

Student Enrichment

Ongoing Specials

Art: The Community Synagogue offers the opportunity for our students to work with our art specialist on a regular basis. In art, students are able to create ritual objects which can be used in your home. Other times, classes work together to develop a project as part of the classroom curriculum.

Music: Jewish music binds Jews from every background and from every place in earth. Music forms an integral part of the school's curriculum, with each class learning a repertory of traditional and contemporary music. Students will also learn the chants and melodies for the service liturgy.

Tefillah: All students in Grades 2 – 6 participate in weekly services. *Tefillah* provides an excellent opportunity to reinforce Hebrew skills learned in the classroom. *Tefillah* is typically led by a member of the synagogue's clergy. In addition, our older students will have the opportunity to lead *tefillah* for their peers. These student led services provide an opportunity to become comfortable with prayer and the experience of leading a congregation from the *bima*.

Enrichment

Holiday Happenings: Much excitement surrounds each Jewish holiday. As part of our school program, we seek to bring the Jewish holidays to life for our students. In addition to the learning which takes place in the classroom, we often plan special school or grade-wide activities to enhance our holiday learning.

Special Events: Throughout the year, we will be offering special assemblies, speakers and field trips to enrich the curriculum. Watch your mail for flyers announcing special programs and plan to participate with your child.

Tzedakah: Part of belonging to a caring Jewish community involves helping those less fortunate than ourselves. For this reason, students are encouraged to bring a contribution for *tzedakah* each time they attend religious school. Students will learn about the different places where their *tzedakah* is being donated, and they will also get the chance to help choose some of the recipients. It should be emphasized that the amount of money that the child brings does not matter. Rather, it is important that s/he bring a small amount to every class session.

Special Needs

Hebrew Tutoring: All children acquire information at their own pace. Reading Hebrew comes more easily for some children than for others. In order to help all of our students reach their goals, we provide opportunities for students who need some extra help and attention to work with one of our Hebrew tutors. Hebrew tutors will also work with students who have fallen behind due to illness or special circumstances.

Special Education: The Religious School will continue to offer special education services to those students with special needs. We are committed to working in partnership with you to create an appropriate program for your child to learn and grow as a Jew. We have a Special Education Coordinator who works with students on a one-on-one basis to help each child reach his/her individual goals. Parents will be contacted directly by our special educator to discuss the child's needs and plans for the year.

Special Situations: It is essential that the Director of Education be made aware of any illnesses or family circumstances that could affect a child's behavior or learning. By informing us of these conditions, we will do our best to help our students in every possible way.