

Early Learning Center

Temple
Israel



March highlights from the Early Learning Center:

Hello and shalom from the ELC. I hope everyone had a happy Purim!

Tammy Labonté
Director, ELC

The ELC students spent time preparing for Purim by learning the story of Esther and how she saved the Jewish people from wicked Haman. The children were having so much fun dressing in costume that we enacted a play for their families at our classroom celebration.

In order to fulfill the mitzvah of *matanot la'evyonim* (giving to the poor) I asked parents to have the children help a little extra around the house and earn some coins/money to bring in. The ELC will make a donation to Portsmouth Public Schools to support children who owe money for lunches. For *mishloah manot* (sending gifts to friends), ELC children decorated bags to give to family and friends. Each bag held hamantaschen and other goodies. Ellen McQueeney came in to bake with the ELC students. She mixed and rolled the dough and then the

children cut the dough into circles, filled them, and folded and pinched their hamantaschen for baking.

Noam Wolf, a talented young Israeli professional serving as the NH Israeli Emissary

(Shlichah) also came to visit us in March. She read a book in Hebrew that she heard as a child in Israel. It was about an apartment for rent (all the tenants were animals), and the search for a perfect new neighbor. The children then colored pictures of their own apartments and drew their own tenants.

Early Learning Center will be holding an open house for anyone interested in learning more about our program on Tuesday, April 9 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. If you or anyone you know has children up to 6 years in age, please come and join us. It's never too early to look for quality programming!

Registration is open for the 2019-2020 school year. Contact me at 603-436-5301 Ext. 23, or by email at preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org.

ELC Summer Camp for children 2.9 months to 6 years old will be held July 15 – 19, 2019. The cost is \$200.00 for the week. Sign-up forms can be found on the Temple Israel website.

Wishing you all a healthy and happy spring ahead!

L'shalom,

Tammy & Elian



Above: Drawing with Shlichah Noam Wolf

Left: Celebrating Purim in style!