



at the
Young Israel of Patchogue
28 Mowbray Street
Patchogue NY 11772

Chaya Sasonkin, Director
631-903-0175



**Parents' Handbook
and Information Kit**

2011-2012 / 5772



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Dear Parents,

Imagine a Hebrew School where kids don't want to miss a day. They come in with a smile and leave humming a Hebrew song. Walking through the school, you can hear the sounds of lively discussion, singing, laughter, and prayer. Imagine your pride.

Our philosophy is that every Jewish child is entitled to a basic education regardless of family affiliation or membership. The Chabad Hebrew School offers a warm and lively Jewish atmosphere where children can attain a unique and exciting awareness of their Jewish identity. Our curriculum is creatively designed to engage, stimulate and motivate students.

Our goal is that by the year's end, in addition to having learned to read Hebrew, and having gained knowledge of Jewish history, holidays, and prayer, your child/ren will have developed a deep love and respect for our heritage.

We look forward to great success and growth, and to your family being an integral part of it. We encourage you, as a parent, to get involved, ask questions, and keep in touch with our school. Feel free to call me anytime at 631-903-0175.

I look forward to another fun and successful year of learning.

Sincerely,

Chaya Sasonkin
Director

Parent/School Communication

Communication between parents and school personnel is essential. Your comments are always welcome, as we continually strive to advance our educational program in order to ensure that Hebrew School is a meaningful and pleasant experience for your child.

Supplies

The school provides all textbooks and workbooks for all grades. Students should come to school with a schoolbag to bring materials to and from school.

Children are asked to bring basic supplies to leave in school:

→ a few sharpened pencils → 2 glue sticks → markers
→ a box of crayons or colored pencils → scissors

Out of respect for the Jewish tradition, boys are encouraged to wear a hat or *kippah*. If you do not have one and would like one, we can provide one for you.

During Hebrew school there will be a ten minute break during which the children will eat a snack that will be provided by the school. Please note on the registration form if there are any allergies of which we should be aware. Sending children to school with food is strongly discouraged.

Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial in accomplishing the goals of our educational program. There is a direct correlation between attendance and a child's achievement, interest and attitude. Your support of our attendance policy will be greatly appreciated. Please notify the teacher if your child will be absent for any length of time due to illness or vacation, so she can plan accordingly.

Tzedakah

Tzedaka (charity) is a basic tenet in Judaism. We attempt to instill in our students the importance of sharing with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few coins a day to charity. Please try to send some coins to school each Sunday to encourage your child to perform this *mitzvah*. Coins will be collected and donated to a worthy cause.

Curriculum Goals

- Attain a strong sense of love and pride in being Jewish.
- Learn all subjects in a creative, stimulating environment using a multi-sensory approach.
- Explore the Torah (Bible) and the history of the Jewish people, and discover their relevance to today.
- Gain an understanding of holiday traditions and other Jewish practices.
- Study the morals, values and ethical behavior found in the Torah.
- Master the skills of Hebrew reading and writing.
- Understand basic Hebrew words and phrases.
- Learn basic prayers to enable students to feel comfortable at their respective synagogue services.
- Allow students to express their opinions and questions about G-d, Torah and religion.

General Information

- Ages:** Our program is for boys and girls ages 6 to 13.
- Hours:** Classes are generally held on Sundays from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Occasionally there may be family or holiday programs as indicated on the school calendar.
- Location:** All classes will be held at the Young Israel of Patchogue, 28 Mowbray Street in Patchogue.
- Fee:** \$520 (includes workbooks and textbooks). Limited scholarships are available.

For further information, please call Chaya at 631-903-0175.



➤ **Tefillah and Hebrew Songs**

Throughout the school session, children will learn basic *tefillot* (prayers), including *Modeh Ani*, *Torah Tziva*, *Ma Tov*, *Adon Olam*, *Shema* and *Ein Kelokeinu*. Holiday and traditional Jewish songs will also be learned.

➤ **Aleph Bet Scrapbook**

Introduction to Hebrew alphabet through art, drama and song. Each child will create their own Aleph Bet scrapbook, adding a page with each letter learned. This program enhances letter recognition and introduces students to a variety of Hebrew words, expanding their Hebrew vocabulary.

➤ **Holidays and Shabbat**

Holidays at Chabad Hebrew School are always fun, vibrant learning experiences. Through various mediums including art, drama and cooking, students will experience the full flavor and joy of Judaism. The school will also host holiday celebrations for our students and their families.

➤ **Jewish History**

Using drama and puppets, the children will be introduced to the characters and stories of the Bible, starting with the book of *Bereishit* (Genesis). Students will actively participate in each lesson.

Our Curriculum (continued)

Level Two

➤ **Tefillah, Music and Songs**

Students learn basic *tefillot* (prayers), including *Modeh Ani*, *Torah Tziva*, *Ma Tov*, *Adon Olam*, *Shema* and *Ein Kelokeinu*, as well as songs associated with Jewish holidays, daily prayer and Jewish life. We will be using a little *siddur* (prayer book) for our *tefillot* this year. Our goal is for all students to receive the tools they need to comfortably participate in the services at their respective synagogues.

➤ **Aleph Champ**

Our Hebrew reading curriculum, **Aleph Champ**, is the latest educational breakthrough in Hebrew reading. Modeled after the Karate/Martial Arts motivational philosophy of color coded levels, it provides excitement and inspiration, leading the student into a winning cycle of learning.

➤ **Holidays and Shabbat**

Holidays at Chabad Hebrew School are always fun, vibrant learning experiences. Through various mediums including art, drama, and cooking, students will experience the full flavor and joy of Judaism. Students will discover the how's and whys behind the holiday traditions that will make Jewish holidays meaningful, relevant and enjoyable.

➤ **Jewish History**

Students will travel back in time to explore Jewish heroes and their lives, and their contributions to the Jewish people. Students will be taught the morals and ethics of our great leaders, starting from the very beginning, with Abraham.