



WELCOME TO OUR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

Dear Parents,

Parents and teachers together are partners in your child's Jewish education.
I am writing to welcome your family to a wonderful year of learning and partnership.
This year is going to be fantastic!
When loving and learning come together, the result is magical!

B'Shalom,

Melissa Cohne

Melissa Cohne
Congregation B'nai Emet Religious School Director

Let's See What CBE Religious School Has To Offer:

Class 1

Kitah Alef

כְּתָה אַ

[Click here for a Calendar of Topics for Kitah Alef](#)

Kitah Alef (Grades K-1) will be learning some special **Hebrew** words and the letters that begin these words as part of our *Now I Know My Alef-Bet* curriculum. Each week I will send home some special Hebrew words of the week for you to review together. The last page contains a special creative expression exercise that would be a quick and fun project to do at home. If you complete the project, send me a picture of it! We'll add it to our Weekly Parent Newsletter. The *Now I Know My Alef-Bet* Hebrew curriculum works hand-in-hand with the *Shanah Tovah Judaica* curriculum which focuses on teaching the vocabulary of Jewish life. Each and every lesson centers on introducing, reviewing, using, reusing and exposing students to the words used in Jewish celebrations. These words become the foundation on which a Jewish identity and a Jewish education can be built.

Class 2

by Kitah Bet

כְּתָה בַּ

[Click here for a Calendar of Topics for Kitah Bet](#)

Kitah Bet (Grades 2-5) will be continuing on their journey toward becoming **Hebrew** readers. *Z'man Likro ~ Time to Read Hebrew* curriculum reinforces letter/sound recognition while simultaneously introducing the vowel markings that accompany the letter sounds. With each lesson, students will begin to sound out key Hebrew words. When students can read fluently, they can chant Torah or pray in Hebrew with the congregation! The **Judaica** curriculum for the year is part of a series called *Building Jewish Identity*. It's a four-part series, and this year we will be using *Volume 1: Our Community*. Throughout the year, we will focus on our rich heritage, our family stories, the symbols and rituals that teach us about our past, and the mitzvot, or good deeds, that we can do today to enhance our Jewish identity. In addition, we will be using the textbook *Experiencing the Jewish Holidays* which takes an active, experiential approach to Jewish holidays by fusing actual celebrations with role-play, cooking, eating, shaking, sounding, and many other activities!

[Click here for a Calendar of Topics for Kitah Gimel](#)

Kitah Gimel (Grades 6-7) will be deepening their understanding of Jewish ritual and the concepts inherent in our mitzvot while learning to read **Hebrew** and pray. The *Hineni 1: The New Hebrew Through Prayer* curriculum encourages students to feel comfortable participating in prayer services and the rituals of synagogue and home, sharpening their reading skills and developing a familiarity and understanding of ritual and mitzvot. Our **Judaica** curriculum is made up of two texts. I am very excited to introduce a new text to our Religious School called *The God Book: A Necessarily Incomplete Look at the Essence of God*. According to the textbook author, Rabbi Paul Yedwab, this book is "an antidote to premature atheism." This is not a theology textbook: It's a thinking, feeling, and sharing textbook. Each chapter features a "My God Diary," in which students can write about their feelings, thoughts, doubts and affirmations about the "Unknowable." Our **Jewish Holiday** curriculum for this year is called *Rediscovering the Jewish Holidays: Tradition in a Modern Voice*. It invites students to not only share in the treasures of Judaism - its core truths and values - but also to enrich our tradition by making their own contributions to modern Jewish Life.

Teen Leadership Connection (TLC)

[Click here for a Calendar of Topics for TLC](#)

Congregation B'nai Emet's **Teen Leadership Connection (TLC)** is our post-b'nai mitzvah teen programming. Providing opportunities for **8th-12th grade students**, we meet at the Temple **every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 5-7 pm**. Dinner and discussion will be had by all! This year, sessions will be taught by Meridith Patera, our Director Emerita of Jewish Education. Students will delve into deep ethical topics which have shaped the face of modern Judaism and discuss issues concerning the role we play in the future of Judaism.

Confirmation

[Click here for a more in-depth look at our Confirmation Requirements](#)

Congregation B'nai Emet's **Confirmation** requirements are an extension of the TLC program. Confirmation is a **2-year commitment** to attending TLC classes, volunteering as a Madrich (helper) at the Religious School, and participating in the end-of-the-year Confirmation Service.

Congregation B'nai Emet Youth (CBEY)

[Click here for a Calendar of Events for CBEY](#)

This year, we are introducing a **Youth Program** for students in **grades 5-7**. These events will be planned and led by teens in our TLC program (with adult supervision). On the **last Sunday of the month**, we will build comradery as we gather for fun activities, lively discussions, and social action projects.

Are you interested in the [Scope and Sequence of our Curriculum?](#)

For a link to our [Behavior Expectations](#), click here.

Please click here for a link to our [Religious School Calendar 2024-2025](#).
(All calendars subject to change)