

Religious School
Registration
2016-2017



*The Jewish Center
435 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey*

Dear Religious School Families,

We are pleased to provide you with the registration packet for the 2016 - 2017 school year!

The goal of our curriculum is to educate our students to be:

1. Jews who express pride in their heritage, who are excited about being Jewish and who observe and practice Jewish traditions.
2. Jews who are familiar with the rituals and customs associated with Shabbat and holidays, who understand the reasons for these observances and who celebrate these occasions appropriately.
3. Jews who can describe the different ways Jewish people have conceptualized God throughout history and who can affirm and act upon a personal perspective of God and spirituality.
4. Jews who have a clear understanding of the nature of prayer (what it is and why we pray), who are knowledgeable and comfortable with the structure and contents of the prayer book and who themselves participate in T'fillah with Kavanah.
5. Jews who can explain the important values/mitzvot which have guided Jews for 4,000 years, who know the reasons for Jewish devotion to these values and who themselves are committed to live by these values.
6. Jews who understand the place of Hebrew in Jewish tradition and who cherish and use this holy language of the Jewish people during synagogue worship and home celebrations.
7. Jews who are familiar with the origins and meanings of Jewish customs and practices, including life cycle events and all forms of Jewish practice, and who observe these Jewish ceremonies on the significant occasions in their lives.
8. Jews who enthusiastically support and participate in the life of the synagogue, their Jewish community and their community at large.
9. Jews who see themselves as an important link in the chain of Am Yisrael (the Jewish people) for whom the history of the Jewish people is familiar, meaningful and central.
10. Jews who affirm their historic bond to Eretz Yisrael (the Land of Israel), who visit Israel and who work for its well-being.

The courses and classes we offer this year reflect our goals and we ask you to choose them carefully.

We are very excited for another year of Religious School and look forward to a year of exploration, celebration and learning.

B'Shalom,

Gila Levin

Director, The Jewish Center Religious School

(609) 921-0100 x220, glevin@thejewishcenter.org

Description of Grade Levels

Ganon (3-4 years old)

- 3rd Sunday of the month 9 - 11 am (snack provided)
- Interaction of music, art and games to introduce students to Shabbat, Bible, holidays and the Alef-Bet

Gan Katan (Pre-K, 4-5 years old)

- Every Sunday 9 am - 12 pm (snack provided)
- An engaging mix of games, music and art designed to introduce students to Jewish rituals, Jewish living, Torah, holidays and the Alef-Bet

Gan, Alef and Bet (Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades)

- Sundays 9 am - 12 pm
- Developing Jewish identity through creative play, music, movement and art
- Exploring the Jewish year, Shabbat and holidays, Torah stories and Bible heroes, Jewish symbols, Jewish family and community and the synagogue
- Introduction to the Alef-Bet, blessings for the Shabbat candles, wine and challah, the Four Questions for Passover seder and basic service melodies

Note: Winter Shabbat trimester is the **ONLY** Shabbat trimester offered during the year that may be taken in place of Sunday Religious School. However, students are encouraged to attend Shabbat services any time throughout the year.

Mechina (for Gan, Alef and Bet students)

- Optional Hebrew **immersion** program
- Wednesdays 4 - 6 pm
- Uses the "Chulav u'Dvash" curriculum that teaches Hebrew in Hebrew
- Students will learn through music, art and hands-on activities

Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav (3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Grades)

- Refer to the Summary Chart and/or Registration Form for selection of class offerings
- **All** students will be placed in a Hebrew class which is suitable for their level of Hebrew knowledge
- **Shabbat** trimester for **Gimmel, Daled and Heh** students will meet from 9:30 - 10:30 am for individual grade classes followed by students attending Shabbat Layeladim (Jr. Congregation)
- Parents are welcome to attend class and/or services with their child
- **Shabbat** trimester for **Vav** students will meet from 9:30 - 10:30 am followed by students joining services in the Main Sanctuary. Parents are encouraged to attend with their child.

Advanced Hebrew

- *This is a high level Hebrew class for the more advanced Hebrew-speaking students*
- *Students will learn Israeli culture through music, books and television shows*

Zayin (7th Grade)

- The B'nai Mitzvah year is a challenging and interesting year.
 - Sunday 9 - 10 am - "Step Up for Israel" with Riva Levy
 - An interactive educational course for teens developed by Jerusalem University
 - Designed to challenge the assumptions and teach the facts
 - A film-based turnkey curriculum introducing the fundamental issues concerning the State of Israel today
 - Subjects that will be discussed:
 - From Here to There - the European Jews journey toward the State of Israel
 - Nation Reborn
 - Shaping the State
 - Refugees
 - The Palestinian Narratives
 - Israel Inside
 - Understanding Media
 - Crossing the Line - Anti-Semitism in the Modern Era
 - Speak Up for Israel
 - Sunday 10 - 11 am - Leadership and Community with Riva Levy
 - 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 The Jewish Center leadership on new programming and problem-solving
 - The students will:
 - Learn about leadership, our Jewish community and how to be a leader in our Jewish community
 - Work with TJC leadership to study the needs and find solutions to some of the challenges facing our community
 - Meet interesting personalities in our community and learn what makes them choose TJC
 - Sunday 11 am - 12 pm - B'nai Mitzvah preparation classes
 - Tropes class with Hazzan Dulkan
 - Prayer class with Jordan Ullman
- Note:** These two classes have an attendance requirement of **80%**. Students who miss more than two tropes classes will **not** be able to start individual tutorial and will have to arrange for **private tutoring** to make up for the missed classes before starting any other b'nai mitzvah preparations.
- Wednesday 6 - 6:30 pm - Dinner with Tichon students
 - Wednesday 6:30 - 8 pm - classes
 - Family Journey through Jewish American History with Cyndi Kleinbart
 - The Holocaust with Ellen Pristach
 - Shabbat 9:30 am - 12 pm
 - Class will meet in the Beit Midrash and students will go together to the main sanctuary with Debbie Dunn Solomon
 - Following Ashrei (~11:30 am) students will go to the school building for a Parashat Hashavuah (the weekly Torah portion) class
- Note:** Zayin students are required to participate in our Shabbat program 12 times before the bar/bat mitzvah date.
- Special projects
 - Talit - Wednesday 6 - 8 pm on October 14, 21 and 28 of 2016 - students and parents work together to make a talit
 - Zayin Museum - Sunday, January 31, 2017
 - Zayin trip to Jewish Philadelphia - Sunday, April 17, 2017
 - Your children will enjoy a fresh and exciting year!

Summary Chart of Classes
2016 - 2017

Gimmel and Dalet (3rd and 4th Grade)

	Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Fall	Origin of Humanity Fall Jewish Holidays Journey of Jewish Life Cycle	Passport to Israel Biblical Heroes	Judges of Ancient Israel 10 Commandments Matriarchs and Patriarchs
Winter	Israel's Heroes The Jewish Calendar Beauty of Tzedakah	Ritual Objects Making Meaning from Food	Israel Today The Torah's Heroes Canaan, Egypt and Back
Spring	Matriarchs and Patriarchs Kiddush to Havdalah What's in the Bible?	Founding Families Chasidic Stories	Pesach (Passover) Israel Today Temple 1 to Temple 2

Heh and Vav (5th and 6th Grade)

	Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Fall	God's World/God's Creatures Prophets with a Modern Twist Women in the Bible	Golden Age of Spain Jewish Humor	The Dead Sea Scrolls The Middle East Jewish in the Modern Era
Winter	Kings of Ancient Israel Zionism Caring for Our Community	The Dead Sea Scrolls A State Was Born	Jews Around the World Famous Bible Stories Kashrut
Spring	Jewish Values in Exodus The Bible and Beyond Comparative Religion	Navigating the Siddur Founders of the State of Israel	Jews in Europe Wandering In the Desert Women in the Bible

Yachdav Program Multi-sensory Learning Environment

Objectives

To support students with unique learning styles

To create a multi-sensory learning environment

To cultivate a love of Jewish learning in a nurturing and accepting environment

To provide students with meaningful Jewish learning experiences

Description

- Individualized Jewish educational plans are created for each student in consultation with parents and the Yachdav Program Coordinator
- Small group learning
- Multi-aged classroom to encourage supported learning from skilled peers
- One:one teaching as needed
- Bar and Bat Mitzvah preparation
- Hands on learning including:
 - “Field Trip” to the sanctuary to explore our Torah
 - Q+A sessions with the Rabbi and Hazzan
 - Making monthly casseroles for Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK)
- Use of games, Lego’s, interactive computer programs and Smart Board lessons to learn Hebrew, Jewish texts, history, Israel and Jewish living
- Students may attend Hebrew or Judaica classes to best support their Jewish education

Note: Families interested in this program should contact Gila Levin, Director of the Religious School at 609-921-7207 to set up a consultation.

Chugim

Chugim are club-style classes offered on Sundays from 11 am - 12 pm during the third hour of Religious School for any Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav student.

Each trimester will offer another set of chugim (ie. Cooking, Arts and Crafts, Yoga, Poetry, Games, Technology, Improv and Theater).

ALL chugim are **free** of charge.

Instructions for Registration Forms

Registration Overview

- The school year is comprised of **3 trimesters** (Fall, Winter and Spring)
- Each trimester is comprised of **10 weeks**:
 - Fall:** September 11 - November 22, 2016
 - Winter:** November 29, 2016 - March 5, 2017
 - Spring:** March 4 - May 21, 2017
- Please note that trimester dates may change; parents will be notified via email if this occurs.
- The curriculum will be offered on a **2-year cycle** for grades Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav
- School is held on:
 - Sundays (9 am - 12 pm)**
 - Tuesdays (4 - 6 pm)**
 - Wednesdays (4 - 6 pm and 6 - 8 pm)**
 - Shabbat mornings (9:30 am - 12 pm)**
- All classes will fall under one of five pillars.
- Please see the additional document for the objectives and descriptions for each pillar.
 - 1st Pillar - **Hebrew** - the language of the Jewish people
 - 2nd Pillar - **Sacred Texts of the Jewish People** - Bible and Rabbinic literature
 - 3rd Pillar - **Story of the Jewish People** - Jewish history and Israel
 - 4th Pillar - **Jewish Living** - practices and values of the Jewish people
 - 5th Pillar - **Shabbat** - prayer, theology and spirit of the Jewish people
- **All 3 trimesters** must be registered for at this time although we are happy to accommodate later changes **if possible**.
- All registration forms submitted **by May 22, 2016** will have the same priority in order to get first choice classes.
- Registration forms received **after May 22, 2016** will be dated upon arrival and priority will be given on a first-come, first-served basis depending on class availability.

How to register

1. **Every family** must fill out the following forms:
 - a. Family Pages (2)
 - b. Permission and Release Form
 - c. Medical and Insurance Form
2. **Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav** students **ONLY**
 - NOTE:** Please fill out the **additional** form for selection of class choices.

If you have any additional comments regarding your child(ren)'s educational learning experiences, please fill out the "Additional Education Information Form".

THE JEWISH CENTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

FAMILY PAGE
2016 - 2017

Please complete this form and return it by May 22, 2016 with a deposit for each child enrolled.

Parent #1

Name _____
Home Address _____

Email _____
Home Phone # _____
Cell # _____
Work # _____
Jewish (Please Circle): Yes No

Parent #2

Name _____
Home Address _____

Email _____
Home Phone # _____
Cell # _____
Work # _____
Jewish (Please Circle): Yes No

Parent #3

Name _____
Home Address _____

Email _____
Home Phone # _____
Cell # _____
Work # _____
Jewish (Please Circle): Yes No

Parent #4

Name _____
Home Address _____

Email _____
Home Phone # _____
Cell # _____
Work # _____
Jewish (Please Circle): Yes No

Mailings - Please send information to (Please Circle): Parent #1 Parent #2 Parent #3 Parent #4 All
E-mails -- Please send to (Please Circle): Parent #1 Parent #2 Parent #3 Parent #4 All

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**Ganon (3-4 yo), Gan Katan (pre-K), Gan (K), Alef (1st), Bet (2nd)
Gimmel (3rd), Daled (4th), Heh (5th), Vav (6th)
Zayin (7th)**

Child #1

Name _____
Hebrew Name _____
School Attending _____
Grade _____
Birthday _____

Child #2

Name _____
Hebrew Name _____
School Attending _____
Grade _____
Birthday _____

Optional (Please Circle):

Mechina: Gan Alef Bet
Winter Shabbat: Gan Alef Bet

Optional (Please Circle):

Mechina: Gan Alef Bet
Winter Shabbat: Gan Alef Bet

Child #3

Name _____
Hebrew Name _____
School Attending _____
Grade _____
Birthday _____

Child #4

Name _____
Hebrew Name _____
School Attending _____
Grade _____
Birthday _____

Optional (Please Circle):

Mechina: Gan Alef Bet
Winter Shabbat: Gan Alef Bet

Optional (Please Circle):

Mechina: Gan Alef Bet
Winter Shabbat: Gan Alef Bet

NOTE: For Gimmel, Daled, Heh and Vav students – please fill out ADDITIONAL form for selection of classes.

Deposit Amounts

Please check the correct option.

Amount
(# of children x fee)

- _____ Up to **May 22, 2016**: A \$50 deposit per child is enclosed which will be credited toward tuition. _____
- _____ Families new to our community:
A \$50 deposit per child (regardless of date registered) is enclosed
and will be credited toward tuition. _____
- _____ A late fee of \$100 will be applied after May 22, 2016. _____

Credit Card Information

Amount \$: _____ Credit Card (Please Circle): Visa Mastercard AmEx
Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Print name as it appears on card: _____ Signature: _____

Office Use Only	F	CW	DB	FF
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THE JEWISH CENTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

PERMISSION and RELEASE FORM
2016 - 2017

Family Name

Please check the correct option

PHOTO RELEASE

___ I **GIVE** permission to The Jewish Center to use photographs of my child(ren), _____, _____, _____, _____ and/or myself, including my/our name(s), in any social media venues.

___ I do **NOT** give permission to The Jewish Center to use photographs of my child(ren), _____, _____, _____, _____ and/or myself, including my/our name(s), in any social media venues.

Note: TJC’s standard practice is that photographs are **NOT** routinely placed with children’s names in print or on Facebook, as well as TJC’s Facebook page is set up to prevent people from tagging photos.

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Please check the correct option

FRIEND FINDER

___ I **GIVE** permission to use all contact information including my name, child(ren)’s name(s), address, email and phone number for the “Friend Finder”.

___ I do **NOT** give permission to use all contact information including my name, child(ren)’s name(s), address, email and phone number for the “Friend Finder”.

Note: The “Friend Finder” can be used to encourage as well as promote community among our students and parents. Families can use it to help set up play-dates, call other families to go to synagogue events and to keep in touch with one another. The contact information is only used within the Religious School community.

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Please check the correct option

WALK HOME

___ I **GIVE** my child(ren), _____, _____, _____, _____ permission to walk and/or bike home from Religious School on the day(s) he/she attends.

___ I do **NOT** give my child(ren), _____, _____, _____, _____ permission to walk and/or bike home from Religious School on the day(s) he/she attends.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

THE JEWISH CENTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

MEDICAL and INSURANCE FORM
2016 - 2017

Note: Please specify ALL allergies - please supply us with as much information as possible.

Parent Name(s) _____ Family Name _____

Please name a non-parent contact person who is available during Religious School hours.

Name _____ Relationship to child(ren) _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Child(ren)'s Physician _____ Phone number _____
Physician's Address _____

Child's Name	Insurance Company Name / Policy Number
Child #1 _____ Grade _____	_____ / _____

Medical conditions/allergies:

Child #2 _____ Grade _____	_____ / _____
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Medical conditions/allergies:

Child #3 _____ Grade _____	_____ / _____
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Medical conditions/allergies:

Child #4 _____ Grade _____	_____ / _____
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Medical conditions/allergies:

In the event that I/we or my/our contact person cannot be reached in an emergency situation, we authorize The Jewish Center to obtain emergency medical treatment for my/our child(ren).

By signing this form, I/we hereby confirm that The Jewish Center will not be responsible for any cost incurred for medical care as a result of an injury or illness to my/our child(ren) listed above.

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THE JEWISH CENTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION INFORMATION FORM
2016 - 2017

Please review this form and complete if applicable for your child(ren).

Family Name _____

I am interested in Special Education Programming.

My/our child (*name*) _____ is classified and receives Special Education Services in school.

My/our child (*name*) _____ is not classified but has the following special needs and/or learning challenges:

Please indicate any other information that we should know about your child (i.e. personal issues, family issues, etc.).

Print Name _____ Signature: _____

Registration Form: Gimmel and Daled (3rd and 4th Grade)

Name of Student: _____ Please Circle Student's Grade: Gimmel (3rd) or Daled (4th)

Step 1: Please indicate which trimester student will be attending Shabbat. Circle the appropriate choice:

SHABBAT (Circle ONE): **Fall** **Winter** **Spring**

Step 2: For each trimester, please circle at least two days the student will be attending. If you have chosen Shabbat for that trimester you are to choose at least ONE additional day.

Step 3: After you have indicated the day your child will be attending Religious school classes, please rank your class choices below: (1 is first choice, 2 is second choice, 3 is third choice). Classes offered will be dependent upon demand.

	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Fall	Origin of Humanity Fall Jewish Holidays Jewish Life Cycle	_____ _____ _____	Passport to Israel Biblical Heroes	_____ _____	Judges of Ancient Israel 10 Commandments Matriarchs and Patriarchs	_____ _____ _____
	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Winter	Israel's Heroes The Jewish Calendar Beauty of Tzedakah	_____ _____ _____	Ritual Objects Meaning from Food	_____ _____	Israel Today Torah's Heroes Canaan, Egypt and Back	_____ _____ _____
	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Spring	Matriarchs and Patriarchs Kiddush to Havdalah What's in the Bible?	_____ _____ _____	Founding Families Chasidic Stories	_____ _____	Pesach (Passover) Israel Today Temple 1 to Temple 2	_____ _____ _____

** Please see additional document for complete descriptions of all classes**

Registration Form: Heh and Vav (5th and 6th Grade)

Name of Student: _____ Please Circle Student's Grade: Heh (5th) or Vav (6th)

Step 1: Please indicate which trimester student will be attending Shabbat. Circle the appropriate choice:

SHABBAT (Circle ONE): **Fall** **Winter** **Spring**

Step 2: For each trimester please circle at least two days the student will be attending. If you have chosen Shabbat for that trimester you are to choose at least one additional day.

Step 3: After you have indicated the day your child will be attending Religious school classes, please rank your class choices below: (1 is first choice, 2 is second choice, 3 is third choice). Classes offered will be dependent upon demand.

	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Fall	God's World/God's Creatures Prophets with a Modern Twist Women in the Bible	_____ _____ _____	Golden Age of Spain Jewish Humor	_____ _____	The Dead Sea Scrolls The Middle East Jewish in the Modern Era	_____ _____ _____
	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Winter	Kings of Ancient Israel Zionism Caring for Our Community	_____ _____ _____	The Dead Sea Scrolls A State Was Born	_____ _____	Jews Around the World Famous Bible Stories Kashrut	_____ _____ _____
	Sunday	Rank	Tuesday	Rank	Wednesday	Rank
Spring	Jewish Values in Exodus The Bible and Beyond Comparative Religion	_____ _____ _____	Navigating the Siddur Founders of the State	_____ _____	Jews in Europe Wandering in the Desert Women in the Bible	_____ _____ _____

**** Please see additional document for complete descriptions of all classes****