



July 23, 2010

Dear B'nai Israel Families,

Thank you to all of you who helped to make our 2009/10 5770 year such a success! It was a year of change, exploration and getting to know one another. Todah rabah to the many of you who shared your thoughts, ideas, concerns, time and talents to help us begin our journey together. I am excited to continue with you and with all the newcomers who will be part of our community moving forward.

Our schedule for the upcoming year will remain the same:

~ Religious School on Sundays

K - 7th Grades: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Please look in our online registration materials (www.bnais.com) for how we will be using our learning time differently in the coming year. We are excited about a new way of maximizing this time together that will aim to enrich our students' Hebrew learning on Sundays and Tuesdays, with a special focus on our 1st-6th grade Hebrew learners.

Pre-K: 9:30 am 12:00 noon. Weekly program for 4 year-olds with optional playtime to 12:30 p.m.

K'tonton (ages 2 1/2, 3's & 4's w/ parents): Interactive Family Program. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, 9 sessions.

~ Midweek Hebrew: On Tuesdays, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Required for all students in Grades 4, 5, and 6.

You will also find changes to how these hours are used in our online registration packet, augmenting our students' Hebrew experiences.

~ Yachad: The Sacramento Jewish community high school program.

Grades 8-12 meet on Wednesday nights at Shalom School beginning in September, 2010.

The opening days of classes are as follows:

~ Religious School begins on Sunday, September 12, 2010, and will be followed by the fabulous Brotherhood Religious School Family Picnic

~ Midweek Hebrew begins on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 4 - 6 pm.

~ Yachad begins on Wednesday, October 6, 2010.

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Senior Rabbi

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Rabbi Emeritus

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Rachel Poppers
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Trustees at Large
Jeff Aran
Jeff Askenas
Joan Gorfain
Barry Hirschowitz
Ross Huggins
Jennifer Kaufman
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Marc Koenigsberg
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Please note the following:

- ~ **Sunday, September 12 is our "Back to School" Information Session** where each of your child's teachers will let you know what's in store this year. You will also be invited to share in Sukkot games and crafts as part of a congregational program on the same morning. Join us for the picnic that follows the morning.
- ~ **Tefillah (Prayer Service): All of our students are required to participate in Tefillah every Sunday.** Our spirited, brief morning service begins at **9:30 am** for everyone (Pre-K - 7th) in the sanctuary. Parents, please help your students arrive on time. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend with their children. Our K'tonton families are always welcome as well.
- ~ **Pre-K - Sunday class sessions are shortened: 9:30am-12:00pm** Students may stay for optional 12:00 - 12:30 pm playtime in the classroom with the teacher supervising. The optional playtime must be scheduled with the Pre-K teacher and must be pre-arranged through registering with the appropriate fee. Students not attending until 12:30 will pay a lower, pro-rated fee.
- ~ **Ensemble Katan Youth Choir (Grades 3-7) - Participates in several Shabbat services and other special programs.** They practice twice monthly after Religious School. Please contact Judy Emick-Leatherwood for further information. Her information is part of our on-line registration packet.
- ~ **Tot Shabbat & 2nd Shabbes services:**
We are blessed each month to have our students participate in (6:00) Tot Shabbat (Pre K – Gr.3) and (7:30) 2nd Shabbes services (Gr.4 – Gr. 7). Our students lead the community and begin to feel comfortable on the bima. As always we hope everyone will attend Tot Shabbat and/or 2nd Shabbes services as well as our Shabbat dinners -- a wonderful chance to share with friends and meet others. Tot Shabbat is always followed by an oneg for those not attending dinner. We ask the participating class to help sponsor the oneg by bringing goodies to honor your child. Families of older students are asked to sponsor the oneg after the later service.

Parents should be on the lookout for information on Adult Education classes and programs on Sunday mornings, including an upcoming series on Jewish parenting.

Parents, please download and print from our website, the following forms and documents:

- This letter (should you need another copy)
- *Madrichim* Forms (2)
- Registration (for new students—returning students should find your registration forms in this mailing and should verify the information and return)
- Medical & Field Trip Information (fill out and return)
- Tuition and Fee Information Form (fill out and return)
- Confidential Information Form(s) (fill out and return)
- Hebrew Information Letter (read and forward any questions to me—Rabbi King-Tornberg)
- Rights and Responsibilities (to sign and return)
- Ensemble Katan Registration (Gr.3-7)
- Mazal Tots Flyers (print and post on fridge)
- BISO Registration (9th-12th grades)
- *Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!* (Girls in Gr. 7& 8 and Gr. 9 & 10)
- Religious Scholarship Form (please let us help you, if you need)
- Religious School Policies (to sign and return)
- Yachad Registration Materials (for 8-12th grades) when it becomes available.
- Our Family Handbook (important information for the year for you to print and keep)
- Religious School Calendar

~ **The Tuition and Fee Information Form** is structured to help you and us! The tuition fee covers both tuition and books/supplies. BISO and the 10th grade Confirmation fees should be included on the Fee Information Form so that you can write one check or make one charge.

~ **Yachad Fees:** The full tuition fee for Yachad is paid directly to Yachad. **Please fully complete the Yachad tuition form and send forms and payment to the Federation office.**

~ **Congregation B'nai Israel Religious School Registration and Fees are due by August 24, 2010. Any forms arriving after August 24, will be assessed a late fee of \$50.00.**

If you are able to help other families participate in our religious school program, please consider making a donation to our **Religious School Youth Scholarship Fund**. You will find a space on our Tuition and Fees form to indicate your intent to do this mitzvah. Thank you so very much. Todah Rabah!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch with me. Kayitz Tov!
Have a wonderful summer!

L'Shalom,



Rabbi Shoshanah King-Tornberg, RJE
Director of Lifelong Jewish Learning