

# Parent Handbook

Dear Parents,

Imagine a Hebrew School where kids don't want to miss a day. They come in with a smile and leave humming a Jewish song. Picture a group of Jewish children engaged in lively discussion, singing, laughter and prayer.

## **Welcome to Bellaire 'Hebrew School of the Arts'!**

Hebrew School is an incredible opportunity. We have the chance to inspire future adults with a sense of Jewish pride and awareness.

At Bellaire 'Hebrew School of the Arts' we create an environment that brings Judaism to life, fosters creativity and supports your child's unique style of learning. We use a unique approach, which is hands on and stimulates your child's intellect. Our curriculum is designed to make a lasting positive impact on the life of your child.

Besides knowledge of the Hebrew language, our goal is to offer Jewish children an education and memories that will inspire them in the future. We provide an education that instills Jewish pride, a sense of history and a genuine and meaningful understanding of Judaism. With this knowledge, our students grow into informed thinking Jewish adults, who will shape our communities and our world for years to come.

Our staff is trained in Judaic teaching programs, and most importantly, they actually live the material they are teaching - and there's nothing like teaching by example.

We encourage you, as a parent, to get involved, ask questions and keep in touch with the goings-on of the Bellaire 'Hebrew School of the Arts'.

I look forward to a great year of Jewish learning for your child.

Sincerely,

Esty Zaklikofsky  
Hebrew School Director

## CURRICULUM

We believe that real learning happens beyond the traditional textbook style of imparting information; a child really learns through engaging with the subject with all of one's senses and emotions.

Our curriculum is developed using a hands-on, minds-on and souls-on approach, with age appropriate standards of knowledge and skills. A great deal of thought and planning is put into the preparation of materials, lessons, and projects to ensure that what is gained each week is relevant, meaningful, and lasting.

### Hebrew Reading:

Reading in the original language of the Torah and prayer is a key component of being involved in Jewish living. Therefore, we work with each child individually as s/he learns to read the Hebrew language. We use the nationally acclaimed Aleph Champ™ reading program which uses the motivational aspect of 'rising through the levels' to help students reach their goals. Students begin with the letters of the Aleph Bet, advancing towards fluency in reading the prayers from the Siddur (prayer book.)

### Torah & Jewish History:

The history of the Jewish nation is really the story of every individual Jew. Beginning from the Six Days of Creation and moving through time, the children explore the incredible journey of the Jewish people, and in effect, of themselves. Lessons are fun, interactive, fascinating and relevant; children meet biblical and historical personalities and learn their stories – their challenges, their triumphs and their contributions. Children are inspired to add their link to the chain of Jewish history. Emphasis will be placed on Biblical/Hebrew terminology, names and words.

### Mitzvot and Jewish practice:

Children learn the 'how's and 'why's of Jewish living. The Torah is full of fascinating rituals and values to help guide us in living meaningful and productive lives – even (or perhaps, especially) in contemporary times. Lessons are engaging and exciting – with lots of projects, activities and discussions.

### Tefilla – Prayer:

Through songs and discussions, children become familiar with basic liturgy and prayers and get acquainted with the Shul (synagogue).

## **Fact Sheet:**

**Ages:** Boys and girls, Kindergarten to Eighth Grade.

**Hours:** Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM (excluding school vacation, some Jewish & legal holidays).

**Location:** Bellaire Recreational Center - 7008 5th St. Bellaire, TX

**Tuition:** \$750 - Includes Registration, book fees & all supplies. (No child will be turned away for lack of funds).

**Snack:** Snack will be provided at Hebrew School.

### **Contact information:**

Hebrew School Director: Mrs. **Esty Zaklikofsky**

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Mobile: 713-484-9887.

The Shul of Bellaire - Director: Rabbi **Yossi Zaklikofsky**

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