



**CHABAD OLNEY
HEBREW SCHOOL OF
THE ARTS
PARENT HANDBOOK**

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parents,

What a joy it is to welcome you to a brand new year at Hebrew School of the Arts!

To our returning families—it's so special to have you back with us. And to our new families—welcome! We're so excited to have you join our community. We can't wait to get to know you and your children better as we begin this meaningful journey together.

Imagine a Hebrew School where your child wants to be. They come through the door smiling, eager to connect with friends, explore their heritage, and dive into creative, hands-on Jewish learning. They leave humming a new Hebrew song or proudly sharing a mitzvah they learned.

At Hebrew School of the Arts, Judaism comes to life. Our mission is to give your child a warm, engaging, and joyful connection to their Jewish identity—one they'll carry with pride throughout their lives. Through stories, art, song, holiday celebrations, Hebrew reading, and more, we aim to nurture their relationship with Hashem, inspire their connection to the Jewish people, and build a strong foundation of Jewish knowledge and values.

But we can't do it without you. When your child sees that Hebrew School matters to you, it becomes something they value too. Your involvement, enthusiasm, and partnership make all the difference—and we're so grateful for it.


May this year be filled with meaningful learning, joyful memories, and a deepening love for Judaism. We're honored to be part of your child's journey.

With warmest wishes for a happy, healthy, and inspiring New Year,
Devorah Stolik
Hebrew School Director



CHABAD OLNEY HEBREW SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CALENDAR 2025-2026


SEPTEMBER

- 10** Welcome Back to HS 
- 17** Regular classes
- 23** Rosh Hashana Children's Services 
- 24** Rosh Hashana 




OCTOBER

- 1** Yom Kippur 
- 2** Yom Kippur Children's Service 
- 8** Sukkot Family Celebration* 
- 14** Children's Hakafot Simchat Torah Celebration 
- 15** Simchat Torah 
- 22** Regular session
- 29** Regular session


NOVEMBER

- 5** Regular Session
- 12** Regular Session
- 19** Regular Session
- 26** Thanksgiving Break 

DECEMBER

- 3** Regular Session
- 10** Regular Session
- 14** Chanukah Celebration - Fair Hill 
- 16** Chanukah Fire Truck Parade 
- 17** Chanukah Family Celebration 
- 24** Winter Break 
- 31** Winter Break 




JANUARY

- 7** Regular Session
- 14** Regular Session
- 21** Regular Session
- 28** Family Education Day 



FEBRUARY

- 4** Regular Session
- 11** Regular Session
- 18** Regular Session
- 25** Regular Session



MARCH

- 1** Jewq Regional championship 
- 3** Purim Family Celebration 
- 4** Regular Session
- 11** Staff Professional Day 
- 18** Regular Session
- 20-22** JEWQ Shabbaton NYC
- 25** Regular Session

APRIL

- 1** Spring/Passover Break 
- 8** Spring/Passover Break 
- 15** Regular Session
- 22** Regular Session
- 29** Regular Session

MAY

- 6** Regular Session
- 13** Last Day End of year ceremony 
- 22** 10 Commandments 
Shavout Ice cream party

Code:  NO SCHOOL



PARENTS ATTEND IN HEBREW SCHOOL



FAMILY PROGRAMMING AT CHABAD

(*NOTE CLASS WILL BE AT CHABAD)

SHABBAT AT THE STOLIKS

GRADES K-2 - DEC 12 | GRADES 3-5 - NOV 21 | GRADES 6-7 - JAN 30

REGISTER AT:
WWW.JEWISHOLNEY.COM/HEBREWSSCHOOL
WEDNESDAYS, GRADES K-8TH:
4:30-6:45

AT FARQUHAR MIDDLE SCHOOL
17017 BATCHELLORS FOREST RD.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

At Hebrew School of the Arts, our goal is to create a learning experience that is joyful, meaningful, and relevant at every age and stage. Our carefully designed curriculum nurtures Jewish pride, knowledge, and connection—through creativity, hands-on exploration, and a warm sense of community.

MY GREATEST JEWISH TREASURE – GRADES K-2

Introduce your youngest learners to the warmth and beauty of Yiddishkeit.

Through heartwarming stories, cheerful songs, and engaging hands-on activities, My Greatest Jewish Treasure brings Jewish values and mitzvos to life in a way that is age-appropriate, joyful, and deeply meaningful. Each week, your child will discover a new “treasure” of Judaism—sparking excitement, pride, and a growing love for their heritage.

ISRAEL QUEST – GRADES 3-7

Now more than ever, our children need a strong, personal connection to Eretz Yisrael.

Israel Quest is a dynamic and immersive curriculum that helps students build a powerful bond with the Land of Israel—past, present, and future. Through interactive lessons, art, stories, and discussion, students will explore the geography, history, culture, and modern-day reality of Israel. They'll come home with impressive keepsakes and, more importantly, a heartfelt connection to our homeland that will stay with them for years to come.

COMMUNICATION

Effective communication between parents and school is very important to ensure that Hebrew School be a meaningful and pleasant experience for your child. You should feel free to contact the school with any matter that requires clarification.

Weekly Emails/Text: Each week, an email or text will be sent out with an update on your child's day in Hebrew School. The email will include progress, special events, pictures as well as important information.

Should you need to contact our staff during school hours, please contact: **Devorah Stolik at 301.660.6771**

HOMEWORK

Although homework is not mandatory, we strongly encourage your child to review at least 2x a week of their Hebrew reading. **Study Hall on zoom:** An Aleph Champ teacher will be available on Sunday mornings between 10 am and 12 pm for one and one Aleph Bet review. Students are able to book a weekly time slot to help keep their Hebrew reading in check.

OUR APPROACH

At Hebrew School of the arts we strive to stress the beauty and warmth of Judaism and its Mitzvot, providing a learning experience in an atmosphere of joy and liveliness. We place particular emphasis on the inclusion of Jewish ethics and values. Mutual tolerance and respect for fellow human beings are taught as basic principles of faith.

Besides for the weekly lessons, we have a host of other programs that we use to create the best experiences for your child:

Holiday Programming

Chabad hosts a multitude of exciting programs throughout the year, whether it's Chanukah, Purim, or Shavuot. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to these programs where the lessons they have learned in school are reinforced and where they are provided with an added Jewish social opportunity.

Friday Night Dinner

We're excited to invite each class to a special, intimate Shabbat dinner at the Stolik family home. This meaningful evening is a chance for students to experience the warmth, tradition, and joy of Shabbat in a real home setting—complete with delicious food, songs, and great company.

Mark your calendars! Check the calendar to see when your child's class is invited. It's sure to be a fun and memorable experience for all!

Extracurricular

Family days, Shabbat experiences, school contests, hands-on education, and family workshops as well as games, drama, and songs are blended into our curriculum.

JEWQ COMPETITION

Children in 150+ cities worldwide put their Jewish knowledge to the ULTIMATE test. High achievers win prizes and an exciting end-of-year trip! **In our school grades 3-6 will be participating and learning the information in school.** However, as experience has shown, for them to do well in the test and competition, it is integral that they review the material during the week, **outside of Hebrew School.** We encourage all parents to either (1) buy a JEWQ book for \$20 (You can keep it from year to year, plus it's a great book to keep.) or (2) borrow a JEWQ book from Hebrew school (\$10 deposit required, to be returned upon return of the book).

ALEPH CHAMP/HEBREW LANGUAGE READING & COMPREHENSION

Aleph Champ is a ground-breaking program that is the talk of the town. This system offers a new and innovative Hebrew reading technique that involves ten easily attainable levels for children to master. Students are motivated and have clear goals defined for them. In addition to reading they will be able to write and understand basic Hebrew vocabulary.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Communication is key to allowing us to help your child. Please let us know if there are any important factors in your child's health, such as allergies, vision, hearing, medications, etc. This will help us to be understanding and cater to his/her needs. Of course, the greatest care will be taken to maintain the confidentiality of the student/family.

Contagious Illness: Please notify us in the event of a contagious illness so that we may notify the parents of other children in the class to be aware of the symptoms.

Hebteu School of the Arts has someone certified in CPR/First Aid on duty at all times.

In case of minor injury, the first aider will treat the injury. For major injuries, G-d forbid, EMS will be called as well as the parents. In the event the parents/guardians cannot be reached, the emergency contact on file will be contacted. If necessary, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital..

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Arrival: Parents that are driving their children, should wait in line at the school, a staff will greet your child and usher them into the building. If you choose to walk your child into the building, please park in the parking lot

Dismissal: Students will be lined up in the hallway or outside weather permitting, parents please wait on the carpool lane as a staff member brings your child to the car.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is crucial to your child's success in Hebrew school. There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement, interest and attitude. Furthermore, coming late disturbs the entire class and disrupts your child's classroom routine. Any work that is missed due to attendance has to be made up.

Adhering to the attendance policy will be greatly appreciated and will help your child get the most out of Hebrew school.

COMMUNICATION

Your child's happiness is our top priority. Communication between parents and staff is very important and will make the Hebrew school experience more pleasant for your child.

If there are any issues that are bothering you concerning your child's education, do not disregard them. Please talk to us so that we can make your child more comfortable and alleviate any distress immediately.

We will be emailing important notices and newsletters to let you know what is happening during Hebrew school. Please check your email Hebrew school notices to monitor how your child is progressing.

UNEXPECTED SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In case of snow or other unexpected cancellations, expect an email or text message (no later) than 1.5 hours before the starting time of Hebrew School. We typically follow Montgomery County for afternoon/evening activities

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.

KIPPAH

All boys will receive a kippah to wear during Hebrew School. The Kippahs will be kept in school.

SNACK UPDATE

Instead of serving pizza, we'll be offering a light snack of cereal and milk—a classic kids' favorite! This simple and satisfying option will give your child the energy they need to enjoy the rest of the day's activities.

HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED

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

- Many of our students are involved in other extracurricular activities, i.e. sports, music lessons, etc. All these are important; however, please place priority on your child's Jewish education.
- Participation in Synagogue services and celebration of Jewish Holidays will greatly enhance your child's interest in Judaism and strengthen his/her Jewish identity. We invite all Hebrew School families to join us at Chabad for Shabbat and holiday services and programs. You belong—no membership needed!
- Show your child that you are interested in his/her Jewish education. Make a habit of asking your child/ren how their day was, and what they have learned. This will greatly encourage and help foster a strong Jewish identity and positive attitude.
- Always remember that informal Jewish education is one of the best motivators for creating a positive Jewish identity!