



WELCOME!

Welcome to Chabad Hebrew School of the Rivertowns.

We are committed to providing your child with a Hebrew School experience that will be enjoyable, inspiring, and provide warm memories for a lifetime. The year ahead promises to be full of exciting learning, highlighted with crafts, drama, stories, games and special extra-curricular activities.

HOURS AND TIMES

We meet on Sundays from 10:00-12:15 p.m. from after Labor Day through Memorial Day.

Please download the Hebrew School calendar from our website and post it somewhere you can easily refer to it during the year.

REGISTRATION

In the interests of being environmentally-responsible, our school uses an online registration, rather than paper forms. To register, visit us online at <http://www.chabadrt.org/Hebrewschool>.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

We have a variety of options for your child's Bat/Bar Mitzvah service. Please contact the office to set a time to meet and discuss a personalized experience for your family.

DROP-OFF AND PICKUP

Students are dropped off and picked up at the School Entrance (front of the building). An adult will be there to greet your child. Alternatively, parent can park in one of the parking spaces on the street and accompany child to the door. Students must be checked out at dismissal with the security guard.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES

Regular attendance is crucial in accomplishing the goals of our educational program. There is direct correlation between attendance and achievement, interest and attitude. We recognize that "things happen" but your support of our attendance policy is greatly appreciated.

In the event that your child will be absent, please let us know in advance via email or phone.

PROMPTNESS AND EARLY PICK-UP/LATE DROP-OFF

We have so little time with the children, and the teachers work very hard in planning every moment of every lesson. When a child comes late or leaves early, it negatively impacts the flow of the class.

In the event that a child is dropped off late, the parent must accompany the child into the building and to his/her class.

If a child must be picked up early, please communicate with us in advance so that the classroom teacher can be prepared. Parent must pick up the child from the classroom. No child will be allowed to wait unaccompanied.

If an alternate person is picking up, please let us know with a signed note or email.

UNEXPECTED SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In case of snow or other unexpected cancellations, expect a call (no later) than 1.5 hours before the starting time of Hebrew School. Updates will be posted on our website as well.

LEAVING THE SCHOOL BUILDING

For off-site trips, parent will be notified in advance and asked to sign permission slips.

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION

Our primary means of communication is via email. Please make sure we have the correct addresses (please make sure that our emails do not go to your spam folder;-)

To enhance our school community, we share a Families Contact Info. Interfamily socializing made easy!



FIRST AID

The teacher will attend to minor injuries. Should something more serious occur, G-d forbid, the parents will be contacted immediately. Should the parents be unavailable, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital.

PARENT/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Parents will receive weekly email of a blog with pictures and captions of our students at school. Please open it and review it with your child. (Doing so, send a positive message to your child as to how you value their schooling!)

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's class or progress, please call Hinda at 914-693-6100 or email Hinda@Chabadrt.org.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

We strive to create a respectful and calm learning atmosphere. Our students understand that respect for teachers, respect for each other and each other's property is essential for a successful learning environment. We expect all rules for student behavior to be complied within class as well as during school events.

Please share with us any information that would help us help your child. Please provide information about any conditions that may affect your child's ability to learn in a classroom setting in his/her registration form. Prior knowledge of any physical, social or psychological challenges can aid a teacher in planning instruction for each child. All such information will be kept confidential.

Should a student's behavior be deemed inappropriate, it will be brought to the attention of the director. If the problem persists, communication with the parent will be initiated.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Students are **not** permitted to bring cell phones, iPods or other electronic devices to Hebrew School, all of which serve as a distraction for the student and the class. In the event that a student brings these items, the teacher will hold it for safekeeping and return it to the student at the end of the day. We respectfully request that parents take the lead in reinforcing this important rule.

TZEDAKAH

Tzedakah (charity) is a concept basic to Judaism. At Hebrew School, we strive to develop a commitment among our students to share with others less fortunate than themselves, by donating a few pennies a day to charity. Please send your child with some coins for Tzedakah to encourage them to perform this Mitzvah. Older children should be encouraged to give Tzedakah from their own allowance money. Each class will have the opportunity to discuss and decide where to allocate the money they collect throughout the year.

SNACKS

A snack and drink is provided to your child during Hebrew School hours. However, please ensure that your child comes to school having a complete and nutritious breakfast and does not come to Hebrew School hungry. If your child is allergic to any food or beverages, please be sure to provide us with that information on his/her registration form.

GUESTS

Students who wish to bring a Jewish guest/friend to school can do so, provided that you give the school advance notice and that the guest understands that s/he must respect the school's system and regulations.

Chabad Hebrew School offers referral discounts for encouraging a new student to register.

SUPPLIES

All textbooks and workbooks will be provided by the school.

HOMEWORK

At the end of each day, students are given a Homework Card for Hebrew Reading. The homework can be found by visiting http://www.chabadrt.org/templates/articlecco_cdo/aid/2968897/jewish/Aleph-Champ-Reading.htm.

In order to gain the most from our once-a-week Hebrew School, we ask that our students review their homework 3 times a week for 5 minutes to increase the fluidity of their reading. Once homework is reviewed, students fill out our

online Review Form stating that the homework was completed. Parents, please encourage your children to do their homework. Students that complete homework will receive double Mitzvah money☺

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED

In order for our Hebrew School program to be most effective, the home and school must work hand in hand and promote a close partnership. The following are a few suggestions:

- Set a reasonable bed time the night before.
- Ensure that your child had a nutritious and full breakfast before Hebrew School.
- Many of our students are involved in other extra-curricular activities (e.g. sports, music, etc.). All these are important, however please make your child's Jewish education a priority.
- There is a direct correlation between a student's attendance, and his/her interest, achievement and attitude. Every time your child is absent or late, there is a loss of continuity to the program.
- Please come to Hebrew School on time.
- Participation in the programming beyond school helps the child see the context of his Judaism. Please join in as many programs as you can!
- Ask your child about their day. Rather than yes-or-no questions, try to ask open-ended questions.
- Remember that informal Jewish education is one of the best motivators for creating a positive Jewish identity!