

B'nai Shalom of Olney
Kapiloff Religious School
2009-2010

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Letter from the Director of Education

Welcome back! We are so glad that you are part of our family. For those of you who are "vatikim" (you have been with us for a number of years), I would like you to do a special mitzvah for me. Please reach out and take a new family under your wing so they immediately feel comfortable in our home. Encourage them to take part in activities by offering to pick them up or meet them at BSO.

A few things to note about this school year:

- We have gone paperless. All our forms can easily be accessed on the BSO website. Please visit it regularly as well as checking your email.
- Junior Congregation has a new name: Minyan B'Yachad or Junior Congregation Family Service. It is still the same concept with one slight change: there will be four services with double credit; however one service will be at my discretion and will come as a surprise.
- Our annual Purim Carnival will be expanded. We are partnering with the Nursery School to put on the most amazing carnival yet.
- Because of the success with Mitzvah University, this year we will be expanding it into Mitzvah University: A Day of Mitzvot which will take place on Sunday, November 22, 2009. Save the date and let me know what kind of workshops you would like to see or if you would like to volunteer.

Please do not be a stranger. My door is always open.

As we usher in 5770, may your prayers be answered with a healthy and happy new year.

Basic Goals of a Conservative Jewish Education

Conservative Jewish education should be the foundation for young people to become active members of a Jewish community and a Jewish home. This type of education should encompass support of Israel and Jewish organizations, affiliation with synagogues, participation in a Jewish community, commitment to Shabbat and other Jewish holidays, and living a Jewish lifestyle in and out of the Jewish home.

As educators, we would like each student to receive an array of Jewish experiences to coincide with their required classes for a complete Jewish training. Students should be able to participate in a Conservative Shabbat, holiday or weekday service with knowledge of the Torah service and what it means to be a B'nai Mitzvah student. They should be able to use a siddur, a Humash, a tallit, and tefillin.

Each child should be able to identify important people in history and understand concepts such as Zionism, mitzvot, ethics, theology, lifecycle, and be able to fully participate in the Shabbat experience and holiday celebrations. We would like their Jewish education to be full of ruach - spirituality and a sincere pride in being Jewish.

At B'nai Shalom of Olney Kapiloff Religious School, we use the classroom as a place to build community to promote and create Shalom Bayit, a harmonious school atmosphere. Our students will learn Jewish sources and Jewish life skills that will help them to develop menschlichkeit behavior. Judaism is a learned lifestyle, the more we live it the more it becomes ours.

2009-2010 Calendar

August

26	Wednesday	7pm Faculty Orientation (Rooms 14-15)
27	Thursday	3pm Madrichim—Student Assistant Meeting (Rooms 14-15)

September

2	Wednesday	7pm Faculty Orientation (Rooms 14-15)
8	Tuesday	430pm First Tuesday of Religious School (Rooms 1-15)
9	Wednesday	430pm First Wednesday of Religious School (Rooms 1-15)
12	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
13	Sunday	830am First Sunday of Religious School (Rooms 1-15) 830am Opening Assembly with music (Sanctuary) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
15	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
16	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
20	Sunday	Rosh Hashanah - No School
27	Sunday	Erev Yom Kippur - No School
30	Wednesday	7pm First day of Upper School (Rooms 1-15)

October

1	Thursday	645pm Adult Hebrew begins (Room 12) 7pm Post Confirmation begins (Room 10)
3	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)*
4	Sunday	Sukkot - No School
6	Tuesday	430pm Sukkah with Hazzan
7	Wednesday	430pm Sukkah with Hazzan
11	Sunday	Simchat Torah - No School
15	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
17	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
18	Sunday	845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
20	Tuesday	430pm Parent Open House 545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
21	Wednesday	430pm Parent Open House 545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
24	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
25	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Hey 5 "Take Off for Israel" (Rooms 7 and 8)

November

1	Sunday	Congregational Schools Professional Day— No School
7	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
8	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary)
10	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
11	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary) 7pm Upper School Open House (Rooms 1-15)
15	Sunday	830am Primary Open House 845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
21	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
22	Sunday	830am Mitzvah University
19	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
25	Wednesday	Thanksgiving Break - No School
26	Thursday	Thanksgiving Break - No Adult Hebrew
29	Sunday	Thanksgiving Break - No School

December

5	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
6	Sunday	830am Gan K Shabbat Workshop (Room 7) 10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary)
8	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
9	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
13	Sunday	830am Primary Holiday Centers (Rooms 3-7) 845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15)
15	Tuesday	545pm Assembly (Sanctuary)
16	Wednesday	545pm Assembly (Sanctuary)
17	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
19	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)*
20	Sunday	12pm <u>H</u> ugim (Rooms 1, 2, 7, 8, and Lobby) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
22	Tuesday	Winter Break - No School
23	Wednesday	Winter Break - No School
24	Thursday	Winter Break - No School
27	Sunday	Winter Break - No School
29	Tuesday	Winter Break - No School
30	Wednesday	Winter Break - No School
31	Thursday	Winter Break - No School

January

3	Sunday	School resumes 845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15) 1045am Dalet 4 Havdalah Workshop (Social Hall B)
9	Saturday	4pm Dalet 4 Havdalah Service (Sanctuary) 930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
10	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Vav 6 Generations Fair with Congregation (Social Hall B) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
12	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
13	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
14	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
17	Sunday	Martin Luther King Weekend - No School
23	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
30	Saturday	9am Hey 5 and Vav 6 Service (Sanctuary) 930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
31	Sunday	12pm <u>H</u> ugim (Rooms 1, 2, 7, 8, and Lobby)

February

6	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
7	Sunday	845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15) 830am Alef 1 Tzedakah Workshop (Room 6) 1045am Vav 6 Tallit and Tefillin Workshop #1 (Social Hall B)
9	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
10	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
14	Sunday	Presidents' Weekend - No School
18	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
20	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
21	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
23	Tuesday	545pm Purim Assembly (Sanctuary)
24	Wednesday	545pm Purim Assembly (Sanctuary)
27	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
28	Sunday	9am Purim Carnival

March

6	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
7	Sunday	845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15) 11am Dalet 4 Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 12pm H <u>u</u> gim (Rooms 1, 2, 7, 8, and Lobby)
9	Tuesday	5pm Dalet 4 Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
10	Wednesday	5pm Dalet 4 Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
12	Friday	730pm Gan K – Bet 2 Service (Sanctuary)
13	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
14	Sunday	1045am Dalet 4 Weddings (Sanctuary)
18	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
20	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
21	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Gimel 3 Matzah Factory Field Trip 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
28	Sunday	Spring Break - No School
30	Tuesday	Spring Break - No School
31	Wednesday	Spring Break - No School

April

1	Thursday	Spring Break - No School
4	Sunday	Spring Break - No School
6	Tuesday	Spring Break - No School
7	Wednesday	School resumes
10	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
11	Sunday	830am Bet 2 Alef-Bet Workshop (Social Hall B) 845am Primary Ulpan (Room 15)
13	Tuesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
14	Wednesday	545pm Tefillah (Sanctuary)
15	Thursday	7pm Ed Meeting (Room 11) No Adult Hebrew
18	Sunday	830am Gan K – Bet 2 Yom Ha'atzmaut Centers (Rooms 3-7) 1045am Vav 6 Wimple Workshop—Tallit and Tefillin Workshop #2 (Social Hall B) 145pm Faculty Meeting (Rooms 14-15)
20	Tuesday	545pm Assembly (Sanctuary)
21	Wednesday	545pm Assembly (Sanctuary)
24	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)*
25	Sunday	10am Primary Music (Sanctuary) 1045am Music (Sanctuary)

May

1	Saturday	930am Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service) (Rooms 13-15)
2	Sunday	Community Lag B'Omer Event
7	Friday	7pm Gimel 3 Haggigat Siddur (Sanctuary)
14	Friday	7pm Confirmation (Sanctuary)
16	Sunday	830am Primary Shavuot Event 1045am Hey 5 Beit Café (Social Hall B)
18	Tuesday	Erev Shavuot—No School
19	Wednesday	Shavuot—No School
23	Sunday	Last day of school 11am Moving Up Assembly (Sanctuary)

* double credit with an adult

Religious School Hours

Minyan B'yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service):
Saturday 9:30AM-11:30AM

Gan K – Bet 2:
Sunday 8:30AM-10:30AM

Gimel 3 – Zayin 7:
Sunday 10:45AM-1:30PM
Tuesday OR Wednesday 4:30PM – 6:30PM

Upper School (US 8 – Confirmation):
Wednesday: 7:00PM-9:00PM

Post Confirmation (US 11 – US 12):
Thursday: 7:00PM-9:00PM

Save the Date

Gan K – Bet 2:
First Day: Sunday, September 13
Open House: Sunday, November 15

Gimel 3 – Zayin 7:
First Day: Tuesday, September 8 OR Wednesday, September 9
Open House: Tuesday, October 20 OR Wednesday, October 21

Upper School (US 8 – Confirmation):
First Day: Wednesday, September 30
Open House: Wednesday, November 11

Post Confirmation (US 11 – US 12):
First Day: Thursday, October 1

Dismissal Policy

Drop-off: Students may be dropped off in front of the school.

Pick-up: All students will be dismissed from their classrooms at the end of each session. **Students must remain in the classroom and a parent must come inside to pick up their children and/or carpool. Do not park curbside in front of the building to pick up students. Students may not leave the building unless accompanied by an adult.**

Early dismissal: If you would like your child to leave early, a written note or email from a parent must be submitted to both the office and the teacher.

Pick-up changes: Written notice of any change in pick-up must be given to the teacher in advance.

To ensure the safety of all of our students, this procedure must be followed. **There will be no exceptions.**

School Supplies

Students are **required** to bring these to school every day:

- Sharpened pencils with erasers
- Notebook
- Folder
- Religious School books
- Siddur* (Dalet 4 – Zayin 7 only)
- Kippah (boys only)

*The new Siddurim are \$36 and can be purchased during the first week of school for any student who does not already have one.

Minyan B'Yachad (Junior Congregation Family Service)

We are a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and a Framework of Excellence school. This requires us to meet 2 afternoons a week in addition to Sunday classes. Because we only require class on Sunday and one day during the week (Tuesday or Wednesday), we must make up for the lost second day.

Gan K – Bet 2 must be accompanied by a parent.

Gimel 3 – Vav 6 are required to attend a minimum of at least 10 Minyan B'Yachad services in addition to 5 other services (Friday evening service or Saturday morning) which can be in our main sanctuary or at other synagogues. Please remember that students in Vav 6 are required to complete 10 Minyan B'Yachad services regardless of their B'nai Mitzvah date.

Zayin 7 students are required to attend services once a month beginning one year prior to their B'nai Mitzvah.

When attending services, students are required to pull their attendance card so they can receive credit. There are two sets of attendance cards, one for Minyan B'Yachad and one for the Main sanctuary. There will be separate cards for Zayin 7 students as well.

Carole Levy, a member of the Education committee, has graciously volunteered to track student Minyan B'Yachad attendance. If your child forgets to pull his/her card or if they attended a service outside of BSO, please email her at clevymd@yahoo.com. You do NOT need to email her every time your child attends services.

As a reminder, High Holy Day services do NOT count toward completion of the Minyan B'Yachad requirement. The following will count toward fulfilling these requirements:

- Class services
- Attendance at another synagogue's Shabbat (can only be counted once)
- Attendance at BSO

Schedule (Saturdays 9:30AM-11:45AM) in Rooms 13-15

- September 12, 2009
- October 3, 2009 - double credit with a parent
- October 17, 2009
- October 24, 2009
- November 7, 2009
- November 21, 2009
- December 5, 2009
- December 19, 2009 - double credit with a parent
- January 9, 2010
- January 23, 2010
- January 30, 2010
- February 6, 2010
- February 20, 2010
- February 27, 2010
- March 6, 2010
- March 13, 2010
- March 20, 2010
- April 10, 2010
- April 24, 2010 - double credit with a parent
- May 1, 2010

Sponsoring Kiddush

To make Minyan B'Yachad even more special, we ask parents to sponsor a service in honor of a special occasion. The cost is \$36.

Behavior Expectations

- Each student will:
 - Use acceptable language
 - Respect personal and school property in and outside the building
 - Dress appropriately
 - Treat all people with respect
 - Be prepared for class and have appropriate materials
 - Respect the right of all to learn and express opinions
 - Keep the classroom clean and neat
 - Walk in the hallways and classrooms
 - Be where they belong
 - Keep cell phones off and put them into backpacks
- Each student will not:
 - Threaten and/or physically attack or verbally abuse anyone
 - Vandalize, damage, or otherwise abuse school or synagogue property
 - Smoke or bring alcohol, drugs, fireworks, or other hazardous objects to school.
 - Bring any electronic device into the classroom. This includes GameBoys, iPods, and any other such device. They will be confiscated and released only to a parent at the end of the session.
 - Bring anything which is a safety hazard, may bother others, or which disrupts learning and studying.
 - Leave his/her classroom or the school grounds without permission.

- Causes for immediate suspension:
 - Vandalism to school or synagogue property (Parents will be held financially responsible.)
 - Possession and/or use of drugs, alcohol, or weapons
 - Physical attack

Parents have the right to appear and defend any action before the Religious Education Committee (convening a special meeting if necessary).

Cell Phone Policy

B'nai Shalom of Olney Religious School is a no cell phone zone.

All cell phones must be turned OFF during school hours. When students arrive, phones must be turned off and placed out of sight. They are not allowed to be turned on again until school has ended. If a cell phone is visible it will be confiscated and brought to the office. It will be returned to the parent at the end of the school day.

Please help us out by not calling or texting your child during class. If you need to reach your child, please call the Religious School Office at 301-774-9323.

Kashrut Policy

Any food brought from home or outside must contain only Kosher ingredients and an approved Heksher. Food must bear a symbol K, U, OU or have a parve identification on the label. **No homemade products are allowed.** Students may bring only parve or dairy food into the school. In the event that a food item is brought into the school that does not meet BSO standards, it will be sent home with your child.

Discipline Policy

We want our school to be a place where students can grow Jewishly and enjoy the community of their classmates in a nurturing and supportive environment. The atmosphere in our classrooms should be *heimish* (warm), positive, relaxed, and respectful. Teachers will work towards making their classroom a *makom kadosh* (holy place), taking into account ways to bring holiness to classroom space and time. All staff, parents, and students are expected to act like *mentchen* and treat each other with respect and *kavod*.

We will teach and promote the following Jewish values in all our classrooms:

- קהילה קדושה KEHILAH KEDOSHAH (holy community)
 - To explore: What does it mean to be holy or sacred? What does it mean to act as a holy community? How can a class be holy? If we are made "b'tzelem Elohim" (in God's image), how do we acknowledge the spark of God in each person?
- שלום בית SHALOM BAYIT (peace in the house)
 - To explore: What does it mean to have "peace in the house"? How is the classroom like a house or home? How do we bring peace to our classroom?
- כבוד KAVOD (respect or honor)
 - To explore: What does it really mean to respect someone? How do we respect each other in our classroom?

- חסד HESED (kindness or loving kindness)
 - To explore: How do we show kindness in our classroom?

Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner which:

- reflects respect for teachers and fellow students
- demonstrates concern for the rights and well being of others
- allows for a positive learning environment in the classroom
- shows responsibility for our facility and school materials.

Minor disciplinary issues will ordinarily be handled within the classroom. If the teacher deems the student disruptive to the class environment, the student will be sent to the office with a written assignment. In the event of a serious or persistent problem, parents will be contacted by school administration, and may be asked to pick up their child early. Parents may be required to sit in the classroom in some cases, as determined by the Director of Education.

Learning Center

The Learning Center, coordinated by Susan Kramer, is available to Gimel 3 – Zayin 7 students during all Religious School sessions. It is comprised of learning center specialists who will meet with the identified students for twenty minutes during class at least once a week. Students with auditory and visual needs, as well as students with difficulty in blending and those with low self-esteem are targeted. These students will surely improve from working one on one or in a small group situation because they will be given the extra attention and push to improve their reading fluency.

There is a fee of \$200 per student (or \$100 per semester) to help defray the cost needed to staff this specialized program.

Ulpan

Ulpan begins with the youngest students in Gan K and continues through Zayin 7.

Ulpan is taught to all Gan K – Bet 2 students once a month. Here, students learn new vocabulary which will help tremendously in finding Hebrew roots in their prayer books. Students gain a better understanding of the prayers on their goal sheets and develop a love for the Hebrew language.

Hana Adato, our Ulpan teacher, works full time at Children's Learning Center and has been there since 1994. She is both a Hebrew teacher and a resource teacher to the students and staff, and has developed a Hebrew curriculum for all grades at the Children's Learning Center. She is well respected by parents and faculty and cares about every child with abounding energy.

In addition to primary Ulpan, midweek Ulpan is also available for our Hebrew school students (Gimel 3 – Zayin 7). These students will meet every week with Hana as select groups outside of the classroom where they will continue to increase their fluency in Hebrew conversation through games, dialogues, and other hands on applications. The cost is \$125 per student for the entire school year.

If you have any questions, concerns, or additional comments about the Learning Center or Ulpan, contact the Director of Education, Jill Epstein, at jill.epstein@bnaishalomofolney.org.

Adult Hebrew

Adult Hebrew is taught in a relaxing and supportive atmosphere. If you make the time to learn, you will be able to help your loved ones with their Hebrew; it is a win-win situation. Two classes are offered so that beginners, beginner plus and advanced can all achieve their goals.

Adult Hebrew meets on Thursday nights in Room 12. Beginner and Beginner Plus class meets at 8pm and costs \$63 for members and \$75 for non-members. The Advanced class meets at 6:45pm and costs \$60 for members and \$75 for non-members. All class fees include textbooks.

If you have any questions, concerns, or additional comments about Adult Hebrew, contact the Director of Education, Jill Epstein, at jill.epstein@bnaishalomofolney.org.

Schedule:

Session 1:

October 1
October 8
October 22
October 29
November 5
November 12

Session 2:

December 3
December 10
January 7
January 21
February 4
February 11

Session 3:

March 4
March 11
March 25
April 8
April 22
April 29

6:45pm: Advanced class

8pm: Beginner and Beginner Plus class