

BEIT SEFER SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDE 5781 2020 – 2021

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PROTOCOLS
PARENT Q&A
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9, 6:00 PM

Temple Sholom: a sacred community that embraces, inspires, and matters.

Guided by, and grounded in, our sacred Jewish texts and traditions, we are committed to learning that embraces, inspires, and matters to our congregation and community at every age and level. At Temple Sholom, we:

- instill Jewish values
- further the development of a strong and positive Jewish identity, and
- cultivate an appreciation for Jewish history, culture and language

resulting in deep resilience, empathy for others, and a meaningful spiritual context for our modern lives not only as Jews, but as humans. Through our engaging and inclusive approach, our education program aims to create and deepen the connection of members to their lifecycle events, the synagogue, each other, and to the broader Jewish community.

THOUGHTS ON JEWISH EDUCATION ACROSS THE AGES

You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart, and all your soul and all your might. Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day. Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise up.

(Deuteronomy 6:5-7)

[Torah] is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it to us, that we may hear it, and do it?" Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it to us, that we may hear it, and do it?" But the word is very near to you, in your mouth, and in your heart, that you may do it.

(Deuteronomy 30:12-14)

The Torah is a tree of life to those who cling to it. All who uphold it are happy.

(Proverbs 3:18)

We sow the seeds of light to bring out the best of our noble selves.

(Psalms 97:11, adapted)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for people to dwell together in unity!

(Psalm 133:15)

The world stands on three things: the study of Torah, worship, and deeds of loving kindness.

(Pirke Avot 1:2)

Know where you came from, and where you are going.

(Pirke Avot 3:1)

If there is no Torah, there will be no civility. If there is no civility, there is no Torah.

(Pirke Avot 3:17)

These are the things for which a person enjoys the dividends in this world while the principal remains for the person to enjoy in the world to come. They are: honoring parents, loving deeds of kindness, and making peace between one person and another, but the study of the Torah is equal to them all.

(Talmud Shabbat 127a)

If you truly wish your children to study Torah, study it yourself in their presence. They will follow your example. Otherwise, they will not themselves study Torah but will simply instruct their children to do so.

(Rabbi Menahem Mendel of Kotzk)

The golden key to Jewish education is the Hebrew language.

(Chaim Nachman Bialik)

Where Jewish education is neglected, the whole content of Judaism is reduced to merely an awareness of antisemitism. Judaism ceases then to be a civilization and becomes a complex.

(Mordecai Kaplan)

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Contact Us:

Jay Rapoport, RJE, Director of Lifelong Learning
jay@sholomchicago.org 773-435-1544

Rachel Lipson, Religious School Administrator
rachel@sholomchicago.org 773-435-1554

Esther Fishbein, Youth Engagement Coordinator
esther@sholomchicago.org 773-435-1533

Let's Embrace This Moment

By Jay Rapoport, RJE

Times change ("turn, turn, turn"), but Judaism provides us an opportunity to focus on wellness, community, struggle, and resilience. We can't control everything that happens, only how we react. We have to embrace this moment, knowing that we all in this together, and we are here for each other. Our plans are designed to meet different needs for different families, and we are partners in its success.

As our Lifelong Learning Mission Statement says, "we are committed to learning that embraces, inspires, and matters to our congregation and community at every age and level."

- We **embrace** our students as they are, welcoming them to feel part of something bigger.
- We **inspire** children to learn about themselves, using tools rooted in our tradition to be a force for good.
- We **matter** by making spiritual growth a priority amidst a sea of change, improving ourselves and thereby the world.

Leading with our Values: Principles of Reopening Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School

1. **Safety is our top priority.** We will take all recommended precautions in consultation with Temple Shalom's Ad Hoc COVID-19 Health & Safety Task Force, following state and local guidelines. This includes limiting gatherings to 50 people or less, utilizing our bigger 1st floor spaces, deep cleaning between sessions, social distancing, masks worn indoors or within six feet of others, temperature/symptom checks and hand washing/sanitizing. **We will rely on families making responsible decisions and acknowledging the impact on others.** Like many synagogues, we have decided to delay the start of Sunday classes until October 4, after the High Holy Days and the start of public/private schools to allow families to adjust and to learn from their openings.

2. **Relationships are at the center.** We are committed to finding ways to gather safely in person whenever possible this year, prioritizing community above content. This may include outdoor classes in the fall, rotating grade cohort social experiences staffed by our new Youth Engagement Coordinator, Esther Fishbein, with madrichim to supplement online learning, and eventually, smaller-scale indoor class sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays. We will make efforts to keep students with familiar teachers where possible, to build on existing relationships, and we plan to use September 13 as a day to begin building community connections.

3. **Excellence in (online) education.** We are bringing a Jewish lens to 21st-century technology, culture and principles. In the spring, we moved our in-person program online with a few days' notice, ahead of CPS and many other institutions. We've spent the summer learning and preparing to train our faculty for building community online and engaging students in learning using a variety of technological resources. Social-emotional learning will be a special focus this year as we recognize the need to be a safe space, supporting our students and families through this difficult time. We also recognize that the typical length of our Sunday session is challenging online without breaks/movement and have considered ways to address it.

4. **One size doesn't fit all.** We recognize the struggles that our youngest students and our teens faced with the shift to online learning, and we plan to prioritize in-person gatherings for these age groups in particular, on Sundays for JK-2nd and 6th-8th grades and midweek for Crown Family High School. We will offer our Midweek Hebrew "Kef (fun) Club" as an option for 3rd-5th graders to connect in person. JK-2nd grade Sunday classes will likely be shorter, supplemented by asynchronous specialist content to allow for multiple sessions of smaller groupings. Teen programming will be developed in consultation with our *Orr Shalom* High School Youth Group Executive Board.

5. **Options are available.** We don't want anyone - students, teens, teachers - to feel pressured to meet in person if they are not comfortable. We plan to offer online options for all classes this year.

6. **This is a time for innovation.** Amidst the challenges of this time exists opportunity for improvement. We are able to move beyond limits of building space and geography to bring the very best to our students. After a year spent consulting with JUF Education and national experts on best practices in Hebrew Education, we are excited to unveil new ways to make Hebrew learning more engaging, meaningful and fun in the coming year. Five members of our faculty team, including Esther, Jay,

and teachers in each grade cohort, have been trained in “Hebrew Through Movement,” based on cutting-edge Total Physical Response language learning methods,

7. **We are open to new ideas and your input in the ongoing planning process.** We have spent the past few weeks in conversation with local and national colleagues and educational experts from the Jewish world and beyond, as well as our own faculty and Religious School Committee.

All of our plans are tentative based on what we know now, acknowledging that information changes daily and we will have to be responsive.

Our Re-envisioned 21st-Century Curriculum includes:

- Onward Hebrew
 - Hebrew-Rich Environment
 - *T'filah* Every Time
 - K-4th Grade Hebrew Through Movement
 - 6th grade 1:1 Hebrew Boot Camp Pilot
- K-5th Grade *La-bri'ut* Health & Wellness *Middot* (values) Curriculum designed for online learning this summer by Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, creators of Hebrew Through Movement curriculum
- 3rd Grade STEM with Noggin Builders
- 6th Grade Moving Traditions *B'nai Mitzvah* Curriculum with Rabbi Singer
- 7th-12th Grade Student-Directed Learning

How - Three Possibilities For Meeting:

1. In-person Outdoors: Sept. meet-the-teacher/students, Oct. classes
2. In-person Indoors: Nov. in-person relational “Kef (fun) Club” experiences to supplement online classes
3. Online: Always an option, and as needed

Safety protocols, including the approval of any in-person possibilities, building cleaning protocols and plans for how to react to a positive test in our community, will be determined in consultation with our Ad Hoc COVID-19 Health & Safety Task Force, our security team and Temple Sholom leadership based on our experience re-opening Gan Shalom this summer along with the information we have at the time, acknowledging that the situation continues to be fluid.

Is there something on your mind that we haven't addressed? We want to hear from you! Please contact jay@sholomchicago.org if you would like to set up a time to chat.

2020-2021 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION & CLERGY



Rabbi Shoshanah Conover

Cantor Sheera Ben-David

Rabbi Scott Gellman

NEW! Rabbi Rena Singer

Jay Rapoport, RJE, Director of Lifelong Learning

NEW! Rachel Lipson, Religious School Administrator

NEW! Esther Fishbein, Youth Engagement Coordinator

Emma Harmon, Family Engagement & Member Services Coordinator

Dr. Irene Goldstein, Vice-President Lifelong Learning

Michelle Rest, Religious School Committee Co-chair

NEW! Lisa Sapir, Religious School Committee Co-chair

We have an amazing team to support Jewish education at Temple Shalom! We are excited to move from strength to strength with our returning Lifelong Learning team members – Jay and Irene – along with the wonderful additions of Rachel as our new Religious School Administrator, Esther as our new Youth Engagement Coordinator, and Lisa Sapir joins Michelle Rest as her new parent committee co-chair.

We are fortunate to have Rabbi Conover as our new Senior Rabbi, as well as Rabbi Scott Gellman who will now be teaching 7th grade, as our new Assistant Rabbi Rena Singer takes on teaching 6th grade and co-teaching Crown Family High School. Our entire clergy team joins our *T'filot* (prayer) experiences for all ages, leading classroom conversations and family education events, as partners in our work to provide positive meaningful experiences for our students and their families.

Visit www.sholomchicago.org/staff for staff and clergy bios!

About Religious Education at Temple Shalom of Chicago

- **Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School (Jr. K-7th Grade)**
- **Pathways/Netivot Shalom (8th Grade)**
- **Crown Family High School/Tichon Shalom (9th-12th grade)**

The goals of our *Beit Sefer Shalom* Religious School are:

- To provide a joyful, high-quality and inclusive Jewish education for students from preschool through high school.
- To immerse students in a learner-centered, diverse, and inclusive community that cares about them
- To lead students towards an awareness of themselves as Jews and an understanding of their Jewish heritage and traditions
- To foster a love of Torah and pride of being Jewish
- To instill in students a timeline of Jewish history
- To develop in our children a positive, joyous, and resilient Jewish identity and a kinship with the Jewish People
- To illustrate historic Jewish beliefs about God and help students explore the God of their own understanding
- To teach students to read and appreciate the Hebrew language with an emphasis on developing competence and confidence in leading a prayer service
- To cultivate knowledge of and connection the Land and People of Israel
- To help young people appreciate the role of Jewish values and ethics in becoming *menschen* (good people) and pursuers of social justice
- To build meaningful relationships amongst students and with teens, faculty, educators and clergy
- To nurture the desire to be lifelong learners and to live fulfilling Jewish lives

Family involvement and participation are integral parts of our school program; they demonstrate that Jewish commitment and involvement do not begin and end with becoming *B'nai Mitzvah*, but are lifelong endeavors and that the family is the cornerstone of Jewish living. Please join us for our family holiday celebrations, *Yom Horim* parent-child learning days throughout the year (see calendar for schedule of events), and Sunday morning adult education classes.

Children of member families are eligible to enroll in **Religious School/Beit Sefer Shalom** which meets Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. – 12:05 p.m., October – May. **Sunday** classes are for Junior Kindergarten through 8th grade. **Pathways/Netivot Shalom** for 8th grade students also meets on Sunday mornings.

6th grade students participate in a *B'nai Mitzvah* preparation course which meets twice weekly. 3rd-5th grade students are strongly encouraged to participate in our **Midweek Hebrew** program, which offers an additional hour of Hebrew instruction that is crucial to learning language and contributes to stronger Jewish identity and relationships with peers. Students can choose either Tuesday afternoons from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Crown Family High School/Tichon Shalom, 9th-12th grades, meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School Overview

Students in Junior Kindergarten through 2nd Grade spend the entire morning with their teacher in one classroom. Each teacher has at least one teen *madrach/madricha* (teacher assistant) from our high school youth group community. Students are introduced to Hebrew in these grades and begin learning the *alef-bet*. Our Music Specialist meets with each class every morning to teach songs about Jewish themes in both Hebrew and English. Junior Congregation, a brief worship experience featuring visits from our clergy and lots of singing, is held monthly at 11:30AM (see dates on page 19). Parents are invited and encouraged to participate in Junior Congregation to nurture your child's spiritual development and join in the fun!

For students in 3rd-7th grade, the schedule on Sunday morning consists of two one-hour instructional periods (one period of Jewish Studies and one period of Hebrew), and a half hour for *T'filah* (prayer) or the occasional special program.

Once a month, 6th-8th graders join Rabbi Gellman and Cantor Ben David for a special student-led *t'filah* (prayer). This gives our upcoming and recent *B'nai Mitzvah* students a chance to lead their peers as they prepare for, and return from, leading our congregation on Shabbat. 7th & 8th graders also have the opportunity to participate in a monthly *Ma'amad* (creative prayer experience) on Sundays.

About Our Teachers

Our teachers are adults in the Chicagoland community from all walks of Jewish life. Many of them are young professionals, most are not professional teachers, but all share a passion for teaching children about Judaism. They are excited to inspire the next generation as role models of positive Jewish identity. We invite you to join us on the first days of Religious School to meet your child(ren)'s teachers, and we encourage them to reach out to you via email or blogs with regular classroom updates and discussion points for conversations with your child(ren) about Judaism in general and their classroom learning in particular. We host monthly paid teacher training workshops to strengthen our teachers' pedagogical and Judaic background.

Inclusion/Learning Specialists

Temple Shalom is committed to providing an inclusive atmosphere for all students. Our goal is to create a successful, supportive environment in which each child develops a love for Judaism and one another. In order to best achieve this goal, we employ Learning Specialists to push in and pull out of classrooms as needed, to create differentiated learning and emotional regulation among students, as well as behavior interventions and classroom management for teachers. Our Learning Specialists observe students in classrooms and correspond with parents/guardians in order to help teachers best support students' learning. We partner with parents in order to integrate the same successful strategies used in regular school and home. Additionally, we offer parents the opportunity to meet with our Learning Specialists in advance of the school year as part of registration, and **we ask families to share any known learning needs and/or if preferred, provide information around if a child receives resource services; such as an IEP, 504 plan, or other related services** (e.g. speech language, social work, reading, occupational therapy). Should any student require or benefit from one-on-one time with specialists, we will ensure that we are accommodating each child's individual needs.

Parent Communication

Information about Religious School and Youth Group is shared in a variety of formats:

- Weekly "Religious School Matters" e-letter
- Weekly Temple Shalom e-blast
- Event-specific emails
- Emails from teachers
- D'var mailed bi-monthly newsletter
- Elevator & Café bulletin boards
- www.sholomchicago.org
- [Facebook.com/sholomchicago](https://www.facebook.com/sholomchicago)

Jewish Studies Curriculum

Junior Kindergarten/Kindergarten: "Who am I as a Jewish child?"

Through hands-on activities relating to holiday observances and Jewish symbols, students learn what it means to be a Jewish child in the context of the home, the family, and the synagogue. They are introduced to basic *b'rachot* (blessings), Hebrew songs and words, and Torah stories. A snack is served, and students get to enjoy Jewish music and movement, learning Hebrew letters, stories, and art projects. Parents are invited on a monthly basis to join our Junior Congregation, an age-appropriate family worship experience in our sanctuary led by our clergy during the last half hour of school.

Grades 1-4

In grades 1-4 our lessons are largely based on the CHAI Curriculum, developed by the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). The CHAI lessons follow a curriculum model known as "backward design," as outlined in the book *Understanding by Design (UbD)* by Wiggins and McTighe, and published by the [Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development \(ASCD\)](#). This approach, and that of the CHAI curriculum, is designed so that student learning will go beyond the specific classroom activities and will reach a deeper enduring understanding, establishing the basis for later Jewish learning and living. The CHAI curriculum is based on a set of learning objectives (called "enduring understandings") that define what it means to live a full Jewish life, as expressed in *Pirke Avot* (Wisdom of our Ancestors): The world rests on three things: the study of *Torah*, *Avodah* (worship), and *G'milut Chasadim* (deeds of loving kindness).

Torah: Torah is an ongoing dialogue between the text and its students. Torah is real in our daily lives; it goes with us wherever we are. Developing the skills to study Torah is essential to integrating Torah into our lives.

Avodah: Avodah is the work we do to find sacred connections to God, community, and self. Engaging in the work of *avodah* can bring order, beauty, meaning and insight to our lives and our community.

G'milut Chasadim: We have a responsibility to perform personal acts of *g'milut chasadim* to make the world a better and holier place.

Each grade level of the CHAI curriculum interprets these "enduring understandings" in an age appropriate manner:

First Grade: Bereshit, Holidays, My Community

Adapted from CHAI Curriculum Level 1 by Karen Sackheim

Torah: I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people.

Avodah: My Jewish acts help me discover the beauty and order of sacred time and my place in the Jewish story.

G'milut Chasadim: I am a part of the ongoing story of the Jewish people when I perform acts of *g'milut chasadim*.

Second Grade: Shemot, Feeling Connected to God, Mitzvot

Adapted from CHAI Curriculum Level 2 by Carrie Rosen

Torah: The Torah teaches me how to be part of the Jewish People.

Avodah: Jewish stories, celebrations and rituals help me understand and express my relationship with God.

G'milut Chasadim: We make the world a better place by performing acts of *g'milut chasadim* in our everyday lives.

Third Grade: Holiness Curriculum: Vayikrah

Adapted from CHAI Curriculum Level 3 by Caleb Bromberg, Kendra Gerstein, and Sarah Kamenetsky

Torah: An in-depth study of ritual & worship traditions for all holidays in *Vayikrah*.

Avodah: Holy people, places, objects, times, and actions.

G'milut Chasadim: Practicing & studying *Tikkun Olam*, mending a broken world.

Fourth Grade: Bamidbar/Dvarim (Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael, Medinat Yisrael), Kavanah and Keva, Accepting Differences in Each Other

Adapted from CHAI Curriculum Level 4 by Josh Harlow and Sam Waldorf

Torah: With the promise of *Eretz Yisrael* (holy land), we as *Am Yisrael* (holy people) have a responsibility to work towards becoming holy by observing the *brit* (covenant).

Avodah: *Keva* and *kavanah*, the fixed order of worship and the personal intention we bring to prayer, are complementary aspects of Jewish worship, combining to help us to make sacred connections.

G'milut Chasadim: We have a responsibility to perform acts of *g'milut chasadim* for the people we encounter in our daily lives.

Grades 5-7

Students explore Jewish values and rituals in the context of Reform Judaism as well as our local Jewish community. In addition to their continued study of modern Hebrew, students will learn to read and chant the prayers they will lead in their *B'nai Mitzvah* services as well as study the meanings and origins of our liturgy. These years are full of leadership opportunities within and beyond the Religious School.

Fifth Grade: Jewish Life Cycle Curriculum compiled by Sarah Kamanetsky

Life Cycle Events: Students will study Jewish life cycle events, including *Brit Milah*, *B'nai Mitzvah*, Marriage, Conversion, and Death/Mourning. Students will learn what it means to participate in these events and engage in simulations of age-appropriate aspects of them in class.

Sixth Grade: Mechina l'B'nai Mitzvah with Rabbi Rena Singer

My Jewish Journey: Students will explore the responsibilities that come with being counted as a member of our community, develop the skills to chant their *Torah* and *Hafarah* portions, and engage with our sacred texts.

T'filah: During the hour of midweek class, students will get an in-depth look at each of the major prayers in our worship service. They will learn not only the vocabulary, meanings and choreography of the prayers but also their origins and significance.

Modern Hebrew: Students continue their study of conversational Hebrew with the goal of being able to communicate on a basic level when they visit Israel in 8th grade with *Ta'am Yisrael!*

Seventh Grade: Modern Jewish History: The Reform Movement, the Shoah, and Israel

This class covers Jewish history from the beginning of modernity to present day, which encompasses the rise of the Reform Movement, European Jews' struggle with citizenship, peoplehood and identity, Antisemitism, the Holocaust, the creation of the modern State of Israel, and the contemporary politics of the state. Students will continue their study of conversational Hebrew with the goal of being able to communicate on a basic level when they visit Israel in 8th grade with the IsraelNow Chicagoland community trip to Israel! (formerly "*Ta'am Yisrael!*") They will be exploring modern Israel one city at a time while learning the vocabulary necessary to navigate the major attractions in those cities. We also offer an optional Wednesday night advanced Hebrew class for students who are excited to further their study of conversational Hebrew.

Multi-Grade Electives

Several times throughout the year, including our winter *Tarboot v'Omanut* Israeli Arts & Culture Festival, we break up the routine by offering students the opportunity to choose their own course of learning through elective multidisciplinary *chugim* (choices). This allows students to take ownership of their learning and to cultivate relationships with peers, teens, and teachers beyond their classroom or grade, to get to know the cohort they will eventually be part of in youth group and Crown Family High School.

Hebrew Curriculum

The goals of our Hebrew program are to:

- Explore speaking, decoding, reading, writing, and praying in Hebrew
- Reinforce Jewish identity and connection to language of our people and Israel
- Develop familiarity with *Mishkan T'filah*, our Reform movement *siddur* (prayer book) and the tunes of our Shabbat liturgy
- Empower students with leadership opportunities to share and demonstrate their learning and knowledge
- Build the competency to meaningfully lead a worship service as a *B'nai Mitzvah*
- Lay groundwork for reading *Torah* at our *Simchat Torah* service, participating Jewishly on the college campus, or a future trip to Israel – perhaps IsraelNow, our 8th grade Chicagoland community trip (formerly “*Ta’am Yisrael*”)

Our Hebrew curriculum focuses on two interrelated skills: Hebrew reading and building blocks of Jewish liturgy; and foundations of modern Hebrew. A student who completes our Hebrew program should be able to:

- feel ownership, comfort and confidence with Hebrew
- participate actively in, and confidently lead portions of, Reform worship
- explain meaning and intention of individual prayers and prayer vocabulary
- develop a basic Modern Hebrew vocabulary
- read Hebrew text with vowels

Beginning in 3rd grade, students have an hour of Hebrew on Sundays and are strongly encouraged to attend an additional midweek class. The expectations for midweek students, in terms of both the amount and the depth of material in which they become proficient, are corollary to the amount of learning time they have. For example, 3rd grade midweek students are expected to master the *alef-bet* by December's end, while Sunday-only students are expected to master it by April.

Students attending midweek master more prayers, with deeper understanding of their meaning than students in the Sunday-only program. They also build deeper connections with peers and teachers, have stronger confidence in their Hebrew abilities, and, according to studies, develop an overall more positive Jewish identity.

Students receive 1-on-1 support and evaluation at various points throughout the year. Students are expected to master each prayer (i.e., read fluently and without mistakes) and learn key vocabulary before moving on to the next prayer.

In an effort to develop and encourage use of some basic Hebrew vocabulary, we have created a “No-Translate List” of Hebrew words. Each week, students learn a *Milat Hayom* (word of the day) that focuses on classroom vocabulary, holidays and the like. After a word has been taught, students and teachers are encouraged to use only the Hebrew for that word. Ask your child(ren) to tell you the *Milat Hayom* after Religious School each week!

Social Justice Curriculum

Tzedakah

A sense of responsibility for and toward others is a value we teach through a weekly collection of funds (usually between \$1-\$5 each week). Students vote to send donations to many of the organizations represented in our *annual* Mitzvah fair. Each student is encouraged to bring some contribution each week. Throughout the 2018-2019 school year, we raised over \$1000 for charities around the city and nation!

Feed the Hungry

5th-7th graders have an amazing opportunity to assist with Temple Sholom's long-standing "Feed the Hungry" program. This meaningful community project has run continuously at Temple Sholom for over 25 years! On the 2nd and 5th Sundays of every month, congregants gather to assemble lunches for distribution at a west side church. Jewish congregations in the city and suburbs have partnered to ensure that meals are delivered to the church continuously every Sunday afternoon year-round. At Temple Sholom, volunteers form an assembly line in Bettie Port Hall and make 200 bag lunches in less than 1 hour, which are driven over to our church partner, Greater Bethlehem Healing Temple.

Mensch Circles

The purpose of Mensch Circles, an old idea with a new name, is to:

- build a *Menschlikite* community, shaping relationships around Jewish values
- intentionally slow down and communicate more thoughtfully
- allow each participant to be seen, heard and known
- enable participants to bring their best selves into the circle and to class

Rabbi Conover and other trained facilitators meet with JK - 2nd grade families as well as various grades to share this vital work.

Mitzvah Fair

Our annual Mitzvah Fair is an opportunity for our pre-and-post *B'nai Mitzvah* students to showcase their personal *B'nai Mitzvah* projects to the wider Religious School community. Additionally, the Mitzvah Fair brings together social justice organizations from around Chicago to engage with students and community members, explain more about the work they do, and provide opportunities for involvement. Organizations such as PAWS, National Runaway Hotline, Cradles to Crayons, and Special Olympics often send representatives. The Mitzvah Fair coincides with International Good Deeds Day where 6th-8th graders have the opportunity to attend an off-site Mitzvah project after Religious School. The Mitzvah Fair culminates with our students casting a vote and deciding where they would like to send the largest chunk of *Tzedakah* (literally "righteousness," but often translated as "charity") they have raised over the year. Every organization that attends the Fair receives a donation.

Experiences for Youth & Teens

Youth Group at Temple Shalom

Our youth programs offer students the opportunity to connect socially and build Jewish friendships in an informal setting. Our three groups are *Chavrei Shalom* for students in 3rd-5th grade, *Noar Shalom* for 6th-8th graders, and *Orr Shalom*, our high school youth group. Junior youth groups have several events each year and *Orr Shalom* holds monthly events. 3rd-7th graders have the weekly opportunity to socialize or work on homework in our “Kef (fun) Club” with our Youth Engagement Coordinator, Esther Fishbein before and after Midweek Hebrew on Tuesdays, and before Midweek Hebrew on Wednesdays.

8th Grade Pathways/*Netivot Shalom*

Netivot Shalom/Pathways is designed for the transition year between *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* and the Crown Family High School. Students explore their identity as young teenagers, as Jews, and as members of the Jewish community. During Sunday classes, students will plan and implement projects in the community, connect with other Jewish teens in the city, and prepare to be leaders in our *Madrachim* High School Teacher Assistant training program. The curriculum focuses on six content areas:

- Jewish and Teen Identity
- Foundations of Social Justice
- Stereotypes and Isms
- Judaism and Urban Poverty
- Leadership
- Exploring Jewish Chicago

8th grade students have opportunities to serve as leaders in the Religious School, for example, assisting in midweek Hebrew classes through our Midweek *Madrachim* program, helping to plan and lead the annual 5th-8th grade retreat, helping to run the Purim Carnival, sharing their *B'nai Mitzvah* projects with younger students at our Mitzvah Fair and leading other synagogue programs. Additionally, students will participate in IsraelNow (formerly “*Ta'am Yisrael*”) – an 8-day Chicagoland community 8th grade trip to Israel taking place April 26-May 5 and June 7-16. Students are invited and encouraged to serve as “Midweek *Madrachim*” (see below) in weeknight Hebrew classrooms.

Crown Family High School/*Tichon Shalom*

The Crown Family High School/*Tichon Shalom* program, leading to a “Senior Seminar” and Graduation/*Kabbalat Torah* ceremony at the end of 12th grade, is open to students in grades 9 through 12 whose parents are Temple members. Teens meet on Wednesday evenings with our faculty consisting of the Rabbis, Cantor, Director of Lifelong Learning, and Youth Engagement Coordinator. The evening begins with dinner discussion and social time, followed by *Ma’ariv* (Evening Worship), and a class session. This year’s curriculum, based on student interests through the lens of our educational theme, *A Time To Embrace*, will be taught by Rabbi Rena Singer and Esther Fishbein, along with other members of our clergy and special guests. Students have the opportunity to suggest their own topics of discussion throughout the year, and teens are always welcome to stop by and try it out!

The goals of the program are:

- To provide the students with a welcoming, safe, social environment in which to connect to other Jewish teens, the Chicago Jewish Community, clergy, and Temple Shalom.
- To provide students an opportunity to explore, adapt, solidify, and/or change their own Jewish beliefs, practices, and traditions.
- To generate enthusiasm for the depth and breadth of Jewish culture, love for the Jewish people and our way of life.
- To provide students with the tools to function as articulate, socio-politically aware Jews on the college campus and beyond.

Madrichim Teacher Assistant Program

Madrichim (teacher assistants) are 8th-12th graders who help out in Religious School classes or with our office team on Sunday mornings, during Midweek Hebrew, and/or Junior Youth Group events! All Temple Shalom high school students are eligible to apply for this opportunity to earn service learning hours while making a positive impact upon younger students as mentors and role models. We offer *Madrichim* training in our 8th grade Sunday class as well as regular check-in lunches after school with Rabbi Singer and Youth Engagement Coordinator Esther Fishbein. Participation in this program keeps teens connected to their Jewish community and helps them to be stronger candidates for summer jobs and stand out on college applications.

8th Graders have the opportunity to practice and hone the skills learned in their Sunday *Madrichim* training class during Midweek Hebrew on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Midweek *Madrichim* will be placed in a classroom or the Religious School office and be given further training, leadership roles, and opportunities to apply their learning from Sunday class. 8th Grade students can opt to be Midweek *Madrichim* on Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 PM or Wednesdays from 6-7:30 PM. Participation in the 8th Grade program on Sundays is highly recommended, but not required to participate in the Midweek *Madrichim* program.

Madrichim applications can be found online at: sholomchicago.org/teens

Tikkun Chicago: A Multi Denominational Jewish High School Experience

Tikkun Chicago is an innovative, multi-denominational Jewish high school program for teens from across the city. Participants build friendships and strengthen their Jewish knowledge through meaningful courses offered in a wide variety of content such as: Social Justice, Israel, the Arts, Text, and Hebrew. A flexible schedule and wide array of courses lean into the busy lives of teenagers and allow students to explore topics that speak to them through a blend of classroom, online and experiential learning that inspires creativity, critical thinking and a deeper understanding of the world. Tikkun Chicago celebrates *ALL* Jewish teens and is inclusive to students who are unaffiliated and those who *are* affiliated with any of the Jewish movements: Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox.

Retreats at Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute (Tentative this year)

The Reform movement's original overnight camp, Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), offers one of the finest Jewish recreational experiences in the country, and the unique opportunity for children to see their "camp friends" at Sunday School! Children learn by doing, and immerse themselves in a camping experience that teaches, in practical and fun ways, the positive attributes of Jewish life and tradition, while offering all the joy of summer camp (sports, swimming, horseback riding, water skiing, etc.). Our clergy and educators serve as *segal* (faculty) for the camp.

URJ Camp OSRUI provides an extension of our reform youth culture as the site of our retreats as well as a summer destination and supports the strengthening of our youth programming. Our retreats allow deeper connections to foster through singing, shared meals, learning and spending Shabbat together.

JK-4th Grade Mishpacha (Family) Camp Getaway

Connect with other families, our clergy and staff while enjoying the magic of Shabbat at camp!

5th-8th Grade Youth Retreat

A weekend to strengthen connections to our community, deepen friendships and enjoy camp!

9th-12th Grade Orr Shalom Retreat

An opportunity for teens to experience a weekend planned and led by our youth group board.

Jewish Camping & Scholarships

Temple Sholom feels an obligation to support Jewish camping, long regarded as the best builder of positive Jewish identity, including our own URJ camps, and especially our regional camp, OSRUI. We are sensitive to creating inclusive messaging and experiences related to OSRUI, URJ Camping and Jewish camping. To learn more about Jewish camping, visit www.jewishcamp.org.

Temple Sholom has a long history of providing a special subsidy for member families who might have trouble paying full tuition for OSRUI and other Jewish overnight camps. Students must be in good standing in the school for the current year and must register and complete the following school year to be eligible for a subsidy. Additional funds may also be available from other sources, such as www.onehappycamper.org.

Many families can afford full tuition to camp. Others may even be able to assist needier families as they struggle to provide meaningful enrichment for their children. Please consider your own situation, and your ability to help others. If possible, consider a gift to provide scholarship funds to make camp available to all. For more information, contact Director of Lifelong Learning Jay Rapoport at jay@sholomchicago.org.

Experiences for Families

Junior Congregation

Our Director of Lifelong Learning, along with members of our clergy and our Music Specialist, leads a monthly Junior Congregation for JK through 2nd grade students.

Parents are encouraged to join us for this service geared towards the children at 11:30 AM to share in their children's spiritual development on the following dates:

- October 25
- November 22
- January 31
- February 28
- April 25

Consecration

Each year, we invite families of students in pre-school to 3rd grade who are beginning their Jewish education to celebrate this important milestone in a special ceremony called Consecration. Parents recite a special prayer and the clergy bless our consecrants, who also receive a miniature *Torah* scroll and a certificate to mark the occasion. This year consecration will happen in conjunction with *Simchat Torah* on **Friday, October 9.**

Yom Horim – Parent/Child Learning Days

Every Religious School/*Beit Sefer Shalom* grade has a *Yom Horim* (Parents' Day) during the school year, when parents have the opportunity to join their children for a day of learning and fun, and to learn with our clergy about topics related to their children's classroom curriculum. We hope that every student will be able to share this experience with a parent, guardian, or other family member. We therefore ask that you reserve this time on your calendar for the dates below. Reminders will be sent during the year, however please note that parent attendance is not required for children to participate. JK-2nd grade parents are invited to stay afterward for Junior Congregation at 11:30 AM. 3rd and 5th-8th grade parents are typically invited to join students for a *Yom Horim* trip. As part of most programs, parents are invited to a parent conversation with our clergy following the family program.

- JK & K: Nov. 22
- 1st Grade: Dec. 13
- 2nd Grade: Mar. 14
- 3rd Grade: Jan. 24
- 4th Grade: Apr. 25
- 5th Grade: Apr. 18
- 6th Grade:
 - ❖ Oct. 18
 - ❖ March 7
- 7th Grade:
 - ❖ Oct. 11
 - ❖ Jan 31
 - ❖ May 2
- 8th Grade:
 - ❖ Nov. 15
 - ❖ Feb. 7

Shabbat Mishpacha and Birthday Blessings

At *Shabbat Mishpacha*, families are invited to gather before and after the service, and children join the clergy to lead *Shabbat* blessings, prayers or songs. This is an opportunity for children to gain comfort with worship experiences and leading our community from an early age.

SHABBAT MISHPACHA SCHEDULE

- 5:45 – 6:15 PM – Family Gathering
- 6:15 – 7:15 PM – Congregational *Shabbat* Service
- 7:15 – 7:45 PM – Family Learning with our Clergy

Shabbat Mishpacha is appropriate for children of all ages.

Each month we will feature a particular grade (JK–12th) to encourage families with children in that grade to share *Shabbat*. Day school and religious school students alike will be invited to lead the congregation in *Shabbat* songs, blessings and prayers. Of course, families with children of all ages are invited to attend each month.

SHABBAT MISHPACHA CALENDAR

- Nov. 20 – Featuring 3rd Grade
- Dec. 11 – Featuring 4th Grade
- Jan. 22 – Featuring 5th Grade
- Feb. 26 – Featuring 1st & 2nd Grades
- March 12 – JK & Kindergarten
- April 23 – Featuring 6th & 7th Grades
- May 21 – Featuring Crown Family High School

Birthday blessings take place during our *Shabbat* Services on the third Friday night of every month. Our Rabbis and Cantor bless members of the congregation who have birthdays that month. This is a wonderful opportunity to attend services so that you and your children experience being part of our congregational family.

Family Holiday Celebrations

We look forward to celebrating the Jewish Holidays with families at Temple Sholom this year! Please join us for the following events:

- **Simchat Torah** – Friday, October 9, 2020
- **Chanukah** – Sunday, December 13, 2020
- **Purim** – Sunday, February 21, 2021
- **Shavuot** – Sunday, May 16, 2021

Adult Education

At Temple Sholom we offer a robust catalog of adult education opportunities. On Sunday mornings while your children are in school, what better way to serve as a role model of lifelong learning than to enroll and learn something new? Taught by our clergy and community members, available topics include Hebrew, *Talmud*, modern and ancient Jewish history, Jewish text, short stories, spirituality and more.

This year's Sunday class topics include the following series:

- *B'tzelem Elohim*: We are made in the image of God, why don't we act like it? with Rabbi Conover
- A Lesson from Ecclesiastes: How We Embrace in a Time of Refraining from Embracing with Rabbi Conover
- Prayer & Worship 101 with Cantor Sheera Ben-David
- Short Stories with Cliff Scott-Rudnick

In addition to Sunday classes, we also offer:

- Monday-Friday afternoon *Kaddish D'Rabbanan* with Rabbi Conover
- Monday evening Introduction to Judaism and A Taste of Judaism classes
- Monday evening monthly film screenings & discussion
- Tuesday morning weekly *Talmud* study with our rabbis
- Wednesday morning weekly discussion group with our clergy/education team
- Wednesday evening parallel classes for parents during Midweek Hebrew including "Let's Talk About God" with Rabbi Gellman and "Holidays 101" with Rabbi Singer
- Shabbat morning Torah study minyan with clergy

For details about our adult education curriculum visit sholomchicago.org/adult-education or contact lori@sholomchicago.org.

School Policies

In order to achieve our shared goals, the following policies have been established. All of these policies fall under the umbrella of “creating a positive learning environment.” Please do your best to adhere to these policies and to explain them to your children so as to maximize our ability to teach effectively and influence for a lifetime.

Our Expectations of Students

As part of the partnership between the parent and the school, parents will ensure that their child(ren) meet these expectations:

1. For the safety of all students, it is important for children to conduct themselves in a respectful manner and follow given instructions.
2. The Temple is a place of worship, and the building—both inside and outside—must be treated as such. The sanctuary is to be regarded as the special place it is; boisterous or mischievous behavior in the sanctuary is inappropriate.
3. Respect is due to teachers, and students are expected to abide by and follow directions or rules made by the teacher in their classroom. In the event that an individual problem arises, the teacher of the class has the right to deal with the students in a manner deemed appropriate by the teacher and the school. This may include a reprimand or special assignment.
4. If a student's conduct or attitude becomes too disruptive, and the teacher determines that the student's continued presence (either temporarily or permanently) in the class is not appropriate, *Madrachim* and Learning Specialists are available for individual classroom support, after which the student shall be referred for conversation to the Director of Lifelong Learning, and finally, if needed, parents/guardians/families will be contacted.
5. The minimum of class work and completion of any assignments required before a student may advance to the next grade will be determined by the teacher and Director of Lifelong Learning.

Attendance

A successful Religious School experience is a partnership between the family and the synagogue; one important component is the family's commitment to regular attendance. Students who attend sporadically are more likely to have difficulties academically and socially.

Attendance at all sessions is expected. We expect students to be in class on time, and to remain through to the school end of the school day. A minimum attendance is required. **If a student is falling behind we may share some materials with parents to review at home.** Students preparing for *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* are expected to maintain

excellent attendance and to complete the school year. The best substitute for missing a session of Religious School is attending a Shabbat service as a family.

If your child must miss more than one day of religious school, it is important that the Religious School Office is notified as soon as possible, and that absences be confirmed by a parent.

Cell Phones/Technology

Our Religious School Parent Committee has crafted and endorsed a classroom technology policy:

We understand that some students may bring cell phones and other technology with them to class. These devices must be put away during class; we provide iPads for student use as needed. If a student uses a personal device during class, it will be collected until after class ends. Please help to support our teachers by reinforcing this policy with your child(ren) and avoiding contacting students directly when they are in class. The best way to get a message to a student is by calling the Religious School office at 773-435-1545 or emailing rachel@sholomchicago.org.

Drop-Off

TWO health & safety forms are required to be completed online – login to member portal required:

- 1) **Safety Protocols Consent Signature Form** (one time only). Our full Safety Protocols are listed on the form.
- 2) Daily COVID-19 Symptom Screening FORM – link will be emailed early morning each day of classes to be completed by 30 min. before dropoff per protocols) – **you will need to LOG IN for us to view it.**

Please make sure to note the following:

- Staff, parents and students must wear masks covering their mouth and nose at all times during drop-off and pickup.
- Students may not exit their vehicle (and parents may not leave the designated walkup area) until checked in by a staff member who will be confirming that the screening questionnaire was completed.
- Restrooms will be available for emergency use only with strict cleaning protocols under staff supervision.
- All September Religious School programming is in-person outdoors. We have reviewed outdoor security protocols with the Temple Sholom security team and faculty.

Our Full Safety Protocols can be found here:

<https://images.shulcloud.com/13795/uploads/Lifelong-Learning/Religious-School/ReligiousSchoolHealthSafetyProtocols2020-2021.pdf>

We have limited time with your children, and every minute counts! Please have students at the Temple a few minutes before class starts, allowing adequate time for stairs or elevator, so they can get to their classrooms on time. Late students disrupt the entire classroom. You may walk your child(ren) in or drop them off if they are comfortable getting to class on their own. Consider how a child feels being late for school, camp, or another activity, and model the same respect for attending synagogue. **Please make sure that your children are in their class locations and ready to learn by 9:30 or 11:00 AM on Sundays, 5:00 PM on Tuesdays, and 6:30 PM on Wednesdays.**

Communications

- The best contact during Religious School hours is rachel@sholomchicago.org. Voicemails left on the Religious School line **773-435-1554** go to her email.
- **Are you receiving our weekly Religious School e-letter?** (sent Fridays in August and this past Saturday evening) If not please check your spam/promotions folder, or contact stacy@sholomchicago.org to subscribe.
- Please check www.sholomchicago.org/beit-sefer for the latest updates to our documents and forms.

Early Pick-Up

We ask for your cooperation regarding early pick-up. Students will not be released without prior arrangements made through our office. If it is necessary for your child to leave early, please contact rachel@sholomchicago.org and include child(ren)'s name(s), grade, time, and reason for the early pick-up. A teen *madrich(a)* will bring the student(s) downstairs at the appropriate time to wait at the security desk for a parent to arrive. If a note is not provided, then a staff member will call a parent or guardian before releasing a child.

We are responsible for the safety and security of all children during the hours they are at Religious and/or Hebrew school, and we take this very seriously.

Note to parents of teens: Even though many high school students come and go on their own, they may NOT leave early on Sundays without a note from a parent. Independent Release dismissal passes are distributed at the end of class, and do not permit a student to leave early on their own. We are responsible for the safety of all students and cannot allow students to leave early without parental permission, no matter what the circumstance.

Religious School Schedule

Sunday School	Grades JK-8	Sunday	9:30 AM – 12:05 PM
Midweek Hebrew School	Grades 3-6	Tuesday	5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Midweek Hebrew School	Grades 3-7	Wednesday	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Crown Family High School	Grades 9-12	Wednesday	6:15 PM – 8:30 PM

Upon arrival to the Temple, all JK–8th grade students should proceed directly to their classrooms.

Class periods on Sundays for grades 3-8 are:

First Period	9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
<i>T'filah</i>	10:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Second Period	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Dismissal	12:00 PM – 12:10 PM

Our Fall 2020 Schedule Grid can be found here:

<https://images.shulcloud.com/13795/uploads/Lifelong-Learning/Religious-School/RSScheduleGridFall2020.pdf>

School Closings

Although we will try to notify all families by phone if school is canceled for any reason, in the event of bad weather, we suggest that you check [EmergencyClosings.com](https://www.emergencyclosings.com) for school closing information. You can also sign up at this site for automatic notification of a school closing. More details regarding access to school closing will be sent in a separate mailing in late fall.

Financial Support

We never want Jewish education to be a financial burden. Each year we have a limited number of scholarships available for Religious School. Please contact jay@sholomchicago.org.

Sunday Dismissal Procedures

Sunday pick-up:

The following dismissal procedure will be used every Sunday (but not midweek Hebrew). Please be patient and follow the directions of those overseeing traffic to ensure everyone's safety. **You may sign up with your online school registration to pick up by driving, walking, or independent release (5th grade & up).**

Dismissal begins at 10:30 AM and 12:00 PM. The entire dismissal process usually takes 10 minutes.

- Children being picked up by car will wait with their classes.
 - To ensure a smooth dismissal we ask that parents wait outside in cars or in the courtyard for walk-ups.
- Children in 5th grade and older (plus younger siblings) **with a written parent release** are permitted to leave the building on their own to meet an adult at a previously determined location away from Temple premises. **Visit sholomchicago.org/beit-sefer to register for Independent Release.**
- Each family is asked to **make (print or draw) a family sign with your child(ren)'s full name(s) and grade(s)** that will be visible to our staff for easy dropoff/pickup. Feel free to get creative with this project!
- We prefer that you not carpool or pick up a non-family member child from another class unless you are already in a pod with their family.

Please be consistent in your pickup practices so that your child(ren) will be waiting in the proper place.

Pick-up for ALL students is at the Stratford Pl. entrance.

- Approach on Lake Shore Drive from the North and go west on Stratford Pl. to the Temple entrance on the right, lining up your car as far to the right as possible so other vehicles can pass on the left. A staff member or teen *madrich(a)* will come to your car to see your number and will escort children to the car.

Please note: Cars driving up Lake Shore Drive from the south will NOT be allowed to turn left onto Stratford Pl.!

All students are required to stay with their teachers and cannot meet you in the temple lobby or in front of the building unless they have independent release. It only creates congestion, making it difficult for the *madrichim* to bring other students out to their cars. For safety reasons, students will **NOT** be allowed to leave school unescorted.

If you must enter the building, please park in the Stratford Pl. parking lot. Otherwise, please stay in your car. Under no circumstances should you leave your car unattended in the pick-up line.

These procedures are in place for many reasons, the most important being the safety of your children. If you have any questions about these procedures or would like to volunteer to help things run smoothly, please contact Director of Lifelong Learning Jay Rapoport at 773-435-1544 or jay@sholomchicago.org.

Independent Release (“IR”) Policy

Temple Sholom Religious School holds the safety of its students paramount. With written parental or familial permission and subject to Temple Sholom approval, students in grades 5 and up will be allowed to leave the building independently at 12:05 p.m. after Religious School classes end. If a younger student has a sibling in grade 5 or above, a parent may also give permission for the younger child to leave with the older, subject to Temple Sholom approval. IR students must meet parents/guardians at a pre-determined location and not walk outside and wait for the parent/guardian to pull up. Any IR younger siblings will only be allowed to leave with the older sibling; if the older sibling is absent, the younger child will have to wait inside for adult pick-up. Parents must complete an online release form to cover the entire school year and specify which child/children it covers. Parents/guardians should discuss with their children where they are allowed to go after school, the routes they can and cannot take and at what streets they can cross Inner Lake Shore Drive. **Visit sholomchicago.org/beit-sefer to register for Independent Release.**

Please note, if Temple Sholom agrees to independent release, after children leave the Temple Sholom building, Temple Sholom staff including security personnel will not monitor or be responsible for children's safety

Midweek Dismissal

Midweek Hebrew students walk downstairs with teachers and wait outside or in the lobby with our security officers and educators.

Questions?

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our team. We are here for you and your family!

2020-2021 Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School Calendar

September

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

- 9 Safety Protocol Parent Q&A
- 13 Religious School Meet-the-Teacher
- 15 Kef Club Kickoff
- 16 Kef Club Kickoff
- Crown Family High School begins
- 18-19 Rosh Hashanah
- 20 Children's High Holy Day Experience
- 27-28 Yom Kippur
- 28 Teen Yom Kippur Experience

October

- 2 Erev Sukkot
- 4 Opening Day of classes
- Orr Shalom (9th-12th Grade) Youth Group Kickoff, 12:15pm
- 6 Tuesday Midweek Hebrew begins
- 7 Wednesday Midweek Hebrew begins
- 11 7th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- New Student Consecration
- Noar Shalom (6th-8th Grade) Youth Group Kickoff, 12:15
- 18 Yom Ruach (Camp Spirit Day)
- 6th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- Chavrei Shalom (3rd-5th Grade) Youth Group Kickoff, 12:15pm
- 25 Junior Congregation (JK-2nd Grade family service), 11:30am

November

- 15 8th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 20 3rd Grade Shabbat Mishpacha
- 22 JK/K Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- Junior Congregation (JK-2nd Grade family service), 11:30am
- 25-29 No Religious School - Thanksgiving Break

December

- 10 1st candle of Chanukah
- 11 4th Grade Shabbat Mishpacha
- 13 Chagigat Chanukah Family Celebration
- 1st Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 18 8th candle of Chanukah
- 20-Jan 3 No Religious School - Winter Break

Please note: all dates are subject to change

10/30/2020

KEY=	
	school session
	family experience
	youth experience
	school holiday celebration



2020-2021 Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School Calendar

January

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January

- 1-3 No Religious School - Winter Break
- 10 Religious School resumes/Tarboot v'Omanut (Israeli Arts & Culture Festival)
- 22 5th Grade Shabbat Mishpacha
- 24 Chagigat Tu Bishvat
- 3rd Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 7th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 31 Junior Congregation (JK-2nd Grade family service), 11:30am

February

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

February

- 7 8th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 14 No Religious School - Presidents' Day Weekend
- 17 8th Grade Taste of Crown Family High School
- 21 Purim Shpiel & Carnival (Religious School Fundraiser)
- 26 1st & 2nd Grade Camp Shabbat Mishpacha
- 28 Junior Congregation (JK-2nd Grade family service), 11:30am

March

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March

- 7 6th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 7th Grade Yom Yisrael (Israel Day)
- 12 Junior & Senior Kindergarten Shabbat Mishpacha
- 14 2nd Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 21 Chagigat Pesach
- March 28-April 4 No Religious School - Spring Break/Passover

April

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

April

- 6-7 Yom HaShoah Tekes (Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony)
- 11 Yom Ha'Atzmaut Tekes (Israel Independence Day Ceremony)
- 11 Mitzvah Fair
- 18 5th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 23 6th & 7th Grade Shabbat Mishpacha
- 25 4th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- Junior Congregation (JK-2nd Grade family service), 11:30am
- April 26-May 4 8th Grade IsraelNow Community Trip

May

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May

- 2 *Madrachim* Appreciation Day
- 7th Grade Yom Horim (Parents' Day)
- 16 Chagigat Shavuot
- Faculty Appreciation Day
- 18-19 Last days of Midweek Hebrew and Crown Family High School
- 21 Crown Family High School Kabbalat Torah Graduation Shabbat Mishpacha , 6:15pm
- 23 Family Closing Day Celebration, 11:15am-1pm