



June 10, 2024

Dear Religious School Families,

Planning is in process for the 2024-2025 school year. We have some exciting news for our ESARS school families.

Sunday Religious school for students Grades 3 – 7 will meet from 9am – 12pm. This will enable families to have more time to spend together in the afternoon. **Wednesday** Religious school for students in Grades 4 – 7 will meet from 5pm – 7pm.

Beginning in September, on Sunday mornings, we will be selling bagels and cream cheese or butter as a fundraiser for our school. Bagels will be available from 8:45am – 9:10am. Wednesday afternoons, we will be selling snacks and pizza from 4:45pm – 5:10pm. This is a fundraiser for our school. Watch for more information shortly.

We have added an exciting new program for Families and students in Grades 4 through 7. Once a month we will have a Family Shabbat Learning and participatory service filled with ruach. The services will be led by Rabbi Joyce Siegel and Cantor Javier Smolarz. This service will meet from 10:30am – 12pm followed by a special snack for Kiddush. This service will be separate from the main service. The **BONUS** is that students in Grades 4 -7 will not have to attend Religious School on the Sundays when there is a Family service on a Friday evening or Saturday morning. (please see the attached calendar). Not only will the families learn the Shabbat service but they will also have the opportunity to socialize and be part of our growing school community.

Participation in a **once a month** Shabbat service is **NOT OPTIONAL**, but rather part of the Religious School curriculum. Our first Family Shabbat will be on Friday, 8/23 at 6pm at the Oceanfront Beach in Boynton Beach. This will be an interactive Family service with lots of ruach and a chance to catch up from the summer. (stay tuned for more information shortly). Our first day of Religious School is Sunday, 8/25 beginning with bagels and an interactive orientation and opening program.

Grade 3 students are always welcome to join our Grades 4 to 7 Family Shabbat services but they are **NOT EXEMPT** from attending on Sunday mornings. Sunday mornings are the only scheduled day that they meet with their teacher.

We are encouraging our students to participate in the BBYO and JTEEN programs. These programs are hosted at the JCC.

I am looking forward to a wonderful and interactive school year.

Included is the Religious School Application. There is an additional 5% discount if you register by July 10th.

L'Shalom,
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