



PRESSMAN
A C A D E M Y
OF TEMPLE BETH AM

WASTE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

Dear Pressman Parents,

Beginning in September, the Temple Beth Am Green Team will be launching a Waste Free Lunch Program. The aim of the program is to reduce the amount of trash we generate and to educate ourselves and our children about the impact our daily choices make on our communities and our planet.

By reducing waste and protecting the environment, our children will perform a mitzvah and learn such Jewish values as *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and *bal tashchit* (do not waste). Let's help our children learn the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle by making small changes in our daily lives. The Pressman Academy Hot Lunch Program will be taking a number of steps to reduce the waste generated by the production of each lunch, and we want to ask each family to join us by also reducing the amount of lunchtime and snacktime waste your family generates.

How to pack a Waste Free Lunch and Snack:

- Send reusable plastic containers instead of plastic wraps, plastic bags or foil.
- Pack lunch and snacks in a reusable lunch box/bag instead of paper or plastic bags.
- Send reusable utensils instead of disposable ones (to be returned to wash)
- Send a reusable drink container instead of a disposable water bottle, box or pouch (for ECC children, the school will provide re-usable water cups).
- Send a cloth napkin (to be returned to wash) instead of paper napkins
- Avoid purchasing pre-packaged items. Instead, buy food in large sizes and apportion at home.

Reusable lunch boxes and containers are available at supermarkets and drug stores and many others. We are also working on making a complete reusable lunch system available for purchase. Please look for more information about this and other aspects of the program coming soon.

Thank you,

The Waste Free Lunch Committee

If you are interested in becoming involved or for more information, please contact Sharon Brooks, sharonb@interlog.com, or Nina Reinis, nreinis@ca.rr.com. For information on packing a waste-free lunch go to www.wastefreelunches.org.