

**MAZAL TOV RAPHAEL AARON PLOSS!**

# TJC CHESSED REPORTER

**PARSHAT NITZAVIM/VAYEILECH • SEPTEMBER 12, 2020**

## PRINCETON NURSERY SCHOOL



PNS has been serving the community for more than 90 years

For my Chessed project I volunteered at the Princeton Nursery School, a local preschool that is in charge of providing childcare for young children. The school was founded 91 years ago by Margaret Matthews-Flinch to take care of African American children whose mothers worked during the day. PNS was unique at its inception as it enabled mothers not having to choose between working and making an income they

needed and care of the children during working hours. Since then it has become a school for primarily working families. From the beginning PNS served a multicultural community and the diverse student population still reflects the wonderful community of which PNS is part of.

My job there was to entertain and supervise the kids before their parents came to pick them up. I was also in charge of helping

with setting up and cleaning up the activities we did.

While I have one older and also two younger siblings it took me a little while to get into the habit of being around so many younger children, but once I did, I was able to spend quality time with them.

time for this important cause. I grew very fond of the kids and I had the impression that they were also looking forward to seeing me.



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### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**Princeton Nursery  
School**

Support PNS by [giving online to the Annual Fund](#) that supports the student scholarship program. Or you can support PNS by purchasing an item(s) from the PNS Amazon Wish List (search by using the email [pnskids@gmail.com](mailto:pnskids@gmail.com) on Amazon.com). Also you can go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose Princeton Nursery School as your selected charity for Amazon to donate to PNS.

## WHAT I LEARNED FROM MY PROJECT

During my time at PNS I learned that it takes a lot of patience to do activities with kids younger than I am and helped me understand how difficult a kindergarten or any teacher for that matter has to work. A lot of people may not have the possibility to stay at home or hire a nanny until their children are school-aged, and I started to

understand how important it is for a community of hard-working parents to have a quality day care center. Children at that age need to be occupied and stimulated with educational activities which is exactly what PNS does a really good job at. My main takeaway was the huge amount the teachers put in daily that we often take for granted.



**Acts of chessed (lovingkindness) are an essential part of TJC's B'nai Mitzvah experience. Every student commits to 10 or more hours of hands-on community service.**