

Beth Emet Early Childhood Program  
October 2007 - Tishrei 5768

**Phases of the Year**

From our seat as directors (and long-time teachers) at the Beth Emet Early Childhood Program, we have the pleasure and privilege of watching children enter our school each fall, helping them find their way as they develop socially, emotionally, cognitively and physically, and then saying good-bye at the end of the school year. With the help of Mollie Reed, our consultant from The Virginia Frank Child Development Center, we've found that the school year can be broken into three phases. As this school year begins, we've been meeting with Mollie and our teaching teams to discuss 'phase one'.

Phase One is characterized by the words 'separation' and 'attachment'. No matter if the child is 2, 3 or 4, every child re-experiences the separation process to some degree, and then builds attachment relationships with the adults and children at school. We see this is an integral part of our curriculum for all ages. We are eager to support you and your child through this, and understand that the process looks different for every child and family. For some children, staying near the teacher is a source of comfort. Other children find that the routine of the day offers predictability that is reassuring. Sensory materials, such as sand, play-dough or water are soothing. Reading the same stories, singing the same songs and even offering the same toys are tools to support children as they 'hold it together' during school. Our classes are designed with schedules, songs, books, projects and most importantly, our professional training, to help everyone transition through this successfully. Our over-arching goal is to build positive relationships with your children and you.

Of course, there's no set time frame for the completion any phase; we know phase one is coming to an end when we see signs of phase two! We'll tell you all about phase two in an upcoming newsletter.

**New at Beth Emet!!!**

"Wednesdays with Mollie" begins on October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30-12:30. Every month Mollie will be available on a Wednesday for casual conversations about parenting and child development issues. Bring your questions! Babies and toddlers are welcome. Bring your lunch; we'll provide dessert.

**First ECC Meeting of the year - Join us!**

The first meeting of the Early Childhood Committee will be on Tuesday evening, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at Starbucks on Dempster, 1 block west of Crawford. Come and meet other parents, find out what's coming up, and ways you can get involved! We also look forward to hearing your input about the school year so far.

**Volunteers needed!**

Are you looking for an easy yet meaningful way to be involved at Beth Emet? The Ozerim committee needs volunteers to bring Shabbat dinners to other preschool families in a time of need (i.e. the arrival of a new baby, a death in the family). The meals can be store

bought or cooked, whatever you prefer. By volunteering, we'll add your name to our volunteer list and call on you when a Shabbat dinner is needed. We're hoping to get at least a few volunteers from each class so please sign up by replying to this email or emailing [beth.tucker@comcast.net](mailto:beth.tucker@comcast.net). If you have any questions, contact Beth by email or at 847-733-9793.

### **Birthday Book Thank You's**

To Gwen Tucker, for *Why Do You Cry?* By Kate Klise

To Elie Platnick, for *Look What I See! Where Can It Be?* By D. L. Michels

To Sophie Glantz, for *Bumble Bugs and Elephants* by Margaret Wise Brown

To Mason Denlow, for *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle

### **Parking Lot Concerns**

- We have heard that the parking lot has been very crowded recently on mornings school is in session. If the lot is full, you can usually find spaces on the streets near by Beth Emet, such as Crain (one block south of Dempster at the end of the alley) and the streets west of Asbury. While we recognize that the lot spaces are limited, please do not park in spaces that are designated for handicapped drivers, emergency vehicles (areas with the striped lines), or Beth Emet's professional staff. The City of Evanston may ticket cars in our lot.
- On days when there is another large event here, such as a funeral, we will do our best to give you advance notice.
- Finally, be sure to hold your child's hand as you walk through the lot. There's a lot of traffic every day, and we want everyone to be safe! Thank you.

### **Upcoming Dates to Note:**

October 3 Beth Emet Family Simchat Torah Service 7-8:30 p.m.

October 4 Simchat Torah Service, 10 a.m. (NO SCHOOL)

October 5 Simchat Torah (NO SCHOOL)

October 9 G'dolim Extended Lunch Days begin (Tuesdays and Wednesdays), dismissal at 1:15 p.m.

October 9 First Early Childhood Parent Committee Meeting (ECC), 7:30 pm at Starbucks on Dempster, 1 block W of Crawford.

October 10 Wednesdays with Mollie -See note above - 11:30-12:30 in Room 109

October 10 Madregot Extended Lunch Days begin (Wednesdays), dismissal at 12:45

October 11 First Book Discussion Group, 7:30 pm. Contact Danielle Dale for more information: [danielledale@hotmail.com](mailto:danielledale@hotmail.com) , 847-275-1011

October 13 Tot Shabbat 9 a.m

October 18 Separation Discussion with Mollie Reed 9:30 a.m.

October 22 No School - Teacher In-Service

October 28 G'dolim Family Sh'ma Party 5-6:30 pm, details TBA