



November 2010

## Leo Baeck Elementary School Update

The new school year has begun and with it several exciting new projects and events.

### **Enrolment 2010-2011**

- There are 220 pupils enrolled in the elementary school
- This year has two first grade classes
- Two new Ethiopian scholarship students have begun studying in the first grade; there are now 10 Ethiopian children attending the school on full scholarships.



### **Building Improvements**

- The newly renovated dining room opened September 2010 in readiness for the new academic year. The dining room seats 120 students. There are now two lunch sittings at 12:00 and at 13:00.

### **Professional Growth**

The Leo Baeck Elementary School is becoming a computer oriented school.

- The state of the art computer lab is up and running. It includes 16 computers and multimedia equipment.
- The "Independent Learner Program". This newly developed program led by a Haifa University Professor of Education, provides both teachers and pupils with web based tools and knowledge that enables them to become independent learners as required in curriculums around the world. All classes incorporate this program.
- All classes are equipped with a computer projector and all homeroom teachers have laptops enabling them to integrate computer based teaching into their lessons.
- The "Magic Class" software has been installed in the classes to enable teachers to create interactive classroom performance tasks and assessment.

### **Cultural Growth**

- **Scouts at the LB Elementary School** - led by Scoutmaster Rabbi Ofek. The troop is funded by Leo Baeck, the Reform Movement, and the Israel Scout Movement. All local children are welcome especially those from the nearby Tchernihovsky School who will be attending the Leo Baeck Junior High School in the future.
- **Classical Music Concerts.** The school has joined a unique Haifa Symphony Orchestra music appreciation program. During the year the students attend 5 classical morning concerts that expose the children to a wide range of classical music, accompanied by explanations tailored to the needs of the young concert goer.
- Rabbi Oded Mazor has joined the Elementary School staff and is heading the "Yachdav Program" (the Togetherness Program) which aims to strengthen Jewish ties with schools and synagogues in the U.S and the UK. During the year pupils will establish an on-going dialogue with their twinned school or synagogue via videoconferencing, e-mail, e-cards etc. The children will share common experiences and mutual interests. This valuable exchange between Jewish children from different communities around the world is an enriching and bonding experience for all.





### **Coexistence**

Following on from a recent visit to the Moslem town of Um el Fahem including a visit to its art gallery, Rabbi Ofek met with the Arab artist, Abed Abdhi, who conducts children's workshops in Haifa.

- **Peace Art Ceramics Project** – workshops for Leo Baeck and Arab primary school pupils ages 8-10 years old in celebration of December's Holiday of Holidays. Their artwork will be permanently affixed to the walls of Haifa's Arab-Jewish Centre, Beit Hagefen.
- **Arab-Jewish Primary School Choir** – the Leo Baeck Primary School Choir together with pupils from the El Karmi School, downtown Haifa.



THE LEO BAECK EDUCATION CENTER

Preschool and Kindergarden  
Elementary School

Lokey International Center for Jewish Education



מרכז חינוך ליאו באק

Junior High School      Senior High School

Ohel Avraham Synagogue

Community Center and Sports Center

