

LEARN IT. LOVE IT. LIVE IT.



JUDA HEBREW SCHOOL

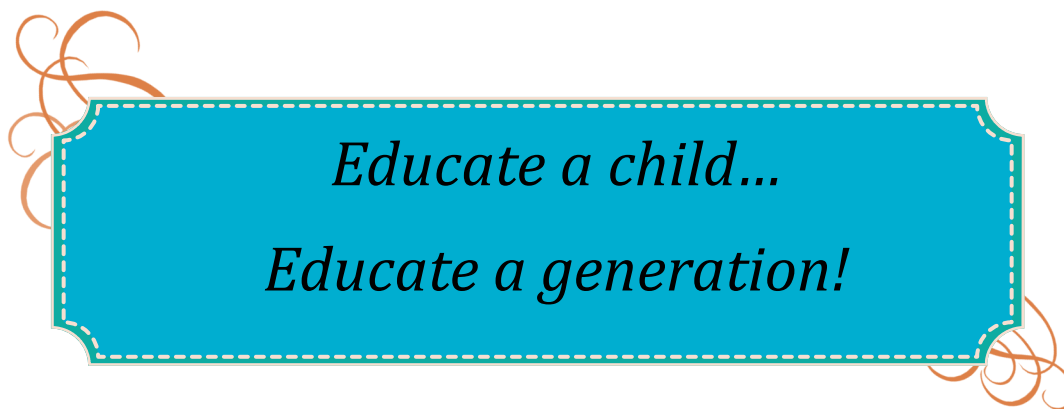
*Parent & Student
Handbook*

WELCOME TO JUDA HEBREW SCHOOL

JUDA Hebrew School's goal is to provide Jewish children with an education that instills Jewish pride, conveys a meaningful and relevant understanding of Jewish life and Jewish history, and teaches Hebrew Language reading and writing.

We strive to provide a basis in which to enable our children to grow into warm and informed adults who will positively shape our communities in years to come.

In this booklet you will find all the necessary details for the upcoming year of Hebrew School 2020-21/5781.



COVID-19 UPDATE

As parents, we know well that the lessons we teach our children by modeling behaviors speak volumes, and have the greatest impact on our children. When thinking about Hebrew School for this coming year, perhaps, more than ever, we have a unique opportunity to teach our children the importance of their Jewish education.

We are living in times of uncertainty. A time where we have to make decisions of what is considered crucial and what is extra. What is a must and what can wait. Our children are watching us make these choices and are learning from us what their priorities should be. Choosing to give our children a Jewish education sends them a powerful message:

“My child, this is your identity, this is crucial, and even when so many of your extra-curricular activities may fall aside, this remains”.

As we look to the coming year, much still remains uncertain. One thing that is definite, however, is that we are fully committed to giving your children the quality Jewish educational experience they will come to know at love at JUDA Hebrew School.

The safety of our students, their families and the staff, is of our highest priority. Therefore, we have modified and expanded our Juda program to follow the most current guidelines set forth by the CDC, the state of California and in consultation with local health professionals. We have made a number of changes and expanded our programming to three tracks including virtual options if that is where you feel most comfortable. All classes will be outdoors in small groups at Chabad of Pasadena.

With everyone following all the necessary proactive precautions, we are confident that your child(ren) can be provided with an amazing, educational and exciting year at Juda Hebrew School.

We will continue to be in contact with all relevant agencies to keep up to date with changes that may occur during the upcoming weeks and will share them with you.

As always, you may reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Looking forward,
Rabbi Laibel and Menucha Hanoka

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.

The Chabad Hebrew School 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 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 JUDA Hebrew School will add an enriching, spiritual dimension to the life of your entire family.

OUR GOAL IS THAT EVERY STUDENT SHOULD....

- ◆ 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 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.

TRACK ONE

(includes track two and three)

In person JUDA

**Outdoor classes following all government guidelines for safe healthy learning.
Sundays 10:30-12:00**

At JUDA Hebrew School we recognize that each child is a unique individual with different learning styles and abilities.

Each lesson in Hebrew School is multi-sensory and hands on. The lessons incorporate different ways of learning so that each individual child is reached and is able to benefit. The students truly experience that which they are being taught.

Drama, song, interactive workbooks, Aleph Champ, and of course the teachers, bring Hebrew School lessons to life. Our interactive learning style encourages children to be active, rather than passive, learners.

OUR CURRICULUM

Hebrew: Hebrew is the language of the Jewish people and it connects us to our past. The Hebrew language and prayer unite us with a sacred commonality. Our program integrates Hebrew and prayer into each weekly session by beginning each day with communal tefillah (prayer), and with our Hebrew sessions. Our Hebrew reading program, the Aleph Champ, affords our students the ability to progress at their own pace.

Prayer: Aimed at the study and understanding of prayer and the Siddur (prayer book), focusing on the meaning of each prayer as well as some key words to remember. We want each child to be comfortable with the Siddur during services.

Holidays: Lessons on each Jewish holiday will fill the calendar as we proceed from Rosh Hashana and the High Holidays through the holiday of Shavuot. The students will have a deeper understanding of each holiday and its traditions.

Mitzvot: The children at Hebrew School will learn about many things that Jews practice and the reasons these things are done. All in a very practical hands on way.

Jewish Music & Song: Led by our teachers, the students will learn many Jewish songs connected to the lessons being taught.

JUDA art room: The students will enjoy creating many different art projects with Jewish holiday and Mitzvah themes that will add a taste of Jewish life to your home.

Track three

TRACK TWO

Out of the Box JUDA

Monthly programs on zoom with hands on activities, games, and Jewish learning. you will receive a box directly to your door full of activities, crafts and games to use during the program.

Check out the calendar and your email for all the dates and the Zoom ID

If you signed up for track one you will automatically be signed up for this program.

Please let us know if you will be away or do not wish to participate in any of the Out of the Box programs by the Tuesday before the event so we can plan appropriately and make sure the Box does not go to waste.

Thank you!

TRACK THREE

JUDA TO YOU

Private zoom sessions going by your schedule!

Schedule a weekly time for your child to learn virtually to advance in his/her Hebrew reading using our innovative aleph champ program. All the homework and readers can be found on ChabadPasadena.com/JUDA

As your child advances they will receive prizes and medals to celebrate their accomplishments.

We are also offering private Bar/Bat mitzvah lessons. Please contact us to discuss further and to schedule a time.

(If you signed up for track one you will automatically be signed up for this program.)

INFORMATION

We are pleased that you have chosen JUDA Hebrew School for your child's education.

We will do everything in our power to make sure that your family's Hebrew School experience will be enjoyable and inspiring, as well as provide warm memories for a lifetime.

Communication

Our school is blessed with a staff of professional and dedicated individuals. Each staff member spends hours planning lessons and designing creative methods to infuse fun and excitement into the program. They are deeply concerned about the progress of each individual student and are always glad to spend time discussing your child's progress with you. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, or contact the administrator, should any concern or issue arise.

Periodic Email

A periodic email is sent out to update our parents with important information; please read these emails thoroughly to ensure that you are up to date on JUDAS happenings.

School Hours

Class begins promptly every Sunday at 10:30am. Please be sure that your child arrives on time. Hebrew School ends at 12:00 noon.

If you will be more than 10 minutes late for pick-up, please notify the office at 608-622-6259.

Tuition

Tuition fees will be billed and should be paid on time. Prompt attention to tuition fees is necessary as we depend on these funds for operation. Scholarships are available on a first come first serve basis.

Attendance

The first step in the right direction is for parents and children to recognize that attendance is the key to a successful Hebrew School. A child who takes days off not only misses important work, but also creates a feeling that 'Judaic studies is not that important'. Parents should schedule all appointments, enrichment programs and extra-curricular activities around Hebrew School.

Snack

Students are provided with snack during Hebrew School. (All prepackaged) If your child is allergic to any food or beverages, please make sure that it is written down on his or her registration medical form.

INFORMATION

Tzedakah & Mitzvah Notes

Parents are requested to send in a coin or two each week so their child can give tzedakah during class. Parents can also send a “Mitzvah Note” to Hebrew School each week. A Mitzvah Note is a small note from the parents relating something positive their child has done throughout the course of the week.

Electronics

I-phones or electronic games should not be brought to Hebrew School, as they can distract from learning. If your child has a phone, please speak with your child about leaving it at home during Hebrew School.

Behavior

Students and all members of the school community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with Rabbi Hillel’s Rule: ‘What is hateful to you, never do to your fellow person: that is the entire Torah; all the rest is commentary’ (Hillel in Talmud: Shabbat, 31a). Student conduct is measured against this criteria and, if found wanting, the necessary steps are taken by Hebrew School’s professional staff to correct the behavior with emphasis on the educative rather than on the punitive.

There is a ‘zero-tolerance’ policy for any student whose behavior jeopardizes the physical wellbeing of other students or any member of the Hebrew School community. In the event that a student is chronically unable to follow the Behavioral Expectations or displays action which fall into the ‘zero-tolerance’ category, the student will remain in the principal’s office and the parents will be contacted and asked to schedule a parent conference before the child is allowed to return to class. A written record of the incident, including a request for a parent conference before the student returns to class, will be sent home to parents.

Holiday Programs

Throughout the course of the year, we will celebrate the Jewish holidays in Hebrew School (and now Via Zoom). Parents are encouraged to attend and participate in all Hebrew School holiday celebrations. Refer to the school calendar to take note of all family events.

Aleph Champ Homework

Our individualized Hebrew reading curriculum - Aleph Champ - is the latest educational breakthrough in Hebrew reading, where children learn and grow at their own pace. Modeled after the Karate/Martial Arts motivational philosophy of color coded levels, it provides excitement and inspiration, leading the student into a winning cycle of learning. This year students can pick a time during the week to have a private session on Zoom with their teacher. Prizes and awards will be given as usual.

Rewards Program

As a reward and incentive for good behavior, completion of homework, and participation, teachers will Torah dollars which can be redeemed for prizes.



WHERE IT ALL HAPPENS

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