



Dear Aaron, Hillel, Tony, Brian, David, Clive, Sue, Daphne, Jack, Synagogue Council Members, Israel Committee Members, Cheder Children, Northwood Friends,

I apologise in advance for all of the people who I may have offended by omitting to mention them by name, and would very respectfully request that our attached letter of thanks be circulated among your members.

Some weeks ago, Samia Diab, former director of our Arab-Jewish Clore Neighbourhood Centre in Ein Ha'yam, Haifa, recently promoted to head of community outreach at The Leo Baeck Community Centre, called me in a panic.

According to Samia there are 30 Arab children between the ages of 5 and 9 who attend our Gan Hashalom after school centre for severely at risk children, some of them physically or emotionally abused and all of them problematic and poor, who have nowhere to go in August, the only month when that centre closes down.

Samia told me that she needed an additional 50,000-60,000 ILS for the Summer Camp budget in order to be able to enroll these children free of charge and provide transportation to and from their homes to Leo Baeck.

I told her not to worry, it would be alright; to go ahead and enroll the children. She was doubtful; I gave her my word; I told her that as far as I was concerned, the money was as good as "in the bank".

Today that money is in the bank as I knew it would be. And as for all of you and your wonderful community, you have really performed a mitzvah this summer, such a difficult time for Arab-Jewish relations in Israel.

Thanks to you we can keep on doing what we do best even when the going gets tough as it most certainly is right now.

With love and thanks from us all and especially the Arab and Jewish children of Haifa, who in spite of it all, will come together in peace for fun this summer.

Carol

Carol Brauner
Director of International Development
The Leo Baeck Education Center
90 Derech Tzarfat, POB 6283,
Haifa 31062, Israel

Office: 972 4 8300573
Israel Mobile: 0524-75 33 75
UK Mobile: 07530 706 035
www.leobaeck.org.il/english





June 10, 2010

Rabbi Aaron Goldstein, Israel Committee & NPLS Community
Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue
Northwood, HA6 3AA

Dear Aaron and NPLS Friends,

We are today in receipt of the two amounts raised by your wonderful community, including the children of the Cheder, in support of this year's **Arab-Jewish Summer Camp**. We would like you to know that thanks to your generosity, which is making so much of the this year's programme possible, you are also enabling us to enroll on full scholarship, including transportation, an additional 30 Arab children from the most desperate of circumstances who attend Gan Hashalom - one of our after-school centres for children at risk.

Life at Leo Baeck continues to be exciting and diverse. Sixteen year old Ethiopian-Israeli scholarship student Million Haile addressed the 62nd Plenary of the Knesset on Ethiopian issues. High school senior Adi Friedman (right) was declared Young Scientist of the Year for her non-invasive spinal disc replacement invention.



In spite of the current situation which has resulted in closed borders and heightened fears, Leo Baeck is continuing its efforts to break down barriers and build trust, an almost impossible task you might think. But only yesterday representatives from our High School took a group of German "Europeans for Peace" students to Um el Fahem and the El Gazali School, where we are building an ongoing social, cultural and educational partnership that cannot be allowed to break down. Not surprisingly, the German group's discussions included our most recent two narratives - the flotilla. *"Every time I learn something about the Israelis and the Palestinians, I realize there is so much more to learn"*, said German student Karla.

The Tony Blair Faith Foundation is to launch the Israel pilot of the Face to Faith Program at Leo Baeck. The Junior High School was awarded the Dan David Prize in the "Name Your Hero" competition; gifted students will soon be off to Shanghai to compete in the Scholars' Cup; and a Leo Baeck teacher is attending a peace seminar in Jordan this weekend.

City-wide, thousands flocked to the Clore Neighbourhood Centre's Coexistence Earth Day Festival, and to our Tikkun Leil Shavuot experience combining music, study, a modern look at Judaism, Israel and the way we treat the other.

Over the last 62 years Israel has experienced trauma and triumph. It is constantly changing and developing. At Leo Baeck we are continually seeking the human, Jewish and Israeli response to those changing circumstances in a democratic, pluralistic and egalitarian way.



On behalf of the children, we send you our deepest thanks for supporting this year's Arab-Jewish Summer Camp.

With warmest thanks from your Leo Baeck family in Haifa,

Carol

Carol Brauner

Director of International Development

