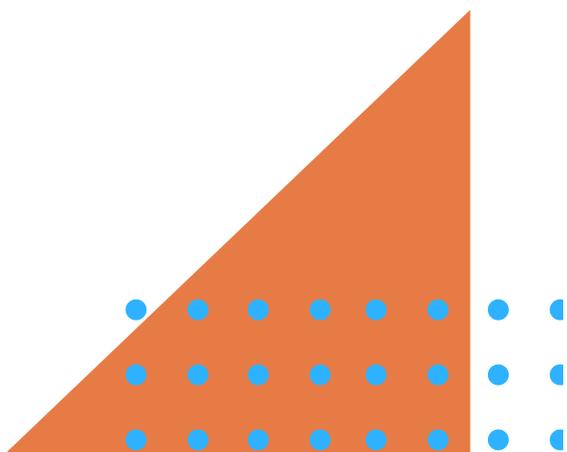


WELCOME!

2017-2018 Parents Handbook

HEBREW SCHOOL
of the **ARTS** 



WELCOME!

Dear Parents,

With much excitement, we welcome you and your family to the Hebrew School of the Arts. We are pleased that you have chosen Hebrew School of the Arts as the Jewish experience for your child, and we guarantee you a Hebrew school year that is as much fun as it is wholesome and educational.

At Hebrew School of the Arts, we believe that children who have spent all week in a classroom shouldn't have to do that again on Sundays. So we've developed a curriculum where children are active participants throughout an exciting, hands-on learning process, using all five of their senses to truly experience the rich tradition of Judaism. Our program will incorporate crafts, games, outings and a variety of creative mediums to teach your child.

Because Judaism- like most things- is best taught by example, our dedicated staff is comprised of individuals who are Jewish role models in addition to being qualified and enthusiastic educators. Parent participation and at-home reinforcement of the lessons is vital, too. Please take the time to review your child's reading and any other activities he or she brings home, and to incorporate as much of it as possible in your own home.

As parents, there is much you can do to contribute to your child's success in Hebrew School. A full night's sleep on Saturday night and a good breakfast on Sunday morning will ensure your child is awake and ready to participate. Regular, on-time attendance will enhance your child's experience, and any at-home assignments should be completed with your involvement.

In order to keep everyone in the know about important announcements, trip details, and scheduling information we will be using a closed Facebook group. Only HS parents will be invited to the group and we will use it to post photos and news. It's also a great place to communicate with other HS parents as well as our staff. If you haven't been invited to the group yet, please let us know.

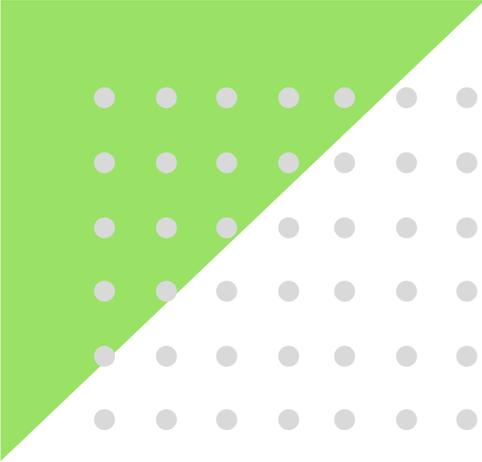
We value your input as we work to perfect our program. Please feel free to contact me at any time with your comments, suggestions and insights. I can be reached during the evenings at 718-612-9576 or via email at chayilurie@gmail.com.

Thank you for choosing Hebrew School of the Arts. Together with our staff, I look forward to a terrific year of growing and learning with your child.

Wishing you a Shana Tova - a happy, healthy and sweet new year!

Chayi Vogel
Director





SOME THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR AT HEBREW SCHOOL OF THE ARTS...

...Jewish Birthdays will be celebrated once a month with an exciting party during Hebrew School. We will be recognizing the students whose birthdays take place in the upcoming Jewish month. Those students will receive certificates with their Hebrew birthdays, goody bags, and the whole school will celebrate with cupcakes.. This program will help familiarize the students with Jewish traditions associated with celebrating their Jewish birthday.



...Bagels 'n Stories will take place occasionally (see calendar) and greatly enjoyed by students of all ages. They will be treated to a delicious bagel breakfast while listening to stories which emphasize Jewish values and traditions. Please let us know if you would like to come in and be a guest reader for your child's class!



...Hebrew School of the Arts T-Shirts will be given out to students on the first day of school. We encourage your children to wear them on Sundays!

...CKids Family Days and Parent Breakfasts at Hebrew School are a great way to get your entire family involved in Jewish, hands-on experiences that will last a lifetime! See calendar for schedule.

...Local talented artists and musicians will join us throughout the year for special workshops and help bring out the creative spirit in every child. If you would like to make a suggestion, please contact Chayi 718-612-9576.



...New opportunity for self-motivated learning with the CKids Handbook, including prayers, blessings and other Jewish essentials. Participants will receive points to use towards cool prizes upon completion of each level. More details to come.



GENERAL INFORMATION

B"h

AGES: Boys and girls grades K-7

HOURS: Sundays

9:30am - 12pm

LOCATION: Classes are held at Chabad of Pittsford, 21 Lincoln Ave

*Communication: Our main method of communication with parents is via email and our Hebrew School of the Arts Facebook page. Please be sure to check your emails on a regular basis for important information and upcoming events.

*Confidential Information: It is of great importance for the teachers to have any information that can provide for an optimum learning situation. Information of a physical, social and/or psychological nature can aid a teacher in planning instructions for each child. Such information should be transmitted either in writing or by a private conference with the director, who will make the information known to the appropriate teacher.

*Attendance: Attendance is the key to a successful school year. Children who take days off miss vital school work and fall behind in their learning.

*Punctuality: Please be sure that your child arrives promptly at 9:30am, so they do not miss out on precious Aleph Champ time, thereby making it more difficult for them to progress.

*Snacks and Supplies: The school will be providing all necessary supplies and snacks.

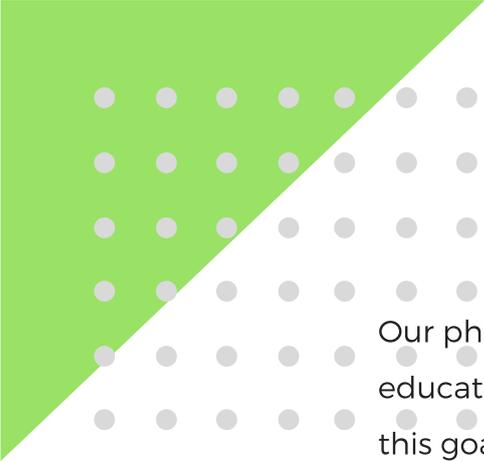
*Food: No food of any kind is allowed to be brought to school. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the school.

*First Aid: Minor injuries will be taken care of by the school staff. Should anything serious occur, G-d forbid, the parents or emergency contact will be notified and the child will be taken to the nearest hospital if necessary.

*Homework: Homework is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory. Upon your child's request, he/she will come home with a few pages of Aleph Champ review to complete during the week. Please make sure to send the books back to school the following week with your child.

*Special Events: Throughout the school year there will be several special festivals and programs. There will be Shabbat Dinners, Trip days and Family days, among other events. Please review the calendar for the dates of these events.

*Child Information: Parents are asked to notify the office of any change of address, numbers, allergies or medical changes.



OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our philosophy is that every Jewish child is entitled to a basic education regardless of family affiliation or membership. To achieve this goal, we have opened our Hebrew School to you.

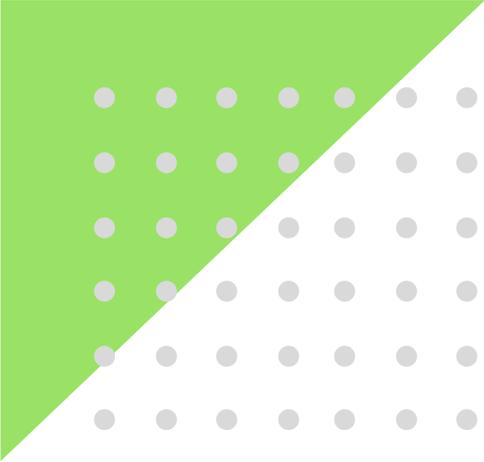
Hebrew School of the Arts offers a warm and lively Jewish atmosphere where children can attain a unique and exciting awareness of their Jewish identity.

Indeed, a child equipped with an education and a feeling for Judaism's beautiful teachings, traditions and historical lessons is a child better equipped to face the awesome moral challenges of today's society.

Judaism has always taught and stressed the importance of knowledge. Through our Hebrew School, we will try to instill in the children a strong thirst for study, to gain knowledge and understanding of what Judaism stands for, a feeling for their rich heritage, a sense of responsibility, and a positive picture of themselves as Jews.

Our underlying approach is for the children to enjoy the time spent at Hebrew school so that they are left with positive feelings and fond memories of their Jewish education. Our program is carefully blended with songs, games, incentives, arts and crafts, dramatics, family celebrations, and other exciting co-curricular activities.

We encourage you to spread the word to your family and friends about this unique learning program and, as a parent, to get involved and keep in touch with our school. You may very well discover that your child's Hebrew School education at the Hebrew School of the Arts will add an enriching, spiritual dimension to the life of your entire family.



OUR GOAL IS FOR EVERY STUDENT TO...

*Attain a strong feeling of identity with their Jewish heritage and to develop a sense of love and pride in being Jewish.

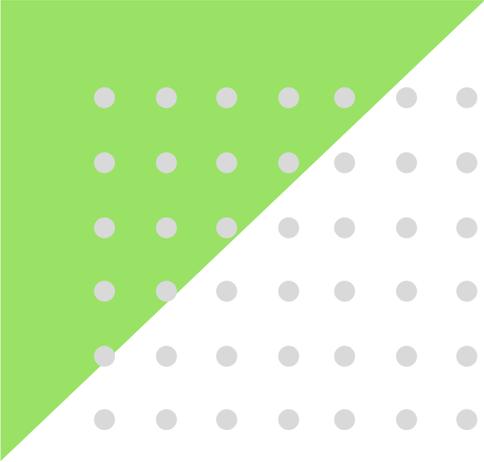
*Gain knowledge and understanding of the Mitzvoth, traditions and practices that Judaism stands for, to study the morals, values and ethical behavior mandated by the Torah, and to develop an appreciation for all the Jewish holidays.

*Master the skills of Hebrew reading and to gradually develop the ability to understand basic Hebrew words, emphasizing prayers, so that the students will feel comfortable when attending services.

*Discover and explore the incredible history of the Jewish people and its relevance for all time.

*Express their opinions and questions about G-d, Torah and religion, and to understand the importance of these things in today's society.

*Attain a Jewish perspective on life and maintain Jewish feelings and involvement beyond the years at Hebrew School and to ultimately perpetuate these to future generations.



HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED

In order for our program to be most effective, home and school must work hand in hand and promote a close partnership. The following are a few suggestions:

Participation in Synagogue services and celebration of Jewish Holidays will greatly enhance your child's interest in Judaism and strengthen his/her Jewish identity. We invite all Hebrew School families to join us at Chabad for Shabbat and holiday services and programs. You belong--no membership needed!

Show your child that you are interested in his/her Jewish education.

Make a habit of asking your child/ren how their day was, and what they have learned, and checking out the photos on our Facebook group. This will greatly encourage and help foster a strong Jewish identity and positive attitude.

Children will bring home notices from time to time. Please read them :)

When your child completes a level in Aleph Champ, celebrate their victory at home with a color themed dinner or snack.