

Special Programs Gimel

Spring, 2022

We have many special programs planned for this winter-spring at the Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School. A calendar was sent in December, and is included with this message as well. We wanted to give you some detail for each class so that you are prepared, and can help encourage your child to participate in these wonderful programs that are a part of our core curriculum.

Below is a detail for your child's grade that includes any Abiri Arts Fund projects, their class trip for our February 6 Trip Day, and a family participation program during which the children will receive one of a series of Jewish books to add to their personal Judaic libraries.

In addition to these grade level programs, all students in Gan-Hay will participate in a Purim Event and a Pesach Model Seder. The Purim event will be Sunday, March 13. All children will rotate to different stations where they will learn about and celebrate the mitzvot of Purim. The Model Seder will be Sunday, April 3. Each grade will prepare parts of the Seder to lead, as they build their repertoire over the course of their years in the JFGRS to become competent participants in your family's Seder at home. We are hopeful that our safety guidelines will permit parents to attend the Model Seder with their children this year!

Trip Day: Gimel will be learning about the various elements of a synagogue, first by having a detailed visit to the Sanctuary here at Har Zion, and then on Trip Day they will visit another synagogue to look for similarities and differences. This year, Gimel will visit the National Historic Landmark Beth Sholom Synagogue in Elkins Park. This Conservative congregation has a similar history to Har Zion, having been founded about 100 years ago and moving to the suburbs in the mid-20th century. Its Frank Lloyd Wright-designed building is world renowned and the students will enjoy seeing a different interpretation of all the traditional elements of a synagogue that they are used to.

Abiri Arts: Gimel students made special Hanukkiot through the Gary Rosenthal Hiddur Mitzvah project. They will be returned to Har Zion in the coming months, and we will send them home for you to enjoy NEXT Hanukkah!

Gimel *Birkat HaMazon* Dinner, **Tuesday, February 22**. The children have been learning one part of *Birkat HaMazon*, the traditional blessing after meals. At this fun dinner they will enjoy a light meal, say the blessings before and after, and receive a special *Birkon*, a small book of blessings, including *Birkat HaMazon*. Parents are invited to join us for dinner, 5:30-6:15 PM.