



# Religious School News

OCTOBER 4, 2023

Dear Religious School Families:

It was such a joyful and wonder-filled day on Sunday, with SO much happening!

We celebrated the festival of Sukkot by visiting and decorating the sukkah, and several families stayed after school to fulfill the mitzvot of dwelling in the sukkah and sharing with those in need during Sukkot! Some of our learners even built their own edible sukkot.

3rd-6th grade began their exploration of the **BIG Question: What is the Story of our Jewish Family?** They began by learning about Midrash and the process of drash – to create commentary and generate answers to the questions we discover in the Torah. **Be sure to ask your children about what fruit they think Eve ate in the Garden of Eden and why!** Below are some of their reflections on their learning from Sunday:



*I learned that there is a fruit that was not supposed to be eaten in the garden of Eden, but, they ate it anyway and no one knows what the fruit was-Ellen*

*I learned that there were a lot of trees in a garden and you could eat the fruit of all of them but the middle one. Adam and Eve ate a fruit from one, but no one knows which fruit they ate. Was it from the middle trees or the other trees? (God expelled them from the Garden)-Skyler*

*What I learned in Sunday school was how the Torah is a living document, what fruits Adam and Eve could not eat in the garden of Eden, I also learned that rabbis are still pondering the question on why Eve ate the forbidden fruit-Joshua*

This week we introduced some new learning experiences:

- At our morning program/Tekes Boker we introduced the **Hebrew Word of the Week**. See the box below for this week's words. I was thrilled to hear learners using these words throughout the day! Watch for more words in our newsletter each week. We encourage you to try using these words at home as much as possible.



- Also at Tekes Boker, we are beginning our mornings building our *kehillah kedoshah*/holy community each week by sharing *Havdalah* and being mindful of the separations we make between the holy and the ordinary. We are asking learners to help us continue our High Holy Day theme *Everyday People Making Everyday Better* throughout the year by sharing one thing they do each week to be an influencer for good. Please help your children think about how they are making everyday better for our world so they can share with us each week ❤️
- Pre-3rd grade learners began Hebrew Through Movement lessons. (See the picture below of learners jumping, they learned the Hebrew word – לִקְפוֹץ/lichpotz, to jump) Learners are taught Hebrew through immersion and physical response. Throughout the duration of this class, learners are exposed to only Hebrew words, they are led through simple actions like standing, sitting, waking, jumping, and stopping accompanied by the Hebrew for these words. They also learned Sukkot words this week. HTM is based on the premise that we can teach language more effectively if we follow the process by which infants acquire their first language. This involves a “conversation” between adult and child during which the adult suggest actions to the child (take the bottle, wave bye-bye...) and the child responds by acting. Hebrew Through Movement (HTM) is:
  - Joyful and playful
  - Experiential
  - Based on novelty
  - Systematic

**Parents will have an opportunity to experience HTM for themselves on December 3rd.**

Speaking of parent learning opportunities, please see the flyers below for **Parent and Family Learning** where adults will have the opportunity to learn with other parents and together with your children. Check out the flyer for **Stay and Schmooze**, too – a chance for parents to just stay and schmooze and hang out with other parents. Our first **Stay and Schmooze** is on October 15th – a chance to learn a bit more about our 3rd-6th grade curriculum. Bagels and coffee will be provided at all **Stay and Schmooze** events. Thanks to our Temple Shalom Sisterhood and Brotherhood for their partnership on this event!

*Debbie*

Deborah Niederman, RJE  
Director of Lifelong Learning



## A glimpse into 2nd grade:

After a visit to the Sukkah, second grade had music with Ms. Mandy. She started by teaching them a Sukkot song. Each learner received an egg shaker and during the song, the lyrics instructed students to shake these shakers mimicking the shaking of a Lulav and Etrog in the sukkah. They also sang a familiar song, I Have a Voice, by Elana Arian, reminding learners of our High Holy Day theme, *Everyday People Making Everyday Better*.

Here is a link to the song: <https://open.spotify.com/track/75h8dEJPqjcoHNMA6rdU37?si=wjr1-KeiRz62VEm6rJbZUQ&nd=1>



בְּבִקָּשָׁה / B'VAKASHA / PLEASE/  
תוֹדָה / TODAH / THANK YOU  
טוֹב / TOV / GOOD

## Upcoming events:

Oct 7th - Munchkin Minyan

Oct 8th - Parents join us for tefilla at 11:30 in the garden to hear the story of creation read

Oct 8th - Next Dor 2nd Sundays for Social Justice - trip to City Square

Oct 11th - Next Dor - Cooking and Conversation

Oct 15th - Stay and Schmooze

Oct 15th - Blessing of the Pets - Special Tefila and Pet Blessing at 11:30

Oct 22nd - First Tots Academy Session (Pre-K parents join their children and the rest of the Tots Academy class for a shared day of learning)

Oct 25th - Next Dor - Cooking and Conversation

Oct 28th - Munchkin Minyan North

Oct 29th - Next Dor Sundaes with the Rabbi (note date change)

DROP  
OFF

**Drop off:** At the RELIGIOUS SCHOOL entrance. The driveway will be blocked in the morning. If you are not dropping your children at the end of the driveway, please park and walk them to the portico.

**Pick-up:** At the RELIGIOUS SCHOOL entrance. Children will remain INSIDE the building until parents come to the door either in person, or in your car. Children will NOT be permitted to walk through the parking lot to their cars.



## Parent & Family Learning

<b>November 12</b> K & 1st grades Challah Bake & Shabbat Learning 	<b>November 12</b> 2nd grade Family Traditions 	<b>December 3</b> Pre-K - 3rd grade Hebrew Through Movement Parent Learning 
<b>February 4</b> 3rd-6th grades Parent Genealogy Learning 	<b>April 28</b> 3rd-6th grades Family Food Festival 	<b>November 12</b> 7th grade Family Trip Holocaust & Human Rights Museum 
<b>April 14</b> <b>All Families</b> 	<b>May 5</b> All Families Annual Meeting & End of School Celebration	<b>Pre-K/Tots Academy            Sessions:</b> Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 31, Apr. 21 & May 5

pink: family learning  
blue: parent learning

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## Friendship, Joy & Wonder



## Parent Stay & Schmooze

<b>October 15</b> Learn about our BIG Question (Explore the 3rd-6th grade question & curriculum)	<b>November 5</b> Bingo with Brotherhood 	<b>December 3</b> Chanukah Cookie Decorating & Traditions 
<b>December 17</b> Transliteration Game with Sisterhood 	<b>January 21</b> Rock Painting with Garden Committee 	<b>February 4</b> Ask BIG Questions Part 2 
<b>March 3</b> Learn about the work of Gateway House 	<b>April 21</b> Passover Recipe Exchange 	All events begin at 9:45am - meet us in the main foyer

TEMPLE SHALOM

## Friendship, Joy & Wonder



TEMPLE SHALOM

**MUNCHKIN MINYAN**



**Celebrating Sukkot**

**Saturday, October 7**  
**10:30am**

RSVP by 10/4 at <https://templeshalomdallas.org/munchkin-minyan/>



TEMPLE SHALOM

**Munchkin Minyan North**  
**Exciting Program-in Frisco**  
**October 28, 2023**  
**10:30am**



**Primrose School**  
333 W. Lebanon, Frisco TX  
**Open to the community!**  
**(Families with children 7 and under)**  
**RSVP by October 25**

<https://templeshalomdallas.org/munchkin-minyan-north/>  
Program generously funded by the Sylvan T. Baer Foundation  
[www.TempleShalomDallas.org](http://www.TempleShalomDallas.org)  
**Connecting Friends, Families & Futures**

 **TEMPLE SHALOM**  
**BLESSING OF THE PETS**  
**Sunday, October 15**  
**TEMPLE SHALOM LAWN 11:30AM**  
Bring your pet for a special blessing from Rabbi Paley.

**MITZVAH PROJECT**  
**WE ARE COLLECTING:**  
**DOG TOYS - PUPPY PADS - COLLARS**  
**TREATS - LEASHES & BONES**  
Fun photo station for family photos





All dogs/cats must be leashed  
& other animals secured in cages

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