

The Ark Synagogue Cheder 2024/25

YEARS 3 & 4

HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS



Introduction

Our objective for Cheder education in Years 3 & 4 is to build on the students' knowledge of Judaism, providing them with a better understanding of the Jewish Festivals, Jewish home and synagogue practices and key biblical stories. The curriculum is based on age-appropriate books, short videos and will give the children an opportunity to express their creativity.

THE ARK
SYNAGOGUE



Term Overview

Classes will be held on Saturday morning during term time. In general, the morning will start with a short cheder assembly at 10am in the Osorio Hall - parents are warmly invited to attend alongside their children. The Jewish Studies lesson will run from 10:15 - 11am. This will be followed by an optional introduction to Hebrew class from 11:15 - noon. Unless older siblings are also enrolled in the cheder, we ask that parents stay in or around the synagogue during class time until we can confirm that the children have fully settled in.

Term Dates

| Autumn Term | Spring Term | Summer Term |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sat 14 Sep '24 | Sat 18 Jan '25 | Sat 26 Apr '25 |
| Sat 21 Sep '24 | Sat 25 Jan '25 | Sat 3 May '25 |
| Sat 28 Sep '24 | Sat 1 Feb '25 | Sat 10 May '25 |
| Sat 05 Oct '24 | Sat 8 Feb '25 | Sat 17 May '25 |
| Sat 19 Oct '24 | Sat 1 Mar '25 | Sat 7 Jun '25 |
| Sat 9 Nov '24 | Sat 8 Mar '25 | Sat 14 Jun '25 |
| Sat 16 Nov '24 | Sat 15 Mar '25 | Sat 21 Jun '25 |
| Sat 23 Nov '24 | Sat 22 Mar '25 | Sat 28 Jun '25 |
| Sat 30 Nov '24 | Sat 29 Mar '25 | Sat 5 Jul '25 |
| Sat 7 Dec '24 | | |

Jewish Studies Curriculum

We supply our teachers with a detailed curriculum for each lesson - parents are welcome to contact Rabbi Lea to receive a copy of the lesson plans. In this handbook, we are just sharing the topic of each lesson to allow parents to engage with their children about what they have learnt. You will also see what books the children will be using in class.

Autumn Term

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| Sat 14 Sep '24 | Jewish Like Me: In what ways is my Jewish identity similar to others? |
| Sat 21 Sep '24 | Jewish Like Me: What are unique parts of my Jewish identity? |
| Sat 28 Sep '24 | Pieces of the Puzzle - Jewish Community: How do I contribute to my Jewish community? |
| Sat 05 Oct '24 | Pieces of the Puzzle - Jewish Community: How does diversity contribute to the Jewish community? |
| Sat 19 Oct '24 | A Rich Heritage - History and Stories: How can stories teach us about the Jewish people and about ourselves? |
| Sat 9 Nov '24 | A Rich Heritage - History and Stories: How are new stories of <i>Am Yisrael</i> added to our people's treasury of stories? |
| Sat 16 Nov '24 | Learning by Doing - Symbols and Rituals: What are symbols, and how do symbols help us remember? |
| Sat 23 Nov '24 | Learning by Doing - Symbols and Rituals: How do objects signify and beautify our rituals? |
| Sat 30 Nov '24 | Becoming our Best Selves - <i>Mitzvot</i> : How do <i>mitzvot</i> help us to build our best community? |
| Sat 7 Dec '24 | Becoming our Best Selves - <i>Mitzvot</i> : How can doing <i>mitzvot</i> help us to be our best selves? |

Spring Term

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| Sat 18 Jan '25 | What does it mean to be a <i>mensch</i> ? |
| Sat 25 Jan '25 | How do our choices affect ourselves and others? |
| Sat 1 Feb '25 | How do we make good choices? |
| Sat 8 Feb '25 | Why is it important to follow good choices with positive action? |
| Sat 1 Mar '25 | What are the <i>mitzvah</i> opportunities in our own lives? |
| Sat 8 Mar '25 | Why is the <i>mitzvah</i> of <i>talmud Torah</i> one of the most important <i>mitzvot</i> ? |
| Sat 15 Mar '25 | What does the value of <i>sh'lom bayit</i> teach us? |
| Sat 22 Mar '25 | How can we practice <i>dibbuk haverim</i> in our own lives? |
| Sat 29 Mar '25 | How does performing <i>mitzvot</i> and respecting others help repair the world? |

Summer Term

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| Sat 26 Apr '25 | Times of Your Life: What are the times of a Jewish life? |
| Sat 3 May '25 | Times of Your Life: How do we make time into Jewish time? |
| Sat 10 May '25 | Making Time for the Jewish Week: What is a Jewish week? |
| Sat 17 May '25 | Making Time for the Jewish Week: What can Shabbat add to our Jewish week? |
| Sat 7 Jun '25 | Celebrating the Jewish Year: What is a Jewish year? |
| Sat 14 Jun '25 | Celebrating the Jewish Year: How do we make the year Jewish? |
| Sat 21 Jun '25 | The First Steps in a Jewish Life: In what unique ways do we take our first Jewish steps? |
| Sat 28 Jun '25 | Preparing to be a Jewish Adult: How do we prepare to become a Jewish adult? |

