We are Kids4Peace!

Kids4Peace
Toronto 2004

Photo-essay by Franke James
Kids4Peace Toronto 2004
24 kids. Three faiths. One dream.

In the summer of 2004, 12 children from Galilee travelled to Canada to spend a week at summer camp with 12 Canadian children. They all came from three different faiths, Muslim, Jewish and Christian. And they all shared one dream – peace. So they played together. And they worked together to create the human foundations for a lasting peace – understanding, respect and friendship.

This is their story...

“Kids4Peace is about interfaith education for peace. Education is at the heart of the program, the goal is peace and the tool is interfaith dialogue. We want to reach across barriers of distrust and fear and establish the beginning of friendships and new attitudes. We want to form a generation of leaders for tomorrow.”

Henry Carse
Program Founder
Kids4Peace
Toronto hosts, Cathie and David Ross, with Richard Newland of St. Dunstan’s provide an enthusiastic welcome for the Kids4Peace in Toronto airport.
Saleem, one of 12 Galilee Kids4Peace participants flashes the universal peace symbol in greeting.
The Galilee kids arrived safely and in style at St. Dunstan of Canterbury. The plan: a tour of the church and a good night's rest.

The Peace Limo

The Galilee kids arrived safely and in style at St. Dunstan of Canterbury. The plan: a tour of the church and a good night’s rest.
“The program has enabled children to recognize that they are all children of God and to learn that they have a common faith-ancestor in Abraham.” Rev. Richard Newland, Christian Adviser
“It was great to have one of the Galilee boys stay at my home.”

Samuel
“It was our daughter’s idea to do Kids 4 Peace. She was the driving force.”

Muntaz, Canadian parent
Everywhere we go,
People want to know
Who we are...
So we tell them:
We are Kids4Peace!
Mighty, mighty Kids4Peace!
Salaam, Shalom!
Shalom, Salaam!
Kids4Peace!
“We’ve got to give peace a chance... The program will help kids understand that there’s nothing wrong with other religions.” Daniel
People are the same. It doesn’t matter what religion you are.”
Elynor
The Abraham Tent play is the highpoint in the Kids4Peace program. It is written and performed by the children to share each religions’ core beliefs and traditions; and to reveal the many areas in common, thus encouraging interfaith dialogue.
You get to learn about new religions, and meet new people. You learn that you have to respect other people’s religions.

Kids4Peace was great!

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Asal
The kids enjoyed meeting the Mayor of Toronto, David Miller, as he heads up one of the most multicultural cities in the world. Mayor Miller is a great example of openness and accessibility in government.

Robert Levy, Canadian parent
“Kids4Peace bonded us as a group.” Samuel
A Jewish girl and a Muslim girl discover friendship at Kids4Peace.
"I learned at Kids4Peace that everybody can work together without fighting."

Tasleema
Thanks so much for donating money for Kids4Peace. We really had so much fun and really enjoyed it! My favourite thing was the butterflies.

Thanks again, Melissa
Three Faiths

Holy Trinity Anglican Church

Jaffari Islamic Centre

Temple Har Zion
“It made me decide what was important about my faith” Melissa
Kids4Peace were given a presentation by each religious organization, followed by a Q&A session. Pictured above, Kareem and Razi pepper the Rabbi with more questions.
“I learned that no matter what religion, you can always live together and be a family. We’re all humans.”

Sarah
“I want to go to Israel to meet my Kids4Peace friends” Samuel
“I made friends with everybody. We now e-mail each other.”

Sarah
Kids4Peace Toronto 2004

Kids4Peace is an interfaith education-for-peace initiative of St. George’s College Jerusalem, launched in 2002 with the cooperation of St. George’s Cathedral Pastorate Committee. The College and the Cathedral are institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

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