

Early Learning Center

Temple
Israel



May highlights from the Early Learning Center:

On the third Wednesday of each month from September to May, we have walked over to visit our “Grand Pals” at the Wentworth Home, a residential retirement

Tammy Labonté Director, ELC enrichment specialist, chooses a book to read and an activity for us to complete with our Grand Pals. May was our last month to attend for this school year. We read a book about friends and then we colored in paper “people” to look like us. Before leaving, we exchanged some of our paper “people” with those made by our Grand Pals to remember our friends at the Wentworth Home.



During the school year we have been talking about what we can do to help sustain our environment. We bought 500 red wiggler worms and each day we sorted our trash and leftover snacks and fed our very hungry worms. The children loved to take care of the worms, checking on them and occasionally picking one up, doing an examination, and letting it wriggle across their open palms. We would be remiss if we did not thank the worms for turning our uneaten organic material into high quality vermicompost!

The concepts of caring for the world and environmental sustainability are embedded in Jewish values right from the beginning in Genesis. ELC wants to say

“thank you” for the ongoing support of the Cultural Endowment Fund, which finances our gardening efforts! We purchased new gardening soil for our garden raised beds, and “re-homed” our multitude of red wiggler worms there. ELC also purchased vegetable seeds and flowers to plant outside (as the weather cooperates) and we have seeds we have started in the classroom to transplant.

The school year will be coming to an end soon, with our final day and graduation on Friday, June 7. We are accepting enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year. If you know someone looking for a preschool, we would love to have their child come and grow with us! Please have them contact me via email at

preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org.

L’shalom, Tammy & Elian



Testing our new bubble machine! Thank you to Elissa Kaplan Senter and the Hebrew School moms for helping me with Portsmouth Children’s Day activities.