

**CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL**

310 NO. MAIN STREET  
Telephone (978) 470-2288

ANDOVER, MA 01810  
*e-mail: info@chabadmv.com*

*B'H*

June, 2008

Dear Parents:

Thank you for your interest in Chabad Hebrew School. Enclosed please find a registration package which includes our curriculum, information about the Hebrew School and a registration application.

At Chabad Hebrew School, we firmly believe that your child's Jewish learning experience should be fun and interesting.

We are enthusiastic about the beautiful lessons that Judaism has to offer and we hope to transmit that excitement to the children through the excellent Hebrew School program at Chabad.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 978-470-2288.

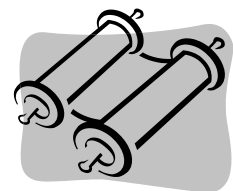
Looking forward to a great year together.

Sincerely yours,

**Faigy Bronstein**  
Director

B”H

# CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL MERRIMACK VALLEY



**PARENTS HANDBOOK**

*"Excellence in Jewish Education"*



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### Welcome to Chabad Hebrew School

The Chabad Hebrew School offers a warm and lively atmosphere where children can attain a unique and exciting awareness of their Jewish identity.

Indeed, a child equipped with a Torah education and a feeling for Judaism's beautiful teachings, traditions and historical lessons, is a child better equipped to face the awesome moral challenges of today's society.

Our school's most underlying approach is for the children to enjoy the time spent at Hebrew School so that they are left with positive feelings and fond memories of their Jewish education. Our program is thus carefully blended with songs, games, incentives, arts and crafts, audio-visual presentations, dramatics, field trips, family celebrations and other exciting co-curricular activities.

We encourage you, as parents to get involved, ask questions and keep in touch with our school. You may discover that your child's Hebrew School education at Chabad will add an enriching spiritual dimension to the lives of your entire family.

## **The goals of our program**

- To attain a strong feeling of identity with their heritage and to develop a sense of Love and Pride in being Jewish.
- Gain Knowledge and understanding of the Mitzvot, traditions and practices that Judaism stands for, study the morals, values and ethical behavior mandated by the Torah, and experience a hands-on approach to all holidays.
- Master the skills of Hebrew reading and gradually develop the ability to understand basic Hebrew words, emphasizing prayers so that the students will feel comfortable when attending service.
- Identify with the Land of Israel as their own land and develop and interest in issues relating to Israel and its inhabitants.
- Discover and explore the incredible history of the Jewish people and its relevance for all times.
- Allow students to express their opinion and questions about G-d, Torah and religion and to have them understand the importance and relevance of Torah in today's day and age.
- Attain a "Jewish" perspective on life and maintain Jewish feelings and involvement beyond the years at Hebrew School and ultimately perpetuate this onto future generations.

## **Information and Fees**

**Ages:** Our program is designed for boys and girls ages 5 – 13

**Hours:** Classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

**Registration:** To register, fill out an application and mail it to our office. You will have an interview with the director to discuss all the details of the Hebrew School. There is a \$50 non-refundable registration and book fee due upon registration.

**Tuition:** Our tuition for the school year is \$700. There is an additional \$50 registration & book fee per child registered. Please note: registration for your child/ren can not be processed without fully completed registration forms and payment.

**Scholarships:** Limited scholarships are available. Please call our office for scholarship requests.

**Communications:** We strongly encourage close communication between school staff and parents. We are deeply concerned about the progress of each individual student, and would be more than willing to spend time discussing your child's progress with you. Please don't hesitate to call us at 978-470-2288 should any issues or questions arise.

**Report Cards:** Your child will be receiving two progress report cards throughout the course of the year – December and June. You will be asked to sign and return them to his/her teacher.

**Parent Teacher Conferences:** In January you will be invited to a parent-teacher conference which will enable parents to discuss the progress of their children with the teachers personally and individually.

**Encouragement:** The greatest gift that you as a parent can give your child is constant encouragement. Too much is never enough!

**Attendance:** Our school was developed for families who take their Judaism seriously. The first step in the right direction is for parents and children to realize that attendance is the key to a successful school year. Children who take days off not only miss important schoolwork, but it also creates an atmosphere of “Hebrew School isn’t really that important”. Parents should schedule all appointments, enrichment programs and extra-curricular activities on non-school days.

**Punctuality:** Children are not to be dropped off more than 10 minutes before school. Be sure your child arrives to school on time. Children who arrive late miss the daily prayers and other important school work.

**Dress Code:** All boys are required to wear a Kippa during class sessions. Hebrew School will initially provide one at no charge. It is the responsibility of the student to bring a Kippa with him to school each week.

**Book Policy:** The \$50.00 book fee includes the students’ workbooks, folders, and very own Prayer book. All textbooks are provided to your child by our school “on loan”. This means that the books are made available to your child to use in class and take home throughout the school year, but must be returned at year’s end. If your child should lose any of this/her books, you will be charged our cost per book to have it replaced. Workbooks are the property of every student.

**Supplies:** Students should bring with them to school the following: A pen, pencil, eraser, and highlighter. We will supply them with folders, to be filled with worksheets, and stencils throughout the year. One folder will be for Torah, History, Holidays, and Jewish Values

and Ethics. The second folder will be for Hebrew Language, and Prayer Book Hebrew. The children must bring both folders with them to every Hebrew School lesson.

**Tzedokah:** Tzedokah (charity) is a concept, which is basic to Judaism. Our school attempts to develop a commitment among our students to share with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few pennies a day to charity. Parents are asked to provide young children with a coin for Tzedokah. Older children should give Tzedokah from their allowance money.

**Mitzvah Note:** For the younger classes teachers may ask to send in a Mitzvah note. This is a note that tells something special that the child has done. Children really look forward to hearing what their parents have to say. So please be sure to send one if it's requested.

**Snack:** Hebrew School has 15 minute recess which time our students have a chance to catch a breather and enjoy a snack. We provide a kosher snack. We do not allow any outside foods. Please ensure that your children understand and respect this rule!

## **Curriculum**

### **Hebrew Language /Alef Bet**

Hebrew vocabulary is a basic part of the program – children will learn Hebrew words related to current themes.

Our Hebrew reading curriculum uses the latest educational breakthrough. Based on the martial arts motivational philosophy of color coded levels and testing, Aleph Champ provides excitement and inspiration, leading the students into a winning cycle of learning. The Hebrew alphabet as well as the vowels and word formations are divided into 10 colored levels. The students start out as “White Aleph Champs”, working their way up the colors of the rainbow to be a “Black Aleph Champ” like their teachers. Games, cards, logs and rewards make every step along this remarkable journey a fun and educational success.

### **Torah and Jewish history**

Our Torah class is a review of the weekly torah portion. This subject will provide our students with an overview of each portion, its highlights, and practical lessons that apply to our daily life. Our History course will take the students from Creation to the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. The older classes will also be discussing the periods of the Spanish Inquisition and the Holocaust.

### **Holidays**

Lessons on each Jewish holiday will fill the calendar as we proceed from Rosh Hashanah and the High Holidays through the holiday of Shavuot. The students will have a deeper understanding of each holiday and its traditions and customs. Chabad Hebrew School will also host holiday celebrations for our students and their families.

### **Mitzvot: Why We Do What We Do**



Why do women light Shabbat candles? Why is Shabbat such a special day in the week? Why do we have a Mezuzah on our doors? Why is the bride veiled at a Jewish wedding? This class will teach basic Mitzvot and provide insightful meaning of more complex Mitzvot.

### **Current Events and Israel**

The students of Chabad Hebrew School will follow current events concerning Jewish issues and Israel. Students are encouraged to bring in newspaper clippings, and discussions will follow. This will keep students well informed of the world and its relationship to the Jewish people.

### **Arts and Crafts**

Art projects are incorporated into our curriculum to add excitement to the upcoming holidays and Mitzvot. Our projects will have Jewish holiday and Mitzvot themes and will add a taste of Jewish life to your home.

### **Extra Curricular**

Chabad Hebrew School will offer a variety of extra curricular activities such as special guests, Shabbatons, field trips, contest, etc. These activities will allow our students to experience Judaism in this entirety, both in and out of the classroom. A point system base on in-class and out-of-class participation and involvement will allow students to reach different award levels. More details will follow once the school year begins.

## **Chabad Hebrew School Enhancements**

### **Bar and Bat Mitzvah**

As the students near the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, they can be given special training to prepare them for this special event.

For more information, scheduling, and fees please call Rabbi Bronstein at 978-470-2288.

## CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL REGISTRATION APPLICATION

<b>BASIC INFORMATION</b>			
Last Name:		First Name:	
Hebrew Name:			
Age:	Date of birth:	Grade entering:	
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip code:	
Home Phone:		Cell:	
E-Mail:			
<b>PREVIOUS EDUCATION</b>			
Hebrew School:			
From:		To:	
Secular School:			
From:		To:	
<b>PARENT INFORMATION</b>			
Father Name:		Hebrew Name:	
Work Address:			
Work Phone:		Occupation:	
Cell:		E-Mail:	
Mother Name:		Hebrew Name:	
Work Address:			
Work Phone:		Occupation:	
Cell:		E-Mail:	
<b>Synagogue Affiliation:</b>			
Does your child read basic Hebrew?   no <input type="checkbox"/> poor <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> started this year <input type="checkbox"/>			
Is there any special medical or any other information regarding your child that our school should be aware of?			
Were there any conversions or adoptions in your family? If yes, please explain:			
<b>IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:</b>			
Name:		Phone:	
Relationship:			

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed \$50.00 non-refundable registration fee per child

I hereby permit my child to participate in all school activities. In case of emergency, I authorize the school to have my child taken care by a physician in any way the situation may call for.

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

