

Beit Sefer Shalom Religious School | Curriculum Highlights

Join us on a Lifelong Journey of Jewish Learning...

Orr Shalom

9th – 12th Grades

12th Grade – Senior Seminar Leads to Kabbalat Torah Graduation Shabbat

9th – 12th Grades

- Build leadership skills, study with clergy /educators and make a difference
- Choose your own topics for study on Wednesdays at Crown Family High School
- Lobby on Capitol Hill at the *L'taken* Teen Social Justice Seminar with the Religious Action Center in Washington, D.C.
- Help with younger grades in our *Madrichim* Teen Teacher Assistant Program
- Join the *Orr Shalom* High School Youth Group Executive Board
- Plan and Lead the High School Retreat at OSRUI
- Chaperone the 5th – 8th grade Youth Retreat at OSRUI
- Plan and run the Purim Carnival

Noar Shalom

6th – 8th Grades

8th Grade – *Netivot Shalom*/Pathways: Becoming a Community Leader

- Discuss your values, taking responsibility and what it means to be a Jewish adult
- Visit Anshe Emet, Anshe Sholom, The ARK & Milt's Kosher BBQ
- IsraelNow Chicagoland Community Trip
- Midweek *Madrichim* (& training)
- Plan and lead 5th – 8th Grade Youth Retreat at OSRUI
- Lead *Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust) Memorial *Tekes* (Program) for 3rd – 7th Graders
- Receive *Torah* from graduating seniors at *Kabbalat Torah* Graduation Shabbat

7th Grade – Modern Jewish History: The Reform Movement, Zionism and The Shoah

- Study an overview of Jewish history leading through WWII, the Holocaust, and the founding of the modern state of Israel
- Celebrate Becoming *B'nai Mitzvah*
- Visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum
- Present your personal social justice project at the *Mitzvah* Fair (7th & 8th Grades)

6th Grade – Study with the Rabbi & Modern Jewish History

- Learn a deeper understanding of prayer, text & community
- Prepare to become *Bar / Bat Mitzvah*
- Lead Passover Seder for younger students (6th – 8th Grades)
- Join *Noar Shalom* 6th – 8th Grade Youth Group
- Help run a booth at the *Purim* Carnival (6th – 8th Grades)

Chavrei Shalom

3rd – 5th Grades

5th Grade – Exploring Prayer & Spirituality

- Explore why, where, when and how Jews pray, what we pray for and who we pray to
- Learning history, traditions, melodies, choreography, and meaning of prayers for Shabbat, holidays, and the home
- Observe how different denominations of Judaism pray
- Practice basics of Torah trope
- Begin helping to Feed the Hungry (5th – 8th Grades)
- Attend Youth Retreat at OSRUI (5th – 8th Grades)

4th Grade – *Bamidbar* / Numbers: Israel, Prayer, and Accepting Differences

- Learn about *Am Yisrael*, *Eretz Yisrael*, *Medinat Yisrael* (people, land and state of Israel)
- Study stories from *Bamidbar* / Numbers – the fourth book of *Torah*
- Begin planning & date selection for becoming *B'nai Mitzvah*

3rd Grade – *Vayikra* / Leviticus: Holy People, Places, Objects, Times and Actions

- Learn about *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world), ritual and worship traditions
- Beginning of formal (midweek) Hebrew program
- Study stories from *Vayikra* / Leviticus – the 3rd book of *Torah*
- Join *Chavrei Shalom* 3rd – 5th Grade Youth Group
- Begin Social Justice work with family trip to Cradles to Crayons

Junior Congregation

JK – 2nd Grades

2nd – *Shemot* / Exodus: Feeling Connected to God and Mitzvot (Commandments)

- Learn about leadership and being part of a Jewish community
- Study stories from *Shemot* / Exodus – the 2nd book of *Torah*
- Visit *Mitzvah* Fair and choose where to donate your *Tzedakah* (means righteousness but sometimes refers to charitable donations) (2nd – 6th Grades)

1st Grade – Bereshit / Genesis: My Community and Our Holidays

- Learn about biblical characters and Jewish heroes
- Study stories from *Bereshit / Genesis* – the 1st book of *Torah*

Junior / Senior Kindergarten – Who Am I As A Jewish Child?

- Play-based introduction to Religious School and Judaism
- Learn about and celebrate Jewish holidays with friends, food and blessings!
- Get to know the temple - Visit our *Sifriya* (library), participate in *Shirah* (singing), go *Bachootz* (outside) (JK – 2nd Grades)

- Start to learn *Ivrit* (Hebrew) and the *Aleph Bet* (Hebrew alphabet) (JK – 2nd Grades)
- Help to lead *Shabbat Mishpacha* (Family) Services (JK – 12th Grades)
- Join the *Mishpacha* (Family) Camp Getaway at OSRUI (all ages)
- Learn with other families and parents at *Yom Horim* (Parent's Day) (JK – 8th Grades)
- Celebrate the beginning of your Jewish Education at Consecration (JK – 3rd Grades)

Opportunities Through The Years

	JK / K	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	4 TH	5 TH	6 TH	7 TH	8 TH	H.S.
Present at Mitzvah Fair										
Lead Seder										
Run a Purim Booth										
Youth Retreat										
Feed the Hungry										
Ask the Rabbi										
Visit Mitzvah Fair										
Lead Shabbat Mishpacha										
Family Learning										
Family Camp Getaway										
Consecration										