



B"H

CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL

PARENT HANDBOOK

5773 / 2012-13

A PROJECT OF CHABAD OF FRESNO

THE GOALS OF OUR PROGRAM

- ❖ To attain a strong feeling of identity with our heritage and to develop a sense of *Love and Pride* in being Jewish.
- ❖ Gain Knowledge and Understanding of the Mitzvot, traditions and practices that Judaism stands for, study the morals, values and ethical behavior mandated by the Torah, and develop an appreciation and experience hands-on approach to all 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 when attending services.
- ❖ Identify with the Land of Israel as our homeland and develop an interest in issues relating to Israel and its inhabitants.
- ❖ Discover and explore the incredible history of the Jewish people and its relevance for all times.
- ❖ Allow students to express their opinions and questions about G-d, Torah and religion and to have them understand the importance and relevance of Torah in today’s day and age.
- ❖ Attain a “Jewish” perspective on life and maintain Jewish feelings and involvement beyond the years at Hebrew School and ultimately perpetuate this onto future generations.



INFORMATION AND FEES

Hours:

Sundays

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Ages: 4+

Location: The location will be at Chabad of Fresno, 1227 East Shepherd Avenue. The facility will be furnished and redesigned for the school’s usage.

Registration: To register, fill out an application and turn it in to the office. A health form will be required to determine any allergies that a student may have.

Tuition: Tuition will be \$50 per month. This is to be paid full in the beginning of each month. Prompt attention to tuition fees is necessary since we are a non-profit organization and we depend on this money for operation. However, it is Chabad’s policy never to turn a child away due to lack of funds.

Communication: We strongly encourage close communication between our school staff and the parents. We are deeply concerned about the progress of each individual student, and would be more than willing to spend time discussing your child’s progress with you. Please don’t hesitate to call us at (559) 432-2770 should any issue or question arise.

Progress Reports: Your child will be receiving two progress reports throughout the course of the year – January, and June. You will be asked to sign and return them to his/her teacher.

Encouragement: The greatest gift that you as a parent can give your child is constant encouragement! Too much is never enough!

Attendance: Our school was developed for families who take their Judaism seriously. The first step in the right direction is for parents and children to realize that attendance is the key to a successful school year. Children who take days off not only miss important schoolwork, but they also get the message that “Hebrew School is not really that important”.

Punctuality: Children are to be dropped off no more than 10 minutes before school. Be sure your child arrives to school on time. (If early drop-off is necessary, an arrangement may be made with the Director.) Please see to it that your child is picked up at dismissal time.

Dress code: All boys are required to wear a Kippah for all classes. It will be the responsibility of the student to bring it with him to school. Although we prefer a Kippah, we do allow baseball caps. All students must wear shoes or sandals at all times.

Book Policy: If workbooks will be needed, they will be available for purchase at the school office.

Supplies: Students should bring the following with them to school: a knapsack, a pen and pencil, an eraser, crayons, scissors, glue, and a folder for classwork and homework.

Tzedakah: Tzedakah (charity) is a concept, which is basic to Judaism. Our school attempts to develop a commitment among our students to share with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few pennies a day to charity. Parents are asked to provide young children with a coin daily for Tzedakah. Older children should give Tzedakah from their allowance money.

Mitzvah Note: This is a note that tells something special that the child has done. Children look really forward to hearing what their parents have to say. So please be sure to send one!

Snack: There is a ten-minute recess in which time our students have a chance to catch a breather and enjoy a snack. **We will be providing all food for snack time.** Please do not send along any food, candy, or gum with your child. Please ensure that your children understand and accept this rule!



Parking/Traffic Situation at Drop-off and Dismissal: The following are basic parking rules and regulations for our Hebrew School facility:

- ❖ Please drop off your child as close as possible to the entrance of the school.
- ❖ Please do not block the roadway of the parking area for any length of time, so that other vehicles may pass.
- ❖ Please make sure that your child does not linger in the driveway without any adult supervision.
- ❖ Please drive slowly in driveway and parking area to ensure safety of all students.

CURRICULUM

Hebrew

Beginning with letter recognition, this program leads students through phonetic decoding, reading comprehension, and grammar concepts until they reach Hebrew literacy. Our goal is that every child will be comfortable with basic conversational Hebrew and be fluent and comfortable with the basic prayers in the Prayer book.

Torah and Jewish History

Our Torah class is a review of the weekly Torah portion. This subject will provide our students with an overview of each portion, its highlights, and practical lessons that apply to our daily lives. Our history course will take the students from Creation to the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai.

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, its traditions and customs. Chabad Hebrew School will also host holiday celebrations for our students and their families.

Jewish Values and Ethics

Students will discuss stories and case scenarios that have practical application to our every day life. They will understand that our religion is based on a G-d given set of values and morals and that the “norm” is not always in the right. This course will involve home discussions and surveys as well as other extra-curricular activities.

Mitzvahs: Why We Do What We Do

Why do Jewish women light Shabbat candles? Why is Shabbat such a special day of the week? Why do we place Mezuzot on our doorposts? Why is the bride veiled at a Jewish wedding? This class will teach basic Mitzvot and provide meaningful insight to them.

Current Events and Israel

The students of Chabad Hebrew School will follow any current event concerning Jewish issues and Israel. Students are encouraged to bring in newspaper clippings, and discussions will follow, keeping our students well informed of the word and its relationship to the Jewish people.



Arts and Crafts

Art projects are incorporated into our curriculum to add excitement to the upcoming holidays and Mitzvot. Our projects will have Jewish holiday and Mitzvah themes and will add a taste of Jewish life to your home.

Extra-Curricular

Chabad Hebrew School will offer a variety of extra-curricular activities such as special guests, Shabbatons, field trips, contests, etc. These events will allow our students to experience Judaism in its entirety, both in and out of the classroom. A point system based on in-class and out-of-class participation and involvement will allow students to reach different award levels. More details will follow once the school year begins.



CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL ENHANCEMENTS

Bar and Bat Mitzvah

As the students near the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, they will be given special training to prepare them for the special event. The training for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah is not identical. For more information, please call the office.

Torah Dollars

Torah dollars will be awarded to each student for personal achievements in behavior, scholastics and extra-curricular activities. Students will accumulate dollars and have the opportunity to cash them in at our *Torah Dollar Store* once every other month. Please help younger students keep track of them. A reminder will be sent out as to when the *Store* will be open.

Junior Congregation

To further enrich our students' Jewish identity, we strongly encourage attendance at our Junior Congregation and at regular services. Extra Torah dollars will be awarded to students for their own attendance and for each parent that they bring along. These Torah dollars will be distributed at the next class. We will be having Junior Congregation every other Shabbat. This program begins immediately. The school calendar will inform you of the exact weeks.

We are looking forward to a most exciting, fun and meaningful year for everyone involved. Wishing you and your loved ones a Shana Tovah; coupled with G-d's abundant blessings for a happy, healthy and prosperous sweet New Year. May we merit the ultimate of all blessings with the arrival of Moshiach Now!



CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

Student's full name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Hebrew)

Home phone # _____ D.O.B. _____ Age _____ Grade _____
Month / Day / Year

Home Address _____
(Number) (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Parent's Name(s) _____

Business Phone(s) _____

Family Doctor's Name _____ Phone _____

Health Insurance _____ Health Insurance # _____

Two Emergency Contacts (Name, Relationship, Phone Number)
(other than parents)

Previous Jewish Enrichment Program: _____

Medical Questionnaire

A Doctor's note is not required – Parent may complete

Date of Last Health Exam _____ (Recommended Annually)

Recent Surgery? _____ Recent Serious Illness? _____ Allergies _____

Immunizations: (Please Check and Give Date) Does your child have a history of:

Diphtheria _____ Tetanus _____ Heart Disease _____
Small pox _____ Polio _____ Epilepsy _____
Measles _____ Mumps _____ Ear and Sinus Infection _____

Does your child have any mental or social handicap(s) or other physical problems of which we should be aware in caring for him/her? _____

Chabad Hebrew School has my permission to render any necessary first-aid or care by physician to child while he/she is attending school.

Signed _____
Parent or Guardian

Date _____



THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF CHS

PARENT / STUDENT / CHS CONTRACT

CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL: CELEBRATING JUDAISM IN A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE IS OUR GOAL

HONORING / RESPECTING TEACHERS, CLASSMATES, SCHOOL GROUNDS AND PEERS ARE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE TORAH & SCHOOL RULES

SIMCHA, SMILES AND HAPPY LEARNING ATTITUDES WILL ENHANCE OUR OVERALL CHS EXPERIENCE

- _____ 1. Being that I am responsible for what I do and say: I will speak clearly, respectfully, be a team player, act politely, helpful, and laugh with everyone, but never at anyone.
- _____ 2. I will try to treat others as/better than I would like to be treated. This includes: keeping unkind words/thoughts to myself, including others in all activities (even if they may not be the best player for the team) and I will never bully physically or verbally.
- _____ 3. I will try to respect my surroundings at all times: Classmates, teachers, myself, school grounds, and others' property. This includes: helping to keep the school grounds neat and clean; not disturbing classmates that are studying, being tested or busy with schoolwork.
- _____ 4. I will respect my teachers by...listening carefully and following instructions the first time; staying focused during class; raising my hand and waiting patiently for her to call on me and I will not leave class or activity without her permission.
- _____ 5. I will be careful to not touch the teacher's property, nor look through her cupboards/drawers without permission.
- _____ 6. I will be responsible and remember to bring all necessary supplies and books to class, and to hand in assignments on time.
- _____ 7. I will dress respectfully and appropriately.
- _____ 8. I will come to class with a smile an eager to learn about my Jewish heritage.
- _____ 9. I will strive to learn to the best of my ability.
- _____ 10. I know that I make a difference in this world and I am proud to be a Jew and part of CHS!

Student Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____
Parent Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____
Administer Signature _____