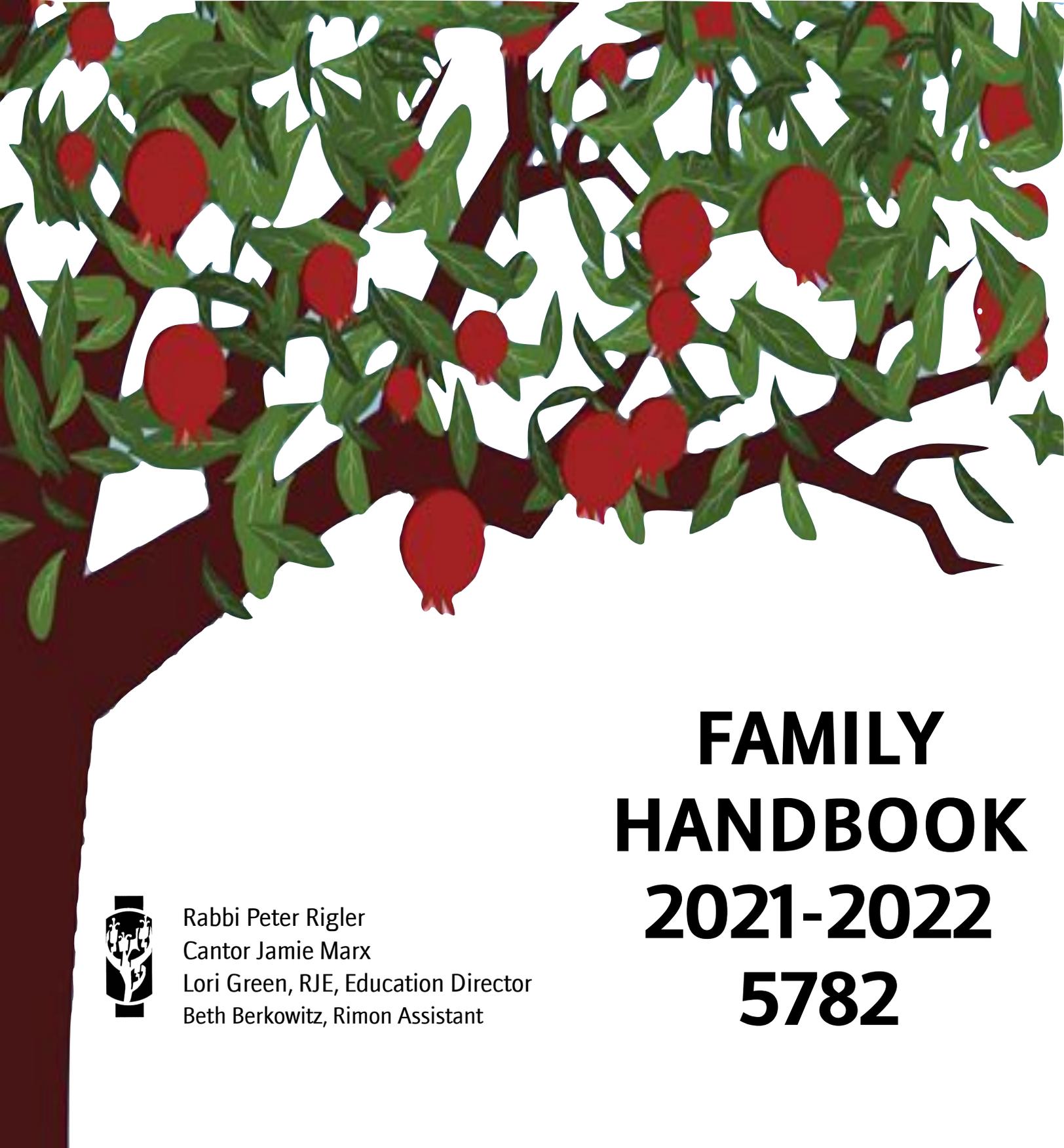




Temple Shalom in Broomall
55 N. Church Lane
19008
www.temple-shalom.org



FAMILY HANDBOOK 2021-2022 5782



Rabbi Peter Rigler
Cantor Jamie Marx
Lori Green, RJE, Education Director
Beth Berkowitz, Rimon Assistant

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Contact Information

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610-356-5165 ext. 113

Beth Berkowitz
Rimon Administrative Assistant
rimon@temple-sholom.org
610-356-5165 ext. 108



Rimon Hours

Sunday Kindergarten-6th grade*

9:30am - 12:00pm

**6th grade follows the Gesherim calendar*

Monday Rimon Noar/JLF 7th-12th grade

7:00pm - 8:30pm

(Teens are encouraged to arrive as early as 6:30pm for social time)

**9th - 12th grade follows the JLF (Jewish Leadership Fellowship) calendar*

Monday Rimon Hebrew 4th-6th grade

5:30pm - 6:15pm (virtual)

or

6:15pm - 7:00pm (in person)

Tuesday Rimon Hebrew 4th - 6th grade

4:00pm - 4:45pm (virtual)

or

4:45pm - 5:30pm (in person)



Dear Rimon Families,



Welcome to Rimon 5782 at Temple Sholom! I am delighted to partner with you in the joyful and sacred endeavor of exploring our Jewish heritage and values with your children. Together we will explore our connections to each other, to our Temple Sholom community, to our history, and to the land and people of Israel. We will also come to know our Jewish gifts and how we can use them in our everyday lives. Along the way, we will meet new friends and build community. Together we will be Rimon strong!

At Rimon, we seek to create engaging, meaningful, and authentic experiences for all of our learners. By involving all of the senses with a focus on whole-person learning – *knowing, doing, believing and belonging* - our learners will engage in a multi-faceted approach to discovering all that is wonderful in our Jewish tradition.

We do this by:

- Asking big questions
- Encouraging voice and choice
- Guiding our learners to follow their own hearts and minds

Rimon is a nationally recognized and unique program that focuses on the individual. Pluralistic, inclusive, and learner-centered, we look to the past to understand today and look towards the future. The tag line to our Rimon logo indicates that Rimon inspires the mind, nurtures the heart, and changes the world. This *is* Rimon!

Our Rimon Team of educators and clergy are passionate about the Jewish education of our youth. We are eager and excited to partner with you in bringing Jewish learning to life. From our youngest learners to Confirmation, college, and adulthood, we invite you to be part of this journey.

Lori

Lori Green, RJE
Education Director

Why Rimon?



If your child is ready for a Jewish educational experience that is unique, exciting, and relevant, then Rimon is THE place to be. At Rimon, we believe that all Jewish children deserve a Jewish education. Every child is unique and should be supported to learn from their strengths and passions.

Rimon is:

Temple Sholom's education program for Kindergarten through 12th grade

A unique program that inspires the mind, nurtures the heart, and encourages all participants to make the learning their own

An opportunity to develop and strengthen Jewish identity, knowledge, and community

At Rimon, we seek to inspire our children and families to *know* their Jewish heritage, *feel* a commitment to Jewish peoplehood, and *do* tikkun olam (*repair of our world*). By understanding the gifts that have been bestowed upon us as a Jewish people, you and your child will develop and grow connections to Torah, Holidays, God and Spirituality, and the Land and People of Israel. We invite you and your family to engage with Jewish tradition and to seek understanding through the gifts handed down from generation to generation. We want you and your child to be challenged, inspired, and energized by the power of Jewish ideas and tradition.



Mission and Vision

Rimon's Mission

The Rimon program at Temple Shalom engages students and their families in Jewish learning that inspires the mind, nurtures the heart, and encourages participants to change the world. Through meaningful, learner-centered engagement, our diverse learners will be inspired to appreciate and celebrate being Jewish in our community and in today's world.

Rimon's Vision

Guiding our children in the exploration of their Judaism is sacred and joyful work. We recognize our students for who they are today and who they are yet to become.

Each child brings unique ideas, prior experiences and skills to the learning spaces. As such, we create learning opportunities that are engaging and challenging. In the Reform Jewish tradition, we strive to create an atmosphere that encourages both individuality and community bonds.

We strive to guide our learners in finding personal meaning in their learning experiences through the exploration of traditions, sacred texts, Israel and Hebrew in ways that speak to them. We want each of our learners to embrace the values and lessons of our past and apply these to their current lives, and into the future.



Inclusion at Rimon

Rimon is an inclusive and sacred learning community that welcomes and celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family.

To that end, we are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all families, respecting and welcoming equally all races, sexual orientation, gender identities, family structures and religious backgrounds.

Philosophy and Goals

Philosophy

At Rimon, we engage in meaningful education and best practices. We want our students to connect to their Jewish selves, to each other, to our Temple Sholom community and to Am Yisrael (the people of Israel).

We believe in creating an environment where students are at the center. Our students are designers and architects of their own learning. We encourage curiosity, problem solving, and collaboration, all led by educators and guides who foster a deep connection to our people and heritage. We believe in encouraging our students to create a pathway to see our world through Jewish eyes. Our goal is to help our students feel inspired, energized and engaged in contemporary Jewish life.

Goals

Rimon seeks to encourage *community* among our children, families and our synagogue. By creating a sense of belonging to community, we hope our students will feel comfortable with each other whenever they are together.



Rimon seeks to help build a strong sense of *Jewish "self"* in the hearts and minds of our students while complimenting their identities as Reform Jews.

Rimon seeks to enable our children and families to understand our Jewish past while finding Jewish *relevance* in the present. Our ultimate goal is for our learners to be inspired to engage with contemporary Jewish living and empowered and committed to *tikkun olam (repair of the world)*.

Rimon seeks to provide a robust and engaging curriculum which emphasizes *Torah, Am Yisrael, God* and *Hebrew* in ways that will inform, challenge and inspire students and families to embrace their Judaism.

Enrollment Requirements

Our goal is to help foster a Jewish identity for our children and teach Judaism as a faith that is lived each and every day. We invite our learners to enter into a relationship with God, Torah, and Israel. The Rimon program seeks to enable our students to see themselves as participatory members of the Jewish community in ways that are personal and relevant.

In accordance with the policy and position articulated by the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) regarding enrollment in Reform religious schools, we embrace and maintain the following position:

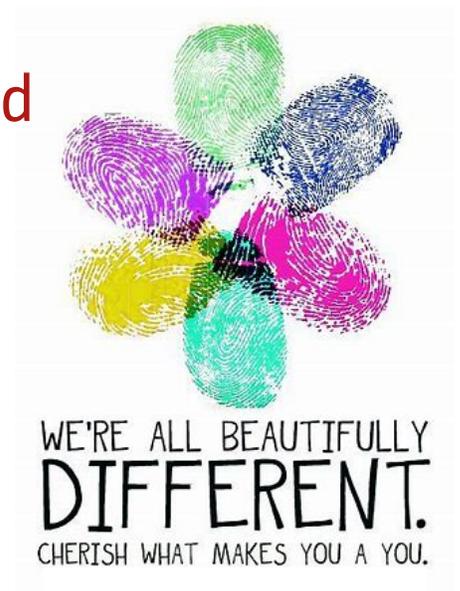
A student registered in Rimon at Temple Sholom may not be enrolled in the religious education and/or religious training programs of other religions or faith communities.

Meeting the Needs of Every Child

Our Jewish tradition teaches that one should "teach a child according to their own path."

The learning environment at Rimon strives to make Jewish education accessible to all children. Our faculty and madrichim (teen aides) work hard to ensure that every child learns in their own way. Many of our madrichim are either enrolled *or* are graduates of the TAP program at Gratz College which trains teens on developmental stages and best practices for working with children of differencing abilities.

Although Rimon does not have a dedicated special needs program, we do make every effort to accommodate the needs of every child. We welcome you to begin a conversation with us. Please contact Lori Green, Education Director to work together to provide a meaningful Jewish education for your child.



Communication



Communication between our educational team, students, and parents/guardians is key to providing the best educational experience for our learners. Each week during the school year, Rimon keeps parents informed of upcoming programs, important information, highlights, and individual classroom news. This weekly update will be emailed from Rimon to all parents. This update is YOUR connection to everything Rimon! Please be sure to read it each and every week.

If you are not receiving our weekly Rimon news OR have a change of email, please contact us!

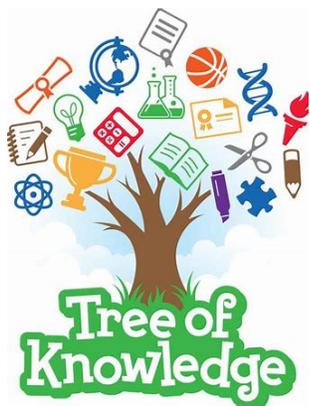
Additionally, Rimon has its own Facebook Page. This is a closed Facebook group for members only! If you are not already member, just go to Facebook, look up "Rimon" and request to join!



Please do not hesitate to contact the Education Director, Rimon Assistant, or your child's teacher if you have a question or concern. We are all partners in this journey! That being said, we ask that you respect the sanctity of Shabbat, as well as refraining from conversing with a teacher during class time. For other questions, please see the following:

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Dates	Abbey Krain, Executive Director director@temple-sholom.org
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Questions	Cantor Jamie Marx cantor@temple-sholom.org
Billing Questions	Betsy Blackburn-Goslin, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@temple-sholom.org
Classroom Concerns	Your child's Classroom Teacher
Lifecycle Issues/Questions	Rabbi Peter Rigler rabbi@temple-sholom.org
School Administrative Questions	Beth Berkowitz, Rimon Assistant rimon@temple-sholom.org

Curriculum Introduction



At Rimon, the Kindergarten through 12th grade curriculum is learner-centered. Through framing and structure, our focus is on guiding our learners to become knowledgeable, reflective, and collaborative thinkers. Our curriculum enables our learners to scaffold their learning and encourages them to apply their knowledge of the values and heritage of Judaism to make their own lives and the world a better place. Both *what* they learn and *how* they learn are equally important.

Each component of the Rimon curriculum encourages learners to engage deeply in the topics being discussed, ask questions, share their voice, and to take risks. Through *Project Based Learning, Inquiry, Jewish Life Vocabulary, music, movement and more, we seek to nurture the hearts and minds of our learners.

**A Note About Projected-Based Learning*

Project Based Learning is a methodology through which learners gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.



Project Based Learning is designed to engage every learner in the process. Research has shown that people learn best by engaging in the learning *process*. This active engagement includes asking questions and seeking answers to the questions - which often leads to *more* questions. "Why?" is a question that is encouraged and embraced at Rimon, learners find answers that have personal meaning, relevance and deep understanding are the result.

Curriculum - Kindergarten - 5th grade

Learning Teams

As members of Rimon and of Temple Sholom we are individuals who are part of something bigger – the community of *Am Yisrael* (the People of Israel). Exploring our Jewish heritage and learning as Jews is not a solo activity - it is *communal!* To that end, Rimon fosters community among our participants through cross-age teams. Each team has 2 to 4 *Learning Guides* (teachers) as well as a number of *madrichim* (teen guides). The Rimon teams are:

Bonim (builders) – Kindergarten and 1st grade

Chaverim (friends) – 2nd and 3rd grades

Olim (ones going up) – 4th and 5th grades

Driving Theme for Our Year

Each year we have a Driving Theme which frames our Jewish learning. This year the Driving Theme is:

Kesher

קֶשֶׁר

Our Connections – Our Gifts

Our Jewish tradition teaches that each and every person is created *B'tzelem Elohim* - בְּצַלְמֵ אֱלֹהִים – *in God's image*. Each person's life is a gift! Each and every person has their own special gifts to share with others, our communities, and the world. Judaism helps us to understand how these ideas are connected to our Jewish heritage, how to appreciate the gifts we have, and how to use these connections and gifts to help make the world a better place

Learners will discover their personal connections to Jewish heritage and ideas through 4 lenses/units:

Curriculum - Kindergarten - 5th grade (cont'd)

- Connections to Myself and Others
- Connections to Torah
- Connections to God and Spirituality
- Connections to the Land and People of Israel



Each of these lenses will incorporate the following idea of 7 *gifts* that have been given to us from generation to generation from Gan Eden until today. The *gifts* are:

1. Emphasis on the uniqueness, value, and blessing of each individual
2. Avenues for finding joy, comfort and gratitude
3. Sense of being part of, and in reciprocal relation to something bigger than oneself
(i.e. through the rhythms of sacred Jewish time, in relation to Israel, in relation to God)
4. Richness of wisdom and memories *(gathered over the millennial manifesting as diverse, inter-connected Jewish perspectives, cultures and communities)*
5. Tradition of questions and questioning
6. Empowerment of humanity (opening the door to generating inventive and useful responses to the challenges of today)
7. Passion for learning and growth

Essential Questions:



- What does it mean to be connected to me?
- What am I connected to as a person? As a Jew?
- How can I see myself in the Jewish stories of Torah?
- Can I connect with God/the Divine? If so, how?
- How can I connect with Israel when I don't live there?
- How can I grow and share my connections?
- What are my special gifts?
- What are the gifts that I have been given as part of the Jewish people?
- How can I use *my* gifts to help others?

Curriculum Kindergarten through 5th gr. (cont'd)

Hebrew

The Hebrew program at Rimon begins in Kindergarten and continues through the Bar/Bat Mitzvah year. Please see pages 13-14 for a full description of our Hebrew program).

Chugim (Clubs)

Voted "best part of Rimon" by our Rimon students, *chugim* offer voice and choice to all our Kindergarten - 5th grade learners. *Chugim* invite our learners to choose an activity of their interest. These activities are outside of the thematic topic of the curriculum but are overlaid with Jewish ideas and values. Learners engage in *chugim* every other week choosing one topic in the fall and another in the spring. *Chugim* choices may include but are not limited to Yoga, Newspaper Club, Sci-Tech, Cooking, Creative Arts... and more.

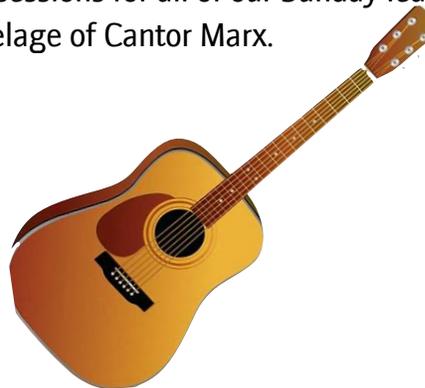
Tefillah (Prayer) Experiences

Led by our Cantor and songleaders, our Kindergarten through 5th graders will engage with prayer. Every other week they will have the opportunity to hear prayer, join in prayer, and connect spiritually to the prayers of our people in an authentic way.



Song Sessions

There is no better way to celebrate holidays, celebrate our Judaism, dance, and have fun than joining in song. Song sessions for all of our Sunday learners are led by our teen songleaders under the tutelage of Cantor Marx.



Sixth Grade "Gesherim" Student & Family Program

The word *Gesherim* means "bridges." This is the age that our 6th graders begin taking steps to cross the bridge from childhood Jewish adulthood.



We believe that the family bond helps ease the transition from childhood to adulthood. This builds bridges that will lead children to Confirmation and beyond. We want our families to have engaging, relevant and memorable learning experiences. Gesherim is our way to help pave the path and set families on a learning journey together.



Our Gesherim program partners with Moving Traditions. Moving Traditions is a pioneer in Jewish teen engagement and, as part of their work, offers an amazing program for pre-Bnai mitzvah pre-teens and their families. This program helps all participants to draw on Jewish wisdom to explore elements of B'nai Mitzvah that are directly relevant to the pre-teen years.

Gesherim students do not attend the regular the Rimon Sunday program however, they do attend mid-week Hebrew. Gesherim *families* meet with our Gesherim Director, Ellen Glassman, clergy and staff approximately one time per month. Additionally, Gesherim students meet with our Gesherim Director, Ellen Glassman once a month. Whether it is a family meeting or a "students only" meeting, participants will engage in interactive and meaningful learning on their road to adulthood.

Torah Project

Families will meet, one-on-one, with Rabbi Rigler, to work together to create a personal and creative presentation of the 6th grader's own Torah portion. This presentation will be made in front of an authentic audience (the 6th grade families) during a special "Showcase" at Temple Sholom.

Hebrew Curriculum Kindergarten through 6th grade

At Rimon, *Hebrew instruction begins in Kindergarten and continues through Bar/ Bat Mitzvah*. Hebrew, the language of our people is a living language *and* the language of prayer. This understanding guides our Hebrew program which seeks to touch the whole person - *knowing, doing, believing and belonging*. What does this look like? Student-centered learning that is "Engaging," "Relevant," and "FUN!"

Hebrew Curriculum

Kindergarten through 6th grade (cont'd)

It's a Fact! Unless students are immersed in a daily environment, learning to *read* or *speak* a second language is difficult. In the part-time Hebrew school environment this is even more daunting. *Studies* and *research* have shown that there are two developmental factors for Hebrew success in supplementary synagogue education:

Brain Development

Learning the letters and vowels of the Hebrew alphabet, as well as being able to put them together and decode words, is not easy!

- Unlike English where letters and words move from left to right, Hebrew moves from right to left. Unlike English, Hebrew "vowels" are a set of dots and dashes that appear below, above or beside the letters.
- Hebrew letters have characteristics that are very different from English letters: 1)most are slight variations of a box; 2)some are exactly the same except for their length; 3)some are "look- alike" except for their orientation - turn it sideways and you have a different letter!



Hebrew is the language of prayer and the language of our people - past and present. We aspire to offer our children many opportunities to engage with Hebrew language and prayer experiences. Our Hebrew program begins in Kindergarten and continues through 6th grade. Understanding the research on how children learn to decode has helped to inform and build a framework for the Hebrew program at Temple Shalom.

Hebrew on Sundays

(Kindergarten - 3rd grade)

Learners will be introduced to Hebrew using a three-pronged approach:

1. *Hebrew Through Movement*

Hebrew Through Movement (based on an adaptation of James J. Asher's *Total Physical Response* (TPR), has its roots in the way that children learn naturally. Students learn Hebrew by hearing and responding to Hebrew commands. *Hebrew through Movement* starts by laying a foundation of modern, spoken Hebrew and it builds toward the goal of learning vocabulary related to the prayers in our siddur, as well as synagogue, holiday, and other Jewish vocabulary. The learning is playful, joyful, and meaningful. (To learn more about *Hebrew Through Movement* visit: <https://www.hebrewthroughmovement.org/>)

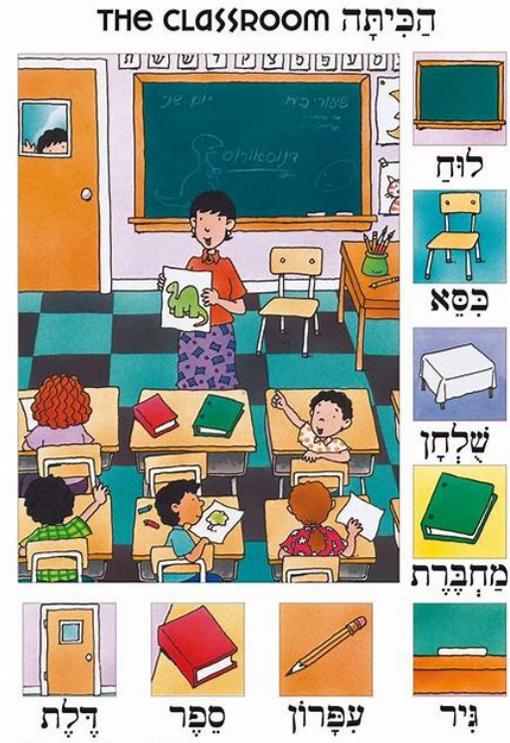
Hebrew Curriculum Kindergarten through 6th grade (cont'd)

2. Tefillah (Prayer)

All of our Sunday learners will have the opportunity to learn and practice their prayer skills through age-appropriate prayer and/or experiences led by Cantor Marx and our songleaders.

3. Jewish Life Vocabulary

Jewish Life Vocabulary enables our children to hear, understand, and speak Hebrew words that are part of synagogue and Jewish life in America. Words from *Jewish Life Vocabulary* can be a stand-alone word or a phrase, i.e. *Mazel Tov!* Other times, words will be sprinkled into English sentences. Each Sunday new vocabulary will be introduced.



Hebrew Curriculum - Mid Week 4th - 6th grade

Students who are planning to become *Bar or Bat Mitzvah* at Temple Shalom attend the midweek Rimon Hebrew program. Rimon is committed to providing our learners with small classes so that each will receive the guidance they need in order to achieve the best opportunity for success.

Families choose from the following options for class days/times:

- Monday OR Tuesday
- 5:30 - 6:15pm (virtual) OR 4:00 - 4:45pm (virtual)
- OR OR
- 6:15 - 7:00pm (in person) OR 4:45 - 5:30pm (in person)
- *Families may also choose one-on-one Hebrew tutoring
- via Facetime!
- Please speak to the Education Director regarding this option!

Hebrew Curriculum - Mid Week

4th - 6th grade (cont'd)

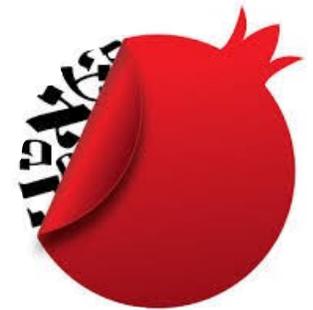
4th grade (Bet)

Fourth grade (Bet) students build upon their *Hebrew Through Movement* experiences and *Jewish Life Vocabularly* knowledge by engaging with letter/vowel recognition *and* decoding skills.

Let's Learn Hebrew Side-by-Side is a program where learning takes place in an environment that utilizes blended online learning and hands-on reinforcement. This program allows students to progress at their own pace in a technology rich environment with individual support and guidance from their teacher. With steady attendance *and* at-home practice, our learners will quickly learn how to decode Hebrew. Once a student has completed *Let's Learn Hebrew Side-by-Side*, they will be on their way to begin reading and understanding the prayers and blessings of the Shabbat worship service.

5th grade (Gimel)

Fifth grade (Gimel) students build upon the previous years' experience with *Let's Learn Hebrew Side by Side* and *Hebrew Through Movement*. This is the year that learners will begin the exciting process of not only decoding prayers but by making personal connections through the understanding of these prayers.



The ability to be able to decode the words of prayers is only one piece of prayer mastery. Understanding the purpose and meaning of each prayer enables the learner to make meaning of what they are decoding, making the process of prayer mastery so much easier.

Fifth graders will engage in this exciting work through learning the prayers and blessings of the Friday night Shabbat service, as well as home and holiday prayers and blessings.

6th grade (Gesherim)

Sixth grade is an exciting and critical year for our students. This is the final year of *formal* Hebrew prior to beginning the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process with the Cantor. This year the focus of the prayer experience will be on the Torah service. The Torah blessings, Haftarah blessings and the prayers and blessings that are part of the Torah service. Reflections on these prayers and blessings, as well as a review of prayers covered in 4th and 5th grade, will prepare learners for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey.



Rimon Noar & JLF Teen Engagement 7th - 12th grades



Rimon Noar and JLF (Jewish Leadership Fellowship) are about teen relationships. In this space teens come together to share and continue their connections to Temple Sholom, their Jewish touchpoints and their friends. Rimon Noar and JLF is designed to meet teens where they are through unique, innovative and engaging Jewish opportunities. We want our teens to develop tangible life skills

that will enable them to share their voices and passions as they continue to grow their individual and collective Jewish identity.

Rimon Noar - Monday evenings 7:00 - 8:30pm

7th and 8th grades

Rimon Noar brings together 7th and 8th graders in grade-level and mixed-grade exploration of such topics as "Holocaust and Human Behavior" and "Israel Today" as well as a choice of electives.

JLF (Jewish Leadership Fellowship) Monday evenings 7:00 - 8:30pm

9th - 12th grades

JLF is a social justice and leadership teen engagement program taught by Rabbi Rigler in partnership with the Impact Center. This signature program involves teens in not only learning but experiences that are focused on important social justice issues in our world today. Teens will be encouraged to raise their voices on issues that are important to them through engaging with authentic speakers, participation in the L'Taken seminar in Washington, D.C. hosted by the RAC (Religious Action Center), and a four-day experience in the deep south.

Why Teens Attend Rimon Noar and JLF...

- *Tikkun Olam* - a commitment to make our world a better and more just place through social justice and social action.
- *Kehillah* - being part of a supportive, tolerant, accepting and interdependent thinking community.
- *Preparation* - building knowledge and skills to navigate the college years and beyond through Jewish values and the tools for ethical decision-making.

Rimon Noar & JLF Teen Engagement

7th - 12th grades (cont'd)

What Teens Gain from Rimon Noar and JLF

- *Tangible Life Skills* - participation in Rimon Noar enables teens to practice important skills for college and beyond such as, public speaking, debate, and advocacy.
- *Relationships* - not only with other teens, but with adults who will be seen as mentors in their future endeavors.

Even More Opportunities for Teens...

The Madrichim Team

The Madrichim Team program is designed for 8th - 12th graders who enjoy working with children ages 5 - 12 in our Sunday Rimon program and/or our weekday Hebrew program. Madrichim working in our program are integral members of the Rimon faculty and serve as aides, assistant teachers, and tutors for our younger children. Being a member of this very special group of teens builds leadership, education, and management skills. *Please speak to Lori Green for additional information.*

Rimon Songleaders

Under the leadership and direction of Cantor Marx, the Rimon songleaders play a critical role in our Sunday Rimon program. Teens learn songleading and teaching skills with Cantor Marx. They teach and lead our Kindergarten - 5th grade students in joyful song, and teach and lead weekly tefillah (prayer) services on Sunday mornings. The skills the teens learn, and the gift of Jewish music they provide to others is beyond measure. *Please contact Cantor Marx for additional information.*

Youth Group



Temple Sholom's Youth Group, **ToaSTy**, is a member of **NFTY** (National Federation of Temple Youth) and invites ALL 9th - 12th graders to participate. **ToaSTy** is *teen-led* with the support and direction of our Youth Group Director- Marissa Kimmel.

Overnights, trips and more await! *Contact Marissa Kimmel for additional information.*

Lifecycle Moments

Consecration

Our youngest students' first steps into formal Jewish learning is a time for celebration! Consecration, a rite of passage for our students at Temple Sholom, publicly recognizes this commitment to Jewish life and learning. As students are welcomed onto our bimah they they are blessed by Rabbi Rigler and Cantor Marx, and receive their own torah scroll to commemorate this moment.



Fourth Grade Naming Ceremony

Fourth grade begins the next step in a child's journey to celebrate a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Temple Sholom. This is the year that they take their early learning of Hebrew to a new level - mastery of prayers and blessings. Just as the Consecration ceremony marks a new beginning for our youngest learners, the Fourth Grade Naming Ceremony marks a new beginning for our 4th graders. The ceremony will take place on Saturday evening, March 5.

Sixth Grade "Move Up" Ceremony

The end of the 6th grade year marks the beginning of a new and exciting step in a student's Jewish journey. During the seventh grade year many of our students will celebrate their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. They will also become members of our high school Rimon Noar program leading to Confirmation in 12th grade. As young adults in the Rimon Noar program, they will build upon and apply the lessons they have learned to help them knowledgeably and ethically navigate the adult world. The Sixth Grade "Move Up Ceremony" will be held in the Spring.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Bar and Bat Mitzvah is a rite of passage for all young Jewish adults ages thirteen or older. This meaningful ceremony celebrates a student's first steps into Jewish adulthood. At Temple Sholom, we encourage all of our students to take part in this life-cycle event by completing the requirements for a public ceremony which includes enrollment in our religious school through the Bar/Bat Mitzvah year, completion of our Hebrew program along with Torah and Haftarah studies with Cantor Marx.



Celebrating a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Temple Sholom - Requirements

- Students are required to be enrolled in both Rimon's Sunday and mid-week Hebrew curriculum.
- Students must have completed our Hebrew program or it's equivalent.
- Students must be enrolled in Rimon through Bar/Bat Mitzvah year!

Confirmation



Confirmation is a "coming of age" ceremony that celebrates a young adult's emergence into Jewish adulthood. At Temple Sholom we celebrate this important and meaningful life cycle stage in the 12th grade year. Much more so than Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a teen who has continued their Jewish education is prepared to question, debate, and *live* their Reform Judaism while moving on to college and beyond. The bonds that are formed amongst our teens during this pivotal year creates life-long relationships that are evidenced during the beautiful Confirmation ceremony.



Allergy and Food Policies

As we begin our Rimon year, there will be no food or beverages during Sunday Rimon, Rimon Hebrew or Rimon Noar.

This is subject to change!

If regulations change during the year, please remember:

Temple Sholom is a nut and tree-nut free environment!

If your child is gluten-free, has an egg allergy, or cannot eat challah due to other allergies please inform the Rimon office!



If you are sending your child with a snack or special classroom treat *either on Sundays or weekdays please be sure to check all labels!* Nuts, tree-nuts and their by-products are found in many pre-packaged foods and snacks.

Safety and Emergency Procedures

The health and safety of all of our children and staff are of the highest importance. Over the past few years Temple Sholom has added a number of safety measures including but not limited to:

- Working closely with the Marple-Newtown Police Department to review our emergency procedures.
- Live cameras on the outside of all entrances, as well as the parking lots. These cameras are monitored in the main office.
- A fob and intercom system for everyone entering our building.
- Security Guard for worship services, Sunday Rimon hours, and special events.
- Additional outdoor lighting.
- Key staff members are trained and certified in Medical First Aid, Mental Health First Responder, and CPR.
- Rimon faculty has been trained on the emergency procedures including evacuation plans and relocation plans.

Student and Parent Responsibilities

Arrival and Dismissal

Although we know that situations occur, we ask that your child(ren) arrive at Rimon on time. There is so much that happens every minute during our short time together that we do not want anyone to miss a minute!

We realize that it is occasionally necessary to pick up your child early. In this event we ask that you call the main office number:

610-356-5165 and ask for Lori or Beth

*****IMPORTANT INFORMATION*****

OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION, WE ASK THAT PARENTS/GUARDIANS DO NOT ENTER THE SCHOOL WING TO PICK UP CHILDREN.

PLEASE WAIT IN THE LOBBY, FRONT PORCH OR CARPOOL LINE TO PICK UP CHILDREN!

School Closings

The decision to close Religious and/or Hebrew school is made jointly by the Executive Director and Education Director. In the case of inclement weather, Temple Sholom follows

MARPLE-NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT CLOSINGS AND EARLY DISMISSALS.

Notification of any school closures will be sent through Constant Contact!

Tzedakah



Tzedakah (the opportunity to do righteous deeds for others), through monetary contributions, non-perishable food items for the hungry, or clothing for the needy. *Tzedakah* is at the heart of Reform Judaism and at Rimon. We hope that you will help your child participate. Tzedakah is collected during every Sunday and weekday session.

