



## **A Short Memory**

**By Pam Morris, Early Learning Center director**

Before I had my first daughter, I had an amazing memory. I had no need for a calendar or post-it notes or lists. Of course I was a little younger and even as I type this on my cell phone, my phone wasn't such a big part of my life. I didn't actually own one until around her entrance into the world.

Now, three daughters and many years later, my memory has taken a beating. I need the calendar reminders. I need the lists. I need the texts. They keep me on track. They help me remember the little things.

What I don't forget though, are the bigger things. Some might say the really important things.

I will always remember Simchat Torah, 5784. I will always remember Sept. 11, 2001. I will always remember Aug. 22, 2000, Feb. 12, 2006, Dec. 8, 2008, Aug. 20, 1996, Jan. 3, 1998, Jan. 1, 2021.

Some of these dates coincide with momentous, happy times. Some of these dates are of tragic, horrific events.

Some of these dates are as long ago as 28 years. One is as recent as just under 10 months ago.

I wonder if the world needs a really large pad of sticky notes to remember what happened on Simchat Torah 5784, Oct. 7, 2023?

Have people forgotten about the kidnappings, the murders, the rapes? Have people forgotten about the beheadings, the ovens, the Nova music festival? Have people forgotten about the hostages that are still being held?



It is incredulous to me that in just under one year that people already think that Israel should just forget these atrocities. The sanctions are coming down on Israel but not on the terrorists; the perpetrators of these crimes.

And a new side to this war came front and center this weekend. Majdal Shams was bombed by Hezbollah, killing 12 children and young adults, ranging in age from 12-20. At first, Hezbollah announced that they were responsible until they found out that it was Druze, Arab children instead of Jewish Israelis that were murdered.

Is it that people forget or are just trying to rewrite history? As my daughters would say, "Are they trying to gaslight us?"

So use whatever memory tricks you need. Keep your memory sharp. We must never forget.

#Shabbat Shalom