

# Kindergarten

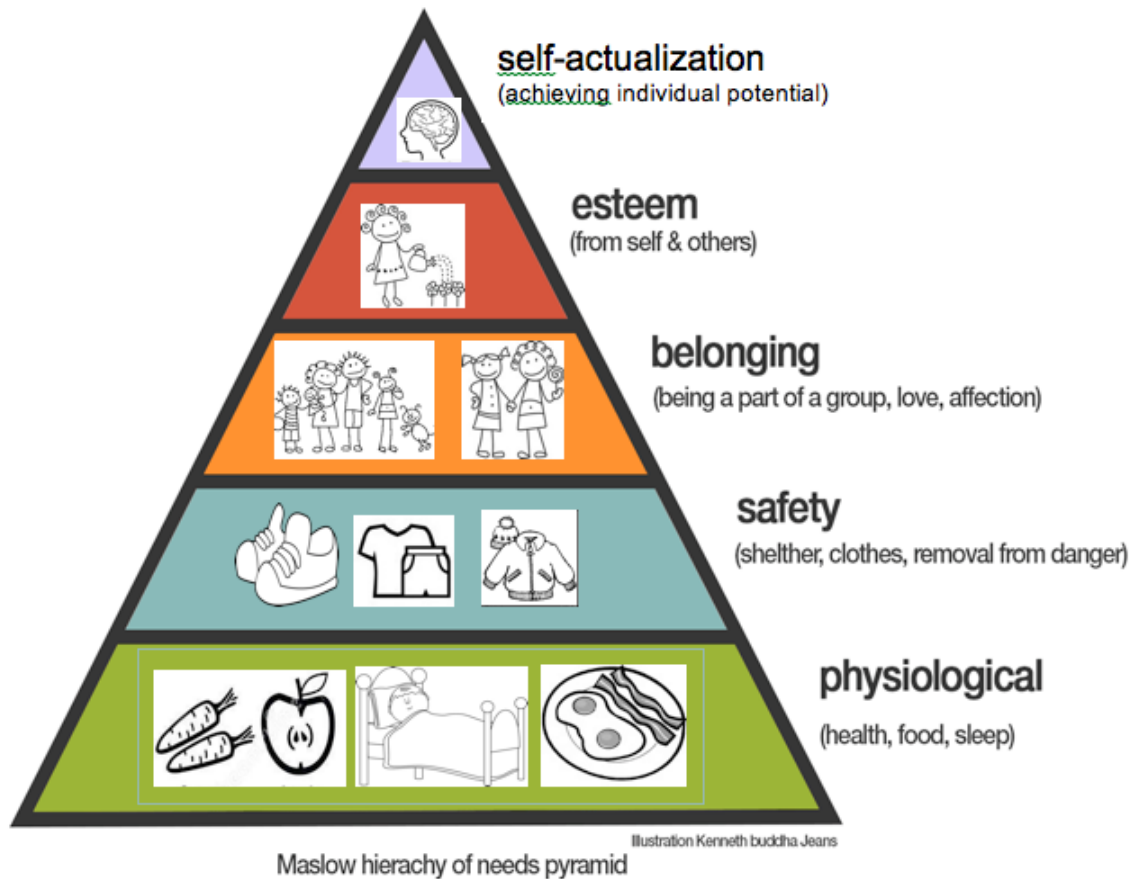
## Curriculum Night

5781-5782      2021-2022



חנך לנער על פי דרכו גם כי יזקין לא יסור ממנה  
Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old they will not turn from it

## The Importance of Snack and Extra Clothes



How to help your child be successful at school:

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a protein-filled breakfast.
- Send a snack of complex carbs and protein: veggies, fruit, dairy, whole grains.
- Dress in season-appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes.
- Keep an extra set of season-appropriate clothing and if possible, extra set of shoes.
- Send a family picture, and leave with a hug and a kiss.
- Arrange playdates.
- Ask about specific times when your child felt proud of his or herself.
- Praise hard work, persistence, and other skills instead of traits.

## Contact Information and Communication

### Classroom Teachers:

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### Hebrew and Judaics:

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We regularly attempt to connect with parents personally by updating you when you come by the classroom, calling you by phone, or sending an email. We will return your emails or phone calls within 24 hours Monday through Friday. Because we don't have timely access to email, please call the office for absences, pick up changes, and other pressing issues. If you have a quick note, feel free to text. For lengthier items, please email or call the school.

During Shabbat and major Jewish holidays, we ensure that everyone enjoys a day of rest by not emailing or phoning.

A few times per month, you will receive communication about your child in the form of a newsletter informing you about our classroom life or personal communication by email about your child.

We also regularly update your child's online portfolio on Seesaw. Your child will have his or her own learning journal, and you can receive notifications when new items are added. It's completely private – only you can see your child's journal outside of class. Please see attached directions to sign up and download the app.

We will have two parent-teacher conferences, one in the fall and one in the spring, to meet with you in person and share about your child as a student. You can sign up for times on the new Mirowitz app. Please make sure to sign up for a separate Hebrew conference time as well.

### **Literacy Education**

Students will become readers, authors, and better spellers through:

1. Units of Study in Phonics: Phonics is the building of letter-sound knowledge. It is the #1 predictor of strong readers and writers.
2. Writer's Workshop: Children become writers as they begin to draw, then label, and develop sentences.
3. Heggerty: Children have daily practice working with isolating and manipulating the smallest units of sounds.

### **Mathematical Education**

Students will continue to develop their number and operation skills, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and probability skills through daily math activities with our Montessori math materials. We also integrate math into our science and social studies curricula.

### **Science**

Students will develop and strengthen observation, experimentation, deduction, and journaling skills through our science curriculum. This curriculum includes units on plants and animals, weather, forces and machines, and pond life.

### **Social Studies**

Kindergartners will begin to develop an awareness of their position in their community, time, and space by creating a classroom community, utilizing calendars, exploring the neighborhood, and maps. *Let's Find Out* is a magazine that is utilized several times per month. The focus is current events/holidays, emotions, seasons, social studies, etc.

### **Judaics**

Your child will have the exciting opportunity to study Torah from the first book of Torah - *Bereshit* (Genesis)! We will study the story of creation and the development of our Jewish family tree, starting with Avraham, Sarah, Yitzchak, Rivka, Leah, Ya'akov, Esav, and Yosef. We will focus on stories such as Avraham's developing relationship with God, the incredible *chessed* (kindness) he demonstrates by welcoming guests, and that Rivka's shows at the well. We will explore Ya'akov and Esav's conflicts and family dynamics in the Yosef story. Your children will participate in deep discussions and learn that there are countless lessons we can derive from characters in Torah that apply to our lives today. In addition, your children will learn, through hands-on experiences, about the history of the holidays as well as the customs, blessings and traditions of celebrations.

Our goal is for students to see *tefillah* (prayer) as an enriching part of the day, which can lead to self-reflection and inspire them to “live justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before God.” Proverbs 22:6 Kindergarteners will also learn melodies, choreography, and symbolism of the *havdallah* service and will be exposed to and gain basic familiarity with melodies and meanings of *Modei Ani*, *Yotzer Or*, and *Sh'ma* from the morning liturgy.

## ***Ivrit* - Hebrew**

### **Gan**

In kindergarten students are introduced to the "sights and sounds" of the Hebrew language. Instruction is in Hebrew so that students are immersed in the language. Listening to Hebrew spoken in an accessible and comprehensible way is the primary means by which students acquire the language. Lessons are taught in a joyful atmosphere through song, story, art, movement, imitation, conversation, and repetition. Students will learn many new vocabulary words and language structures. They will develop pre-literacy skills through exposure to the print form of the alef-bet letters and their associated sounds. They will also become familiar with a large body of Israeli children's literature and other elements of Israeli culture. Focus topics include students' immediate surroundings—self, family, numbers, colors, weather and food. It is our goal that by the end of the year some students reach the “Novice-Mid” level of proficiency in listening and speaking on the language proficiency scale established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. At this skill level, students can understand and repeat words and phrases learned within the topics listed above.

## Our Classroom Life

### Attendance

**Your child must arrive at school at their designated arrival time.** Students will start their day by putting away their belongings, saying hello to friends, and other activities that help them get ready for learning. Morning meeting begins promptly at 8:30. Arriving on time sets the pace for the day and allows for a successful transition from home to school.

### Movement

Based upon research, movement is key for academic success in the classroom. We will be incorporating aerobic movement and/or yoga as active learning techniques throughout the day.

### Birthday Celebration

In Kindergarten, we have a short (15 minute) celebration on or around your child's birthday. This involves a parent(s) joining us on Zoom and reading your child's favorite book to the class. Also, your child may share a favorite baby photo, lovey, stuffed animal, and/or toy. Unfortunately we have a no-food birthday policy but you are welcome to send a special treat for your own child! Thank you!

### Homework

Please read to your child daily. From time to time, your child will have a special assignment, such as observing the moon, which will be shared with you through our class newsletter.

### Snacks

Kindergarten students will eat a snack every morning and are strongly encouraged to bring a daily snack to eat mid-afternoon. To ensure proper nutrition for optimal learning, to contribute to your child's independence, and to respect the food policies of the school, please assist your child in choosing a snack from the **Fab Five: fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, dairy snack, whole-grain pretzels or crackers, or nut-free granola bars.** These choices provide variety for Kosher observance, allergy restrictions, and health requirements. This also limits the temptation of sharing snacks and guarantees the safety of every child. The school is not able to provide snacks for children. **WE ARE A NUT AND PEANUT FREE SCHOOL.**

### Masks

Students are expected to wear masks throughout the entirety of the day, with the exception of lunch or snack. Please send your child to school with extra masks to keep with them in the case of a lost or dirty mask. Please practice healthy mask habits at home to ensure your child's comfort with this new practice at school.

## Fab Five Snacks

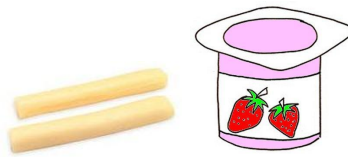
Foods high in protein are great for the brain!



Vegetables



Fruit



Dairy Snacks













Whole Grain Crackers/Pretzels



Nut-Free Granola Bars

## Weekly Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <p>Show your school spirit and wear your Mirowitz shirt!</p>  <p>Although we do not have PE on Mondays it's best to wear tennis shoes everyday.</p> <p>Music with Morah Betti</p>	 <p>PE with Coach Lohmann</p> <p>Technology with Morah Andrea</p>	 <p>PE with Coach Lohmann</p>  <p>Library with Safranit Fran Bring back library books</p> <p>Music with Morah Betti</p>	 <p>PE with Coach Lohmann</p> <p>Art with Mrs. Burack</p> <p>Although art smocks are worn it's best not to wear your favorite clothes.</p>	 <p>PE with Coach Lohmann</p>  <p>Wear Blue and/or white for Shabbat</p>  <p>Bring Tzedakah</p>  <p>Wear Blue Jeans or Pants. We go into the woods.</p>



