

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL

PARENT HANDBOOK

2014-2015



Comprehensive Curriculum Guide

Gan (JK/SK)—Grade 7



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Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Beth Tzedec clergy and the Congregational School committee, I thank you for choosing our program for your children's Jewish education. By enrolling in our school, you have made two loud and clear statements: The first is, 'Jewish education is important to me', while the second is, 'I believe in the supplementary school system'. I thank you for your trust, belief and commitment.

Creating institutional change is a long and hard process. Here at the Beth Tzedec Congregational School, in what is now my third year as principal, we continue to evaluate our program and our curricula and are working towards creating a supplementary school that utilizes the best of 21st century Jewish and secular learning.

We do this by examining how we teach, what we teach, who does the teaching, and where we teach. How we teach involves our commitment to technology, relevant curricula, activity-based and experiential learning, and new assessment styles. What we teach needs to be relevant and meaningful, meeting our learners where they are at. Our teachers (the who), need to be warm, caring and approachable. And we don't only teach in classrooms with learners seated at desks—we take advantage of the exceptional and unique building that is Beth Tzedec—visiting and learning in our museum, library, sanctuary, kitchen, gym, and art room.

Lastly, we incorporate the comments and feedback of our students and their parents. We are an adaptive and responsive school, ensuring that the who, what, where and how of our teaching is in line with both our institutional goals and vision and those of our families. In large part due to such feedback, we have reshaped our

Wednesday Hebrew experience to focus on activity-based learning in an immersive Hebrew environment. We look forward to the continued growth and development of this new initiative, and see in the not too distant future our learners enjoying a variety of games, activities and projects where Hebrew is the language being used.

I wish you and your families a wonderful, safe, successful and fun school year. My door is always open for feedback, questions and concerns, and I look forward to hearing from all of you over the course of the year.

B'Shalom

Daniel Silverman
Principal, Beth Tzedec Congregational School and Director of
Education and Family Programming.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2014-2015

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 7	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES – All Grades
Wednesday 10	Hebrew Immersion Program (Grades 3 – 7)
Sunday 14	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 17	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 21	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 24	Erev Rosh Hashanah – No Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 28	Sunday Classes

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 5	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 8	Erev Sukkot – No Hebrew Immersion Program
Saturday 11	Sukkot Family Shabbat & Sukkah Hop: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday 12	Thanksgiving Weekend – No Classes
Wednesday 15	Erev Shemini Atzeret – No Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 19	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 22	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 26	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 29	Hebrew Immersion Program

NOVEMBER

Saturday 1	Beth Tzedec Family Shabbat: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday 2	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 5	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 9	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 12	Hebrew Immersion Program

Sunday 16	Sunday Classes – Special Programming for Global Day of Jewish Learning
Wednesday 19	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 23	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 26	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 30	Sunday Classes

DECEMBER

Wednesday 3	Hebrew Immersion Program
Saturday 6	Beth Tzedec Youth Shabbat: 8:45 a.m.
Sunday 7	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 10	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 14	Sunday Classes – Hanukkah Celebration
Wednesday 17	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 21 - January 4	WINTER BREAK – No Sessions

JANUARY

Wednesday 7	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 11	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 14	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 18	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 21	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 25	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 28	Hebrew Immersion Program

FEBRUARY

Sunday 1	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 4	Hebrew Immersion Program
Saturday 7	Beth Tzedec Family Shabbat: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday 8	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 11	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 15	Family Day Weekend – No Classes
Wednesday 18	Hebrew Immersion Program

Sunday 22	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 25	Hebrew Immersion Program
MARCH	
Sunday 1	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 4	Purim Evening – Purim Carnival (4:00 p.m.) and Megillah Reading (6:15 p.m.)
Saturday 7	Beth Tzedec Family Shabbat: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday 8	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 11	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 15 – Sunday 22	MARCH BREAK – No Classes
Wednesday 25	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 29	Sunday Classes – Model Seders
APRIL	
Wednesday 1	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sat 5 – Sat 11	Pesah Break – No Classes
Sunday 12	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 15	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 19	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 22	Hebrew Immersion Program
Sunday 26	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 29	Hebrew Immersion Program
MAY	
Sunday 3	Sunday Classes
Wednesday 6	Hebrew Immersion Program
Saturday 9	Beth Tzedec Youth Shabbat: 8:45 a.m.
Sunday 10	CLOSING ASSEMBLY and Kitah Zayin Honours Ceremony

STUDENT DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

1. REGULAR DISMISSAL:

Gan and Kita Aleph students are brought to and picked up from the classroom by their parents. Students in Kitot Bet-Zayin come downstairs on their own. For safety and security reasons, parents are asked to wait for their children on the ground floor. Parents who prefer to remain in their cars may pick up their children in the lower parking lot.

It is not permissible for students to:

- a. Leave the building through any exit other than the parking lot doors.
- b. Wait for their parents or carpool on Avenal.

2. EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

On occasion, it may be necessary for a student to leave school before the regular dismissal time. Situations in which a student is to leave early on a recurring basis must be approved by the Principal.

Recurring early departures that add up to a significant amount of missed class time could affect a student's continued participation in the program which, in turn, could affect the fulfillment of the educational requirements for *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

- a) A student leaving early must bring a note from the parent or guardian requesting an early dismissal. If an entire carpool is leaving early, each member of the carpool must bring a note from his or her parents. For security and safety reasons, no child will be permitted to leave early without a note.
- b) **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES will a student be allowed to wait for his/her parents downstairs or outside unattended.**
- c). We ask that students leaving early take responsibility for missed work. It may be appropriate for an assignment to be completed as homework.

SAFETY AND BEHAVIOUR

At the Beth Tzedec Congregational School, we are concerned with the safety and well-being of every student, and we look to our students and their parents to work with us in maintaining a safe, comfortable, and productive environment. Our primary objectives in this area are:

- To ensure safety and well-being;
- To facilitate school work;
- To promote courtesy, cooperation, and respect;
- To protect property.

Many of the items that children use every day at home and outside are not suitable in the classroom environment, including roller blades, cell-phones, ipods and electronic hand-held games. Students who bring these items to school will be asked to drop them off in the School Office and retrieve them at the end of the day. Additionally, sports equipment should be left at home. The school has such equipment on hand for use, as necessary.

Certain items which may be appropriate when used under parental supervision are not appropriate in a school setting. Included in this category are pocket knives, toy guns, and water guns. Even an “x-acto knife” that is part of an art kit, or matches that are used in a science project, should not be brought to school.

There are times when children cross the boundaries of acceptable behaviour. As part of our educational approach, we feel that the teacher must relate to each situation and each child in a way that he or she feels will best support that child and the group as a whole. In most cases, problematic behaviour will be handled by the teacher involved. The Principal will assist in situations which cannot be resolved easily, and when needed, parental support will be enlisted.

ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The Congregational school represents a major investment of time and energy on the part of our students and their families. As parents, you depend on us to help make the most of this investment and we are deeply committed to this task. From experience, we know that families also play an important role in helping students do their best and get the most out of the program. In this section, we provide guidelines for ensuring a student's successful participation in our program.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance is the single most important factor in a child's success. The benefits of regular attendance are not only academic, but also social. As absences increase, a student feels less connected to peers and more like an outsider in class. The other students learn not to count on his or her participation in group activities, projects, and presentations. Excessive absences could affect a student's continued participation in the program which, in turn, could affect the fulfillment of the educational requirements for *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

2. ARRIVING PREPARED:

Students who arrive at school with all the necessary books, school supplies and snacks feel confident and ready to learn. We recommend that families develop a routine that ensures that students arrive at school with everything they need (e.g. materials packed the night before and placed in a spot where they will not be forgotten.) Students who repeatedly forget their supplies will be directed to call home in order that someone can bring their materials to school.

It is also very helpful when parents ask their children after each session what sort of preparation will be needed for the following session. In addition to communicating interest, it provides an opportunity to plan how and when the preparation will occur.

3. LATE ARRIVAL:

Late arrivals are disruptive to class. While we realize that lateness cannot always be avoided and would prefer to have a student arrive late than not at all, we ask for the cooperation of all our families to keep late arrivals at a minimum. Recurring late arrivals that add up to a significant amount of missed class time could affect a student's continued participation in the program which, in turn, could affect the fulfillment of the educational requirements for *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

4. DRESS CODE:

Students are expected to dress respectfully. Please note that boys are expected to wear a kippah (yarmulke) in class. Kippot for girls are optional. On Shabbat and holidays, students should dress in a manner that reflects the holiness of the day. Hats are not an acceptable replacement for kippot in Sanctuary services or during school tefilot sessions. On Sunday mornings, we open the gym for recess and require that students wear rubber-soled shoes to play.

5. SNACKS:

Students are encouraged to bring a snack to school. All snacks must be Kosher and nut-free. They may include fruit, vegetables and a drink. Snacks may only be eaten before class or during the break. If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in class, please bring only Kosher-certified and nut-free snacks. Amazing Donuts, Hermes Bakery and Two Moms Bakery are nut-free facilities. Please do not bring baked goods from home.

6. HELP KEEP US INFORMED:

Obviously, we are thrilled when parents tell us that their child is having a great experience at school. It is also important that you tell us when there is a problem. Your feedback is extremely important to us, whether it is positive or negative. Please let us know how your child is doing. We cannot promise to solve every problem that arises, but we can and do promise to work on any problem that you bring to

our attention. In most cases, we are able to improve a problematic situation. But we need your help. Please keep in touch!

8. INCLEMENT WEATHER:

On the rare occasion that school must be cancelled because of hazardous driving conditions, it will be announced on our voicemail message (416) 781-3514 ext 230 and ext 231 and on the Beth Tzedec website at www.beth-tzedec.org. If time permits, we will also email all families who have provided us with an email address.

In order to help us during weather-related events, we ask that you check your email two hours prior to the start of school whenever there is an Environment Canada weather alert issued.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT:

Children take their cue from their parents regarding their attitude toward Congregational school and Jewish life. If you ask questions and take an interest in what goes on, your child will care more, too. The same goes for attending school events. Children feel good about having their parents involved at school. They also feel disappointed when their parents are not among those attending a school program. In addition, we want you to know that your involvement is greatly valued by the teachers and synagogue leaders.

COMING TO SHUL AS A FAMILY

In addition to programs within the school, we encourage families to take advantage of the variety of davening (prayer) experiences available at Beth Tzedec on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. We have three types of service: a traditional, formal service; an informal learner's service; and a family service that welcomes the participation of both children and adults.

Our goal is to help the children become familiar with services and the prayers that they learn in class.

MONTHLY FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES: 10:30 am–12:15 pm

Followed by lunch—free of charge, no reservations required.

October 11

November 1

December 6 – Youth Shabbat

January 17

February 7

March 7

May 9 – Youth Shabbat

June 6

FAMILY FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES & DINNERS

Reservations are required. Cost: Adults \$36, Kids aged 5-14 \$18, Kids 4 & under \$6

November 7

February 6 – Blue Jeans Shabbat

February 20 – Tot Shabbat

June 12

SHABBAT SERVICES

- Main Sanctuary Service 8:45 am
- Little Minyan 9:30 am
- Teen Kiddush Club (ages 13-18) watch for details
- Torah Tots (ages 3-5) 10:15 am
- Junior Congregation (ages 6-12) 10:30 am
- Tot Shabbat on Family Shabbat 11:00 am
- Weekly Friday Evening Service (Hendeles Chapel) times vary with time of sundown; please check with the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511 or our website www.beth-tzedec.org

BETH TZEDEC YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Beth Tzedec Congregation offers many programs and services for the entire family. Most of these activities are open to both members and non-members of the congregation.

NITZANIM (SK TO GRADE 2): Programs will cover a wide range of activities, including sports, arts & crafts, games, movies and a variety of Jewish and Israel-related activities.

KOKHAVIM (GRADES 3-5): Kokhavim will be heading out on many adventures, including Cook & Shook, a girls sleepover, a chocolate seder, a project for Sick Kids, and much more.

KESHER (GRADES 6-8): With two or three events per month, Kesher provides a broad mix of social, religious and tikkun olam programs that prepare kids for what they will experience later in JYT.

BTTEENS (GRADES 9-12): Beth Tzedec's BT Teens get together between two and four times a month for a variety of programs ranging from indoor rock climbing to major social action projects to just sitting around and schmoozing with friends. BT Teen participants will meet other teens at regional programs. These events are fun, entertaining and a great way to meet new people.

For further information, please contact the Aily Leibtag, our Youth Director at 416 781-3514, ext. 239, or aleibtag@beth-tzedec.org.

AROUND BETH TZEDEC

The **REUBEN AND HELENE DENNIS MUSEUM** has one of the finest collections of Judaica in North America. Located on the first floor near the Sanctuary, there are two or three major exhibits per year, as well as ongoing displays of Jewish artifacts.

The **MAX AND BEATRICE WOLFE LIBRARY** has an extensive collection of books and audio-visual material for both adults and children. In addition to Judaic references, there is a growing resource library on parenting.

SYNAGOGUE COMMITTEES: We are always looking for people to be involved with various committees, including our Education Committee, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Committee, and Young Families Committee. Please speak with Randy Spiegel, our Executive Director at 416 781-3514, ext. 211 or rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org.

BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL

Curriculum Outline / 2014-2015

OVERALL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall mission of the Congregational School is to imbue the student with both the knowledge and the commitment necessary to become an active and contributing member of the Jewish community on the local, national and world levels. To carry out this mission, the following goals will be pursued:

1. To help the student begin to understand what it means to be a Conservative Jew and to develop an appreciation of Conservative Judaism.
2. To help the student develop a religious and ethical approach to everyday living.
3. To assist the student in developing a sense of his/her Jewish identity in a non-Jewish environment.
4. To encourage and help the student to develop a commitment to the principle of "*Klal Yisrael*", and to act upon the commitment, specifically through building a life-long attachment to the State of Israel and a feeling of oneness with its citizens.
5. To help the student acquire basic skills necessary for participation in Jewish religious life in the home and synagogue, and to encourage the desire to increase and sharpen these skills in future years, as both a teenager and an adult.
6. To enable the student to appreciate the continuity of Jewish life through the study of the Hebrew language, prayer, customs and holidays, Jewish texts, history and tradition.
7. To plant and nurture the seed of life long Jewish learning.
8. To foster and provide programs which emphasize the vital role of the Jewish family in the continuity of the Jewish people and religion, programs which involve the entire family, either at home or in conjunction with other families. To develop in the

student and his/her family an understanding of and an active commitment to the values of *Tzedakah* and *Gemilut Hasadim* as Jewish obligations required of Jews of all ages.

9. To encourage the celebration of *Shabbat*, festivals, and Jewish rituals by both individuals and families

SUBJECT AREAS – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals represent our desired outcomes at the end of the educational program, which concludes with high school in grade 12. However, most of the goals are attainable by grade 7 with the high school years geared towards more sophisticated educational goals.

HEBREW

1. The main objective of the Hebrew program is to provide the reading skills and basic vocabulary required for Siddur fluency and basic Jewish rituals. A graduate of our school should be able to read, with minimum mistakes, any *tefilah* (prayer) or *brachot* (blessing) connected to Jewish religious observance.
2. The student will build a vocabulary of key Hebrew words and terms connected with home and life cycle, *Hagim* (holidays), Jewish values and Torah.
3. The student should acquire fluency in the reading of both script and cursive letters.
4. The student should possess the ability to write in cursive and to compose simple Hebrew sentences.

TEFILAH

1. The student should be able to take key prayers and read or chant them fluently, identify main concepts and purpose, and identify and translate key words.
2. The student should possess an understanding of the structure and organization of the Siddur as well as the structure and major sections of the various services.

3. The student should possess the ability to function in the *Shabbat* and Festival services as a participating member of the congregation.
4. The student should know home and individual prayers and should acquire the skills related to the rituals and prayers of home observance for Shabbat and the various festivals, as well as when to recite them.
5. The student should know the different *brachot* for food and their application and the *brachot* and prayers for special occasions.

MITZVOT

1. The student should exhibit pride in being Jewish and should identify with *Klal Yisrael* (the Jewish people) in an active way.
2. The student should possess an understanding of the main *Mitzvot* and values associated with Jewish and daily living, and should begin to integrate them into his/her personal life.
3. The student should understand the meaning of ethics as defined by Jewish teachings and should incorporate these lessons into his/her life.
4. The student should develop an understanding of *Gemilut Hasadim*, including *Tzedakah*, through study and action. This understanding should become the basis of a feeling of responsibility for others, both Jews and non-Jews.
5. The student should have a basic understanding of the various life cycle events and the vocabulary and rituals associated with each.
6. The student should acquire and utilize the basic terminology of synagogue and religious life – honours and personnel connected to the service, rituals objects and other key terms.

SOCIAL STUDIES

1. The student should acquire a general understanding of Jewish history throughout the centuries, with a greater emphasis on the modern era.

2. The student should possess an understanding of the sequence of Jewish history and parallels between Jewish history and world history. The use of time lines is critical in this area.
3. The student should understand the impact of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust on Jewish history and the Jewish people.
4. The student should develop an affinity and love for the State of Israel through the study of its geography, customs and uniqueness.
5. The student should understand the place of *Eretz Yisrael* in Jewish thought and religious belief and the prayer references which express this.
6. The student should understand the rise of Zionism and the establishment of the State of Israel in the light of Jewish history.
7. The student should acquire a basic understanding of the Conservative movement as well as its points of convergence with and divergence from the other branches of Judaism.
8. The student should be able to identify and define the different religious branches of Judaism, and to have some understanding of their history, differences and similarities.
9. The student should have a basic understanding of the Canadian and Toronto Jewish communities – history, institutions, demographics etc.
10. The student should be familiar with the local Jewish communal institutions. Wherever possible, primary experiences should be incorporated into the learning.
11. The student should understand the evolution and development of the synagogue, its structure and functions.

GAN

HEBREW: Students will be introduced to basic vocabulary including family, colours, body parts, weather, numbers, seasons, classroom, *Shabbat* and holiday related words. Students will learn to recognize the Hebrew letters and begin to copy the letters while trying to write simple words.

TEFILAH: Students will be introduced to the concepts of thanking God including when and how we thank God. They will learn basic *brachot* including *brachot* over food, and *Shabbat* and holiday related *brachot*. They will begin each class with the singing of *Modeh Ani* and *Shema*.

TANAH: Students will be introduced to basic *Torah* stories, heroes in the *Torah* and the beginning of the Jewish people. They will also explore the physical *Torah* scroll

HAGIM: Students will learn the basics of each Jewish holiday including *Shabbat*. They will learn the customs of how each holiday is celebrated in the home and in the synagogue.

MITZVOT: Students will explore various *mitzvot* including honouring their parents, visiting the sick, and *Tzedekah*.

Textbooks:

- Let's Discover the Aleph Bet
- My Synagogue
- Let's Discover the Holidays
- Let's Discover God

KITAH ALEPH

HEBREW: Students will learn *Shabbat* and holiday related vocabulary and begin attaining oral language skills. With the help of a textbook, students will continue to work on letter recognition and will also begin adding sounds to the letters. The students will begin to develop their reading skills.

TEFILAH: Students will begin to learn simple prayer terminology. They will focus on the following prayers, *Shema*, *V'havta*, *Modeh Ani*, *Birhot Hanehenin* (daily blessings), *Shabbat brachot* and *Shehecheyanu*.

TANAH: Students will learn about their Biblical ancestors and their family relationships.

HAGIM: Students will learn about each Jewish holiday but will focus mainly on *Shabbat*. They will discuss *Shabbat* as a day of rest, and as remembrance of Creation and Exodus. Students will learn the customs and observances associated with *Shabbat*.

MITZVOT: Students will focus on the *mitzvot* of *Tzedakah*. They will discuss ways we can be responsible for others and ways of doing *Tzedakah*.

Textbooks:

- Let's Learn the Aleph Bet
- My Siddur
- My First Learn and Do Holiday Book
- Learn and Do Bible Book

KITAH BET

HEBREW: Students will continue to build their *Shabbat*, holiday and *Siddur* vocabulary. Students will write, improve their reading fluency and begin to transition to *Siddur and other* reading.

TEFILAH: Students will continue to increase their *Shabbat* and Holiday vocabulary. They will focus on the following prayers: *Kiddush* for *Shabbat*, *Shalom Aleichem*, *Ashrei*, *Adon Olam*, and the first paragraph of *Shema*.

TANAH: Students will focus on the basic narrative of Genesis and will learn how our holidays emerge from the Torah.

HAGIM: Students will learn about all the Jewish holidays, including the home and communal rituals.

MITZVOT: Students will then focus on *mitzvot beyn adam l'chavero*. They will discuss respect for others, look for examples of laws and participate in a *Tzedekah* project.

Textbooks:

- Shalom Aleph Bet
- Let's Discover the Bible (I and II)
- Let's Celebrate

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash

KITAH GIMEL – Etgar Yesodi Holiday Curriculum

HEBREW: Students will build on their *Siddur* vocabulary through the introduction of the *shoresh* (root). They will continue to improve their reading fluency and cursive writing.

TEFILAH: Students will continue to expand their prayer repertoire.

The students will review and learn the following prayers: Friday evening home rituals, *Shalom Aleichem*, *Sim Shalom*, *Ayn Kaylokenu*, *Baruch She-Amar*, *Amidah* (first three *brachot*) and *Bir'hot HaTorah*.

HAGIM: Students will learn the Jewish calendar, including the names of the Hebrew months, the difference between lunar and solar, and the where the Jewish holidays fall out in the calendar.

Textbooks:

- Shalom U'vrachah
- Explorer's Bible volume 1
- My Jewish Year

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash

KITAH DALET – Etgar Yesodi Curriculum

HEBREW: Students will have built a sizable vocabulary list and will be able to read, write and translate all words that they know. They will be able to read a passage of text that contains some familiar words.

TEFILAH: Besides the prayers in their book, students will focus on *Havdalah*, *Birkat HaMazon*, *L'cha Dodi*, *V'shamru*, *Ashrei*, and *Adon Olam*. They will specifically look at *Kabbalat Shabbat*, *Minhah* and the *Torah Service*. They will also construct their own personal *Brachot*.

TANAH Students will learn about how the stories of our ancestors relate to the concept of good family relationships.

MITZVOT/VALUES: Students will focus on the *mitzvot* of *Gemilut Hasadim* and Feeding the Hungry. They will also explore the roots and meaning of their name and learn how to reply and respond to someone who does something hurtful.

Textbooks:

- Hineni: Book 1 (and workbook)
- Explorer's Bible volume 2
- Book of Jewish Holidays

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash

KITAH HEY

HEBREW: Students will continue their *Siddur* vocabulary. They will continue with reading fluency and begin grammar exercises, focussing on prepositions, gender/tense, agreement, and suffixes.

TEFILAH: In addition to the prayers learned in their textbook, students will focus on the Shacharit service. They will also learn about Tallit and Tefillin.

TANAH: Students will learn about the weekly system of Parshiot and customs related to the writing, reading and storing of the Torah Scroll.

HAGIM: The students will focus their studies on particular customs and rituals associated with major Jewish Holidays.

MITZVOT: Students will explore the Jewish Life Cycle. They will understand the terminology, concepts and how to make it part of their lives. The students will participate in a class wide *Tzedekah* project.

ISRAEL: Through history, the students will take a “tour” of Israel. Along the way, they will learn Hebrew words, Jewish values, geography, and the role Israel plays in 21st century Jewish life.

Textbooks:

- Hineni: Book 2 (and workbook)
- Living as Partners with God

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash
- Etz Chaim Chumash

KITAH VAV

HEBREW: Students will continue building their grammar, vocabulary and skills, focussing on pronouns and verb construction.

TEFILAH: Students will focus on the *Amidah* and *Musaf* service. They will also learn how to navigate a Siddur.

TANAH: Students will learn the terms Tanah, Haftorah, and Biblical narratives of key stories.

HAGIM: Students will focus on how their families celebrate *Shabbat* and holidays, and will curate an exhibit of artifacts from their homes.

HISTORY: Through a textbook, students will consider how their lives compare with the lives of those who came before them, how Judaism has evolved in every generation, and how the decisions of our ancestors to adapt Judaism, to their times and circumstances that influence our decisions today.

ISRAEL: Students will learn Israeli history, key facts about major cities and sites, and learn about Israel's unique ethnic and religious makeup.

Textbooks:

- Let's Talk
- History of the Jewish People, Vol. 1
- Count Me In

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash
- Maḥzor
- Haggadah
- Etz Chaim Chumash

KITAH ZAYIN

HEBREW: Students will study conversational Hebrew. They will learn simple grammar and begin to express themselves in Hebrew.

TEFILAH: Students will review all *tefilot* – specifically *Shabbat Shaḥarit* and *Musaf*. They will study the *tefilah* structure and the structure of various services. They will lead a Minḥa service and an abridged Shaḥarit service.

HAGIM: Students will learn about Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikenu and Yom HaAtzmaut.

MITZVOT/B'NAI MITZVAH: Using the textbook, *Making a Difference*, and other instant lessons, the pre-*B'nai Mitzvah* students will discuss issues relevant to their own *Bar or Bat Mitzvah*.

HISTORY: Students will study Jewish history from 1881-today, with a specific unit dedicated to the Holocaust. They will also learn about Israel's history with a specific focus on the life and career of Yitchak Rabin.

Textbooks:

- Let's Talk
- Making a Difference
- History of the Jewish People volume 2

Resources:

- Siddur Meforash
- You Be the Judge

Each grade will be participating in Family Education throughout the year. We will be running programs for the grade and each grade will be hosting a Saturday morning *Shabbat* Service. We consider our family programs to be an essential part of your child's school experience. As parents, your participation is extremely important. Although we hope for 100% attendance, in some cases, parents may not be able to attend. Please note that a grandparent, aunt or uncle is welcome to attend in lieu of a parent. Our family programs are funded in part by UJA/Federation of Greater Toronto.

