



The Talia Trust for Children
קרן טליה למען ילדים (ע"ר)



Welcome to the February 2011 Newsletter from the Talia Trust for Children.

Nearly six years ago, the idea of the Talia Trust was born out of tragedy.

Its first step in 2005 was to check out the local needs in **Haifa** where the Talia Trust is based, asking what extra provisions were being made for young children who had specific learning difficulties. We remembered only too well how hard it is for parents of an intelligent child whom the educational system expects to perform well, but who is limited by difficulties which teachers may not understand or even perceive.

For many years, there had been a limited number of municipal facilities for learning enrichment in Haifa, given through special teaching methods and other auxiliary treatment in after school hours. Although in Haifa today there are more such centres which the Ministry of Education and municipality partially subsidise (a situation which does not exist all over the country), today the Ministry does not finance psychologists outside the minimal school psychology programme. In other words, the parents have to pay for this vital part of their children's treatment – something many cannot do.

We are therefore very excited that, this year, the Talia Trust is jointly funding psychologists in Kiryat Haim's Learning Enhancement Centre. In this new programme, children are taught learning strategies to enable them to function well within society, while parents learn how to help control complex educational situations and to set boundaries.

The photo on the right was recently taken at the Centre where we can see the children applying strategies they had learnt in previous lessons. These helped them in the process of planning their assignment, organizing its operation and carrying it out.



The programme deals with subjects such as how to deal with impulsivity and how to tackle homework. The children in the project are aged 9 to 12. Although general workshops, teaching topics such as organizational strategies, are being held a few times through this



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year for all 35 children learning at the Centre, the new project mainly concentrates on working intensively with 12 children and their parents. Without the Talia Trust's help, they would miss out on the essential psychological treatment aspect of the programme.

Kiryat Haim is a suburb in Haifa Bay. Its residents include many new immigrants and families low down on the socio-economic scale. The Talia Trust has been privileged to subsidise young children there for various kinds of treatment, such as drama therapy and occupational therapy, over the past six years and to hear their success stories.



Looking ahead over the next few weeks, we want to remind those of our readers who live or have family or friends in England, about the **Talia Trust for Children annual supper quiz**, on Sunday 6 March, which is guaranteed to be a fantastic night.

- Venue: Stanmore shul
- Doors open at 7.30pm, when food will be available
- Quiz starts at 8pm (with a planned finish of 10.15pm)

If you would like to buy a ticket (£18 each) for this event, or host a table (of ten or twelve people), please email dschogger@gmail.com with full details. Ticket payment (and donations) can be made via any of the following:

- Send a cheque made payable to 'Talia Trust UK' to: Talia Trust for Children, 3 Melrose Avenue, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 2BH
- Directly into the TTFC bank account, details of which are on our website – <http://www.taliatrust.org/page28.html>
- Just Giving – <http://www.justgiving.com/TTFC-2011-quiz>



Finally, some of you will be receiving this newsletter for the first time. You may already know something about the Talia Trust. We would like you to see how it is developing.



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However, should you feel our sending the newsletter is an invasion of your privacy, please let us know and we will not trouble you with future editions.

Best wishes and thank you for all your support

Marilyn Hyman (Haifa, Israel) & Damian Schogger (London, England)