

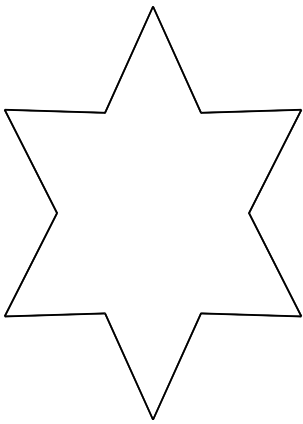
# Congregation Sons of Israel

www.csibriarcliff.org  
Religious School  
Information Booklet  
2011 - 2012  
5771 - 5772

Save the date:



Kristallnacht Program November 6  
Zimriyah – December 18/Chanukah LEGO program  
Purim Carnival – March 11  
Dance Festival – May 20



Take a virtual tour of  
Israel with CSI

"Teach them diligently unto thy children"  
Deuteronomy VI:7

*Rabbi Steven C. Kane*

*Roni Shapiro Ben-David*  
*Educational Director*

*Cantor Jeffrey Shiovitz*

**CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**  
**2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR**  
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# *Congregation Sons of Israel Religious Schools*

*Educational Programs Include: Nursery School and Camp, Pre-School and Family Education, Elementary School, Hebrew High School and Youth Groups*

Roni Shapiro Ben-David, Educational Director

[www.CSIBriarcliff.org](http://www.CSIBriarcliff.org)

Religious & Nursery School e-mail: [education@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:education@csibriarcliff.org)

1666 Pleasantville Road

Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510

(914)762-6396

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Dear Parents & Students:

This is going to be a fantastic year with lots of learning and fun!

Save these dates:

Kristallnacht Program November 6

Zimriyah – December 18/Chanukah LEGO program

Purim Carnival – March 11

Dance Festival – May 20

More in our school calendar enclosed!

The teachers and I are very anxious to begin teaching and learning with your children. Please take the opportunity to read through this handbook, especially the sections on our curriculum. You will find enclosed a tentative calendar, attendance and behavior policies, dismissal procedures and more. Please keep this handbook for the remainder of the 2011/2012 school year for your reference. Share privately with your child's teachers any concerns or suggestions you may have to make this a great year for your child. We need your input. Many of our students have varying learning styles. It is extremely important that you share this information with me in writing. If your child has an I.E.P., please make sure a copy is sent to the school. All information is kept confidential. Your child's teacher needs this information to teach your child.

We will continue to offer through our "**Lev**" program opportunities for children with special learning challenges to be apart of our religious school. Anyone interested in making a donation to our Mitzner Family Special Educational Needs Fund should contact me. Through your support, we have been able to offer these special children one to one assistance in our classrooms and CSI is proud to be able to offer a self contained class of children with special needs. If you have any questions, suggestions, problems or feedback, I extend an open invitation to you to speak with me. Please call the office between 8:30AM and 6:00PM on weekdays or leave a message on the machine and I will get back to you. You may also Email the school office at [education@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:education@csibriarcliff.org).

Sincerely,

Roni Shapiro Ben-David  
Educational Director

## SCHOOL FACULTY

RONI SHAPIRO BEN-DAVID - EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

ABBE MARCUS - GIMEL

TONI BAND - GIMEL & DALET

MALVINA BROWNE – HEH

SANDY CAFARCHIO – SECRETARY

ORIT DALY – HIGH SCHOOL

BETH SCHNECK – USY ADVISOR

TAMAR DRUCKER – IVRIT B'IVRIT & RESOURCE

HEATHER EGERMAN – PROZDOR 1

DOREEN GIOIO - SECRETARY

SUE HARTMAN - GIMEL & DALET

FAITH KAVY - PROZDOR 2 & ALEF

SHEERA ZUCKERMAN – HEH & LEV & RESOURCE

MICHELLE KORZEN - SHORASHIM

BETTE SLUTSKY - ALEF & BET

MARIS ASCHEN - RESOURCE

BEVERLEY WIZWER – BET & RESOURCE

## **We are proud of our teachers!!**

Here at C.S.I. we are very proud of our staff. As in many Hebrew schools, not all of our teachers have a teaching degree, but they are all college graduates, some with advanced degrees. Each teacher takes pride in creating an inviting classroom atmosphere. We participate in teacher training programs and hold frequent meetings. All teachers are certified in first aid and CPR.

**Roni Shapiro Ben-David**

Roni has been the Educational Director of C.S.I. since 1989. She earned her degree in Elementary Education from the University of Texas and has a Masters degree in Jewish Education from the Jewish Theological Seminary in conjunction with Columbia University. She also has a license as a certified principal of Solomon Schechter. Prior to coming to C.S.I., she was the assistant educational director at the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City and works in the summer at Camp Ramah. Her children Eitan, Ari and Lior go to Solomon Schechter.

**Maris Aschen**

Maris has worked as a CSI Nursery School teacher for 11 years. She has substituted in many of the religious school classes and worked on special programs throughout the years. She is excited to join the religious school staff as a resource teacher and looks forward to seeing familiar faces.

**Toni Band**

Toni has been teaching at CSI since 1999. She has a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology/Chemistry and a Masters in Information Management. She also has a certificate in Early Childhood Education. In addition, she is a Girl Scout leader. Toni teaches the youngest students in our nursery school. Toni's children, Victor & Melissa are graduates of our Religious School and Emily is in our Hebrew High School.

**Malvina Browne**

Malvina has been a teacher at C.S.I. since 1980. She taught in the public school system in Brooklyn for 12 years and enjoyed working with the students. She used to sub in the local public schools. Malvina teaches Heh. She is currently a member of the Ritual Committee and Synagogue 2000, and has been involved in many fundraisers here at C.S.I. Both of her children, Alexis and Erika are graduates of our Religious School.

**Sandra "Sandy" Cafarchio**

Sandy is the secretary in our Religious School and Nursery School since 2005. Before coming to C.S.I, Sandy worked for 27 years as a Certified Medical Assistant and Office Manager in two large orthopedic practices in Westchester. She loves taking care of our children's "cuts and scrapes" as well as preparing their daily snacks. Her favorite hobbies are cooking and shopping. Sandy has helped prepare many of the meals that are served at our meetings and family programs. When not at C.S.I., she loves spending time with her family, especially her granddaughters, Taylor, Madison and Katelyn.

**Orit Aizenman Daly –**

Orit will be teaching our High School program. She teaches 9<sup>th</sup> grade World History at SAR High School in Riverdale. She is fluent in Hebrew and Yiddish. She loves working with teenagers. She is a member of CSI and a Mommy of two children.

Tamar Drucker

Tami was born and educated in Israel, she has been teaching in our school since 1989. She has a degree in Physical Therapy that she received while living in Israel. Tami also teaches the 3 year olds in our nursery school. Her children, Roni and Avital, are graduates of our Religious School. Tami leads Junior Congregation each Saturday. On her free time she quilts Art and Judaica quilts.

Heather Egerman

Heather's 3<sup>rd</sup> has been teaching at CSI religious school since 2008. She teaches Prozdor1. She is a recent graduate of the University of Rhode Island, majoring in early childhood education. Besides working at CSI, Heather will be taking courses towards her master's degree. She has been a Town of Ossining resident almost her entire life and had her bat mitzvah at CSI. She worked at CSI day camp for three summers and for many years, has been on staff at Breezemont Day Camp in Armonk.

Doreen Gioio

Doreen is the secretary in the Nursery and Religious School since 2008. Doreen worked with the Ossining School District for 12 years as a Senior Office Assistant before coming to CSI. Besides working for C.S.I, she also manages her husband, Carl's maintenance and Management Company, Lo-Mar Inc. and enjoys spending time with her 3 children, Cassandra, Philip and Nicole.

Sue Hartman

Susan has taught in the Religious School since 1999, she has taught Dalet, Gimel and Resource. She has a Bachelor of Arts, degree in Economics and a minor in Judaica Studies from Emory University. Sue also teaches the 3 year olds in our Nursery school. Prior to working at CSI, she worked in the Tour industry running photographic safaris in Africa. She and her husband Hank have 3 daughters Jenna, Elana and Kayla who are all graduates of our Religious School.

Faith Kavy

Faith has been teaching in our school since 1993. She teaches Prozdor 2 and Alef. She has a Bachelor of Social Work and a Masters degree in Early Childhood Special Education. She is a teacher in our nursery school and runs Kid's Karousel, an enrichment program and Early Birds housed in our building. Faith and her family have been an important part of C.S.I. for many years. She has one son, Aidan Noah.

Michelle Korzen

Michelle's teaches our youngest Hebrew School children. She has been teaching since 2005. She continues to teach our 3Alef class in our preschool program and has done so with dedication and creativity for the past 14 years. She comes to us with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Art and knowledge and experience in Speech and Language Development. Michelle's other areas of study include coursework in identifying the LD child and working with AD/HD children. Michelle has chaired the committee for special needs awareness, is co-founder of CAPCO (Challenges Awareness Parent Committee) in Briarcliff. During the summer she is a Group Leader/Division Leader at Breezemont Day Camp.

Abbe Marcus

Abbe has been teaching Gimel since 1998 and for many years was our Family Youth Educator. Not only is Abbe a talented teacher, but she has also planned many special family education programs as well as supervised our youth groups. She has a Masters in Special Education & Educational Psychology/Child Development. Abbe was instrumental in writing the Heh curriculum. In her spare time she teaches yoga. Aaron & Danna are both in college and Eliza celebrated her Bat Mitzvah last year.

Beth Schneck

Beth is a graduate of Philadelphia University where she majored in fashion merchandising. She currently works at Try and Buy Toy Stores where she continuously interacts with young people and adults, while using her merchandise background to create fun and interesting displays. When she was younger she was very involved with USY and has many fond memories and shared experiences. Recently, she had the opportunity to chaperone several USY events which has helped her bond with the kids she will now be advising. She is excited about her new position and knows that she will help create memories for the next generation of USY'ers.

Bette Slutsky

Bette has been teaching at CSI since 1974. She has also taught many adults through Adult Education. Bette has a BA in Education from the University of Michigan and is a retired 3rd grade teacher from the White Plains Public Schools. She is very involved with the American Cancer Society and their Reach to Recovery program. Both of her children, Adam and Amy are married and she has 6 grandchildren. Bette will be teaching Alef and Bet.

Sheera Zuckerman

Sheera is our resource, Heh and LEV teacher. She is a licensed and certified Elementary Education teacher with over 30 years experience in Special Education. When not at C.S.I., Sheera volunteers as a parent advocate in the Public Schools for children with learning disabilities. She also volunteers and helps run the Bar and Bat Mitzvah mentoring program at C.S.I. and leads the Prozdor service Shabbat mornings. Fluent in Hebrew, she was educated in Jewish Day Schools and Hebrew University. Prior to teaching at C.S.I., she taught at Westchester Day School in both Kindergarten and Resource Room. She has been with us since 2000 and has extensive experience in Jewish music. She also brings with her many years of private teaching experience with Bar and Bat Mitzvah training as well as Hebrew tutoring. Her son, David, and daughter, Eliana both attended C.S.I. nursery and Hebrew School.

Beverley Wizwer

Beverly has been teaching nursery school at CSI since 2000. She has 2 sons, Joshua and Avi, both have graduated from our nursery school and now attend our religious school. Beverley studied at Purchase and got her degree in Hebrew and Jewish Studies in June 2001. She taught for 7 years in a religious school in Newburgh and is now teaching her at our Hebrew school since 2009.

**C.S.I. RELIGIOUS SCHOOL P.T.A.**

**OUR GOALS:**

TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR THE SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AND DINNERS.

TO SPONSOR PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR JEWISH TRADITIONS AND CULTURE.

TO PROVIDE SOCIAL EVENTS FOR STUDENTS INCLUDING PARTIES, MUSIC AND CRAFTS.

TO SPONSOR FUND RAISING EVENTS TO SUPPORT OUR GOALS INCLUDING PROGRAMS, SONG FESTIVALS, AND CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR.

TO GENERALLY SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL, TEACHERS AND CHILDREN.

**PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY JOINING THE P.T.A.!**

COST IS ONLY \$36.00 PER FAMILY

**2011-2012 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PTA**

**CO-PRESIDENTS**

RANDI SCHONFELD

ZIONA RUBIN

**TREASURER**

WENDY GOTTLIEB

# SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

## **Shorashim (Kindergarten)**

Sunday 9 - 11

Teacher: Michelle Korzen

## **Prozdor 1 (First Grade)**

Sunday 9 - 11

Teacher: Heather Egerman

## **Prozdor 2 (Second Grade)**

Sunday 9-11  
Or Tuesday 4-6

Teacher: Faith Kavy

## **Alef (Third Grade)**

Wednesday 4-6  
Sunday 11:10 - 1:10

Teacher: Faith Kavy  
Bette Slutsky

## **Bet (Fourth Grade)**

Sunday 9 – 11  
Tuesday 4 - 6

Teacher: Bette Slutsky  
Beverley Wizwer

## **Gimel (Fifth Grade)**

Tuesday 4 – 6  
Sunday 9 - 11

Teacher: Sue Hartman  
Abbe Marcus  
Toni Band

## **Dalet (Sixth Grade)**

Wednesday 4 -6  
Sunday 11:10 – 1:10

Teacher: Toni Band  
Sue Hartman

## **Heh (Seventh Grade)**

Wednesday 4 – 6  
Sunday 11:10 – 1:10

Teacher: Malvina Browne  
Sheera Zuckerman

## **Ivrit B'Ivrit**

Sunday 9:00 – 12:00

Teacher: Tami Drucker

## **Lev**

Sunday 9:00 – 11:00

Teacher: Sheera Zuckerman

**Resource:** Tami Drucker, Beverley Wizwer, Sheera Zuckerman & Maris Aschen

## SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The C.S.I. Religious School is a Conservative, egalitarian school which strives to provide a Jewish education and to teach the children how to live in a modern world while appreciating our rich heritage and traditions. The curriculum of the C.S.I. Religious School is based on the assumption that a Religious School is more than an instructional experience. Within the framework of the Religious School, students will learn about or experience many facets of Judaism including learning Hebrew, rituals, God, history, ethics, holidays, Jewish music, customs, Jewish art, Bible study, prayer and Israel. In addition, the Religious School offers dynamic opportunities for each student to participate in programs which strengthen their commitment to Jewish life and instill a sense of responsibility to the overall Jewish community. We want our children to love being Jewish and to have fun while learning about Judaism.

## SAFETY REQUIREMENTS/POLICIES

Safety is of the utmost importance to C.S.I. Please discuss all safety regulations with your child(ren).

## WEAPON POLICY

If a student brings a weapon to school:

1. Adult takes away weapon from student.
2. Child goes to the school office and reports to principal.
3. Weapon gets locked away in safe in school office.
4. Educational Director must call the parents/guardians, Educational Chair and President of the Synagogue.
5. Put in writing all documents from all witnesses.
6. Set up meeting with child and parents.
7. Contact police if necessary, depending on the circumstances of the event.
8. The child may be suspended from attending school and parents may need to pay for tutoring.

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FROM INDIAN POINT

1. If there is any sort of a problem at Indian Point, we will be notified by the Superintendent of the Briarcliff Schools, or by Rick Whitfield from the County, **before** there is any public notification.
2. If we are evacuated, we will be taken to Pace University in Pleasantville.

## LEAVING EARLY

Parents who need to pick their children up early for any reason must park and come into the building to get them. As is the policy in your child's secular school, parents must go to the office, not the classroom, and we will page your child to come to the office. Children may not wait outside or in the halls for early pick up. Any child who is being picked up early by someone other than a family member, must have a note giving permission for pick up.

## PICK - UP

SHORASHIM, PROZDOR I & II: Students must be picked up and dropped off by an adult or older sibling. This means coming into the building with your child and bringing them to and from their classroom. If your child is being picked up by someone other than you or your usual driver, you must give a note to the teachers telling them who is picking up your child. In addition you must also notify the office. Children will not be sent home with a different driver unless a note is received prior to the change in pick up.

### ALEF-HEH/DROP OFF TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY:

- 1) Enter into the driveway
- 2) Travel in the right lane closest to the building to drop off your child at the back of the school entrance (same drop-off area)
- 3) Children should try to exit only on the passenger side or parents may park on the far side of the parking lot and walk their child in to the building
- 4) Exit through the driveway (please note there are two lanes at the exit for turning either direction)

### PICK-UP TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY

- 1) Enter into the driveway
- 2) Travel in the left hand passing lane in the large parking lot
- 3) Stay in left lane passing drop-off area and carefully cross to the right hand lane.
- 4) Proceed in the right hand lane to our pick-up area at the west entrance (door after kitchen entrance)
- 5) After your child enters your vehicle, carefully move to the left hand lane and exit the driveway
- 6) Children will only exit from the Synagogue west entrance (door after kitchen entrance) and will wait in the pick-up grassy area.
- 7) Parents may always park and come into the building or pick up area to pick up children!**
- 8) The exit from the Synagogue has been divided for your convenience and safety. Please follow the arrows.
- 9) In case of heavy rain or snow, children will not be waiting outside, but will be in the social hall by class. Therefore, all drivers will need to park and come into the Synagogue on those days of inclement weather
- 10) *We sincerely appreciate you being on time to pick up your children. When a parent is late, one of the staff must wait with the child until you come. This makes for a very long day. If the delay is unavoidable, please call and let us know.***

HANDICAPPED PARKING IS ONLY FOR THE HANDICAPPED

## **ABDUCTION**

Children are not permitted to leave school with anyone other than a parent or an individual that the parent has designated. Parents must list, in writing, every person who has their permission to pick up their child from school. A form may be signed at the start of school in September, or the parent may send a note to school with the child. Extraordinary precautions are taken to avoid child abductions. Children are always within eye range of a teacher. In the event of a problem, the following procedures will be taken. The intercom will be used to call the office and a code word will be given. While the teachers confront the unauthorized person and make every effort to stop the child being taken, 911 will be called by the office. Parents will be called immediately. If they cannot be reached, the emergency person will be called. Administrators will work closely with police to assist them with any information that is needed for the investigation.

## **ACCIDENT REPORTS**

If your child is injured, we will call all numbers on your registration form. Please make sure that you have updated your contact forms. Teachers are required to fill out an accident report when a child has been injured. The report includes the information as to who witnessed the injury, the time of the accident, where it happened and under what circumstances. It includes the name of the child, who was notified (parent, care giver, emergency contact), what first aid was administered, and whether or not the child returned to class. The report is then given to the Educational Director for review. The report is then signed and a copy is filed in the child's personal file.

## **ATTENDANCE AND SCHOOL WORK REQUIREMENTS**

Prompt and regular attendance and completion of assigned work are essential for good, sustained learning. All children registered in the school are expected to attend all classes. If your child must be absent, please let us know and contact the child's teacher for any work he/she has missed.

To provide the maximum amount of knowledge that can be disseminated in the time allotted, every student must attend 2/3rds of all sessions. If the attendance requirement is not met, the student will be required to make up those sessions with a C.S.I. tutor at the expense of the parent before advancing to the next grade level. If your child leaves early for any reason other than illness, it will be considered a ½ day absence. One 45 minute tutoring session equals a 2 hour class session missed. **Exceptions are made for educational reasons. Please speak to Roni Shapiro.**

Our school is committed to maintaining a high level of ability in reading Hebrew and proficiency in Jewish knowledge. We attempt to place our students in Hebrew classes reflecting their level of Hebrew reading fluency. Alef Hebrew classes will be reassigned by January when Hebrew evaluations of learning styles are completed. On each grade level, a means of evaluating proficiency will be utilized. Twice a year children are expected to pass comprehensive exams or do some kind of project that could include making a game or writing a skit. All students are required to pass these exams in order to move up to the next grade. **All children must begin religious school by third grade. Special exceptions are made for learning issues in all areas of our curriculum and policies.**

**Please note that only those students who fulfill our educational requirements may enter our Bar/Bar Mitzvah program.**

## DERECH ERETZ DISCIPLINE POLICY

### Derech Eretz: Five Rules to Live By

In an effort to foster a learning environment that stresses mutual respect, we are formalizing the classroom management and discipline procedures we use. These results include:

- A statement of philosophy
- An implementation plan
- The Five Rules to Live By.

### Statement of Philosophy

At CSI, *kavod* (respect) is one of the most important things we need to learn. We are all created *b'tzelem elohim* (in God's image). Therefore, the way in which we treat each other is central. Our discipline policy should reflect mutual respect and responsibility. Teachers are responsible for implementing a management plan that responds appropriately to both positive and negative behavior.

### **DERECH ERETZ: FIVE RULES TO LIVE BY**

In our CSI Religious School community:

1. We are **respectful** to adults, students and property.
2. We **cooperate and follow directions** (including dress code, prompt arrival in classes, and cooperating with students and teachers).
3. We **use appropriate language**.
4. We **keep our hands and feet to ourselves**.
5. We **contribute positively to the learning atmosphere**.

Our goal is for all students to behave appropriately. They should acknowledge the five rules, remember them and be able to identify which they did not follow at any given time.

First offense: the faculty member talks to the student and records the event.

Second offense: the faculty member talks to the student and sends a note or calls home to the parents, and records the event.

Third offense: the Religious School Director holds a parent conference with teachers, which results in plans for the future, such as a behavior contract.

Please support us so that all of our students can learn.

## **SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

School Requirement is supervised by the Education Committee. Contact the school office with any questions that you might have. Alef – Gimel classes attend 5 Junior Congregation Services at C.S.I.

**All Gimel, Dalet & Heh main sanctuary service requirements are supervised by the Rabbi & Ritual Committee. Contact the Rabbi's Assistant at 762-2700 if you have any questions.**

There are 3 boxes: 2 for Junior Congregation attendance record keeping and 1 for Bar/Bat Mitzvah attendance record keeping. The school office only has the 2 Junior Congregation boxes. The other box is in the main office. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's attendance, please contact the appropriate office listed above.

### **Kadima Service**

This is a special service for our 6th and 7th graders. It is a shared learning service that counts towards bar mitzvah credit. The service is from 10:30 - 12:00. Tentative dates for this service are: September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, January 7, March 17, April 21 and May 19.

### **Torah for Tots**

This is a special program for our 2 – young 5 years old, led by Judy Kane. Come sing, dance, etc. Challah, cookies and juice are provided. Dates for this service are: November 19, January 21.

### **Prozdor Service**

Sheera Zuckerman leads this service for our Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders. The service is more structured than Torah for Tots and is not as advanced as Junior Congregation. Children learn some prayers, sing, dance and have challah, juice and cookies. Dates for this service are: November 5, December 3, January 21, March 10 & April 28.

### **Adult Learning Services**

Come learn about the service with Roni Shapiro. No Hebrew knowledge required. Dates for this service are November 19, December 3, January 7 & March 24.

## **CONTENT SPECIAL PROJECTS & HEBREW EXAMS**

The C.S.I. Religious School is not merely an avenue for children to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. We believe, that our job is to create an educated Jewish young person who can then make choices about what kind of Jewish life he/she would like to live. Therefore, beginning in 3rd grade (Alef), and continuing through 7th grade (Heh), content unit projects are assigned twice a year and Hebrew exams are given. Review sheets for the Hebrew exams will be given out three weeks prior to the end of the semester. Tests are taken in class in Hebrew. In content children will be asked to create some kind of project showing what they have learned that semester. Retests may also be given orally. All tests are untimed. We believe that there are different kinds of tests for different kinds of learners. Tests are written individually for children with their learning style taken into account. Because we understand that there are all kinds of different learners in our community, students may create in content a special project in lieu of taking an exam. Examples of special projects that show knowledge will be creating a play, game/song or report.

## **COMMUNICATION**

While the C.S.I. Religious School has a large student body, we try to maintain as much contact with you as possible. Parents who wish to speak to a teacher should call the school office and leave a message or may E-mail the school office. We will forward it to the teacher so that he/she may contact you. **We are sorry, but the teachers cannot speak to you immediately before, or during class time.**

You should expect to receive an interim report in November and report cards in February and June. Also, for children in Bet - Heh, we will mail you an update on your child's Hebrew reading fluency in October.

## **DRESS CODE**

Parents should use discretion in what they allow their children to wear to Religious School and synagogue services. We ask that students not wear strapless or spaghetti strap tops or belly shirts. No child should be wearing pants that are so low slung that tushies are viewed.

**Student cell phones should not be brought to Religious School or to services. Phones that are brought in will be kept in the school office until the end of the day if they are turned on during class or services.**

## **SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURE**

Announcement of school cancellation will be on the C.S.I. Religious School answering machine at 762-6396. If your call does not go through, please call again. We only have two lines for the school and many people will be calling. Cancellation of Religious School due to inclement weather will be announced on the following radio stations: It will also be posted on the CSI website, [www.csibriarcliff.org](http://www.csibriarcliff.org).

WFAS AM 1230  
WFAS FM 104

WLNA AM 1420  
WHUD FM 100.7

It will also be broadcast on channel 12.

The closing of public school in the morning does not necessarily mean the cancellation of C.S.I. Religious School. Please listen to the radio or call the school office for confirmation of school closing.

## **TRIPS**

You will always receive advance notice of class trips. Before any child will be permitted to go on a trip, you must sign a permission slip. We reserve the right to not allow a child to attend a program if they do not follow the rules of the trip. After misbehaving on a trip, the child will not be allowed to attend the next trip without their parent participating.

## **TUTORING**

Tutoring is under the discretion of the Educational Director. In the case of a child needing tutoring when he/she:

1. Has not attended the required number of Junior Congregations,
2. Has missed more than the number of allotted absences,
3. Has been removed from class due to discipline problems, or
4. Parents would like a tutor for their child.

Tutors must be approved by the Educational Director. There are, in most instances, teachers from our Religious School. Parents must pay the tutor \$85 per 45 minute session.

## **TZEDAKAH – The Commandment to Give**

One of the most important values in Judaism is the giving of oneself or one's possessions to help others. As part of our Jewish curriculum, we teach the concept of Tzedakah (charity) to our children. Tzedakah is collected in class every day. Children are asked to make regular contributions. The amount of money collected is put on a chart in the hall by grade. At the end of the school year, The Heh class will study various charities and decide which charities the money will be donated. In addition, each month there will be a tzedakah project that all of the students will be participating in such as clothing and food drives, repairing of prayer books or writing letters to Israeli soldiers.

## **VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS**

Parent volunteers are welcomed any time at C.S.I. Religious School. Moms, Dads and grandparents are welcome to spend time with us during the school day. Although we have an open door policy, we would appreciate a day's notice. Scheduled parent participation is encouraged. Please join us to do an art project, read a story or share a special skill or talent you may have. Please arrange your visits with your child's teacher or the Educational Director.

## 2011/2012 C.S.I. CURRICULUM

The C.S.I. Religious School is a Conservative, egalitarian school which strives to provide a Jewish education and to teach the children how to live in a modern world while appreciating our rich heritage and traditions. The curriculum of the C.S.I. Religious School is based on the assumption that a Religious School is more than an instructional experience. Within the framework of the Religious School, students will learn about or experience many facets of Judaism including rituals, God, history, ethics, holidays, Jewish music/dance, customs, Bible study, prayer, Hebrew and Israel. In addition, the Religious School offers dynamic opportunities for each student to participate in programs which strengthen their commitment to Jewish life and instill a sense of responsibility to the overall Jewish community. Our Hebrew program focuses on Hebrew reading, Modern Hebrew vocabulary and prayer. While children won't be fluent Hebrew speakers in a two day a week program, they will learn phrases and sentences and be familiar with many Sabbath and Holiday prayers.

While the curriculum outlined on the following pages focuses primarily on the formal aspects of our program, there are several crucial informal programs which help to stimulate and reinforce the values which we teach. We believe that field trips, retreats, youth programs, dance, drama, cooking and art are integral parts of a well-rounded Religious School experience. We believe that all children, regardless of learning styles should have a Jewish education. C.S.I. has a full special education program with Lev workers assisting our special learners, two resource teachers each day of Religious school and a self contained class of special learners.

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

### PRIMARY DEPARTMENT (SHORASHIM, PROZDOR I & PROZDOR II)

We regard this department as the threshold to more intensive Jewish learning in the future, and we try to provide students with Jewish experiences which are warm, attractive and which stimulate their natural curiosity. Each time the children are in class, they have music and art or cooking. In addition, this program helps the child gain a positive self-image as a Jew and socializes the child into the Jewish community. We want our students to form friendships with each other and to feel that they are an important part of the greater Jewish community.

#### SHORASHIM (AGE 5 - KINDERGARTEN LEVEL IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

Storytelling, arts and crafts, music, dance and discussion are key methods of instruction. The Jewish holidays, their symbols and ritual objects are a major focus throughout the year. Oral Hebrew is begun at this level. The students will also learn Bible stories, some basic blessings, and have discussions on Tzedakah (charity), G-d, the synagogue, Israel and Shabbat. Student materials include The Alef to Tav coloring book, Jewish & Me Holidays, Teach Me Torah, Jewish & Me Mitzvot and Let's Discover Israel.

#### PROZDOR I (AGE 6 - FIRST GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

The Prozdor I program will continue to build on the foundation begun in the Shorashim program in holiday rituals, observance and customs. More emphasis will be on oral Hebrew. Specific blessings and prayers will be introduced including the blessings over the bread, fruits and vegetables, the lighting of the Sabbath candles and holiday prayers. Additionally, the Synagogue is emphasized; its ritual objects, personnel, and its place in our lives. Shabbat, its importance, and celebration are a central theme throughout the year. Hebrew letter recognition is introduced to those who are able to read English. The capital city of Israel, Jerusalem is studied, as well as Tzedakah (charity) and G-d. Student materials include Let's Celebrate Series, Let's Discover the Alef Bet, The Symbols of the State of Israel and Places of Israel Instant Lessons and Lets Discover the Bible.

#### PROZDOR II (AGE 7 - SECOND GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

In the Prozdor II level, the children, with a more secure foundation in their English reading, will be introduced more intensively to the Hebrew language and prayers. Letters and vowels are combined and children begin to read words. Bible stories, Tzedakah, Shabbat, God and Ethics & Values are emphasized. Student materials include: Let's Learn Bible, Let's Explore Israel (People & Places and A City Tour), Our Jerusalem, Making The World A Better Place, Shalom Alef Bet PrePrimer, Let's Discover Mitzvot , Let's Discover God , Holy Days, Holy Ways

## ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT

### **ALEF CLASS (AGE 8 - THIRD GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):**

**Hebrew:** Those students continuing on from the Prozdor II programs will review the Hebrew reading mechanics previously learned and continue more intensive study of the Hebrew language. New students to our program will begin with learning the Hebrew alphabet and continue on to the same level of Hebrew reading. The emphasis is on Hebrew reading fluency and familiarization with the language. For the first 8 weeks of school, all of the Alef students will work intensively on Hebrew. Hebrew class time will be longer to enable the children to become more fluent readers faster. After the 8 weeks, classes will be re-divided, based on reading skill and learning style. In that way, children's reading issues can be dealt with right away. Parents should let us know, in writing, if there are any learning style issues that may relate to their child's Hebrew reading.

**Prayer:** In the Alef year, students will learn prayers from both the Friday night and the Shabbat morning services, as well as holiday blessings. The class will lead a Friday night service, where they will receive their very own Siddur. In January, each child will receive a cd of their prayer curriculum. Save the date: **March 25 Siddur cover workshop.**

**Israel:** Students will go on a virtual trip to Israel, learning about important places and people of Israel.

**Bible:** Stories of the Bible and the Midrashic legends of some of our most important leaders are learned.

**Customs:** The Alef students will study Shabbat and holiday customs and rituals. The study of Kashrut is emphasized in a way to show everyone that they all have some kosher products in their homes.

**Holidays:** The students will learn about the Jewish holidays, why and how they are celebrated.

**Holocaust Studies:** The Holocaust is introduced with a story about a special Torah that survives. Children are encouraged to ask questions.

**Other concepts:** include G-d, Tzedakah, Ethics & Values and the Jewish months. Student materials include A Child's Bible, My Jewish Year, and Passport to Israel - instant lessons on Israel from A.R.E., the Passover Haggadah, Tiyyulim text, and Home and Class workbooks.

**Other Hebrew books will be used.**

### **BET CLASS (AGE 9 - FOURTH GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):**

**Hebrew:** At the Bet class level, the Modern/Prayer Hebrew program is begun. Script writing is also introduced.

**Prayer:** Review of prayers and blessings learned in lower grades. Additional prayers from both the Friday night and Shabbat morning services are studied. During the course of the year, Bet students will lead a Friday evening service. In September, each child will receive a cd of their prayer curriculum.

**Bible:** Students will study selected stories from the Torah.

**History/Heroes/Holocaust:** Jewish heroes, as well as Jewish wisdom literature are studied in order to identify with Jewish ethics. Heroes who are covered include Hillel, Shammai, Akiba, Rachel, Yochanan Ben Zakai, Rambam, Mordechai, Esther and Judah Maccabee. Basic Holocaust facts are learned and a special unit on Anne Frank is covered. The children will view the 7th Heaven program that was about the Holocaust.

**Holidays/Customs:** Tzedakah and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving kindness) are central to the Bet curriculum. Holiday customs and rituals continue to be studied using the Melton Holiday and Mitzvot program. The idea of G-d in our lives is discussed.

**Israel:** Students will learn about the geography and the people of Israel. Look for information about special Israel projects.

**Student materials** include The Explorers Bible, Kol Yisrael book one, Hebrew through Prayer, Welcome to Israel, Script Writing Skills workbook Pass the Torah Please, Alef Bet quest Instant Lessons: How Much Should I Give? & Rambams Rungs, Passover Haggadah, Melton Holiday Curriculum, Hebrew Reading Adventure and Torah Aura Tzedakah booklets.

**Other Hebrew books will be used.**

GIMEL CLASS (AGE 10 - FIFTH GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

**Hebrew/Prayer:** At the Gimel level, Modern Hebrew, Prayer Hebrew and the geography of the Siddur are studied more intensively. Additional prayers from both the Friday night and Shabbat morning services are studied. During the course of the year, Gimel students will lead one Friday evening service. In September, each child will receive a cd of their prayer curriculum.

**Bible:** Bible study continues at the Gimel level through the study of the prophets. Various prophets are studied including Moses, Deborah, Samuel, Elijah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. In addition King Saul, David and Solomon.

**Holocaust:** At the Gimel level, Holocaust study is more in-depth. See Holocaust grid

**Holidays:** Melton Holiday curriculum is studied.

**Israel:** The Gimel class will continue the study of Israel with emphasis on the places/regions, culture and history. In addition, two stories of Jewish heroism will be studied: Entebbe and Masada.

**Customs/Topics:** The students will study such topics as G-d, Tzedakah, Ethics & Values, Holocaust, Havdalah, and kashrut.

**Student materials:** include The Sim Shalom Prayer Book, Prophets, Writings and You, The JPS Prophets, Kol Yisrael, L'hamshich, Artzeinu, The Holocaust, The New Hebrew and Heritage writing workbook, Journey Through the Siddur Shabbat Morning and The Passover Haggadah. The children will see the movie "Raid on Entebbe" or "Victory over Entebbe" and learn about Masaada as part of the Israel curriculum. Other Hebrew books will be used.

DALET CLASS (AGE 11 - SIXTH GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

In addition to the two day a week classes, Dalet students attend an 8 week, one hour and fifteen minute session Bar Mitzvah skills program. This program is taught by the Rabbi, Cantor and the Educational Director. The students will become familiar and comfortable with the skills needed for Bar/Bat Mitzvah training. The students will learn about the Torah, its weekly portions, aliyot and the musical notations (trope) for chanting. In addition, the place in the service for the Haftarah and a general review of the Shabbat morning service will be a part of these sessions as well as discussions on G-d. Haftarah booklets will be passed out at the beginning of the year and students should practice reading their Haftarah at home.

**Hebrew:** Modern Hebrew/Prayer Hebrew continues at the Dalet level as well as in depth study of the Siddur and special holiday prayers. Additional prayers from the Friday evening and Shabbat morning services are studied. During the course of the year, Dalet students will lead one Shabbat morning service. In September, each child will receive a cd of their prayer curriculum.

**Bible:** The portion of the week continues to be studied. The book of Genesis is studied in depth - using the actual text of the Torah.

**History:** The Spanish inquisition and Gracia Mendes are studied. A special unit on how the Jews came to America will be covered along with Sephardic Jewry.

**Israel:** Dalet students will study Israeli history starting at Hertzl and continuing from 1948 on, Six Day war, David Ben Gurion, Birth of Israel, the 5 aliyot, Golda Meir, 6 decades of Israel's history

**Holidays/Special Units:** Continuation of holiday study more in depth than in previous years along with G-d, Ethics & Values, Tzedakah and Holocaust.

**Student materials** include Kol Yisrael book 2, Journey Through The Torah, The History Of The Jewish People volume 2, The Holocaust, JPS Torah, Melton Jewish Holiday Series, Mahir Likhtov script book, Back to School Refresher, Derech Chochmah and Passover Haggadah.

**Other Hebrew books will be used.**

**Trip:** Lower East Side

## HEH CLASS (AGE 12 - SEVENTH GRADE IN SECULAR SCHOOL):

### **All Heh students are required to attend all trips and continue after their Bar/Bat Mitzvah.**

The Heh class curriculum differs greatly from the lower grade levels. The entire curriculum is divided into mini units with an overall theme of doing mitzvot. They will study Jewish Heroes, Life Cycle, Family Roots and Holocaust. On a regular basis, the children will bring in and discuss articles on Israeli current events. During the course of the year, the Heh students will participate in a series of 13 mitzvot which will include such activities as visiting hospitals and cleaning up a national park area. With each mitzvah the children will study the biblical texts commanding us to fulfill these mitzvot. Please check your mail for field trip information. **Parents are required to come to a parent/child meeting on September 11 at 11:15am with their child to hear about our entire program.**

**Hebrew:** From September through December, they will learn Bar Mitzvah skills and prayers. In January, they will study modern Hebrew. In September, each child will receive a cd of their prayers which they should use to prepare for Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

1. Bar/Bat Mitzvah Skills - review blessings before and after Torah and Haftarah readings, Shabbat morning prayers, Havdalah, review reading Haftarah and Torah portions and their meanings, practice/learn Ashrei and Kiddush, Torah Skills Workbook and pray Kol Yisrael Book 3.

2. Modern Hebrew - the students will begin to learn modern Hebrew phrases, vocabulary and suffixes. They will engage in discussions in Hebrew and write stories in Modern Hebrew - Let's Talk with CD.

\* AFTER THEIR Bar/bat Mitzvah, those children interested will become mentors for Alef children during part of Hebrew time.

**Field trips scheduled:** Simon Wiesenthal Center, Edenwald, Bethel, cleaning up Croton Point Park, Museum Of Jewish Heritage Tolerance Center, cemetery & old C.S.I. synagogue, Sammy's Kosher market , Mikvah at Temple Israel Center, with more to come.

**Mitzvot:** *Baal Taschit* - restoring our environment, *Tzaar Baalei Chayim* - being kind to animals, *Bikkur Cholim* - visiting the sick, *V'ahavta L'reacha* - loving one's neighbors, *Sh'mirat Shabbat* - observing the

Shabbat, *Hiddur P'nai Zaken* - esteeming the elderly, *Zachor* - remembrance of those that have died, *Kavod* - honoring your family, *Kashrut*, *Ahavat Zion* - love of Israel.

**Bible:** God cast program and Parashat Hashavuah.

**Israel:** Experiencing Modern Israel. Special guest speakers from the Israeli Consulate will be coming and Israeli soldiers.

**Holocaust** - Pathways through the Holocaust /speaker & read Night.

**Ethics** - Why Be Good?

**Heroes & History** - Jewish Heroes, Jewish Values

**Lifecycle** - Lifecycles mini unit - each class presents a life cycle presentation i.e. wedding, bar/bat mitzvah, funeral, baby naming, brit milah

**Comparative Judaism** - unit in winter

# Heh Class Calendar

## September

- 11 Heh parent meeting
- 14 What is a Mitzvah? Tikun Olam (repairing the world), Tzedakah il
- 18 Mitzvah: Baal Taschit (don't needlessly destroy)
- 21 Baal Taschit: trip to Croton Point Park to clean up
- 25 Ramah Day/Rosh Hashanah
- 28 No school

## October

- 2 Mitzvah: V'ahavta L'reacha (loving one's neighbor) Yom Kippur Talk about trip/Sukkot
- 5 Trip Edenwald
- 9 No school
- 12 No school
- 16 Cancer walk
- 19 No School
- 23 Israeli dancing/ life cycle Birth/Brit Milah/Simachat Torah
- 26 Bible – God Cast/ Life Cycle death
- 30 Israeli Soldier visit

## November

- 2 Kristallnacht il. Life Cycle death
- 6 Kristallnacht program
- 9 Trip to Jewish Cemetery
- 13 Life cycle Death/Bible
- 16 Rabbi Forum: Shiva & Mourning – kids Q & A
- 20 Life cycle baby naming/Brit Milah
- 23 & 27 No school
- 30 Life cycle wedding

## December

- 4 Sh'mirat Kashrute/life cycle wedding/divorce
- 7 Trip to Sammy's kosher
- 11 Trip to Simon Wiesenthal Center
- 14 Life cycle skits practice
- 18 Zimriyah
- 21 Chanukah/ Chanukah cooking/Life cycle performance
- 25-Jan 1 No school

## January

- 4 Bible- God Cast Israel
- 8 Begin Night/ Why Be Good
- 11 Bible –God Cast Night
- 15 no school
- 18 Night
- 22 Night Pikuach Nefesh – finish Night
- 25 Bible – God Cast/Israel
- 29 Why Be Good/Hebrew Exam/Content Presentations

## February

- 1 Content Presentations Why Be Good
- 5 Bible players
- 8 Mitzvah: Kaved Et Avicha/Tu-Bishvat
- 12 Why Be Good/Israel/Bible
- 15 Ahavat Zion/ Israel speaker from Consulate
- 19-26 No school
- 29 Holocaust

**March**

- 4 Mitzvah Hiddur P'nai Zaken – esteeming elderly/Mitzvah: Bikkur Cholim – Visiting the sick
- 7 No school
- 11 Purim Carnival
- 14 No school teacher in-service
- 18 trip to Philadelphia
- 21 trip to Bethel Nursing Home
- 25 Passover
- 28 Israel/Passover  
Holocaust  
Why Be Good/ Bible

**April**

- 1-14 No school
- 15 Holocaust/Mikvah
- 18 Trip to Mikvah Temple Israel Center
- 22 Holocaust Program
- 25 Holocaust/Heh Graduation prep
- 29 Israel program/Heh graduation prep

**May**

- 2 Mitzvah: Tzaar Baalei Chayim (being kind to animals)/heh graduation prep
- 6 Holocaust/heh prep visit hs breakfast

\*\*Please note that dates & speakers might change.

## Holocaust Grid

### Each class is responsible for new concepts & reviewing previous concepts learned

<p>Alef Read <u>The Tattooed Torah</u> Concepts: yellow star, swastika, definition of Holocaust, ghetto, Idea of prejudice and respect for all.</p>	<p>Bet See “7th Heaven” show about Holocaust Concepts: 6 million Jews, Hitler, who were the Nazis, others murdered - Gypsies, Homosexuals, Catholics, Jewish sympathizers</p>
<p>Gimel <u>The Holocaust</u> p. 1 - 87 Concepts: Warsaw Ghetto, Judenrat (government), Mordechai Anielewicz, Junusz Korczak, Kristallnacht, Third Reich, labor camps, Gestapo, ghetto, Jewish underground</p>	<p>Dalet <u>The Holocaust</u> p. 87 - end Nuremberg Trial, Youth Aliyah, Aliyah Bet, Righteous Gentiles, Danish Rescue, concentration camps, Hanna Senesh, Hitler’s death, Final Solution, Adolph Eichmann</p>
<p>Heh</p> <p><u>Pathways Through the Holocaust</u> Concepts; America’s involvement in Holocaust, “Mein Kampf,” Dr. Goebbels, Dr. Mengele, medical experiments, “The Exodus,” Eli Wiesel, Simon Wiesenthal</p>	

### Shorashim & Prozdor do not learn Holocaust

\*Survivors will speak to all classes Alef -Heh

## 2011 – 2012 Religious School Curriculum

<p><b>SHORASHIM</b></p> <p>Hebrew - BJI <u>Alef To Tav Coloring Book</u>  Holidays - <u>Jewish &amp; Me Holidays</u>  Bible: <u>Teach Me Torah</u>  Tzedakah/Mitzvot: <u>Jewish &amp; Me Mitzvot</u>  Israel: <u>Let's Discover Israel</u>  Basic Blessings - wine, candles, bread &amp; cake  Concept - G-d, synagogue, Israel &amp; Shabbat  Music &amp; Dance  Jewish and Me</p>	<p><b>BET</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>Melton Holiday Curriculum</u>  Bible - <u>The Explorers Bible</u>  Hebrew - <u>Kol Yisrael, book 1 Hebrew Reading Adventure, Ten Minute Hebrew Reader1 &amp; Alef Bet Quest</u>  <u>Script Writing Skills Workbook</u></p> <p>History - <u>Pass the Torah Please (TM) Personalities:</u>  A)Hillel/Shammai, B)Akiba/Rachel, his wife,  C)Yochanon Ben Zakai D) Rambam  Holocaust - see curriculum  Concepts - G-d, Ethics &amp; Values, Kashrut &amp; special emphasis on Tzedakah,  Israel - <u>Welcome to Israel</u>  Prayers - see Prayer Curriculum  Haggadah - <u>Passover Haggadah KTAV</u>  Instant lesson - Torah Aura Tzedakah Booklets  Music &amp; Dance  * Begin the year Hebrew review</p>
<p><b>PROZDOR I</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>Let's Celebrate Series</u>  Bible - <u>Let's Discover the Bible</u>  Hebrew - <u>Let's discover the Alef Bet</u>  Concept - G-d, Shabbat &amp; synagogue  Ethics &amp; Values/Tzedakah  Israel: <u>The symbols of the State Israel, Places in Israel</u>  <u>Instant Lesson</u>  Basic blessings  Music &amp; Dance</p>	<p><b>GIMEL</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>Melton Holiday Curriculum</u>  Bible - <u>Prophets, Writings and You</u>  Hebrew - <u>L'Hamshich, Kol Yisrael Book 2, Ten Minute Hebrew Reader 2 &amp; Prayers</u>  Hebrew &amp; Heritage script book  Israel - <u>Artzeinu</u></p> <p>Holocaust - <u>The Holocaust</u> pp. 1-87  Concepts - G-d, Ethics &amp; Values, Kashrut, Tzedakah, Havdalah, Birkat Hamazon  Prayers - see Prayer Curriculum  Haggadah - <u>Passover Haggadah KTAV</u>  Music &amp; Dance</p>
<p><b>PROZDOR II</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>Holy Days Holy Ways (uahc)</u>  Bible - <u>Let's Learn Bible - Part 1</u>  Hebrew - <u>Shalom Alef Bet Pre Primer &amp; vocabulary list</u>  Israel - <u>Let's Explore Israel</u>  <u>Our Jerusalem,</u>  God - <u>Let's Discover God</u>  Mitzvot - <u>Let's Discover Mitzvot (God's Creations and Tzedakah)</u>  Concept - G-d, Ethics &amp; Values, <u>Making the World A Better Place</u> instant lesson, Tzedakah &amp; Shabbat  Our Jerusalem  Basic Blessings  Music &amp; Dance  Tzedakah - special projects</p>	<p><b>DALET</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>Melton Holiday Curriculum</u> (student packet)  Bible - <u>JPS Bible - Genesis through Moses death</u> (student packet)  *Hebrew - <u>Back to School Refresher, Kol Yisrael Book 2/3 &amp; Prayers, Derech Chochmah</u>  <u>Mahir Likhtov</u> scriptbook  History/Israel - <u>The History Of The Jewish people v.2</u>  Holocaust - <u>The Holocaust</u> continued from Gimel pp. 87-end  Prayer - see Prayer Curriculum  Concept - G-d, Tzedakah, Ethics &amp; Values  Haggadah - <u>Passover Haggadah KTAV</u>  Music &amp; Dance  *Begin the year Hebrew review</p>
<p><b>ALEF</b></p> <p>Holidays - <u>My Jewish Year</u>  Bible - <u>A Child's Bible &amp; game book</u>  Hebrew - <u>Tiyyulim (3 book series)</u>  Israel - instant lessons Torah Aura. - <u>Passport To Israel</u>  Haggadah - <u>Passover Haggadah KTAV</u>  Prayer - see Prayer Curriculum  Concept - G-d, Tzedakah, Ethics &amp; Values, Jewish months &amp; kashrut  Music &amp; Dance</p>	<p><b>HEH</b></p> <p>Hebrew - Bar Mitzvah skills, modern Hebrew - <u>Torah Skills Workbook &amp; Let's Talk, Parashat Hashavuah, Kol Yisrael Book 3</u>  Holocaust - <u>Pathways Through The Holocaust , Night</u>  Heroes - <u>Jewish Heroes, Jewish Values</u>  Mitzvot - field trips - <u>Why Be Good &amp; Mitzvot</u> text  Mitzvot - Baal Taschit - restoring our environment  Tzaar Baalei Chayim - being kind to animals  Bikkur Cholim - visiting the sick  V'ahavta L'reacha - loving one's neighbors  Hiddur P'nai Zaken - esteeming the elderly  Israel: <u>Experiencing Modern Israel</u>  Bible: God Cast program  Life cycle</p>

## **Middot – Jewish Values**

### **Mitzvot Ben Adam Lechavero that are taught to your children.**

Each month, in our classes in Religious school, we will focus on one mitzvah/commandment of Ben Adam L'chavero. These are commandments that teach us how to treat each other and how we want to be treated. Teachers will discuss these mitzvot in class and encourage home participation. Each month, teachers will honor those students who have done mitzvot on the mitzvah board in the school hallway and in their rooms. Students and the mitzvah they have done will be posted on your child's class bulletin boards. Each month, classes will decide on a mensch of the class. Students will have to explain why a particular student was chosen.

**September: Hachnasat Orchim**, Welcoming Guests - open your house to friends & make new friends and invite them over.

**October: T'shuvah** - making restitution and then repentance - saying you're sorry and making an effort to change. **Lo Tisaneh** - don't hate, **Lo Tikam**. - - **Lo Titar** - no revenge, no grudges.

**November: Ahavta L'reacha Kamocha** - loving your neighbor as yourself (treating people how you would want to be treated).

**December: Tzedakah** - giving of Tzedakah

**January: Bikkur Cholim** - visiting the sick, Bal Tashchit Don't Needlessly Destroy

**March: Margish Aniut**- feeling the pain of others, **Lashon Hara** - the Evil Tongue

**April: Lo Bushah** - not embarrassing someone, **Lo Ta'aseh Avel B'midah** - not cheating

**May: Sh'lom Bayit** - maintaining family peace - loving and helping my family, **Kavod Av V'em** - honoring my father & mother

**June: Be a Mensch**

## **Congregation Sons of Israel Religious School Programs Include:**

### **Pre-School Programs:**

Nursery School - The C.S.I. Nursery School offers classes for 2's, 3's, 4's and young 5's. Classes meet in the mornings. The C.S.I. Nursery School integrates secular and Jewish education

Nursery School Summer Camp - C.S.I. offers a 7 week camp for 2-5 year old children.

Torah for Tots - This service meets several times during the course of the year and is appropriate for 2, 3, 4, and young 5 years old. The service includes Bible stories, dancing and singing.

PJ Library Join us for this Jewish literature once a month and get FREE Jewish books.

Pre-School Holiday Programs - Usually offered 5 times per year, these Holiday programs include arts and crafts, stories, dancing, singing and cooking.

Friday evening Shabbat Rocks - for young children

### **Elementary School:**

Kindergarten through Seventh Grade - Kindergarten, first and second grades meet once a week. Third to seventh grades meet twice a week. Curriculum includes Israel, Bible, social activities, modern Hebrew, prayers, holidays, music and Israeli dance.

Prozdor service - 1x a month service for first & second graders

Junior congregation service - each week third - fifth graders

Kadima service - get Bar/Bat Mitzvah credit service for sixth & seventh graders 1x a month

### **Youth Groups:**

Various grades go on weekend retreats, participate in C.S.I. sports and go on trips. Sixth & seventh graders participate in Kadima, 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders participate in United Synagogue Youth program or U.S.Y. For detailed youth group information, see Youth Group Manual or contact [education@csibriarcliff.org](mailto:education@csibriarcliff.org) .

### **High School (for a complete description - see our High school/youth manual):**

Courses- life issues/ethics, kosher cooking, Israel, Modern Hebrew, Bible, Torah reading, etc. The High School meets each Sunday morning. Breakfast is served on Sunday mornings.

USY - USY, United Synagogue Youth is the Conservative Movement's High School Youth Group. This program meets twice a month and includes theater trips, baseball games, dances, packaging for food pantry, a ski trip, participation in Regional activities with other USY groups and more.

Teen Social Action Committee - this is a high school age social action committee that does community service in and out of the synagogue on Wednesdays and other times TBA.

Minyan Mensches - these are high school students who have volunteered to help make a minyan when mourner's kaddish is needed to be said.

### **Work/community service opportunities available**

**Special Programming:** An essential element in our program is family involvement. Throughout the year, on every grade level, special family programs will be offered. Parents and children will learn together and share experiences. Involve your family in the fun and comfort of Jewish rituals!

### **Camp Ramah:**

Jewish summer camps give students excellent opportunities to experience Jewish life in a total environment. Camp Ramah, the official camp of the Conservative Movement, has camps close to our area. There is an overnight camp in the Berkshires and a day camp in Nyack (only 5 minutes from the Tappan Zee Bridge). Information about the camps, as well as available scholarships will be mailed to you later in the year. In addition, a representative from Camp Ramah will be coming to speak to us during the coming year. Parents will be invited to come and learn about this unique experience for your child. Roni Shapiro and Rabbi Kane work at Camp Ramah in Berkshires. Join us for Ramah Day on September 25th.

**Family Involvement:**

We believe that two-way communication between home and school is essential. The school periodically sends home summaries of class activities in order to give parents some idea of what students are learning. In addition, individual progress reports are sent home twice a year; at the end of January and the end of the school year. No written report, however, is as meaningful as verbal communication. We, therefore, invite you to call or come into the school if there are any particular problems, issues or questions. Our job is to educate your child as best we can. To that end, we ask that you share all information with us that can impact your child's learning. This can include medical, personal and learning difficulties.

Throughout the year you will receive notices of programs, which involve you and your child in the process of learning and sharing together. We encourage your participation in these special family programs.

**Dates of family programs:**

November 6, Kristallnacht  
December 18, Zimriyah – Dedication to Debbie Friedman  
December 18, LEGO program  
February 5, Bar Mitzvah workshop  
February 5, Bible Players  
March 11, Purim Carnival  
April 22, Yom Hashoah program  
April 29, Israel program

**Shorashim:**

November 4, Chagigat HaTorah ceremony  
March 25, Passover Family program

**Prozdor 1 & 2:**

March 25, Passover Family program

**Alef:**

June 1, Friday Night Service  
January 29, Family Program  
March 25, Siddur Workshop

**Bet:**

May 18, Friday Night Service & display of Israel projects  
November 20, Bet Family program

**Gimel:**

March 23, Friday Night Service  
February 8, Family program

**Dalet:**

January 21, Saturday Morning Service

**Heh:**

May 6, graduation

**LEV:**

March 25, Passover Family program



2011-2012  
5771-5772 SCHOOL CALENDAR

\*\*\* Dates may be changed! Please check flyers and Bulletin.

September	25	Israeli Soldier visit 10:30-1:00	17	Junior Congregation
7		Teachers meeting	15	Educ. Comm. Mtg 7:30
11	29	School opens	17	Kadima Service
11	30	Open house 10:00-10:45		
11	30	9-11 commemoration 10:45-11:15	17	Junior Congregation
11	31	Ivrit B'Ivrit begins	17	Midnight Run
12		Dalet Enrichment	18	Zimriyah Dedication to Debbie Friedman
13		Fire Drill (4:30)		10:30-12:00
14	November	Fire Drill (4:30)	18	LEGO Chanukah program 3:00-5:00
16	4	Shabbat Rocks	20	Making sufganyot
17	4	Junior Congregation begins	21	Making sufganyot
17	5	Kadima Service	24	No Junior Congregation
18	5	Fire Drill 9:15	25-31	No School – winter recess
19	6	Dalet Enrichment	31	No Junior Congregation
21	7	Heh trip - Croton Point Park		
24	8	Junior Congregation		
25	9	Camp Ramah Day program		
26	12	Dalet Enrichment	January	
28	12	No school – Rosh Hashanah	1	No School – winter recess
29	13	Family Service Infant-10 years	2	Dalet Enrichment
	15		7	Junior Congregation
October	17		7	Kadima Service
1		Junior Congregation	7	Adult Learning Service
2	19	High School begins	8	Gimel Family Program 9:00-11:00
3	19	RS PTA Meeting 9:15	9	Dalet Enrichment
3	19	Dalet Enrichment	12	Educ. Comm. Mtg 7:30pm
5	19	Heh class trip - Edenwald	14	No Junior Congregation
8	19	No Junior Congregation – Yom Kippur	15	No school
9	20	No School – Columbus Day	21	Junior Congregation
12	20	No school - Sukkot	21	Torah for Tots
13	22	Educ. Comm. Mtg. 7:30pm	21	Prozdor Service
15	23-27	Junior Congregation	21	Dalet Family Service & Lunch
15	26	Kadima Service	22	Rosh Chodesh 7:30-9
16		Making Strides Walk	22	Israeli dancing
16	December	High School Sukkot snacks	22	High School
17	2	Dalet Enrichment	23	Dalet Enrichment
18	3	Sukkot snacks	25	Teacher's Meeting 6:00-7:00
19	3	No School	29	Alef Family program 11:10-1:10
20	3	Simchat Torah	29	Hebrew Exams
22	7	Junior Congregation	30	Dalet Enrichment
23	7	Israeli dancing HS	31	Content Projects
24	10	Dalet Enrichment		
25	11	Gimel visit with Rabbi 4:45-5:15		
	11			

February	23	Educ. Comm Mtg. 7:30	20	Synagogue Open House 10-12
1	23	Gimel Service	22 & 23	Content Projects
4	24	Junior Congregation	26	NO Junior Congregation
5	24	Adult Learning Service	27	No School - Shavuot
5	25	Dalet trip – Lower East Side	29&30	Content Projects, Hebrew Exams
	25	Primary Passover Program 9:00-11:00		
	25	Alef Siddur Workshop 9AM-1PM	June	
5	31	No Junior Congregation	1	Alef Service & dinner
6			2	Junior Congregation
6	April		3	Israel Day Parade
7	1-14	No school Spring break/Passover	3	Last Day Religious School
8	7	No Junior Congregation	8	Shabbat Rocks
11	14	No Junior Congregation	<b>15</b>	<b>Religious school registration due</b>
12	15	Israeli Dancing		
13	15	High School		
18	18	Heh trip to Mikvah		
19-26	18	Teacher's Meeting 6:00-7:00		
25	21	Junior Congregation		
27	21	Kadima Service		
March	22	Yom Hashoah Program 10:30-12:00		
2	28	Junior Congregation		
	28	Prozdor Service		
3	29	Israeli program		
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4	May			
4	4	Shabbat Rocks		
5	5	Junior Congregation		
6	6	Heh & High school graduation 6:00		
7	8 & 9	Lag Ba'Omer celebration		
10	12	Junior Congregation		
10	13	No school – Mothers' Day		
11	18	Bet Service		
14	19	Junior Congregation		
14	19	Kadima Service		
17	20	Rosh Chodesh 7:30-9:00		
17	20	Yom Yerushalayim Dance Festival		
17				
18				
18				
21				
21				