

May 2019/Iyar 5779

Dear Parents,



We are excited to share this information about our Learning programs and the Registration Process. This letter includes high-level descriptions of our programs, their structure and meeting times to help you register your children for 2019-2020. *Please read carefully as it covers many important details.*

Learning Programs Structure and Schedule

Grades K-3

All students in grades K-3 participate in the *Limud* (learning) program. We offer differentiated learning through experiential activities that focus on holidays, bible stories, Jewish values, and Israel. Hebrew letters and vowels are introduced in connection to Jewish life vocabulary and blessings. In addition, students participate in **Hebrew through Movement**, a program based on TPR (Total Physical Response) that introduces modern Hebrew vocabulary in a fun and active way. Students in grades K-3 attend Limud on Sundays during one of two sessions: **8:45 to 10:45 am OR 11:15 am to 1:15 pm.**

When you register for Grades K-3, please choose your time preference (early or late Sunday session). We will do our best to grant your first choice. If we receive more requests than we can accommodate for one particular session, we will use a lottery system which may result in your child being placed in the other session.

Grades 4- 5

Our TBE Learning Program offers four options for students in grades 4-5. Students may opt to continue in the Limud program or participate in one of our three Explorations programs, each of which engages students in learning through a particular lens. Students also study Hebrew, learning T'filot (prayers) and their meaning.

To accomplish our goals of a fun, experiential program with community building at its core, consistent attendance is essential. Both the Limud and Explorations programs (which include Judaic and Hebrew) fulfill the expectation of two of the three years of Jewish education necessary to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Temple Beth Elohim. Students must attend 80% or more of the Limud OR Explorations programs (including Hebrew) to be eligible to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. As you read through the learning options, take your child's school-year schedule into account. Regardless of the program you choose, if you anticipate attendance issues, please call me so we can determine together a plan that will work for your family.

To register, choose one of the following programs for next year:

Limud: This interactive, classroom-based program meets twice per week for two hours each session and enables students to develop Jewish values and vocabulary as they engage in learning about Jewish life and

practice, including rituals, Hebrew, holidays, Torah, prayer, ethics and Jewish history. Limud meets on Sunday **and** one mid-week day, either Tuesday or Wednesday. **Sunday session:** 8:45 to 10:45 am
Midweek sessions: Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:30 pm **OR** Wednesdays 4:00 - 6:00 pm.

*Please note if fewer than ten (10) students register for a given class, the class is subject to cancellation.

Explorations Programs:

Omanut (Visual art): Students engage in Jewish learning that provides innovative, thoughtful, challenging and creative experiences as they explore the intersection of their own creativity, Jewish learning, and the arts. Omanut meets 16 Sunday afternoons per year (1:45 - 4:15 pm) **and** weekly for Hebrew (Sundays 11:15 – 1:15 pm OR Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30 pm OR Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:00 pm). For more information about Omanut, please visit www.TBEYouth.org/Omanut-Grades-4-5.

Tagliyot (Discoveries): Students explore, create and discover as they engage in innovative learning experiences and navigate their Jewish journey through the areas of science, technology, engineering, math, and design thinking. Tagliyot meets 16 Sunday afternoons per year (1:45 - 4:15 pm) **and** weekly for Hebrew (Sundays 11:15 – 1:15 pm OR Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30 pm OR Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:00 pm). For more information about Tagliyot, please visit www.TBEYouth.org/Tagliyot-Grades-4-5.

Sifrut (Literature): Students engage with age-appropriate works of Jewish literature as they explore their core values and the power of words. Class sessions usually include book reflections and exciting projects that involve language and story-telling. In between sessions, parents read the texts along with their child/ren and use guided curricular materials to facilitate thoughtful discussions. Sifrut meets 1 or 2 Sunday afternoons per month (1:45 - 4:15 pm) **and** weekly for Hebrew (Sundays 11:15 – 1:15 pm OR Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30 pm OR Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:00 pm). For more information about Sifrut, please visit www.TBEYouth.org/Sifrut-Grades-4-5.

Family involvement is integral to our Explorations program.

In each of the Explorations programs, families join students for **Exploration Enrichment** days and four **Family Programs** per year. Parents are expected to participate in each family program to gain an understanding of the curriculum and build a sense of community with other parents. We will also help families stay connected to their child's learning through exhibits, photo documentation, and informative newsletters.

In grades 4-5, the format on the registration form requires you to enter **BOTH** a 1st & 2nd choice. We will do our best to grant your first choice. However, should we receive more requests than we can accommodate for a particular option or have insufficient interest in a particular option, we may use a lottery or opt to not offer all of these options, and your student may be placed in your 2nd choice. **Therefore, please consider all options very carefully and submit a 2nd choice that differs from your 1st.**

Students with Siblings in Grades 6 -7:

In our 6th and 7th Grade Learning Program, **B'Yachad** (Together), students will have the option to sign up for early or late Tuesday afternoon or late Wednesday afternoon (registration packet mailed separately). Families with children in both grades 4-5 and B'Yachad might consider registering children for Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon.

Registration Process

Registration is ONLINE through our **Member Portal**; you will need to log-in to register. You will be able to register all your children in grades K-7 on one form. Please note that your account with TBE needs to be up to date to be able to register. If you have questions about your account, please contact Stephen Ashkinos at sashkinos@tbewellesley.org or call Stephen at the temple office, ext. 241.

Once you have submitted the registration, you will be redirected to the home page on **TBEYouth.org**, and you will receive a confirmation email. Please save this email for your records. **If you do not receive an email confirmation, your submission might not have been complete, please check your spam folder or contact Heather at HPellegrini@TBEWellesley for assistance.**

Need help? If you have any difficulties completing registration online, please call Heather in the Learning Program office at ext. 215 and she will be happy to assist you. Please see the enclosed flyer for instructions on how to access the registration forms.

Class Placement and Lottery

We will strive to honor all placement requests, but we cannot guarantee either that we will be able to place your child in the preferred class or session, or that your child will be placed in a class with a specific friend. We consider a range of issues, including, but not limited to, gender balance, learning styles, towns in which students live and class size. Our ultimate goal is to ensure the best possible learning environment for every student. **If requests for a class or session reach maximum capacity, a lottery will be held from all complete registrations received on or before 9:00 am on Tuesday, May 28th. Registrations received after the May 28th deadline will be placed in classes only after registrations received on or before May 28th have been placed.** Thank you for your timely return of materials.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to the registration process and your timely completion of our materials. Working together, we will be able to finalize class placement, notify families to facilitate planning for the fall in a timely manner. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

L'shalom,



Jessica Bram
Director of K-7 Learning Programs