrew Day Institute

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Candle Lighting Time



February 8th

5:19 pm