

Dear Religious School Families and Students,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you back to our Religious School at The Jewish Center. If you are new to our school we are glad that you will be a part of our TJC family. For those of you who have been with us in the past, you know how proud we are of our school and how much we value the Jewish education that we pass on to our young people. We consider Jewish education to be a partnership between the home and the school. The TJC teachers, administration and rabbi are excited to be your partners in this sacred journey.

I know that I will see you in the classrooms and in the hallways of the Religious School and I hope that I will see you on Shabbat and holidays as well. In between, feel free to contact me by calling me, sending me an e-mail or stopping me in the building to share with me your thoughts on our program and to let us know if there is anything we can do to help you and your family in your own Jewish learning. We look forward to learning and teaching with young people, parents and families both in and out of the classroom.

I look forward to seeing you in shul.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Adam Feldman

[afeldman@thejewishcenter.org](mailto:afeldman@thejewishcenter.org)

609-921-0100 ext. 203

Dear Parents,

On behalf of everyone at The Jewish Center I would like to welcome you to another exciting year at Religious School.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children – the future of the Jewish people. We look forward to sharing an inspiring and productive experience with all of you, a year of helping and watching these students (your children) grow and develop to their fullest potential.

Along with our staff and TJC family, you will share the treasures of our heritage and plant the roots of meaningful Jewish living. Together we will nourish these roots to help the children grow and blossom, as they learn more about themselves and the rich history of the Jewish people. Special events and programs are being planned to enhance and cultivate our students' Jewish living.

This Handbook has been put together to help make things clear and easy for you. As always, feel free to come to me with any issues or concerns. I look forward to partnering with you throughout this exciting year!

B'shalom,

Gila Levin

[glevin@thejewishcenter.org](mailto:glevin@thejewishcenter.org)

609-921-7207

Please visit our TJC Religious School website:

<http://thejewishcenter.org/Religious-School/Home.aspx>

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## **The Jewish Center Religious School Mission Statement**

The Jewish Center Religious School's mission is to create a nurturing, stimulating and inspiring environment where learning is for everyone and not beyond anyone. We strive to provide high-quality, relevant, and engaging educational experiences that foster a strong sense of identity, commitment to Jewish living and values, connection to one another and to our community and concern for the world around us. We seek to impart in our students a love of tradition so strong that individuals will continue to make Judaism a meaningful part of their adult lives and one day pass on this commitment to their children.

## **The Jewish Center Religious School Office (609-921-7207)**

The Religious School office is located on the first floor of the school building: (Up the stairs, to the left, the end of the hall, on the right.)

The office is open the following days and hours:

Sunday	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm

The School Office Staff

Religious School Director	Gila Levin
Administrative Assistant	Cynthia Richman

## **Governance**

The Religious School is governed by the Religious School Director, under the supervision and guidelines of the Vice President of Education and the School Committee. These positions are appointed by the President of The Jewish Center. The current Vice President of Education is Nicole Soffin and the current Chairperson of the School Committee is Rachael Cooper. The Committee is responsible for the Religious School's policies, procedures and curriculum. Membership of the School Committee includes VP of Education, the School Chair, School Director, the Tichon & Youth Director, faculty representatives from the Religious School and representatives from the congregation. Parents of school children are welcome and encouraged to join the School Committee.

Please call or email the school office (609-921-7207), Nicole Soffin (609-917-570-3809) [nicsoff@aol.com](mailto:nicsoff@aol.com) or Rachael Cooper (516-967-7783) [recooper25@hotmail.com](mailto:recooper25@hotmail.com). Regular meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of every other month at 7:30 pm in the Youth Lounge. Interested congregants are always welcome to attend.

## **Yad B'yad**

- Parent and infant / toddler class every Friday 10:00 am -12 noon
- Sunday once per month 9:30-11:00

## **Ganon**

- 3-4 year olds from 9:00 am – 11:00 am on the third Sunday of every month
- Holidays, Shabbat, Bible, stories, Alef-Bet, art, songs, games, snack

## **Gan Katan**

- 4-5 year olds from 9:00 – 12 noon every Sunday
- Holidays, rituals, Shabbat, the synagogue and Bible stories, Alef-Bet, simple Hebrew vocabulary all taught through art, stories, music and games making the learning experience fun and exciting

## **Gan, Alef and Bet Program**

- The Gan, Alef and Bet program offers 3 hours of experiential, creative and exciting programming every Sunday from 9am - 12noon. Each of the 3 sessions is 45 minutes with a 30-minute music class and a snack break and/or playground time.
- 9 - 9:45 am -- 1<sup>st</sup> class
- 9:45 am -- snack
- 10 - 10:30 am – Shira
- 10:30 - 11:15 am -- 2<sup>nd</sup> class
- 11:15 am - 12 noon -- 3<sup>rd</sup> class
- The program offers a spiral curriculum in 3 areas of Jewish learning:
  - Hebrew and prayers through music
  - Torah stories and values through the use of the smart board
  - Jewish holidays through art

## **Shabbat** (see chart on following page)

### **Gimmel, Daled and Heh Shabbat Program (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup>)**

- Shabbat school will have two components
  - Class beginning at 9:30 am
  - Services directly following class and ending at noon

### **Vav Shabbat Program (6<sup>th</sup> grade)**

- The Vav students will meet with a teacher in the Beit Midrash at **9:30 am** and **together** will attend Shabbat services in the main sanctuary from 9:30 am to the end of the Torah Service.
- There will be a class for Vav students 11 am – 12 noon in the school building. This class will review the Shabbat morning service and the parashat (portion) of the week.
- Vav students must attend an entire trimester.

### **Zayin Shabbat Program (7<sup>th</sup> grade)**

- Zayin students may attend any 12 times during the year.
- Participation is mandatory for Zayin students.
- **Parents are encouraged** to attend with their child.

9:30 - 10:30 am	Gimmel, Daled & Heh	Hebrew, Holidays & Lifecycle	School building
10:30 am - 12 noon	Gimmel, Daled & Heh	Junior Congregation	Beit Midrash
9:30 - 11 am	Vav	Shabbat Services	Main Sanctuary
11:00 am - 12 noon	Vav	Torah & Shabbat Services	School Building

## **Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav**

**Curriculum Pillars** *(Please refer to your Registration Packet for complete descriptions of classes offered or the Religious School website - <http://thejewishcenter.org/Religious-School/Home.aspx>)*

### • **Hebrew**

The school curriculum emphasizes Hebrew as both a sacred and a living language for Jews. Therefore two tracks of Hebrew study have been created: the prayer track and the conversational track.

- **Prayer Track:** At each grade level, students continue increasing prayer skill competency while becoming more fluent and accurate in Hebrew reading.
  - **Gimmel:** brachot
  - **Daled:** Friday Night Service
  - **Heh:** Shabbat Morning Service
  - **Vav:** Torah Service
- **Conversational Track:** There will be a focus on Hebrew letters, words, phrases and short stories. Students will learn how to speak and understand Modern Hebrew.

## Story of the Jewish People

The Story of the Jewish People presents a remarkable tale of courage, resilience and adaptation. This pillar will provide a broad overview of the Jewish experience. Its main objective is to teach the students how the Jewish people have flourished by learning from the past, addressing the needs of the present and investing in the future.

- **Jewish History:** This course of study helps students better understand Judaism's past so that they can begin to plan for Judaism's future.
- **Israel:** The essence of Zionism: Jewish people taking their destiny into their own hands. Jewish settlers acquired land, grew their population, earned political power, developed an economy and expressed self-determination all leading to the establishment and sustenance of the Jewish State.

While Israel is universally known as the ancient land and people of the Bible, it is today a dynamic, living and breathing nation. As we take a closer look at Israel, its history, geography, population, politics and culture, we should not forget that it remains God's specially chosen nation, the land of our people since Biblical times.

- **Jewish Living**

What does it mean to be a Jew? While there are elements of identity and belief, there are also elements of practice - doing what Jews have always done and thus linking ourselves to previous generations and bringing holiness into our lives. Judaism's 613 mitzvot (commandments) guide Jewish practice. The question is not how many of the hundreds of mitzvot we choose to follow but how we might sanctify even the ordinary moments in our life through these rituals.

Discussions in the classroom will turn to many of the core Jewish practices and values, examining Shabbat, holidays, tzedakah, community, tolerance and personal responsibility.

- **Sacred Text of the Jewish People**

Since we stood at the foot of Mount Sinai, Jewish text has been the center of Jewish life. Our sacred texts contain the stories that shape who we are. They convey values, attitudes and concepts of how we view and understand the world. Text is fundamental to Judaism, inspiring tremendous devotion and controversy. Even the Torah is not without its challenging points, especially in light of modern values. However, the basic truths and wisdom in Jewish text have spoken to millions of people for thousands of years and continue to do so today.

## Schedule of Classes and Curriculum at a Glance

(Please refer to your Registration Packet for complete descriptions of classes offered).

### **Gimmel and Daled (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade) 2017-2018**

	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Fall</b>	Wandering in the Desert - Carol Tzedakah - Alexandra What's in the Bible - Tamara	Modern Era Jewish Heroes Ellen Virtual Israel - Carol	Ritual Objects - Ellen Israel's Heroes - Carol Canaan, Egypt and Back - Cyndi
<b>Winter</b>	The Jews in Europe - Carol Life Cycle - Alexandra The Jewish Calendar - Tamara	In the Image of God / Health the Jewish Way - Ellen Jewish Heroes - Carol	Women in the Bible - Ellen Passport to Israel – Carol Matriarchs & Patriarchs - Cyndi
<b>Spring</b>	Prophets w/Modern Twist - Carol Jewish Values in Genesis Alexandra Founder of State - Tamara	My Synagogue - Ellen Israeli Heroes - Carol	10 Commandments - Ellen Jewish Folktales - Carol The Jewish Calendar - Cyndi

### **Heh and Vav (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) 2017-2018**

	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Fall</b>	Birth of State - Carol Caring for Community - Alexandra Bible Alef to Tav - Tamara	Jews in the Muslim World - Ellen Israel Matters - Carol	Values through Science Fiction – Ellen The Middle East - Cyndi Judaism's Great Debates - Carol
<b>Winter</b>	Megilat Ester - Tamara Stories We Live By - Alexandra Prophets - Carol	Kashruth - Ellen The Bible and Beyond - Carol	Jewish Humor – Ellen Jews in Europe - Cyndi The History of the Jewish People - Carol
<b>Spring</b>	Megilat Ruth - Tamara The Middle East - Carol Our Shared World - Alexandra	Jewish Art - Ellen Passover - Carol	Golden Age of Spain - Ellen Zionism - Carol Israel today - Cyndi

### Zayin Program

The Zayin year at the Religious School is a very busy time for our 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

- **Sundays:** 9 am - 12 noon
  - Jewish community and Leadership
  - Study the characteristics of a community
  - Study the characteristics of a Jewish Community
  - Get to know The Jewish Center as a community
  - Define and describe leadership
  - Get to know The Jewish Center leadership positions
  - Work with Jewish Center leadership on new programing and problem solving
  - Current Issues in Israel
  - Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation
    - Tropes
    - Prayers
    - Hebrew reading enhancement



- **Wednesdays:** 6 - 8 pm
  - Social Hall for dinner and social time with Tichon students 6 - 6:30 pm
  - Family Journey through Jewish American History
  - Holocaust class
- **Shabbat:** 9:30 am - 12 noon
  - Services in the Main Sanctuary
  - Students are expected to attend at least 12 classes **before** their Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
  - Students who do not fulfill this Shabbat Services requirement will **not** be assigned for b'nai mitzvah tutoring
- **Special Projects**
  - Tallit
    - Students and parents will work together to make a tallit
    - This project will be optional. If a Zayin student is not interested in making his/her own tallit, there will be a class for the student to attend.
  - Zayin Museum
  - Zayin trip to Jewish Philadelphia
  - B'nai Mitzvah individual tutoring

### **Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guidelines**

- In order to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah at The Jewish Center, a student is required to attend The Jewish Center's Religious School from grades Gimmel through Zayin (grades 3 -7) OR attend an approved Jewish Day School.
  - Private tutoring or attendance at another area Religious School in lieu of participation in The Jewish Center Religious School do not meet The Jewish Center's requirement.
  - Any request for deviation from this policy must be presented in writing to the Religious School Director and School Committee; the decision from these 2 entities will be final. This does not apply to those who are new to the community and who have attended Religious School elsewhere. Such students will be appropriately placed.
  - If a student's skills are not adequate, private tutoring may be required at the parents' expense.
- **Specific Requisites**
  - Attending 10 Vav/Zayin Seminars and 12 Shabbat classes during Zayin year
  - Individual tutoring is scheduled by the Hazzan or bar/bat mitzvah tutors
  - Placement in the Tropes class will be dependent on the bar/bat mitzvah date -- either in the spring of the Vav year or in the Zayin year
  - Completion of a Chesed project and report
  - Presentation of a D'var Torah

## **School Calendar**

Trimesters	Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Shabbat
<b>Fall</b> Begins Ends # sessions	September 10 November 19 10	September 12 November 21 11	September 13 November 15 7	September 16 November 18 8
<b>Winter</b> Begins Ends # sessions	December 3 February 25 9	November 28 February 27 13	November 29 February 21 12	December 2 February 24 9
<b>Spring</b> Begins Ends # sessions	March 4 May 13 9	March 6 May 15 10	March 7 May 16 9	March 10 May 19 9

## **Special Programs**

- Class trips for individual grades
- Friday Night Shabbat: individual grade Services, dinner and entertainment
- High Holidays Youth Services
- Sukkot in the Sukkah
- Tu B'shvat
- Pesach program
- Yom Ha'atzmaut
- End of the year event

## **Yachdav (Special Needs Program)**

This Solomon Shechter award-winning program is for students with special needs. The program includes a resource room equipped with laptop computers, Smart Board technology and one-to-one tutoring with in-class assistance. Students will have individualized education plans created for them in consultation with parents, teachers and a special needs coordinator. Those interested in partaking of any of these services should contact the Religious School Director (Gila Levin 609-921-7207).

## **Tutoring**

When a student is not on grade level parents will be notified.

- It may be recommended that the student have tutoring during class time by a volunteer in 15-20 minute sessions depending upon availability and timing. There is no charge for this service.
- Parents can also arrange for private tutoring at their own expense. The school will provide names of approved tutors and will discuss a study program with the selected tutor.

## Arrival Procedures

- Students are expected to arrive on time and remain in class until dismissal.
- All cars must proceed to the rear parking lot. Cars must either be parked in a lined parking space and children be escorted to the Religious School building OR children may be dropped off in the half circle - please **no idling** so the circle flows. Do **not** allow unescorted children off in any other place.
- Bicycle racks are located in the courtyard for use by children who bike to school. Walkers/Bikers must have a signed permission form on file in the school office.
- For early arrivals on Tuesday and Wednesday, there is free supervised care. Students can come as early as 3 pm and stay in the porch room across from the office. There will be a teacher supervising them and there will be snacks available for purchase.

**Please note:** the playgrounds are unsupervised and students may **not** use them.

## Dismissal Procedures

- Dismissal is from the Sanctuary lobby **only**. Teachers will escort their classes to the Lobby and remain with them until a parent or carpool person arrives.
- For the safety of all children, parents are required to park their cars, come into the Lobby and escort their children to the parking lot.
- Children may **not** wait outside in the courtyard, parking lot or on Nassau Street for parents or carpools.
- **If** you sign a release for your children to walk down the street or cross the field to the corner of Cedar and Nassau (across from church), you may wait on the right side of Cedar Lane.
- **Early Dismissal:** a parent note must go with your child to his/her class/teacher and the parent must **1<sup>st</sup>** go to the office to get early dismissal permission and then go to the class to pick up his/her child. **No child may wait in the parking lot or courtyard for an early pick-up.**

## Security System

The Jewish Center School is now equipped with cameras and video screens. The two doors to enter the school will be locked at all times. If you wish to enter the school, proceed to the farthest door from the playground: 1. press the black button on the bottom right of the keypad; 2. listen for a beep and pull the door open. You may be asked to introduce yourself and state the reason for your arrival. If no one responds, try again. If still no one responds, you will need to go across the courtyard and see one of the Administrative Assistants in the Synagogue Office for assistance.

## **School Closings**

All decisions with regard to school closings will be made by the Religious School Director. Decisions will be made by 1:30 pm weekdays and by 7:00 am on Sundays. Announcements of school cancellations are no longer made on radio stations. They will be on the school answering machine, 609-921-7207, and via a school wide e-mail.

## **Lost and Found**

The lost and found box is located in the School Office. Please label all clothing, books and personal items so that they can be easily identified and returned.

## **Donations**

Making a contribution to the Religious School is a meaningful way to honor or memorialize a loved one. There are several funds connected with the Religious School.

- **The Religious School Fund:** This fund is for technology, curriculum writing and teacher professional development.
- **Steven Levin Special Education Fund:** This fund was established by Cheryl Levine in memory of her husband Steven Levine. This fund is for special needs students and the Religious School Yachdav Program.
- **The Irving N. Rabinowitz Computer Fund:** This fund was established by Sandy Rabinowitz in memory of her husband Irving Rabinowitz. This fund provides for computer software for the Religious School.

## **Tzedakah**

Tzedakah means more than just charity. It means justice. In the Religious School, we incorporate Tzedakah as part of our curriculum and encourage children to contribute to worthy causes. Children learn about community needs and worldwide concerns.

Tzedakah is collected on Sunday mornings. Each class has a Tzedakah box and the money is then donated to various charitable organizations on a monthly basis.

## **TJC Youth Groups**

**Nitzanim** (*Buds*) is our youth group for students in Alef & Bet (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades). Students will participate in a variety of creative social programs throughout the year, relating to the Jewish holidays. Programming will emphasize fun while playing games and learning. TJC children will enjoy these activities on the grounds of The Jewish Center.

**Haverim** (*Friends*) invites all Gimmel and Daled students (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades) to join together for an afternoon or evening of fun. Haverim is designed to provide the children with fun activities while promoting friendships that will grow stronger through their years at TJC. Students will participate in social activities, holiday celebrations and sleepovers.

**Kadima** (*Onward*) offers 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders the opportunity to participate in youth programs with their TJC peers within a social Jewish atmosphere. The social activities in this group will focus on holidays and Israeli themes while having lots of fun! Participation in this group will create opportunities for new friendships with other children at TJC.

**TJC Teen Programming** is focused on the Tichon student and all TJC teenagers (8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades). Like Facebook and Twitter, we create a social network for all our teens. It doesn't matter what school they attend or from which surrounding area of Princeton they live. They will have the opportunity to connect with each other at TJC and participate in social, holiday and religious programs.

**BBYO** – TJC chapter once a month for all Tichon students.

### **Illness and Medical Emergencies**

If a child becomes ill in school, a parent will be phoned and asked to take the child home. If a parent is not available, the person listed on the emergency contact form will be phoned. Please notify the school office about emergency contact changes. If we cannot reach a parent or your contact person and it is an emergency situation, we will seek medical treatment for the child. In a non-emergency situation, a sick student will be kept in the school office until the parent or contact person arrives.

We will **not** dispense ANY medication, including ointments, creams and lotions to any children. Please do not send any medication to the school for your child to self-administer.

The following will be done if a child has an open cut that needs attention:

- The attending person will wash his/her hands with soap and water.
- The child's cut will be washed with soap and water.
- If necessary, a band-aid will be put on the cut.

We do not have a nurse or physician on staff. Please note that some staff members are CPR-certified.

Please report any contagious condition, such as chicken pox, strep throat, conjunctivitis or head lice, which occurs among all school populations, to the Principal immediately, so that other parents can be informed of possible exposure. Your child's name will **not** be mentioned.

## **Allergies**

Because of the limitations already imposed by the necessity of maintaining a Kosher facility, coupled with the possibility of requests for accommodations for children with various food allergies such as milk, fish, chocolate, nuts, peanuts, egg, etc., it is not feasible/possible for The Jewish Center to institute a total ban on a food group to which a child may be allergic. Consequently, alternative safeguards must be arranged.

### **If your child requires the use of an Epipen because of a food or other allergy, please take note of The Jewish Center's policy:**

- The family must provide one Epipen for the First Aid Kit and one for the child's classroom.
- The family must train or arrange for training of Staff or child in the use of the Epipen.
- The family must periodically ascertain that the Epipens are in place and currently effective.
- The family is to provide the child's snack each day or for a special occasion.

The Religious School staff will try, to the best of their ability, to keep the aforementioned child from ingesting or contacting foods or other substances known to contain any components of the allergen. In the event of an adverse reaction, someone on staff will try to administer the Epipen and summon professional help.

The officers and staff of The Jewish Center disclaim any liability and responsibility for any damages, monetary or otherwise, which could be incurred by the aforementioned child or family if there is an adverse outcome or reaction, as we are not medically equipped to deal with a severe allergy.

The officers and staff of The Jewish Center do not want to exclude your child from our excellent school. However, we trust that you will appreciate that in view of the extraordinary risks that severe allergies impose, as a religious institution running a school, we must try to protect both your child and The Jewish Center, its staff, those who may volunteer their time and energy as officers, class parents, or event helpers who try to be good Samaritans in case of an accident. We will do our best, but we cannot assume the liability for less than perfect results.

## **Early drop off**

Students can come as early as 3:00 PM and stay in the porch room across from the office. There will be a teacher supervising them and there will be snacks available for purchase.

## **Snacks**

All snacks must be Kosher and dairy. No meat is permitted. Fruits, vegetables and water are good choices.

**This year we are continuing to sell healthy snacks and water on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays before and after school time.**

## **Kashrut Regulations for The Jewish Center**

Since Biblical times, the Jewish People have always believed that Kashrut is an important value. The laws of Kashrut were first described in the Torah and then developed in Rabbinic texts. Throughout our history, Jews have taken one of the most basic things we do as human beings and raised it to a level of sanctity.

Just as we begin and end our meals with blessings to remind us that eating is a religious act so, too, we have certain standards of what food is acceptable and what is not acceptable. An equally important standard is that we want everyone to feel comfortable in our community, especially when it comes to eating in our Synagogue. Therefore, the Religious Affairs Committee, in consultation with Rabbi Feldman, has established these regulations for Kashrut at The Jewish Center. We have established these standards as a way of helping people understand the importance we give to Kashrut and we do so in a way that helps everyone feel comfortable with our standards.

- Only meat products purchased from and delivered by one of our acceptable kosher caterers may be brought into the building. No other meat products may be brought into the kitchens, social hall, lobby or any other part of either building. This includes individual lunches for our students.
- All products brought into The Jewish Center must carry a symbol of Kashrut supervision such as U or K. This applies to all dairy products, cake mixes, etc. Major supermarkets in our area have extensive kosher sections including the Kosher Experience at Shop Rite on Route 1. There are also many places to buy kosher baked goods. For more information about where such products can be bought, please contact The Jewish Center Office.
- All fresh fruits and vegetables are acceptable in The Jewish Center.
- Only kosher fish may be brought into the building. Acceptable fish includes tuna, salmon, flounder, lox and sole.
- When a meal is being prepared in one of the two kitchens, please do not use the other kitchen unless absolutely necessary. It is much safer to do all work for a particular meal in the appropriate kitchen.
- If you would like to bring baked goods into the building, we ask that you purchase these baked goods at an acceptable bakery. If they have been baked in someone's home, they should either be baked in a kosher oven or in disposable pans using disposable utensils. Please bring these utensils with you to serve them at The Jewish Center. Please do not use our utensils for these baked goods.

These standards apply to the school building and the main building as well as all parts of the building including the kitchens, the Social Hall, the lobby, the libraries, offices and all classrooms.

All matters of Kashrut at The Jewish Center, including questions, clarifications and other issues should be brought to Rabbi Feldman's attention. More information of Kashrut can be found in such books as Dresner's The Jewish Dietary Laws, or Levi and Kaplan's Guide for the Jewish Homemaker.

## **Payment of Tuition and Fees**

- Tuition is billed in two installments: the first installment is due by August 1<sup>st</sup> and the second by December 1<sup>st</sup>. If a child is withdrawn from the school within the first two weeks of class, a refund will be given. After the two-week period, parents are responsible for payment of the first installment. If withdrawal is made after December 31<sup>st</sup>, parents are responsible for the full year's tuition.
- Zayin and Tichon parents are responsible for payment of tuition for the entire Zayin and Tichon year regardless of Bar/Bat Mitzvah date or class attendance.
- Tuition and activity fees are established at the annual Congregational meeting in late May. The school's budget is covered by the general budget of The Jewish Center and by students' tuition.
- Current Religious School fees per year are as follows:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Annual Tuition</b>
Yad B'Yad	\$750
Ganon	\$300
Gan Katan	\$852
Gan, Alef and Bet	\$852
Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav	\$1,280
Zayin	\$1,624
Mechina	\$685
Tichon I and II	\$1,070
Tichon III (with Siyyum fee)	\$1,157
Tichon Ve'od	\$471
Activity Fee	included
BBYO Membership	included

## **Exploratory Members**

To register for Religious school the family has to become members of The Jewish Center. However for the first year you can be an exploratory member, which means you only pay school tuition, but not membership dues. After one year you become a full paying member.

For Yad B'yad and Ganon you do not have to be a member.

### Tuition for exploratory members

Gan Katan, Gan, Alef and Bet - \$1,278

Gimmel, Daled Heh and Vav (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>) - \$1,933



## **Financial Aid**

Financial aid is available for Religious School tuition from The Jewish Center. The Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks also funds tuition scholarships that are administered by The Jewish Center. To request financial aid, call the Finance Office at The Jewish Center at 921-0100. Applications are also available in the Religious School office.

**Please note: an application is required and must be renewed each year.**

Please visit The Jewish Center website:

<http://thejewishcenter.org>