

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
Pardes Jewish Day School prepares students to become outstanding members of society through a rigorous secular and Judaic education, a nurturing community, and a foundation in Reform Judaism that welcomes all Jewish traditions.  
*Approved May '08*



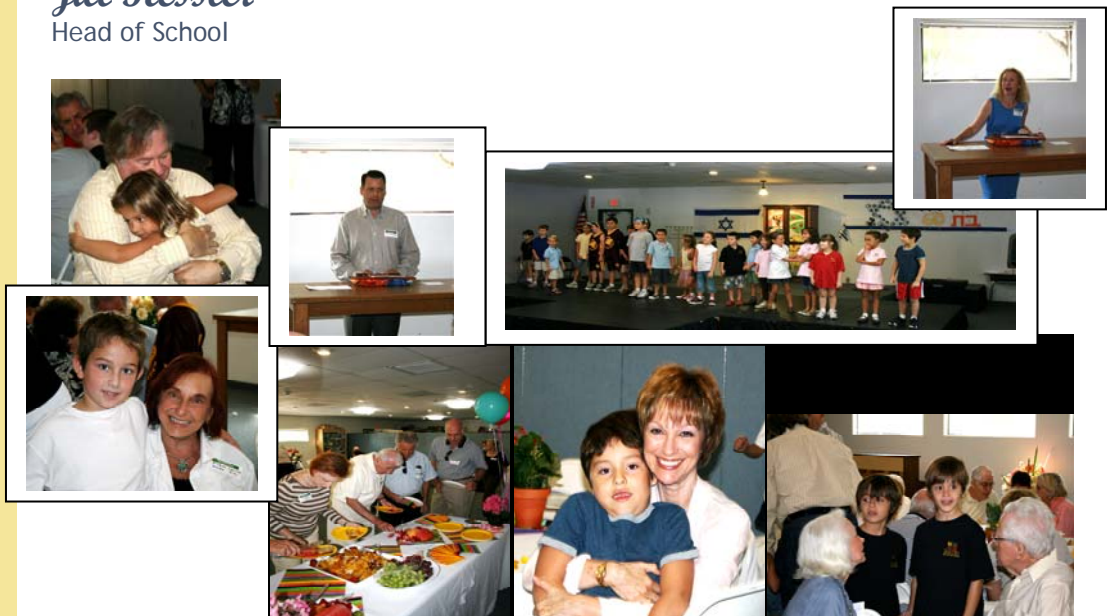
## From Head of School

It was a pleasure to kick off our new grandparents' program this year by welcoming almost 40 grandparents to campus for our first GENERATIONS BREAKFAST. These folks came together for breakfast and an opportunity to learn more about the school their grandchildren attend. Following a warm welcome from the grandchildren of those present, Co-Board Chair Ted Anderson added his welcome and greetings. Then each member of the Leadership Team spoke briefly about what she or he does at Pardes. After these introductions, I gave an overview of our educational philosophy. It was wonderful to see how engaged and interested the grandparents were to learn more about our school. Excellent questions were asked and answers were given from the appropriate member of the Leadership Team.

Our morning together ended with a tour of our facility. Grandparents saw their grandchildren in their classrooms and had an opportunity to say a quick hello. It was easy to see that the chance to see a grandchild with his/her teacher and classmates was particularly enjoyable to all. Now when a grandchild talks about school, grandparents will be able to picture accurately the school setting.

After the event, the Leadership Team all commented on how much we enjoyed interacting with our visitors. This was the first of many events for our Mishpacha Circle. We look forward to seeing our new friends more often on campus and to hopefully meeting many more grandparents in the months to come. We are so pleased to be able to share this memorable day through the pictures below. We hope you enjoy them as much as we enjoyed making memories.

*Jill Kessler*  
Head of School



YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Head of School



## Jewish Life at Pardes from Rabbi Erica

In the seventh month on the first day of the month, (Tishrei), you shall observe a complete rest, a holy day commemorated with loud blasts. You shall not work at your occupations. (Vayikra 23:24)

On *Rosh HaShanah*, the Jewish New Year, we celebrated the creation of the world and the counting of the years since the beginning. The first of *Tishrei*, when we celebrate *Rosh HaShanah*, corresponds to the day when God created the first human beings. We listen to the *shofar* blasts as we announce the Jewish year 5769. Even though we now know that the world is much older, as Jews, we honor the rabbinic interpretation of the age of the world.

Another name for *Rosh HaShanah* is (the Day of Judgement) *Yom HaDin*, when each of us is judged for both the good and the bad behavior we have demonstrated during this past year. We also celebrate the arrival of a new year and the blessings it will hopefully contain.

It happened that, the same day human beings were created, they also managed to commit the first sin. However, on that day, the first persons also repented their sin, introducing the concept and opportunity of (forgiveness: turning from evil and returning toward goodness) *teshuvah*.

*Rosh HaShanah* gives us the chance to make *teshuvah*. Thus, during this (holiday) *chag*, we pause in order to take stock or to take time for a self-inventory. In Hebrew we call this time a (soul check) *cheshbone nefesh*. Here, we reflect upon how we can be our absolute best and live this New Year as a blessing. Here are some questions that you may want to discuss and explore with your whole (family) *mishpachah* during this *Rosh HaShanah*:

What did I do last year? What was my behavior like?

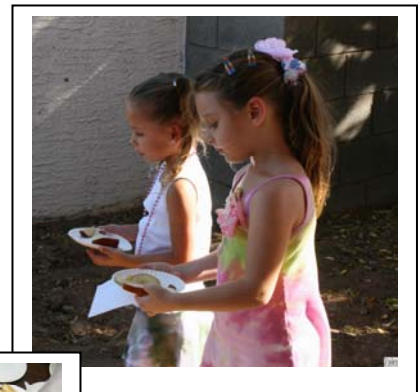
What am I proud of and what am I sorry about? What do I regret?

What will I change in the New Year?

What do I want to do better?

Here's to a New Year filled with health, happiness, success and *shalom*.

**May you be inscribed in the book of life for a good year--L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu!**



## Important Dates

### October 13

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sukkah  
Building

### October 16

Sukkot Breakfast  
for Parents  
7:30-8:30 a.m.  
Canned Food  
Drive

### October 20

All School  
Simchat Torah  
Celebration

### October 24

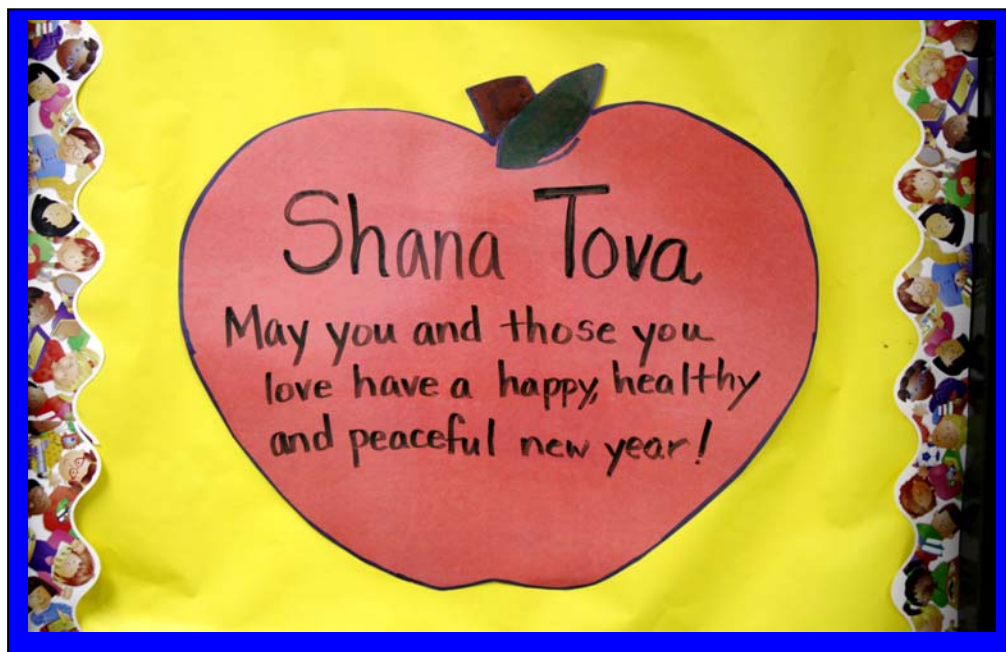
Kindergarten  
Consecration  
9-9:30 a.m.

### October 26

Open House  
Festival for  
Prospective  
Families  
2-4:00 p.m.

### October 31

End of First  
Quarter



### G'mar Chatimah Tovah!

**May you have a good signing in the Book of Life . . .  
From the Board, Faculty and Staff of Pardes Jewish Day School**

## ANNUAL FUND

In the Jewish calendar, this is the season that illuminates our path for the entire year ahead. Rosh Hashana affords us all the chance to begin anew. It is in this spirit that we invite you to engage in a process of renewal for Pardes by giving to this year's Annual Fund.

Many of you have already received a request for the Annual Fund in the mail. If you have not, you soon will. As you think about your gift to this year's Fund, please consider this central fact.

*It is critical for our school that fundraising keeps pace with the costs necessary to provide quality education for your children. By quality, we mean:*

- Low student-teacher ratios to provide the responsive, individual attention needed to discover, nurture, and stretch your child's unique strengths.
- Collaborative teaching and teacher support which brings energy and innovation to the classroom every day,
- Outstanding faculty that share their expertise and talent in music, physical education, language, art, science and technology as well as Hebrew and Judaics.
- Up-to-date competitive technology in every classroom, and
- All of this - in a safe, secure and well-maintained physical environment.

*Annual Fund provides critical undesignated dollars needed to reach these goals.*

We know that the individual financial circumstances of our families vary greatly. This year, particularly, has brought new challenges for some. We have experienced a sharp increase in the number of families who have had to turn to us - sometimes unexpectedly - for scholarship help. This situation, combined with our continued increase in growth, makes your help more important than ever.

With this in mind, we ask two things. First, we ask that each of you will make Pardes a priority in your annual contributions and give to the Annual Fund to the very best of your ability. Secondly, while we ask that you make as substantial a gift as you can, we are underscoring the importance of 100% participation among our families. Giving at this level makes a compelling statement about the commitment of our families and is an important indicator for our grant funders and for donors.

*Every gift counts!*

Scroll down to find a pledge form that you can print out and mail or deliver to the school. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miriam Nickerson in the Development Office at 480-991-9141 ext. 504.

*Your Annual Fund gift impacts each and every student.*

*For those of you who are new to Pardes. . .*

*About the Annual Fund*

At Pardes, like most private schools, tuition alone does not meet the costs of providing an education. If that were true, tuition would be significantly higher for all parents, and untenable for many. To make up the difference, we rely on other revenue including grants, Federation support and private giving.

*The Annual Fund is the most critical of these pieces.*

The Annual Fund takes place each fall. It involves letters, personal solicitations and follow-up phone-a-thons to our current and former families, grandparents and caring community members to ask for their support. Many enthusiastic board and parent volunteers give their time and energy to help raise this vital funding.

*This year our Annual Fund target is \$175,000.*

With the help of *all our (community) kehilla*, we will surely meet and surpass our goal.

*Every gift counts!*





## The upcoming month at Pardes

### CELEBRATING THE SEASON AT PARDES

*You are invited . . .*

October is an exciting month - full of school celebrations, (holidays) chagim and traditions! We want you to know how we celebrate and create meaningful traditions at Pardes. We invite our Pardes community - parents, grandparents and special persons - to join us for the following events.

### Celebrating Sukkot at Pardes

*"You shall rejoice in your festival . . . and you have nothing but joy"*

*(D'varim 16:13-15)*

We quickly move from one of the most solemn holidays in the Jewish calendar (Yom Kippur) to one of the most joyous, the Festival of Sukkot - also called the Season of our Rejoicing. On **Monday, October 13**, the eighth grade students stake out a location on the field and build a traditional (booth) sukkah for all the school. We do need volunteers, so please roll up your sleeves and let Rabbi Erica know you're willing to help ([rabbierica@yahoo.com](mailto:rabbierica@yahoo.com))! We also need palm fronds. If you happen to be pruning your trees - we have just the place for those branches and leaves!

The school is closed on the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> but opens at **7:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>** with our **Annual Sukkot Breakfast** where Head of School, Jill Kessler, and the Leadership Team will serve up a festive breakfast for parents, grandparents, special persons and students. This is a wonderful time for the Pardes community to celebrate the holiday together. It is traditional to decorate the sukkah, often with squash, corn and other seasonal foods. This year, the Keshet Tikkun Olam Committee has integrated the theme of food and is holding a food drive in conjunction with the holiday. Instead of decorating the sukkah, please bring non-perishables with you for the drive!

### The Celebration of Celebrations - Simchat Torah

Students in all grades commemorate the giving of the Torah at Sinai with our all-school **Simchat Torah Celebration on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**. Students parade with the Torah and re-wind the Torah to the beginning. Second graders have eagerly been preparing to read from the beginning of the Torah in Beresheet. (Please note, the actual holiday is October 22.) Sorry, because the entire student body is involved, this time we only have room to invite parents of the second grade readers.

### Our Littlest Learners Begin Lifelong Studies

Kindergarten students will take part in a consecration ceremony marking the start of his/her formal Jewish education on **Friday, October 24 at 9:00-9:30 a.m.** This is an exciting time as our smallest students embark on lifelong study and learning of their Jewish heritage and culture.

### Please Spread the Word

On **Sunday, October 26, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**, Pardes holds its **Open House** for prospective families. If you know of a young family and think they are a good match for Pardes, please mention this event to them and invite them to attend. It is an opportunity to see the campus, meet leadership and faculty, and learn about our educational philosophy. Laurence Harris is the contact person for this event. He can be reached at 480-991-9141 ext. 503.



## CREATING EXCELLENCE...

### OFFERINGS AT PARDES THAT CREATE A MARGIN ON EXCELLENCE

#### STUDENTS RETURN FROM CATALINA ISLAND ECO-ADVENTURE!

Pardes seventh graders recently returned from a week well spent in the Catalina Environmental Leadership Program (CELP), a nationally recognized environmental and outdoor education program established through a partnership between Catalina Island Camps and Ocean Futures Society, led by Jean-Michel Cousteau. Students learn in a variety of ways from snorkeling adventures and night hikes to laboratory activities and interactive slide shows and discussions. The program explores how we can live more sustainable lives on this planet and what this generation of young people can do to make a difference.



#### PARDES STUDENTS SHINE

Every year Pardes students participate in the Johns Hopkins University Center For Talented Youth (CTY) Talent Search. This program is open to many of our 2-8 grade students who are eligible based on their academic talent and achievement. A majority of our students who do choose to participate, by taking the SCAT, ACT or SAT, are in grades 4-8. Last year quite a few Pardes students took the tests, and several who achieved high test scores qualified to attend special summer courses that Johns Hopkins offers to students who excel.

We have asked three of our students who participated to comment on the classes they attended. The following are very short synopses of this 6 week program for talented students. I invite you to feel free to have further conversations with these students or with their parents.

'This summer was the best summer of my life. I attended the Johns Hopkins CTY classes on cellular biology and microbiology. My classes took place at Windward High School in LA. I learned about cellular biology, genetics, DNA, RNA, tRNA, and mRNA. In addition, we learned about mutations in both DNA and RNA. I have the best memories and look forward to applying the skills and knowledge I learned.'

Benjamin D. Lee, Grade 5

'I chose to participate in a course on International Politics which took place at Loyola Marymount University. We studied the basics of international politics, focusing on civil war, trade and developing countries. I moved into a dorm and lived there for the three weeks of the session. While we were in class about five hours a day, we got to participate in many special activities on the weekends. I learned a lot from this class and want to continue my studies in this subject.'

Alexander Khan, Grade 8



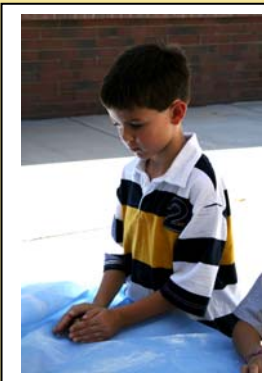
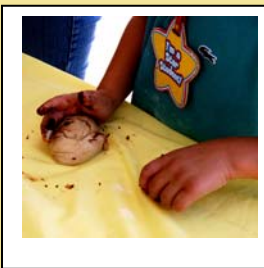
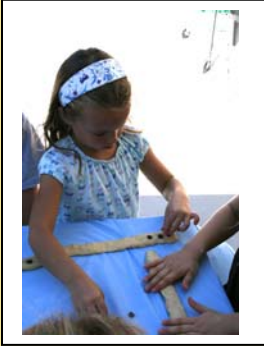
### MANY THANKS

Thank you to Carol Lean for working so hard with our Maura Slane making dough and baking Challahs for Rosh Hashanah. IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR OUR STUDENTS!

### MAZAL TOV

Mazel tov to the following Pardes students and their families on becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah:

Amy Indech	August 16
Daniel Pressman	September 13
Jacob Gulinson	September 27
Frankie Thompson	October 11



### IN THE COMMUNITY

Mazel tov to two Pardes parents who have been recognized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix - our own Stacey Schwartz (mom of Jacob-grade 6, Alisa-grade 3, and Noah-kindergarten) who was named winner of the 2008 Lee Amada Young Leadership Award, and Mike Kaplan (dad of Haley and Jordan-grade 4, and Matthew-kindergarten), this year's winner of the Sy Clark Young Leadership Award. Ricki Kaplan, Mike's wife, is a previous Lee Amada Young Leadership Award winner as well. Congratulations! Both awards will be presented at the Federation's Annual Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 14.

### MAKE A TRIBUTE

Tributes are a meaningful way to celebrate a simcha, recognize an accomplishment, mark a milestone, honor a family member, friend or colleague, or JUST BECAUSE! At the same time, you will be helping the school. A personal message will be sent to the person you are honoring to let them know of your gift. Tributes may be made for a minimum contribution of \$18

You can pick up a tribute form at the front desk. If you have any questions about making a tribute gift please contact Miriam Nickerson, Director of Development at 480-991-9141 ext. 504 or email [mnickerson@pardesschool.org](mailto:mnickerson@pardesschool.org).

#### USE A TRIBUTE TO . . .

- Celebrate: anniversaries, birthdays, weddings, births, bar and bat mitzvahs,
- Honor: your children, teachers, peers, a coach, success stories
- Praise: grandparents, students, parents, friends and colleagues
- Recognize: achievements, life milestones
- Remember: loved ones, special individuals or special times
- Offer: condolences, speedy recovery, best wishes





## Box Tops Store

New time for store!!!

Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at lunchtime

Pardes K-4 students can turn in their Box Tops coupons on October 29<sup>th</sup> to shop at our "store" for fun products. Items range in cost from 2 coupons to about 30 coupons (for example, 10 coupons = pencil). You can also drop off Box Tops coupons in the labeled Box Tops container in the front office.

If you have not already, we invite you to register at the Box Tops Website ([www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)). Each first time sign up earns Pardes an extra 5 box tops. Once you sign up, you can earn cash for our school every time you shop at over 60 online stores (such as Home Depot, Gap, Walmart, Staples, Target, etc). **Please note that you must access these stores THROUGH the Box Tops website.** Most stores give between 0.5%-4% of all purchases back to the school. In fact, Barnes & Noble just announced that it will donate 6% of each purchase when shoppers enter their site via the Box Tops "Reading Room". For information, contact Vered Kogan (Maya's and Emma's mom) at [koganfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:koganfamily@yahoo.com).

Learn more about products and online stores, at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com).

### **Don't be fooled...WATCH FOR OFFICIAL COUPONS**

Please note that the Box Tops pictures on the fronts of products are not actual coupons. To make sure you have a qualifying coupon, watch for...

- a broken line around the edge
- the words "Official Coupon General Mills Box Tops for Education".
- an expiration date and
- it should show a value of 10 cents.



PARDES JEWISH DAY SCHOOL  
ANNUAL FUND  
DONATION/PLEDGE FORM

Yes, I/we want to be part of the PARDES ANNUAL FUND!

I/we would like to make a gift of:

\$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name (as you wish to be acknowledged): \_\_\_\_\_.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_.

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_.

- I/we would like to pay in full.
- I/we would like to make this gift over time.  
Enclosed is a first payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
The remainder will be paid as follows: \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly for \_\_\_\_ months.

**Payment Method**

- Enclosed is my check for full/partial payment (circle one).
- Please charge my credit card for full/partial payment (circle one).
- I/we authorize automatic charge of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card \_\_\_\_\_ monthly/\_\_\_\_\_(other).  
\_\_\_\_ Visa      \_\_\_\_ M/C      \_\_\_\_ AMEX

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your gift is fully tax-deductible.**

**Double or triple your gift . . .** through employer matching gift programs.  
Check with your employer to see if your company offers this benefit.

**In addition to my Annual Fund gift....**

I would like to make a contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support:

- Scholarship funding for a child whose family faces special needs this year.
- Athletics
- Fine Arts (School play, Music Program, Visual Arts)
- Technology

**Thank you for making a meaningful gift that impacts every Pardes child!**