

TO: Parents: August 15, 2013
FR: The Rabbis and Faculty
RE: 2013-14 Hebrew School Information

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Dear Parents,

Shalom! The information below and the calendar for school, youth group, and holiday dates and times should answer many of your questions about the school year. Parents are invited to attend the last 30 minutes of our first class during the week of September 16th for an orientation. Duplicates of parent information materials can be found on the "Parent's Page" on our website. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead!

Rabbi Darren + Rabbi Darcie

1st – 5th Graders: A seminar-based curriculum built on a three year cycle

Tamid is focused on depth of learning and experience. This year, students will engage in four mini-seminars with holiday focused sessions at Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Hanukah, Purim, and Passover.

Seminar #1: Jewish Life Cycle: b'rit milah, simchat bat, b'nai mitzvah, confirmation, weddings, and funerals.

Seminar #2: Jewish Theology: exploring the many pathways to God

Seminar #3: Mitzvot: Jewish values and everyday ethics

Seminar #4: Jewish New York: Jewish immigration from 1840 to 1930, Jewish population, NYC Jewish places + neighborhoods

*In between seminars, students will have 2-3 weeks each of classes in Krav Maga (Israeli self-defense), Omanut (fine art), and Rekudai Am (Israeli dancing).

1st-5th Grade Hebrew Program

Hebrew is fundamental to our program and we guide the children through six stages of learning. The first three stages utilize the on-line learning center where students are self-paced and work in class and at home. This will take 2-3 years to complete. Stages 4-6 are focused on prayer competency and hebrew vocabulary. Each student will receive a set of Tamid Hebrew letter flash cards. Replacement set is \$10.

6th + 7th Graders: Bar and Bat Mitzvah Program

This one-year intensive meets on Monday afternoons from 4:30-6 PM at Tamid. The curriculum is focused on Jewish ethics and ceremony preparation. Students will complete a comprehensive Family Tree and complete the Mitzvah Check-list by May, 2014. Families are expected to attend three additional seminars and monthly shabbat and holiday programs to give their children an important foundation in Jewish life.

5th Grade Families: Mandatory Pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah Meeting

Current 5th grade students and parents are expected to attend a mandatory B'nai Mitzvah planning meeting to set your child's ceremony date and learn about what to expect in the next 2-3 years as you prepare for your celebration. Monday, Nov. 4th, 6-7 PM at Tamid.

Post-B'nai Mitzvah to 12th graders in 2013-14: "Teen age Hunger Action Project"

This service-learning program delivers food to the homeless one Saturday night per month. Each session will include a discussion about the Jewish response to Hunger and a meeting with a hunger advocacy group in New York. Please contact Yehudah Webster for more information and to enroll in the office: connect@tamidnyc.org

Tamid Walking Club - Pick up from PS 234, 276, 89

For students enrolled in the Walking Club, the teacher chaperone will be waiting in the drop off zone at your child's school. Mondays at PS 234 and Tuesdays at PS 276. [during the first week of Hebrew School (Sept 16th), please have a parent or caregiver bridge the hand-off between the Tamid chaperone and your child and school teacher]. Look for the Tamid Balloon.

Holiday and Shabbat Attendance

Students will be exposed to Jewish prayer and holidays every week in class. Please help them reinforce their classroom learning with the "experience" of Jewish life by bringing them to holidays and Shabbat. High Holiday tickets are included in Family Membership levels. Family of student-only members asked to purchase individual seats for themselves. Children do not need tickets to the holidays.

Youth Group Pizza and Movie Nights

For fun and socializing, we've selected four movies that have an important lesson to teach. Participation is included with student tuition. Non-Tamid friends are invited to join at \$20 per evening.

Youth Group Field Trips on NYC Public School Holidays

Included in your tuition are three special field trips on days when NYC public schools are on holiday (October 14, Nov 11, June 5). Non-Tamid friends are invited to join at \$72 which includes transportation and lunch. Please contact the office to RSVP.

NEW! Neighborhood Chavurah Pot Luck Shabbat Dinners

Building community one-to-one and knowing other Tamid families is what neighborhood chavurah (Hebrew for "group") is all about. Send an email to the office and we'll connect you with the volunteer coordinator in your neighborhood. connect@tamidnyc.org

Tamid Achievement Plan

Last year, we launched the first achievement based learning system in the Hebrew school world. Our incentive-based study program motivates students by providing learning targets and goals and makes them feel great about their success. Students are expected to earn "pins" in the following areas before their bar or bat mitzvah: Hebrew Letter Competency, Prayer Mastery, Mitzvot, and Jewish Ethics.