

# TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
<b><u>Director</u></b>			
Ms. Karen Walsh	782-6410, ext 13	Hebrew School Director	kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org
<b><u>Faculty</u></b>			
Mrs. Barbara Clarin	806-7603	Pre-K/Gan	bclarin@comcast.net
Mrs. Lois Gross	806-7444	Bet, Dalet & Hay History	lois144@comcast.net
Rabbi Evan Jaffe	782-6410 ext. 12	Vav, Bar/Bat Mitzvah & Hebrew High	rabbi@flemingtonjcc.org
Mrs. Deborah Kesselhaut	713-9451	Alef	deborah@smknet.com
Miss Fallon Gross	806-7444	Gimel	fallon144@gmail.com
Mrs. Laurie Rapkin	788-1681	Special Need Facilitator	rapk54@yahoo.com
		Dalet & Hay Hebrew	
Ms. Karen Walsh	782-6410, ext 13	Vav Jewish Values & Environmental Judaism	kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org

**Flemington Jewish Community**  
**5 Sergeantsville Road**  
**PO Box 567**  
**Flemington NJ 08822**

**Phone: 782-6410**  
**Fax: 806-7736**  
**Email: office@flemingtonjcc.org**  
**www.flemingtonjcc.org**

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

The FJCC stands committed to providing the best education possible for its children. A considerable share of its resources is directed to the Hebrew School and the Rabbi is personally involved on all grade levels. The adult congregation supports wholeheartedly the participation of its youngsters in services and all facets of synagogue life.

Although the FJCC is not officially affiliated with the Conservative Movement, it shares the movement's educational philosophy. Emphasis is placed on both the ethical and ritual components of Judaism. The Hebrew School sees as its task not only the making of better, more generous and compassionate people, but also those who can actively participate in all areas of Jewish life. Students are expected to learn to read the Hebrew of the prayer book and Bible fluently, and are encouraged to conduct all or part of our adult religious services at an early age. They are taught the meanings of the major holidays and the proper performance of the rituals associated with them. They gain a good working knowledge of the first five books of Moses and of the key events in Jewish history. If students continue beyond Bar/Bat Mitzvah, they become acquainted with the classic Rabbinic texts and the way in which Judaism looks at different social and political issues. Additionally, they are taught the importance of *tzedakah*, or charity, the proper support of both the Jewish community and the community-at-large, financially and otherwise.

Because students spend only one or two sessions a week in Hebrew School, it is impossible even to begin to teach them what

they need to know about Judaism. But from age three to eighteen the FJCC tries to provide them with a solid foundation on which they can build throughout their lives. The following statements best describe the principles by which the school is guided and the objectives it hopes to achieve:

- 1) The FJCC Hebrew School tries to instill in its students a strong sense of Jewish identity, a pride in and love for our tradition;
- 2) It holds that Hebrew School can, in fact, be an enjoyable experience and the material to be learned can be presented in an exciting and interesting way;
- 3) The interaction of the students among themselves, the friends they make, the social aspects of Hebrew School are considered an integral part of the educational experience and are encouraged and valued;
- 4) Both the ritual and ethical components of Judaism are important and should be taught not only in the classroom, but experienced first hand;
- 5) Every student, regardless of his/her background, intellectual ability or level of family observance, should be afforded the opportunity to acquire the requisite knowledge and skills to participate fully in the synagogue and the life of the Jewish community.

A verse from the Book of Proverbs best sums up our purpose: "Train a child in the way he/she should go, and even when he/she is old, he/she will not depart from it."

## Registration, Billing and Refund Policies

In May you will be billed an RP (Registration and Programming) fee for the coming year. The RP fee must be paid by July 16<sup>th</sup> for your child's name to be placed on a class list and you will receive a Back To School Packet in late July. Once the fee has been paid, your child will be considered registered for Hebrew School.

Tuition payments will be due on or before September 15<sup>th</sup>, December 15<sup>th</sup>, and March 15<sup>th</sup>. Monthly installments will, of course, be acceptable as long as payments keep pace with the quarterly schedule.

Students in Gan – HH12 who withdraw from Hebrew School in writing by October 13, 2010, and students enrolled in Katon ton who withdraw from Hebrew School in writing by October 31, 2010, will receive a refund for tuition **only**. RP fees are non-refundable. There will be no refunds after the dates listed above.

## PLACEMENT

For both academic and social reasons, the staff feels strongly that the students in each class should be of a similar age and grade level. While exceptions will be made when circumstances require, the following are the ages and secular school grades it deems appropriate for the different classes in the Hebrew School.

## 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

**Gan** should be in Pre-k or kindergarten in secular school and must be toilet trained.

**Alef** should be in the first grade.

**Bet** should be in the second grade.

**Gimel** should be in third grade.

**Dalet** should be in fourth grade.

**Hay** should be in fifth grade.

**Vav** should be in sixth grade.

**Bar/Bat Mitzvah** should be in seventh grade.

**Hebrew High 8** should be in the eighth grade.

**Hebrew High 9** should be in the ninth grade.

**Hebrew High 10** should be in the tenth grade.

**Hebrew High 11** should be in the eleventh grade.

**Hebrew High 12** should be in the twelfth grade.

## HEBREW SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2010-2011

	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
Gan	9:15-11:30				
Alef	9:15-11:30				
Bet	9:15-11:30				
Gimel		4:30 - 6:15		4:30 - 6:15	
Dalet		4:30 - 6:15		4:30 - 6:15	
Hay		4:30 - 6:15		4:30 - 6:15	
Vav		4:30 - 6:15		4:30 - 6:15	
B/B Mitzvah			4:30 - 5:45		
<b>HH8 (first 3 Mondays)**</b>		6:30 - 7:45			5:45 – 7:00
HH9 (first 3 Mondays)		6:30 –7:45			
HH10/11 (first 3 Tuesdays)			5:45- 7:00		
HH12 (first 3 Wednesdays)				6:30 – 7:45	

**\*\*This will be re-visited in December. If there is a low attendance rate the class may be moved to join with the HH9 class on Mondays at 6:30.**

## MEDICAL RELEASE AND OTHER NECESSARY FORMS

Three forms can be found on the website, [www.flemingtonjcc.org](http://www.flemingtonjcc.org). Parents are asked to complete and return these forms to the synagogue office no later than August 13<sup>th</sup>. No students will be permitted to attend Hebrew School without a completed form after September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

1. Medical Release form: complete one per child
2. Media Release form: one per family
3. Policy and Procedure form: one per family

## PARENT CONTACT FORM

The Parent Contact Form will be mailed home in mid July. Please complete and return with the documents found on the website by August 13<sup>th</sup>.

## ATTENDANCE

No child can be expected to succeed in Hebrew School unless he or she attends consistently. While the Hebrew School has no specific attendance requirements, and attendance is taken primarily for safety reasons, the faculty urges parents to make sure their children miss as few classes as possible. In the event of an absence of more than a week, the child's teacher should be contacted and the missed work made-up.

## ARRIVAL

Hebrew School starts **promptly at 4:30** on Mondays and Wednesdays. Children may be dropped off at 4:10, and will be allowed to wait in the lobby until 4:20, at which time they will be escorted to their classrooms. Sunday School starts promptly at 9:15. Children may be escorted to their classrooms at 9:05.

## LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL

Anyone arriving after 4:40 must accompany his/her child to class. Parents or guardians whose children require early pick-up must notify the teacher in writing before class begins and must personally escort them from the classroom and/or sanctuary. No student will be allowed to leave the building

alone or with a sibling. If usual parent or guardian will not be picking up the child, the teacher must be notified in writing. **No child under any circumstances will be permitted to leave the synagogue premises unless he or she is accompanied by a responsible adult.**

## LATE POLICY

The FJCC Hebrew School students are dismissed to the parking like at 6:15. Dismissal takes no more than ten minutes, all students should be picked up by 6:25.

This year the FJCC has implemented a late pickup policy. We understand that on occasion parents may be late to pick up their child, but excessive lateness is unacceptable. The policy is as follows:

Late pickup the first time parent will receive a time stamped email. The second time, again parent will receive a time stamped email. On the third and following late pickup, the following fees will post to your FJCC account.

- From 6:15 – 6:40, you will be charged \$15 each time.
- After 6:40, you will be charged \$20 each time.

You will be noticed via email on each occasion. All late fees will appear on your monthly statement and must be paid in full prior to registering for Hebrew School and/or having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

## DISMISSAL ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

1. Those parents parking and coming into the building should park on the far side of the parking lot divider in designated areas.

Parents and students should walk only in the crosswalk when returning to their cars. **Do not** walk between cars.

2. For those picking up children at the curb, drive along the curb and stop at the entrance to the lobby. The teacher will escort students to their cars. Parents should remain in their place in line until their child is picked up and they are instructed to leave.
3. Students should be picked up at 6:15. Parents who are going to be late should notify the office.

## BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

The Hebrew School at all times tries to provide a supportive atmosphere that makes learning about Judaism an enjoyable experience. While the teachers must insist upon a certain amount of order and decorum in

order to teach, they try to give students sufficient latitude to express themselves and “just be kids” at the end of a long day at school.



Under no circumstances, however, will disruptive or disrespectful behavior be tolerated. Any student who consistently displays uncooperative, recalcitrant behavior will be disciplined in the following way:

1. The student’s teacher will speak privately to the student about his/her behavior. If that fails,
2. The student will be sent to the school director or the Rabbi. If there is no change indicated,
3. The parents will be called and asked to take appropriate action. If discipline problems persist,
4. The student will be asked to leave the school.

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Each teacher has his or her own homework policy. If at any time parents have questions regarding a homework assignment, they should feel free to contact the teacher at home. Teachers’ phone numbers and email addresses are located in the calendar.

## **SNACKS**

All food and drinks brought into the building must be certified kosher as indicated by labels such as: כּK, , K  KOA. If parents have any questions regarding the kashrut of a food product, they should contact the office. No home cooked items are permitted.

## **EVALUATIONS**

The Hebrew School students are formally evaluated two times a year. Parents can schedule a conference with their child’s teacher at any time,

or meet with his/her teachers at the conclusion of Hebrew School. Should any problems arise, parents are asked to speak with their child’s teacher first; if problems persist, then with the Director and then the Rabbi.

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

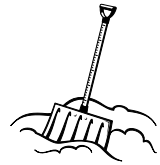
Emails will be sent requesting help for shopping, chaperoning and additional things during the year. Parents are asked to help out for at least one of these activities.

Children are very sensitive to the way their parents feel about the Hebrew School; actions speak louder than words. The best way for parents to show their concern for their children’s religious education is to participate in Hebrew School activities.

## **NOTICES – PARENT MAILBOXES**

Please make sure you have a current email address on file. Please notify the office, [office@flemingtonjcc.org](mailto:office@flemingtonjcc.org), and the Hebrew School, [kwash@flemingtonjcc.org](mailto:kwash@flemingtonjcc.org), in the event that your email address changes during the year. Kidbitz, progress reports and a few notices will be sent by snail mail during the year, but most notices will be sent via email.

## **SNOW DAYS POLICY**

The Hebrew School policy Hebrew School is closed  when Flemington-Raritan schools are closed, even if the weather improves during the course of the day. If Flemington-Raritan closes for early dismissal, or if after school activities are canceled there will be no Hebrew School. Parents will be notified by phone tree and/or email. If Flemington-Raritan has a delayed opening there will be Hebrew School.

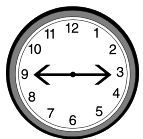
## TUITION

GRADE	TUITION	REGISTRATION PROGRAM FEE
Gan	\$360.00	\$80.00
Alef	\$360.00	\$80.00
Bet	\$360.00	\$125.00
Gimel	\$580.00	\$155.00
Dalet	\$580.00	\$180.00
Hay	\$580.00	\$180.00
Vav	\$580.00	\$180.00
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	\$550.00	\$80.00
HH8	\$340.00	\$80.00
HH9	\$340.00	\$80.00
HH10/11	\$340.00	\$80.00
HH12	\$340.00	\$80.00

## BOOKS & SUPPLIES

Students are required to buy most of their textbooks and photocopied material. They are responsible for bringing these textbooks and materials to class when necessary; if they repeatedly fail to do so, parents will be notified by the teacher. Students should take all materials home at the end of the school year. Parents

should be aware of the fact that books or photocopied material that contain the name of G-d in Hebrew cannot be thrown away. They must be buried in a *genizah* or special area (often in a Jewish cemetery) in accordance with Jewish law. Parents not sure about the proper disposal of the material should contact the Rabbi.



# Sunday School Program

## Gan, Alef and Bet

The Sunday School program for children ages 4-8 begins at **9:15**. Students will first meet in their classrooms from for opening activities. At 9:25 the students will meet in the Multipurpose Room to celebrate Shabbat with a Shabbat snack, challah and juice before returning to their prospective classroom for the weekly lesson. This block of time will be devoted to classroom activities including the *tzedakah* component of the curriculum, introduction to Hebrew, Bible stories, crafts and holiday lessons. At 11:15 the Rabbi will join the children in the sanctuary for *tefillah* (prayer). Parents are welcome and encouraged to join their children each week for the *tefillah* part of the program.

Several times during the year, parents will be invited to participate with their children in workshops exploring holidays, prayer and Jewish values.

### GAN

The Gan class is a two-year program designed for Pre-K and Kindergarten age students. This is an opportunity for the younger set to explore Jewish holidays and symbols and study the *alef-bet*, the Hebrew alphabet. A variety of crafts and games will enhance the weekly lessons. *B'rachot* for Shabbat and the holidays will be taught. Bible stories will be used to demonstrate Jewish values as well as introduce the children to major characters in the Torah.

The Gan curriculum includes a unit devoted to learning about the synagogue. The students will learn about different ritual objects found in the synagogue. David the Shabbat guest is a regular in the Gan classroom and will be visiting a different family each week.

### ALEF

The Alef class provides a study of Bible heroes and heroines, celebration of the various Jewish holiday traditions and an understanding and practicing of *mitzvot* (commandments) and *tzedakah*. The students will continue their study of the letters of the *alef-bet*, continue to build their Hebrew vocabulary and to practice the *b'rachot*. A variety of modalities will be employed to achieve these goals.

The children will focus on the Shabbat table service this year. They will make candlesticks, a Kiddush cup and challah cover, and will learn the blessing associated with each. They will also make a *tzedakah* box.

### BET

The Bet students are now ready to begin Hebrew reading and writing. Hebrew vowels will be introduced and students will learn the words commonly used in *Siddur* (prayer book) reading. The children will expand their understanding of Bible stories by discussing moral issues related to the story, and will broaden their knowledge of the Jewish holiday rituals, *b'rachot* and Shabbat services. Crafts will be made for the holidays and Shabbat.

A brief unit about Jerusalem will be incorporated into the curriculum. The unit will explore people and places in Jerusalem.

# Hebrew School Program

## Gimel, Dalet, Hay and Vav

### GIMEL

This is the first year the students come twice during the week. This allows for a more detailed exploration of the concepts taught in Sunday School.

Gimel students will learn the skills needed to read from the Siddur. Children will become familiar with Shabbat and Yom Tov *B'rachot* (prayers). Bible will focus on the lessons taught in the book of Bereshit. The year will end with the Gimel Class Service on May 7, 2010. The children will lead the Friday night services and receive the new Shabbat prayer book. Gimel class dinner will be held prior to services.

### DALET HISTORY

Dalet students embark on the first of a three-year journey through Jewish history. The Dalet students will examine Jewish life from Patriarchal times (1800 B.C.E.) through the destruction of the second temple (70 C.E.). Students will gain an understanding of Jewish life through the eyes of the prophets and judges as well as the teachings of the Rabbis who struggled to preserve Judaism. A special unit of study will be devoted to learning about Israel.

### DALET – HEBREW AND TRADITION

The Dalet class will meet twice a week to refine its Hebrew reading skills, further its understanding of the Jewish calendar and holidays and learn the rituals associated with them. The class will use both Hebrew textbooks and prayer books. A basic prayer vocabulary will be studied.

### HAY HISTORY

The second year of Jewish history continues as the Hay students examine Jewish history from the Middle Ages to modern times. The year is divided into three parts. Part one will focus on the Middle Ages and the Golden Age of Spain; part two explores “Coming to America” from colonial days to the early 1900’s; and part three examines anti-Semitism and the Holocaust.

This history program is unique in its approach for it teaches history with little emphasis on names, dates or facts. It concentrates on what being Jewish means in a non-Jewish world and how each individual student learns from his past and identifies with the present.

Finally, the students will start to examine their relationship with G-d by using the text Partners with G-d. The book offers a clear and comfortable way to introduce Jewish concepts of G-d to children. Children explore ideas of G-d and holiness, and discover a Jewish vocabulary for thinking and talking about G-d.”

### HAY CLASS – HEBREW, TORAH AND TRADITION

Students in Mrs. Shapiro’s section of the Hay class will focus on learning to read Hebrew fluently, becoming acquainted with the weekly Torah portions and exploring further the holidays and the rituals associated with them. For Hebrew reading, the Saturday morning siddur will be the primary text; Sedra Scenes will be used to introduce the students to the weekly Torah portions and for the holidays whatever text or ritual object is appropriate. **Students will be required to submit written summaries of each week’s Torah portion using Sedra Scenes as their guide.** No other homework will be assigned.

## VAV JEWISH VALUES & ENVIRONMENTAL JUDAISM

This year the Judaic component of the Vav curriculum will use a more integrated approach for combining the Jewish Values and Environmental Judaism curriculum.

Students will:

- Examine Brachot of Appreciation and the The Prayer for Rain
- Think about the beresheit story in direct relationship to being stewards of G-d's creation
- Learn about David Ben Gurion and Shmirat *ha-Teva* (guarding the land of Israel)
- Compare the preservation of Talmud Torah at Yavneh to the destruction of books during Kristallnacht
- Study about Albert Einstein and the value of tzedakah in correlation of the 8 rungs of tzedakah as taught by Rambam
- Recognize Golda Meir and Menachem Begin as role models for Zionism and peace
- Link justice as represented by Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Brandeis to the laws of agriculture in ki tetze
- Investigate the values placed on trees as set forth by the rabbis
- Research Jewish personalities as part of the Purim lesson
- Come to understand how the laws of return were designed in direct response to the Holocaust
- View Anne Frank as a model for hope and Hannah Sennesh as a model for courage

During the course of the year, students will have an opportunity to work in small groups for some projects and independently on others. The class will present a lesson to the younger grades and will be responsible for their own success at Hebrew School.

## VAV TORAH & TEFILLAH (PRAYER)

The Rabbi's section of the Vav class will focus on Hebrew reading from the *Siddur* (prayer book) and *Chumash* (Pentateuch). Students will learn the special *b'rachot* and rituals associated with each of the holidays. They will be required to know by heart all of the holidays, the Hebrew alphabet and months of the Hebrew calendar. They will study, discuss the *Parshiyot* (Torah portions) of the Books of *Vayikra* (Leviticus), *Bamidbar* (Numbers) and possibly *Devarim* (Deuteronomy), and will be required to complete a take-home, open book test at the completion of each book. Weekly summaries of the *Parshiyot* may be submitted but are not mandatory. Students will be introduced to the *Mishna*, the classic rabbinic text, and learn about the other texts upon which our legal system is based.

## SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

This year the Hebrew School is continuing the incentive program to encourage students in Katon ton through Vav to attend Friday evening and Saturday morning services.

Students who fulfill any of the requirements listed below will be recognized at Shavuot services on Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM.

**Chodesh Award** – students who attend once a month or nine times during the Hebrew School year

**Chai Award** – students who attend twice a month or eighteen times during the school year

**Chai v'Chaytzi Award** – students who attend three times a month or 27 times during the school year

**Double Chai Award** – students who attend four times a month or 36 times during the school year

At the end of the year, students will receive a Certificate of Recognition and a Bookmark.

## **BAR/BAT MITZVAH CLASS**

Students in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to attend a weekly Bar/Bat Mitzvah class. V'Zot HaTorah will be their primary text, as well as Sedra Scenes from the Book of Judges. Classroom discussion will center around the weekly Torah portion and the "mitzvah of the week" as designated and elaborated upon by the authors of V'zot HaTorah. In addition, students will view three videos, each focusing on the meaning of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, from the perspective of a young person preparing for the ceremony. Students will be asked to reflect upon, and write about, what Bar/Bat Mitzvah means to them.

Several times during the year students and parents will meet together during the class to discuss issues of concern about Bar/Bat Mitzvah and its significance.

## **VAV AND BAR/BAT MITZVAH TUTORING**

Those students in Vav and Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes are required to tutor twice a week with the Rabbi and/or an older student in preparation for their B'nai/B'not Mitzvah. The Rabbi will contact the parents of each student to discuss his/her tutoring schedule. Generally speaking, sessions with the student tutor can be arranged at a time and location convenient to both the tutor and the student. The Rabbi will assign his tutoring times based on the date of the students' B'nai/B'not Mitzvah. Those earliest in the year will be given first choice. The Rabbi is available to tutor by phone or in person, or a combination of both. Each session is a half-hour in length.

## **BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROJECT**

Each student in the Bar/Bat Mitzvah class is expected to participate in a special project as part of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation. This project should be something substantial that requires at least several months of work and that reflects a particular interest or talent of the student. It should involve "acts of kindness": if a student likes animals, for example, he or she may want to raise money for an animal shelter. Students may "adopt" an older person in a nursing home or in the community, or volunteer their time at a social service agency. In short, the project should be a hands-on, serious effort that allows the student to put his/her own unique stamp on the celebration. Projects must be done in consultation with Karen Walsh. Project packets are distributed at the May/June parent meeting. Students and parents should meet with Karen Walsh twice during the summer and submit formal project plans by November. The work will be put on display (if possible) on the day of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah or may serve as the topic of the celebrant's *devar Torah* (Bar/Bat Mitzvah speech).

## **VAV PARENT MEETING**

There will be a meeting during Hebrew School for the Vav Class parents in October. The Rabbi and Karen Walsh will discuss synagogue etiquette and service attendance. Sisterhood and Executive Board will provide information ranging from hiring kitchen help to Bar/Bat Mitzvah fees.

There will be a second meeting at the end of the school year with Karen Walsh. This meeting will be dedicated to information concerning the Bar/Bat Mitzvah project requirements. Parents and students will then be asked to meet individually with Karen some time in June or July to go over the particulars of each project, from selection to implementation.

## **HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL**

For those B'nai/B'not Mitzvah students who wish to continue their Jewish education, this year there will be offered this year four Hebrew High School classes: Hebrew High 8; Hebrew High 9/10; Hebrew High 11 and Hebrew High 12. Hebrew High 8-11 will meet 20 times a year, Hebrew High 12, twelve times, as indicated in the calendar. Snow days will be made up if possible.

In keeping with the policy instituted last year, students will be able to move from class to class if they so choose. A schedule of topics to be discussed or DVDs to be shown will be posted regularly in email; should students be interested in a topic being presented in a class other than their own, they may switch classes for as long as they wish. The subject matter, not the grade level, is most important, and students should feel free to engage in topics interesting to them. Students may also choose an independent study project under the rabbi's supervision.

### **Hebrew High 8**

Students will be introduced to major issues of the day – abortion, capital punishment, triage, war, etc. – from the vantage point of Jewish law. They will learn how these issues were viewed through the centuries by rabbis through a study of the Torah, Talmud and Responsa literature. Students will also view several DVDs on subjects such as Israel and archeology.

### **Hebrew High 9**

Issues ranging from theology to dating will be discussed from a Jewish perspective using both biblical and Rabbinic sources. Students will see several videos as well.

### **Hebrew High 10/11**

Several important books of the Bible — Ecclesiastes and Job, as well as several prominent stories from the Torah – will be analyzed in detail. There will also be a workshop showing how several of these stories were portrayed in art. The students will continue to work on the creation of a new movement in Judaism, increasing their awareness of how the rabbis of the Talmud fashioned the Judaism by which we live today. Students will also see several videos dealing with contemporary issues.

### **Hebrew High 12**

Students will meet with the rabbi to determine their schedule month to month. Joseph Telushkin's book "Jewish Literacy" will be the major focal point of study.

## **HEBREW HIGH ELECTIVE**

At the end of the academic year the rabbi will offer a workshop for those interested students on a particular Talmudic or Biblical text. Students may use the workshop to make up classes missed earlier in the year. The dates and the topic of the workshop will be posted on email in February or March.

## SISTERHOOD COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The FJCC Sisterhood has established a Scholarship Fund for college bound students. To qualify for the scholarship, students must have completed a Bar/Bat Mitzvah project, and fulfill the following requirements through their junior year in high school:: 1) attend a minimum of ten Shabbat services (excluding High Holydays); 2) volunteer to serve on the High Holydays in whatever capacity the school deems appropriate; 3) tutor and/or work as a teacher's aide if possible and; 4) attend a minimum of 16 classes a year.

After successful completion of the above requirements, students in HH12 must 1) attend a minimum of 12 classes a year or arrange to make up any missed classroom hours through community service or similar work as approved by the Rabbi and Karen Walsh; 2) attend a minimum of ten Shabbat services (excluding High Holydays) during the school year; and 3) write a 1000 word essay on a topic of the Rabbi's choosing to be published in the July/August bulletin. Families of recipients must be members in good standing.

## TUTORING PROGRAM

Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah students can remain active in the synagogue, maintain their synagogue skills, serve as role models to their younger counterparts and earn a substantial sum of money by participating in either one or both tutoring programs described below:

**Program 1:** Prepare Bar/Bat Mitzvah students for their B'nai/B'not Mitzvah

Requirements: Tutor must know how to conduct Friday night service, the Musaf service and chant the trope for the Haftarah and Torah.

Salary: \$14.50 hour. All tutoring sessions will be ½ hour in length with a maximum of three students.

**Program 2:** Assist teacher in Hebrew School classroom.

Salary: \$14.50 for midweek sessions, 4:15 – 6:15

\$18.00 for Sunday sessions, 9:00 – 11:30

All tutors and teacher aides will be required to:

- 1) Assist during the High Holydays for either Junior Congregation or the children's workshops.
- 2) Attend 80% of all Hebrew High School classes.
- 3) Attend at least one Friday night or Saturday morning service a month.
- 4) Facilitate two Torah time Babysitting sessions.
- 5) Have completed a Bar/Bat Mitzvah project
- 6) Be 14 or older and have a W-4 and working papers on file.
- 7) Adhere to the synagogue's dress code (see page 17).

## SERVICES

Evening services are a regular part of the curriculum and all students will be required to attend at the end of class on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday. The Rabbi asks that parents join their children rather than sit in their cars in the parking lot for the following reasons:

- 4) The students behave better when sitting with adults.
- 3) It gives the children a sense that service attendance is not just a "kid's thing" but a mitzvah or obligation that lasts throughout their lives.
- 2) Weekly announcements are frequently made at the end of services.
- 1) And the Number One reason for attending services with your child is - you just might learn something new.

## **TOT SHABBAT**

Tot Shabbat is an abbreviated Shabbat program designed for families with small children second grade and younger. It is a wonderful way to experience the beauty of Shabbat at an earlier hour starting at 6:15 and ending at 7:30. The program includes: an abbreviated Kabbalat Shabbat Service conducted by the Rabbi followed by a mini Oneg. Tot Shabbat will be offered four times during the year (refer to monthly calendar). Emails will be sent home several weeks prior to each Tot Shabbat.

## **JUNIOR CONGREGATION**

Shabbat morning service in a more user friendly format; services will be slow paced, the rabbi and students may provide a bit of commentary, students can participate at their own level without having to face an intimidating congregation of adults. The rabbi will also review the “choreography” of the service – where to sit, stand and bow – again at a pace that will make the learning easier. Last year, unfortunately, attendance at Junior Congregation was very poor; it is the rabbi’s hope that by changing the time of the service, more students will take advantage of this wonderful learning opportunity.

## **JUNIOR CONGREGATION KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP**

Junior Congregation is an integral part of the Hebrew School curriculum and a wonderful opportunity for families to attend services with their children. The Jr. Congregation/Oneg fee is no longer a separate fee, but is included in the annual Registration and Programming Fee. Parents will be contacted via email to help with shopping, set up and Kiddush preparation. Kiddush will follow Junior Congregation in the social hall.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL TUTORING**

Students who are new to the Hebrew School and/or those with special needs will be provided with a tutor during class. Parents should contact Karen Walsh to go over their child’s needs to map out a course of study and to set goals.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS FACILITATOR**

The FJCC offers an Individual Learning Plan for Hebrew Reading for students who are classified in public school. This is separate from any supplemental tutoring program. Staff will be on site several times each month to work with students to assist with reading readiness and Hebrew proficiency. In addition to creating a Learning Plan for students, the Special Needs Facilitator will work with several tutors who will put the Learning Plan into practice in between her scheduled visits. Parents should contact Karen Walsh for more details.

## TZEDAKAH CURRICULUM (ALL GRADES)

מִצְוַת לֶחֶם חַיִּים - פֶּתֵחַ לְסוֹרֵת פֶּתֵחַ לְסוֹרֵת פֶּתֵחַ - Feed the Hungry

This year the FJCC Hebrew School will focus on the mitzvah of *feeding the hungry*. This will be a school wide theme that will be woven in the fabric of the overall curriculum Pre-K through Hebrew High 12, and will be examined in relationship to the Jewish calendar, Jewish holidays and ethical tenets of tzedakah, kindness, truth and justice.

The students will have three fundraising goals during the school year. First, in the fall, the students raise money for the Jewish Relief Agency. The JRA provided kosher food on a monthly basis to thousands of Jewish individuals and families in the Northeast Philadelphia area. Executive Director, Amy Krulik will come to speak to the students about the JRA and the Jewish responsibility of feeding the hungry on September 27<sup>th</sup>. On December 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a bus trip to the warehouse where students and parents can help pack up meals to be delivered to Jewish clients.

Then, in early winter the students will collect non-perishable food for the Flemington Food Pantry. We will have a competition in the classroom to see which class can bring in the most food during the 8-week food drive.

Finally, in the spring we will direct our efforts to raising awareness about the poor and hungry children in Israel. All money raised during this period will be donated to Meir Panim and will provide students with healthy lunches.

The staff is looking forward to engaging the students and partnering with the parents during the Feed the Hungry Tzedakah program.

## YEAR-IN-ISRAEL

Students interested in participating in a “Year-in-Israel” program prior to entering college should see the Rabbi about scholarship options.

## NIKOLE KALAFER MEMORIAL FUND

An endowment fund has been established in memory of Nikole Kalafer to provide scholarships for FJCC students, ages 15 through 22, who wish to participate in an organized, educational program in Israel. To qualify, students must fulfill the following requirements for a minimum of three years after their B’Nai/B’Not Mitzvah: 1) attend at least one Friday night and/or Saturday morning service a month (September-June); 2) attend a minimum of 80% of all Hebrew High School classes; 3) complete their Bar/Bat Mitzvah projects as approved by Karen Walsh within a year of their B’nai/B’not Mitzvah. Upon return from Israel, the recipients must send a note of thanks to the Kalafers and must make a presentation about their trip to the congregation at a Friday night service. Finally, the families of the recipients must be members in good standing. While the synagogue is willing to consider a wide range of different organized programs, all must be approved by the Rabbi and Endowment Committee before a scholarship will be awarded. The amount of the scholarship may vary, but at present it stands at \$1,000. All scholarships must be used within six months, or the money returned to the FJCC.

## CAMPS

The Scholarship Fund is also used to provide interest free loans to those students desiring to attend an approved Jewish sleep away camp for the summer (one where Sabbath and kashrut are observed and Services are conducted on a regular basis) or to supplement the Israel scholarship. The maximum loan is currently \$1500 and must be paid back within 18 months. Students may do so in several ways: 1) from money earned from their tutoring; 2) money from family or work outside the synagogue; 3) by reading Torah on Shabbat and/or holidays. The Rabbi will deduct \$30 from the amount owed for each *aliyah* that is chanted. Students are expected to learn all *aliyot* on their own and may rehearse them with the Rabbi prior to the Shabbat or holiday on which they are reading. Students who wish to earn more than the \$1000 scholarship toward their trips to Israel may do so by reading Torah and will be paid at the same rate.

## DRESS CODE

All students and staff of the FJCC Hebrew School must adhere to the following dress code:

- 1) Boys must have their heads covered.
- 2) No cut off or short shorts, sweatpants or athletic pants.
- 3) Girls must have their shoulders and midriffs covered. A tallit cannot be used as a covering.
- 4) Hemlines must be no shorter than mid-thigh.

Students who come to Hebrew School inappropriately dressed will be sent home and will not be allowed on the *bimah* at services.