



Religious School News

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

Dear Religious School Families:

In these difficult times, it is important to focus on blessings and gratitude. This week we filled our morning with blessings. We began our *tefilla*/worship service gathered under the words of Mah Tov (How goodly are your tents O Jacob, your dwelling places O Israel. Numbers 24:5) at our front entrance. Whenever people enter our building, we want them to feel the blessing of the beauty of our space. This text reminds us that when King Balak sent his priest Balaam to curse our people, upon seeing our encampment, Balaam could only bless the Israelite people. We talked about what has the power to turn curses into blessings and what might have Balaam seen that so inspired him. I shared a Midrash that says that in the encampment of the Israelites, all the tent openings faced each other, so that everyone could see everyone else – making them aware of each other's needs. This set-up was so unique that Balaam could not help but bless us. From this Midrash, we also learn about the importance of looking out and truly seeing each other. Then, we talked about what we can do to turn curses into blessings. Be sure to ask your children about what we discussed and what you can do to turn curses into blessings. Each of us has the power to Make Everyday Better.



3rd-6th grade parents, be sure to ask your children about what is worth arguing over and what Abraham chose to argue with God about.

7th grade parents, I hope you saw the tzit tzit your children tied with Rabbi Paley. Turns out, it's not so easy to tie knots and that paying attention to this task can also help us remember the intention we need to fulfill the mitzvot.

Debbie

Deborah Niederman, RJE
Director of Lifelong Learning

HEBREW

WORD OF THE WEEK

Hebrew words of the week:

בֵּית	ba-yeet	House
בֵּית סֵפֶר	bait sefer	School

Upcoming events:

- Nov 4th - Munchkin Minyan
- Nov 5th - Munchkin Music
- Nov 5th - Torah Covers Project for Consecration / Kindergarten Parents
- Nov 5th - Stay and Schmooze - Brotherhood Bingo and Bagels
- Nov 12th Special Learning Events:
 - Tots Academy
 - Torah Covers Project for Consecrations / Kindergarten Parents
 - K-1 Family Challah Bake and Shabbat Learning
 - 2nd Grade Family Program
 - Kindness Day Collection in Memory of Shayna Vincent
 - 7th Grade trip to the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum


Consecration/Kindergarten Parents: Materials for making Torah covers for your children will be laid out in the RS entrance on November 5th and 12th and on December 3rd. Please check your email for more information and be sure to stop by one of these days to create this special gift for your child.)

**DROP
OFF**

UPDATE: The street construction on Alpha Road (that we thought was complete) is reported to be completed by November 5th.

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.




**WORLD
Kindness DAY**
NOVEMBER 13

Kindness Day

November 12

In memory of Shayna Vincent

Stuffie Drive
Help us collect stuffed animals for the Dallas Police Department!
Bring new stuffies to fill our donation box at the Religious School entrance from November 4-12.



(Stuffies are kept in police cars, and when an officer encounters a child who has been traumatized due to tragedy or victimization, the child is given a bear. The child is comforted by the stuffie in an unfortunate or unfamiliar surrounding.)

TEMPLE SHALOM
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Please be sure you are a member of our Facebook group so you can see ALL the joyful, wonder-filled photos posted each week and learn more about upcoming events and programs. [Click here](#) to join!



Parent Stay & Schmooze

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

TEMPLE SHALOM

Friendship, Joy & Wonder

Parent & Family Learning

November 12
K & 1st grades
Challah Bake &
Shabbat Learning



November 12
2nd grade
Family Traditions



December 3
Pre-K - 3rd grade
Hebrew Through
Movement
Parent Learning



February 4
3rd-6th grades
Parent Genealogy
Learning



April 28
3rd-6th grades
Family Food
Festival



November 12
7th grade
Family Trip
Holocaust & Human
Rights Museum



April 14
All Families



May 5
All Families
Annual Meeting
&
End of School
Celebration

**Pre-K/Tots Academy
Sessions:**
Oct. 22, Nov. 12,
Dec. 17, Jan. 28,
Feb. 25, Mar. 31,
Apr. 21 & May 5

pink: family learning
blue: parent learning

TEMPLE SHALOM

Friendship, Joy & Wonder