

EDUCATION AT TBESOC

Jewish learning is an exciting endeavor that continues throughout our lives. At Temple Beth El of South Orange County (TBESOC), our mission is to educate both children and adults in the beliefs and practices of Judaism so that they will feel passion and pride in being Jewish. As such, we promote an educational climate in which each individual can discover and cultivate their own strong and lasting Jewish identity. TBESOC's Aron and Sala Samueli Religious School fits into the larger array of lifelong educational learning programs we offer. Our Religious School programs include *Shabbat Chai*, *Hebrew School*, *Tzedakah Board*, and *Teen programs*.

NEW this year! TBESOC's Aron and Sala Samueli Religious School and Temple Beth Sholom under the direction of Wendy Yesharim, TBESOC Program Director and Johannah Sohn, TBS Education Director (part time, she is also the Executive Director of OC Hillel) who have come together to bring the best of Jewish Education to both communities. With this partnership, we are proud to introduce a new, innovative, relevant, values-based curriculum and self-paced Hebrew program. We will be able to share professional development of both schools' faculty, together, as well as be able to offer YOU **more scheduling and program options!**

All of us together are navigating through the changing environment of the global pandemic. It is vital that we maintain connections and to be grounded in what is constant. Our traditions, celebrations and Jewish values are sources of connection, stability and comfort. Learning is anchored in Jewish texts and tales of our past, offering rich understandings of Jewish values that build resiliency and guide personal and communal health and wellness. Given the current public health orders in Orange County, we are **moving forward with an online educational model to begin the school year, with great anticipation of being able to come together, in person, to celebrate our learning, when it is safe.**

GRADE LEVEL CURRICULUM

TBESOC's Education Task Force identified six goals for students participating in our program:

- Learn fundamental Shabbat and Hebrew prayers, the foundation of our Jewish practice.
- Have extensive experience practicing our holidays and rituals and know the reasons why we practice, so that they can engage in living an authentic Jewish life.
- Recognize and own their membership in the Temple Beth El Community so that they develop a deep and enduring connectedness to their Judaism, other Jews, and the Jewish community at large.
- Possess the tools to explain, advocate for, and defend their Judaism, with a solid foundation of Torah, so that they know their own story and can feel pride about being Jewish.
- Infuse holiness, *kedusha*, into their lives by learning respect and appreciation for temple and services, and by engaging in *mitzvot*, Jewish acts.
- Develop a desire to do Tikkun Olam through understanding our Jewish obligation to make our world a better place.

Our new curriculum is designed to intentionally meet these expressed desires of our community, while ensuring that every student has the opportunity to feel connected, knowledgeable, and proud of their Jewish identity.

Special this year, cohort based family curriculum geared toward understanding Jewish Life and values during an exciting, new values-based curriculum designed for learners in kindergarten through sixth grade. Via five values-focused modules, learners experience synchronous learning in a weekly cohort-based *mifgash* ("gathering"). Off-line they delve into module-related content and concepts - lower elementary age children

explore them through a curated box of hands-on activities, while upper elementary learners receive engaging weekly challenges. Learning is anchored in Jewish texts and tales of our past, offering rich understandings of Jewish values that build resiliency and guide personal and communal health and wellness:

- *sukkat shalom* (a shelter of peace)
- *ometz lev* (inner strength)
- *g'vurah* (courage)
- *k'hillah* (community)
- *hesed* (loving kindness, tying into hope)

While developed with minimal at-home adult responsibility for learning, resources are offered to encourage informal family conversations.

SHABBAT CHAI

Shabbat Chai means “Shabbat Lives!” and is part of our Religious School program. Kindergarten through 7th grade are welcome to participate in Shabbat Chai. This experiential program provides meaningful learning opportunities as students and families come together to learn Jewish by *living* Jewish.

The Friday afternoon ***Shabbat Chai* curricular** activities include learning Torah and Rabbinic stories, Jewish values and lifecycle rituals, symbols and prayers.

Participation in the Friday evening Shabbat Service is an important part of the *Shabbat Chai* curriculum. Students are expected to attend the service, and often enjoy opportunities to lead one another and the community in Jewish life.

Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend services with children.

When we are able to gather in person, we will invite parents to the upstairs rotunda **each Friday *Shabbat Chai* afternoon from 4-6pm** for a **parent social hour (snacks and drinks are provided.)** Occasionally, informal adult programming is offered during these times. If you would prefer a Sunday religious school option, please request a calendar!

Shabbat Chai 1st Day Friday, August 28

Students

4pm Welcome Back! Students
in grade level classrooms

Parents

4pm Parent Social Hour
5pm Parent Orientation

Students & Parents

5:30 Meet your child’s teacher
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

SERVICE PARTICIPATION

Students in PreK-2nd grade

We aim to make engaging in Shabbat a fun and accessible experience for the whole family, and even at this young age, encourage your attendance at even the shortest amount of the service (online and/or in person). **We fully understand that this may be too long of a day for our youngest students** to stay for the entire Shabbat Service, especially at the beginning. We are here to help your family create a meaningful experience, and the order of the service allows opportunities for you to leave without worry of being disruptive and while also providing milestone goals for your child to experience (Try staying through the L'chah Dodi prayer about 7 minutes into the service, or through Sh'ma about 20 minutes, and then through the Amidah, 30 minutes).

Students in 3rd-7th grade

All families are encouraged to participate together in our Shabbat Services, as an important part of our curriculum. While virtual learning and worship continue, you can make attendance a part of your family's Friday evening ritual. (Get creative! Take a laptop to your backyard or the beach and tune in. Make dinner [or challah!] together while listening/watching the service. If timing is an issue, play the Shabbat service video when it's convenient for you!)

When in-person *Shabbat Chai* sessions are regularly scheduled 4-7pm, this includes in class programming, dinner, Shabbat Service attendance and participation. Staff supervision is always provided for students whose parent/guardian needs to pick up at 7pm.

Family Shabbat Experiences

Every grade level will have a family learning experience. On these special days, students and their family members enjoy learning and Shabbat Dinner together during regularly scheduled *Shabbat Chai* sessions, and students will have opportunities to lead portions of the Shabbat Service.

This program will resume when it is safe to be together. Please check your grade level communications for weekly updates and virtual family opportunities.

Family Program Dates
(attend w/students)
4-7pm

Chanukah Palooza

Friday, December 11, 2020

Purim Palooza & Carnival

Friday, February 26, 2021

Family Shabbat Experiences

(by grade)

PreK/K	November 6
1 st & 2 nd	January 8
3 rd & 4 th	March 5
5 th & 6 th	March 19
7 th	May 21

*Students must be accompanied by an adult if attendance in person is permissible. Programming subject to change.

KINDERGARTEN CONSECRATION

Each year, we mark the entrance into formal Jewish learning with a consecration service for kindergartners and anyone beginning their Jewish education (at any age or grade).

Please join us during our Family Simchat Torah celebration and Consecration event! It will include a family friendly service, celebration of Torah, and an opportunity to celebrate our people's longest tradition: learning.

Please watch your emails for detailed information!

HEBREW SCHOOL

The goals of our Monday Hebrew School Curriculum for 3rd-7th graders include bringing students to fluency with reading Hebrew, prayers, their recitation and meaning. Over the course of the years, students acquire the ability to read Hebrew, understand many of the key words, and chant various prayers in preparation for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. In grade level **T'filah** sessions with Cantor Young, she teaches students to use our Mishkan T'filah prayer books, allows students to practice prayer choreography, and trope. Moments of mindfulness, prayer, gratitude, and a reflective practice create a meaningful atmosphere.



Hebrew instruction will be guided virtually in **small level based groups** allowing each student to **master the skills** necessary to be successful in the next level. Each student will be assessed and a recommendation will be made for you to choose from one of several small group time slots. If you would prefer a Tuesday option please request a calendar!

All-School T'filah is a special program where students in each grade level lead the prayer or prayers they have been working on. Clergy from other faith traditions are invited to experience the students' authentic leadership and ask them questions about the content. This empowers students into positions of teachers and guides, and solidifies their learning. ***After all, learning in order to learn is one thing, but learning in order to teach is an entirely different kind of learning!*** It is wonderful when parents attend these All-School T'filah programs and help celebrate their children's learning and progress.

Please save the date now to attend our All-School T'filah sessions: December 7, March 15, May 10.

Families Encouraged to Attend

**All-School T'filah
5:15-6:30pm**

Mondays

*December 7, 2020

*March 15, 2021

*May 10, 2021

*Subject to change with virtual learning



HEBREW FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Kindergarten-2nd Grade

We hear you! Parents in our programs expressed the desire for children to get Hebrew education started before 3rd grade. In this optional enrichment program, students will meet on **Sunday mornings** to participate in an interactive program called ***Hebrew through Movement***. Studies show that exposure to a second language at an early age has many benefits including the ability to learn easier, retain language, improve problem solving skills and nurture creativity. Students will gain familiarity with the alef-bet, prayers, and songs through visual, music, art, play, and drama.

CHUGGIM (ELECTIVE WORKSHOPS)

Chuggim and Hebrew Helpers 3rd-7th Grade



We hear you! Parents in our programs expressed the desire for their 3rd-7th graders to have more opportunities to learn outside of *Shabbat Chai* and Hebrew School. To respond to this request, in addition to Hebrew School on Mondays and *Shabbat Chai* on select Fridays, *Chuggim* will be offered in a workshop format which will be made available to you throughout the year. Judaism comes alive in a series of “*Chuggim*” (electives) that are offered in workshops, so students can participate in one, two or all workshops over the course of the year.

Hebrew Helpers is for students to get extra help and practice with a teacher, and to sign up please contact Wendy Yesharim, program director for information.



PARENT AND ME

We are excited to offer Parent & Me during Shabbat Chai Fridays – when we are able to meet in person!

We hear you! Parents in our programs expressed the desire for us to bring back the Parent and Me program for the 2020/21 year. This special space is designed for babies and toddlers together with their parents, grandparents or caregiver. Shabbat Chai Fridays for our Parent & Me group will include Shabbat and holiday celebration, challah, singing, stories, activities, play and community. Our Parent & Me group may join our ‘Shabbat Shira’ (our fun-filled, high energy song session for little ones!) from 4:15-4:30pm.

BAR & BAT MITZVAH

Religious school participation in both *Shabbat Chai* Fridays and Hebrew Mondays is designed to intellectually and socially provide a foundation of empowerment for students to become b'nai mitzvah at Temple Beth El of South Orange County. We do this through intentional and integrated curriculum that infuses content learning, context, real engagement in community life, and leadership in Temple programs. Students who have successfully engaged in and completed four years of Jewish education are well prepared to become a bar/bat mitzvah in our community.

5th and 6th Grade Family Bar/Bat Mitzvah Retreat*

Friday, March 19, 4-7pm
Sunday, March 21, 9am-4pm

To best prepare your family for the process of becoming a bar/bat mitzvah at TBESOC, please plan to join us on Friday, March 19 and Sunday, March, 21. This will be an opportunity to gain a clear understanding of the process and expectations for our b'nai mitzvah program and develop meaningful grade level family and community connections.

Students begin b'nai mitzvah training six months prior to their ceremony date, provided the requirements to become a bar/bat mitzvah are met (requirements include attending the retreat*, and are detailed in our B'nai Mitzvah booklet titled "A Guide for Parents" online at www.tbesoc.org). **In addition to *Shabbat Chai* and *Monday Hebrew School*, this training includes weekly one-on-one sessions with a tutor** to learn the Torah portion and polish up on proficiency leading prayers. During the six months leading up to the bar/bat mitzvah date, there are also four individualized sessions with our Rabbi and Cantor to craft the service, inspire D'var Torah, and support the student on the cusp of this meaningful transition. For any b'nai mitzvah questions, please contact the Program Director Wendy Yesharim at 949-362-3999 x214 or at wyescharim@tbesoc.org.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Post B'nai Mitzvah Students
are expected to complete their
Shabbat Chai & Hebrew School year.

Teens make significant contributions to our synagogue community. They do so through BESTY (Beth El Senior Temple Youth, (post b'nai mitzvah-12th grade program), 8th grade Tzedakah Board (our youth philanthropy board program) and *Madrichim* (assistant teachers in religious school classes).

Beyond their religious school years and bar/bat mitzvah, teens are encouraged to continue attending *Shabbat Chai* Fridays and *Monday Hebrew School* in the capacity of *Madrichim*, leaders in the program helping younger students and teachers. To participate, please make arrangements with the Program Coordinator Wendy Yesharim at 949-362-3999 x214 or at wyescharim@tbesoc.org.

Eighth graders are strongly encouraged to participate in our Tzedakah Board where they take part in creating a philanthropic foundation committed to engaging in questions of how to fix our broken world. Participants learn Jewish wisdom on charitable giving and social change, financial literacy, and modern philanthropy, and then award grants to organizations that they deem effective in making the world a better place.

Post b'nai mitzvah students-12th grades may join our senior youth group, BESTY, which creates a time for teens to feel like they can be themselves while developing bonds and strengthening friendships with other Jewish teens. Our teen leaders, staff, and clergy are deeply committed to creating an inclusive space where each teen's unique presence and contribution is appreciated. **For more information about teen programs, please visit www.tbesoc.org**

PROGRAM COSTS

Parent and Me Shabbat Chai

Select Fridays

TUITION (for TBESOC members) \$180

TUITION (for non-members) \$360

Materials Fee: \$82

Emergency Fee \$10

TOTAL COST, includes program, food, materials, earthquake kits: \$ 272

With 3% cash discount
\$264

Non-members: \$452 \$438

Shabbat Chai (PK-2nd Graders)

Select Fridays

TUITION \$758

Materials Fee: \$82

Earthquake Kit Fee \$10

TOTAL COST, includes program, food, materials, earthquake kits: \$850

With 3% cash discount
\$825

TWO DAYS/WEEK (3rd-7th Graders)

Mondays &
Select Fridays

TUITION \$996

Materials Fee \$164

Earthquake Kit Fee \$10

TOTAL COST, includes program, food, materials, earthquake kits: \$1,170

With 3% cash discount
\$1135

Enrichment Programs

Hebrew for Young Children (K-2 Grade)

Sundays

Members \$515

Non-members \$567

Chuggim (Electives) for Grades 3-7 **PER TRIMESTER**

TBA

Regular Price \$TBA

Registered student (*discount*) \$TBA

Payment Options

- Pay 50% at registration time and the remaining 50% by December 2021.
- Pay 9 equal installments on the first day of each month (e.g., August through April) by credit card on file.

Please know that no child will be excluded from Jewish engagement and learning opportunities at Temple Beth El due to financial concern. Please contact our Assistant Director, Myka Thompson, if your family has financial need regarding Religious School tuition or if you would like to help a family in need by making a donation to the Mirsky Scholarship Fund: mthompson@tbesoc.org 949-362-3999, ext. 100

AN INVITATION

Your active participation is vital in making these experiences a true success. We invite you to participate!

Our curriculum is an evolving guide. We continually strive for new and innovative ways of bringing our holiday and worship experiences to life, while providing students with solid content knowledge, personally meaningful understandings, and empowered leadership opportunities.

Parents are welcome and encouraged to co-create our children's learning experiences by contacting the program staff or by joining the Religious School Education Committee by contacting the VP of Education.

Additionally, if you would like to contribute by volunteering before the start of the *Shabbat Chai* year, please contact our Program Director, Wendy Yesharim (wyescharim@tbesoc.org; 949-362-3999, ext. 214.)

- Join the Religious School Committee
- Attend & actively engage in Grade Level Programs
- Volunteer your time & talents (offer/give help!)

STAY CONNECTED

We want you to stay informed about what your child is learning in class and what you can do to support that process at home. After each session of Shabbat Chai and/or Hebrew School, our website will be updated with information from your child's teacher. The link to that website will be provided to you via email:

- On a weekly basis, from the temple, with all of the information about ways to support, connect, learn, and worship with the TBESOC community.
- Weekly during the school year, from the program director and your child's teacher/s.

We have an open door policy. You are welcome to ask questions, be engaged, get curious, and experience the joys of learning and being in Jewish community together!

5781/2020-21 CALENDAR

September 2020			
Day	Date	Time	Event
Friday	August 28	4-7pm	First Day of Shabbat Chai
Friday	September 11	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Saturday	September 19		<i>Shabbat Chai Rosh Hashanah Children's Program</i>
Monday	September 28		<i>Shabbat Chai Yom Kippur Children's Program</i>
Friday	October 2	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai, Pizza in the Hut, & Sukkot Shabbat
Monday Tuesday	October 5 October 6	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30pm-5:30pm	Hebrew 3 rd -7 th / Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
October 2020			
Saturday	October	TBD	Shabbat Chai Simchat Torah/Kinder Consecration
Monday Tuesday	October 12 October 13	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	October 16	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Monday Tuesday	October 19 October 20	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Monday Tuesday	October 26 October 27	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
November 2020			
Monday Tuesday	November 2 November 3	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	November 6	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai & Prek/K Family Shabbat Experience
Monday Tuesday	November 9 November 10	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30pm-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Monday Tuesday	November 16 November 17	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30pm-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	November 20	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Monday Tuesday	November 30 December 1	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30pm-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
December 2020			
Friday	December 4	4-7pm	<i>Shabbat Chai</i>
Monday Tuesday	December 7 December 8	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim

Friday	December 11	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai/ Chanukah Palooza <i>*Children must be accompanied by an adult*</i>
Monday Tuesday	December 14 December 15	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
January 2021			
Monday Tuesday	January 4 January 5	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	January 8	4-7pm	<i>Shabbat Chai & 1st & 2nd Grade Family Shabbat</i>
Monday Tuesday	January 11 January 12	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	January 22	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai & 6 th Grade Prophets Gallery
Monday Tuesday	January 25 January 26	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
February 2021			
Monday Tuesday	February 1 February 2	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	February 5	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Monday Tuesday	February 8 February 9	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	February 19	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Monday Tuesday	February 22 February 23	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	February 26	4-7pm	<i>Shabbat Chai Purim Celebration & Carnival *Children must be accompanied by an adult*</i>
March 2021			
Monday Tuesday	March 1 March 2	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	March 5	4-7pm	<i>Shabbat Chai & 3rd & 4th Grade Family Shabbat</i>
Monday Tuesday	March 8 March 9	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Monday Tuesday	March 15 March 16	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday Sunday	March 19 March 21	4-7pm 9:30am-4pm	Shabbat Chai & 5 th & 6 th Grade Family Shabbat 5 th & 6 th Grade Retreat
Monday Tuesday	March 22 March 23	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	March 26	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai

April 2021			
Monday Tuesday	April 12 April 13	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	April 16	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai w/Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebrations
Monday Tuesday	April 19 April 20	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Monday Tuesday	April 26 April 27	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	April 30	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
May 2021			
Monday Tuesday	May 3 May 4	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	May 7	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai
Monday Tuesday	May 10 May 11	4:30-6:30pm/4:30-5:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Hebrew School/Hebrew for Young Children Chuggim
Friday	May 21	4-7pm	Shabbat Chai & Mitzvah Recognition Shabbat

Important Dates: Parents, you don't want to miss these!

First Day of Religious School	August 28, 4-7pm
Kindergarten Consecration	October (details coming)
All School T'filah	December 7, 5:15-6:30pm
All School T'filah	March 15, 5:15-6:30pm
All School T'filah	May 10, 2021
Siyyum/Mitzvah Recognition	May 21, 4-7pm

Students must be accompanied by an adult:

Chanukah Palooza	December 11, 4-7pm
Purim Celebration/Carnival	February 26, 4-7pm



TEMPLE BETH EL

OF SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY

The Samueli Center for Progressive Judaism

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