



A Note from Elisabeth

Snip.
Oh my gosh, what am I doing?
Snip.
No going back now.
Snip.
Wait! I'm not ready!
One more time--Snip.
Woah.

My hair is now in a ponytail (rather, TWO ponytails) in someone's hand. This is a familiar feeling for me, yet I still become panicked at the thought of cutting off my long hair.

"You're cutting off all of your hair?! Why? It is so pretty!" someone says to me. I answer, "Thanks. So someone else will get it." About a month ago I donated over 10 inches of my hair for the sixth time in my life (yes—I've only cut my hair about 6 times in the last 12 years!) Various organizations take such donations and use them to create wigs for people who lose their hair due to illness, sometimes children, sometimes adults, sometimes cancer, sometimes not. This has become such a popular trend that organizations like Locks of Love, run by only a handful of workers, do not have the financial and physical means to deal with the sheer volume of donations they have received. Other organizations have since popped up taking some of the pressure off of Locks of Love: Wigs for Kids donates wigs made primarily to kids with cancer; Pantene (a Proctor and Gamble company) has taken a similar initiative and put their funds into creating such wigs.

Wigs made from real hair are far more comfortable than artificial ones, so of course they are more expensive.

"It is amazing that people can do such an amazing act of *Gimilut Chasadim*—acts of loving-kindness—simply by being lazy and cheap! What a great world we live in!" a friend said to me, after hearing my story. It is true; I saved hundreds of dollars by not cutting my hair for two years at a time. But it is about more than that. Donating my hair is giving up a piece of myself to help someone else. Many donate blood, many donate organs, or time, or money. I watch as the students in this school choose to become responsible, active members of the Jewish community by donating pieces of themselves to others. It is inspirational to watch them grasp onto the concepts of *Tzedakah* and *Tikkun Olam*—fixing the world. I have seen so many of our students donate their hair (or are in the process of growing it out to do so). I have seen them knit blankets for sick babies in the hospital, to keep them warm and comfortable. I have seen them organize blood drives (even though, they themselves aren't old enough to donate blood), and this past weekend, some of our older students volunteered at a local soup kitchen, feeding the hungry. To see the children in our own community take ownership for the world around them by working to repair it is...well there aren't words.

Shavuah Tov

Todah Rabah

Todah Rabah to **Noa Sadovnik** (Kitah Gan) and her whole family (**Nir**, **Carrie** and **Rami**—Kitah Aleph) for hosting the Kitah Gan Shabbat dinner this past Friday night. We all had such a wonderful time! Thanks for opening up your home to us!

Also, Todah Rabah to class parent **Ellen Sande** (mom of **Caleb** in Kitah Gan and **Banjo** in Kitah Aleph) for organizing the dinner!

A big thanks to the following parents for chaperoning and volunteering at the soup kitchen this past weekend: **John Hecht** (dad to **Eli** in Kitah Hay), **Josh Neretin** (dad to **Matthew** in Kitah Hay), and **Alex Aron** (mom to **Sofia Aslan** in Kitah Hay)

Upcoming Important Dates

- 11/1 HS (K-2)
- 11/2 HS (3-7)/ Back 2 School Nite
- 11/6 HS (3-7)/ Kitah Dalet (4th grade) Parent-Student Study Session with Rabbi Carter
- 11/8 HS (K-2)
- 11/9 HS (3-7)
- 11/11 Kitah Aleph (1st grade) Shabbat Dinner
- 11/13 HS (3-7)
- 11/15 HS (K-2)

Happy Birthday

The PSJC Hebrew School wishes the following birthdays this week a "Yom Huledet Sameach!"

Milo S. (Kitah Aleph) 11/2



Yashar Koach

A big Yashar Koach to those students who volunteered at the Brooklyn Friends Community Dinner this past weekend. What a mitzvah you participated in! We are all very proud of **Eli**, **Matthew**, **Zoe S.**, and **Sofia**.



Park Slope Jewish Center
1320 8th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215
718.678.1453/www.psjc.org

Elisabeth Albert
Director of Family Education
718.832.5863/principal@psjc.org

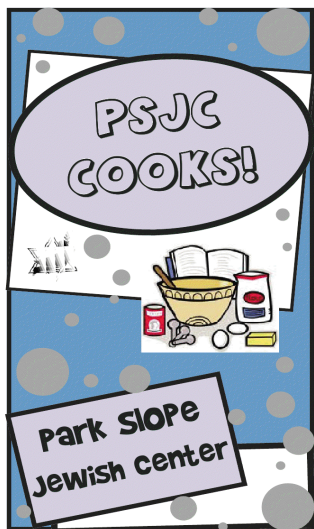
Carie Carter
Rabbi
718.768.1285/rabbicarie@psjc.org

School Roster: Coming Soon!

Many of you have asked for fellow classmates contact information...it is coming soon! We will have a complete school roster available electronically and in hard copy at Back 2 School Nite.

PSJC Cooks!

Do you have your own copy of the newest PSJC Cookbook? (Complete with photos of our kids, recipes from members of the community and color artwork by Hebrew School students!) PSJC Cooks! Makes a great gift AND supports our school community! Contact Elisabeth to get your copies today! Cookbooks will be available for purchase at Back 2 School Nite.



THE 1ST ANNUAL BRACHA BEE!

A contest for students in 3rd-7th grade

What is the BRACHA BEE? It is a new and exciting contest for all 3rd-7th grade Hebrew School students. The goal is to learn some of those important blessings that we regularly use—and earn some prizes at the same time! It is easy and fun! (See the handout for more info).

PSJC Food Drive 2011

Bring your can to shul! Our community can help to feed our hungry neighbors if each of us, on an ongoing basis, brings one item of: **CANNED FRUIT, CANNED VEGETABLES, PEANUT BUTTER IN A PLASTIC JAR, CANNED TUNA/SALMON, MAC & CHEESE, HOT AND COLD CEREAL-FAMILY SIZED.** The plan: Every time we enter the PSJC building, we bring a can or package of the foods listed above. You'll be amazed how quickly the food will accumulate! We will arrange to have it delivered to local agencies (CAMBA, City Harvest, CHIPS). This includes all of us who come for Shabbat and Festival services, weekday Minyans, Hebrew School, meetings, Adult Ed classes, events and programs of all kinds! The 2012 Adult B'nai Mitzvah class is sponsoring our kickoff as part of the Global Hunger Shabbat Program, so please bring your first items starting Friday, November 4th. You can make the difference, so please don't leave it at home!

Back 2 School Nite—Wednesday, November 2nd @ 7:15PM

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 2nd at 7:15 PM. Parents are invited to *shmooze* with one another, hear from the principal, rabbi and committee members about what is going on in the school, and have a chance to talk to your child's teacher(s) in a casual "science fair-style" event. You can ask questions about the material, the curriculum, the resources and get to know your child's teacher(s). This is an important opportunity for the parents in the school to gather together. Please make every attempt to send a representative from your family. Let us know if child care is an issue.

Parent Study Sessions w/Rabbi Carter

Parent-Student Study Sessions are a fun, interesting way of learning more about what your children do in Hebrew School. 1) Parents are encouraged to join us at the beginning of the day for *Havdallah* or *T'fillah*. 2) Parents join Rabbi Carter for an adult-level lesson on a subject the students have been working on. All parents are welcome regardless of their Jewish educational experiences...there is no homework or pre-requisites. 3) After the lesson with the Rabbi, parents join their children and the teacher for a special Parent-Student lesson/activity. We hope to see you at your class study session soon!

Upcoming Study Sessions

November 6: Kitah Dalet (4th grade)

Parent Night Out

Would you like to have a night out on November 12th without shelling out big for a babysitter? Come to PARENTS NIGHT OUT at PSJC! The PSJC teens and Teen-Coordinator, Dina Garfinkel will watch your kids and run activities from 7-10PM for \$30 FLAT per family (max 3 kids). Check out our sign up for more info or email dina.garfinkel@psjc.org Sign up at <http://bit.ly/tnajy5>