



## **Rimon Hebrew**

At Rimon, Hebrew learning begins in Kindergarten and continues through the Bar/Bat Mitzvah year. Hebrew is the language of our people and the language of prayer. At Rimon, our goal is to guide your child to value the Hebrew language and, to value and engage in prayer (tefillah) in ways that are exciting and meaningful. To that end, we have designed a Hebrew program that touches the whole person: mind, body, heart, and spirit.

*What will Hebrew learning look like for your child?*

### **Kindergarten through Third Grade**

Your child will spend their early years engaging with the sounds of the Hebrew language by listening, understanding, and doing (practicing) during the Sunday morning Rimon program.

#### *Hebrew Through Movement*

(based on best practices for ESL – *English as a Second Language*)

*Hebrew Through Movement* introduces your child to the sound of Hebrew while introducing them to everyday and holiday-related vocabulary. It is both engaging and fun for our learners! New vocabulary is added each year.

#### *Age-Appropriate Prayer Experiences*

Cantor Marx and our song leaders lead our Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade learners in age appropriate tefillah incorporating vocabulary from Hebrew Through Movement whenever possible.

#### *Word of the Week and Letter of the Week*

Each week a new letter is introduced and “posted” on an interactive Lego wall in the school hallway. Throughout the year, learners will have the opportunity to “build” a representation of something that begins with the Letter of the Week out of Legos.

Additionally, the Word(s) of the Week will be posted in the school hallway and introduced/used by the teaching staff whenever appropriate.

### **Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades**

Experience has proven that it is not the *length* of time but the *quality* of time that our learners engage with Hebrew that results in Hebrew mastery. Therefore, our mid-week Hebrew classes are 45 minutes with a choice of days and times.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Hebrew Side by Side* is a Hebrew curriculum based on the sound-to-print model of learning letters and vowels leading to decoding of words. *Hebrew Side by Side* is intended for your child to progress at their own pace along with one-on-one teacher support.

Learners typically complete the *Hebrew Side by Side* curriculum in late winter or early spring. They then move onto the Rimon- “Bet” book to begin engaging with Shabbat, holiday prayers and blessings, and learning to read *and* understand the message of each prayer and blessing.

#### *Class-led Shabbat Service*

4<sup>th</sup> graders will have the opportunity to lead Friday night Shabbat service at Temple Sholom. The purpose for participation in this service is to build a comfort-level on our bimah with those in attendance.

#### *Word the Week*

Each week a new word is introduced having relevance to an upcoming holiday *or* to Judaic content. Words are posted in the school hallway and used in the classroom.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

With a solid foundation of decoding skills your 5<sup>th</sup> grader will dive into Hebrew mastery of the *Shabbat* evening and *Shabbat* morning prayers and blessings while continuing to review holiday prayers and blessings. Hebrew mastery not only includes the ability to read or chant a prayer but includes making personal connections to the prayers or blessings. What is the prayer about? How do I connect to the prayers or blessings and what do they mean to me?

#### *Class-led Shabbat Service*

5<sup>th</sup> graders will again have the opportunity to lead Friday night Shabbat service at Temple Sholom. The purpose for participation in this service is to continue to build a comfort-level on our bimah while leading the congregation in worship.

#### *Word the Week*

Each week a new word is introduced having relevance to an upcoming holiday *or* to Judaic content. Words are posted in the school hallway and used in the classroom.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> grade**

As a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, your child will review the prayers and blessings covered in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades while taking a deep dive into the prayers of the *Torah* service. Along with learning to chant the *Torah* blessings and *Haftarah* blessings, your child will explore the rituals surrounding the *Torah* service.

### *Class-led Shabbat Service*

6<sup>th</sup> graders will have their final opportunity to lead *Shabbat* services from our bimah. The importance of class-led services is to ensure that your child feels comfortable and “at home” on Temple Sholom’s *bimah*. This is *their bimah*!

### *Word the Week*

Each week a new word is introduced having relevance to an upcoming holiday *or* to Judaic content. Words are posted in the school hallway and used in the classroom.

### **7<sup>th</sup> grade**

As a 7<sup>th</sup> grader your child will begin the B’nei Mitzvah tutoring process under the direction of Cantor Marx *approximately* six months before their B’nei Mitzvah. For students whose B’nei Mitzvah falls in the late Spring/early Summer *or* during Fall of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, we offer Hebrew Boot Camp on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7:00pm. This optional program helps to ensure that a student’s Hebrew mastery continues to stay “fresh” and even grow. *Please speak to Lori Green for more information about this option.*