

Dear TBS Families,

Shana tova! According to the Jewish poet, Jane Hirshfield, "The heat of autumn is different from the heat of summer. One ripens apples, the other turns them to cider." Here at Temple Beth Sholom, it has been a sweet and fruitful start to our school year, and a true joy seeing all the smiling faces of our students, families and friends. Already, we have numerous successful initiatives underway and many more exciting events and programs on the horizon.

Just a few weeks ago, we held our first **TBS Shabbat Babayit** experience of the new year. Our Kita Dalet students (4th grade) congregated for a pool party, as well as **a musical pre-Shabbat Oneg** with Cantor Barnoy and Rabbi Resnick. It was a perfect opportunity to come together as a Jewish community and we are grateful to the Dubner family for hosting us at their home. Also, a heartfelt thank you to the Bergman's for opening their home to our "Limud-Torah Study Group", where Makom High School students recently gathered for a **Spiritual Shabbat evening**.

As many of you know, TBS initiatives are rooted in community and hands-on, creative Jewish learning. We value what connects us and strive to develop meaningful relationships with our students and families. Whether welcoming students into TBS, or bringing TBS to you, our educators, clergy and staff are constantly seeking new and engaging ways to bring everyone together in a meaningful manner.

In these modern automated and often disconnected days, it is important to remember that Jewish education is grounded in action and accountability. From Bnai Mitzvah and Tikkun Olam to our countless religious and holiday traditions, Jewish people are doers. We *enact* our values. Likewise, our TBS services encourage students to take the lead, empowering each child to feel ownership of the sacred prayers and rituals. As this is a learner's service, we welcome even our youngest learners to "step up" and contribute, while simultaneously recognizing that education is a process and everyone learns at their own pace.

Looking ahead, we are eager to begin our Mishpacha Family Shabbat services following the conclusion of the High Holidays on October 22nd. To create a memorable experience for all, we have woven a unique theme into each service. For example, our October Mini and Mishpacha services will have a Fall Festival theme. In the spirit of engagement and collaboration, we are open to student and community suggestions for future themed services and new ideas. Don't hesitate to give your input.

As you can imagine, there is a great deal of planning required to make our programs, initiatives, and services a success. I am beyond grateful to our talented educators who bring us together and help create a warm, caring TBS community. Specifically, our Mishpacha Family Minyan leader, Mr. Joseph Soffer, who works to create such vibrant and engaging activities. Further, we have a very special service for Mini Minyan participants (ECC, Pre-Gan and Gan students). Our minyanim leaders and TBS educators, Julie Gittlin, Stephanie Whalen and song leader Jonathan Kapilian put together a wonderfully interactive musical and spiritual experience for all. If you have yet to attend one of our Mishpacha Family Services, please join us!

We would like to thank all the leaders for the High Holiday services this year for helping to create such a special holiday experience for our students and their families: Joseph Soffer, Julie Gittlin, Stephanie Whalen, Jonathan Kapillian, Susan Daniels, Gillian Bartell, and Molly Bartell.

This Fall Gazette, Issue # 2, is designed to give you a taste of our exciting Religious School and Makom High School programs plus offer a sneak-peak at our future programming. In addition, it is our pleasure to highlight TBS students and their incredible accomplishments—from our youngest learners to our high school students, and everyone in between.

Finally, a huge "Toda Rabba" to Janet Jeddah, our educator and administrative assistant, who helped with the creation, formatting and publication of this edition of the Gazette.

Wishing everyone a G'mar Chatima Tova, and a delightful fall season.

Thank Solonus

Sharon Solomon Director of Education, Community Engagement & Development

Oct/Nov 2022—Issue 2

Tishrei-Heshvan 5783



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TBS Religious School Meets the Sofer (Torah Scribe) Rabbi-Sofer Gustavo Surazski

TBS Religious School students from Kita Dalet through Zayin (grades 4-7) had the privilege to watch and experience with Rabbi-Sofer Gustavo Surazski this past Sunday, October 2nd how Jewish texts are written. The students were able to see first-hand how Rabbi-Sofer (*scribe*) Surazski uses his tools to create a mezuzah scroll that we later affixed in the Religious School hallway. It was a powerful hands-on experience for both the students and the staff.

A sofer ົງລຳວັ (scribe) is a Jewish scholar who has the knowledge of the law and is able to draft legal documents such as "ketuba" (marriage certificate) and "get" (certificate of divorce) and also serves as the professional who writes the Megilot, Sifrei Torah, Tefillin, etc.

Rabbi-Sofer Surazski has thus farwritten a total of 16 complete Torah scrolls. It takes about a year for a scribe to write a Torah by hand. The Torah, the inheritance of the Jewish people, moves, motivates and unites us as a nation. For 3,000 years we have learned to live our lives through the teachings, guidance and message of Torah. We are always searching for new ways to bring ourselves closer to it.

Everyone was fascinated by the precision of his handwriting and his talent and skill in choreographing each letter into a work of art.

A modern scribe is called a Sofer Stam סּוֹפֵר סתיים ; the letters of which stand for Sefer Torah הַפִּילִין, Tefillin הַפִּילִין and Mezuzah מַזוּזָה

A scribe cannot write a Torah scroll from memory, and must refer to a written book called a *tikkun* (correction guide). Whenever the sofer is about to write the name of God, he focuses on the task by declaring out loud his intention to honor God by writing the holy name.

שלאל ישראל יהוה אלחינו יהוה אחד ואהד אה שלאל יהוה אחד ידיווה אלקוב כל לבבר ובכל ופשר ובל מאדן היה יהדברים האלה אשר אבי מצור היה על לבבר ושנת בינור ודברים בשבאר בבי בשבאר ביהוק בינורק ובליכת בדירן ידיון לעוין רבבריבה על כי מזויה בייתו בשלאר ידיון היה אם שלטל תשמלא אל מצוי אשר אני ידיר ומלקוט איספר זעלוב ועיירשי אחד ארצים בעליו עליב בעידך לבהסמר ואל לארוי מאלי ארציה שלאר ארצים עליב בעידך לבהסמרון לאבר ואירוה אליוה אליירשו ועלדיו ידיר ומלקוט איספר זעלוב ועיירשי אחד ארצים בעליו עליב בעידך לבהסמרון אול אבר ואליוה ואדרתם מהרה מלל הארין הבבה אעריהה לארוים אלייו ואברתם מהרה מלל הארין הבבה אעריהה לאריהוה אליוה ואברתם מהרה מלל הארין הבבה אעריהה לאריוה אליום ארצים ארב ארג לעוים כליום ליורים בדירך ובעלפבין לעוילו ביומים בעיברין בעיק בעליביר לעוין יבומיים נויים בעים ווי בעים ליה אדלים א של עשבי יהוה לאבהיכם לית לאליות לייהוי

(top right) Rabbi Surazski demonstrates how a letter is written. (middle right) The completed mezuzah is affixed in the Religious School (bottom right) Demonstration for the Religious School staff. (bottom left) With Kita Vav. Kita Vav received a special gift of their full Hebrew names written on parchment and attached to their siddurim. (left) Mezuzah scroll (below) Tefillin scroll (below) Torah scroll.



The ShinShin Program at TBS ภาพู ภาษู

By Sharon Solomon

We are excited this year to be part of the Shinshin program from the Israel Center of Long Island and be able to host a shinshin here at Temple Beth Sholom.

"What IS a shinshin?"

A shinshin is an Israeli teen who has elected to spend a gap year abroad (between high school and the army) in service (sh'nat sherut שָׁרָת שֶׁרוֹת) a year of service = shin shin שש). Their job is to bring to our students a familiarity of life in Israel in creative ways through their perspective. Our hope is to familiarize, inspire, and educate our students about Israel. If we cannot bring our students to Israel, then we will bring Israel to our students with our shinshin.

Our shinshin for this year is Stav Babel Pour. She will be working in our Religious School and our Makom High



School every Sunday and/or Monday. We are very excited to have Stav bring her talents and her experience in the Israeli Scouts (Tzofim) in informal education and activities which she can then utilize here with our students.

If you wish to host Stav in your home for a meal or during a holiday, please reach out to us at the Religious School at religiousschool@tbsroslyn.org or to me at sharonsolomon@tbsroslyn.org.

If you are interested in hosting for a longer period of time such as three to four months, you may reach out to Maya Sharon who is the Shinshin Program Coordinator for the Sid Jacobson JCC at Msharon@sjjcc.org.

We have had successful experiences with our past shinshinim at TBS where they have cooked Israeli foods with our students, baked challot, listened to American and Israeli music together, talked about life today in Israel, played games and shared virtual tours of different parts of the land.

We are excited to begin 2022 with Stav and to welcome her into the community. Please be our partners and welcome her into our community and into your home so that you can get to know her personally and she can get to know you and your family. This program is all about making connections for your family with Stav and now have family in Israel, too.



(below)

ShinShin Stav Babelpour conducts a "getting to know you ice breaker" with the students of Kita Gimel—3rd Grade



ACTIV8! Teens Architects of Change

By Sharon Solomon

What does it mean in today's world, here in Roslyn, to become an architect of change?

I invite you to take a moment and explore with me what our Makom High School ACTIV8! teens are doing, and why is it so important for them to be involved in the needs of the community.

Our teens live a mostly sheltered life where food, a place to live, clothing and the basic necessities of life are readily available. They recognize how fortunate they are to live under these favorable circumstances.

What have our teens discovered?

Our teens have learned that only a few miles from their home there are families living with food insecurity. They are curious as to how something like this could happen to a family that looks just like theirs and in homes very similar to theirs. They have learned that an illness or a loss of a job can devastate a family's stability from what was once easily manageable to possibly being able to pay their mortgage and taxes but not enough to sustain the basic necessities of life. They have also discovered that a few miles from our synagogue there are multiple food banks and shelters that service all areas of Long Island.

Our Makom High School ACTIV8! teens recognize that this is a wake up call and that the need for help is greater than ever. They also recognize that to truly understand the problem at hand, they must educate themselves about the issues revolving around food instability.

What are our ACTIV8! board members doing so far?

The ACTIV8! Board, [co-Presidents, Anna Dubner and Sophia Gartenlaub, Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Emma Zacharias, and Social Media Manager, Isabella Safier] met to set their mission and vision for the year (with advisers, Sharon Solomon and Silvia Kogan). They set aside time to meet with mentors in the community such as with TBS V.P. of Tikkun Olam, Phyllis Pellman to help educate themselves. They received reports from the Sid Jacobson JCC Food Pantry of their needs and have embarked on their first collection of breakfast cereal boxes. The first collection of over 200 boxes which has already been delivered, has been a tremendous success for the SJ-JCC Food Pantry.

Our teens then moved from educating themselves to educating the community, including the TBS Religious School students from Pre-Gan to Zayin (seventh grade).

How to educate and empower the community

They recognize that education is the key to empowerment and leadership. They've learned that they need to show up and talk about food insecurity in multiple ways. They made a presentation at our schoolwide tefillah assembly, created flyers and then made follow-up visits to each classroom to encourage the students to participate in this worthwhile collection. The teens recognize that it is about showing up and being present and continuously doing the necessary follow up and leg work. They recognize that leadership is not just about vision but about action, showing up, being consistent in participation and motivation and building relationships.

ACTIV8! has the power to change the world and to be a positive force of change. If you would like to be a part of this incredible group, it's not too late. Email ACTIV8! at makom@tbsroslyn.org with the subject: ACTIV8! and we will provide you with all the links for registering. You may also call us directly at the office at (516) 621-2288 ext.118/119/125/133 and you may speak with Sharon Solomon or Silvia Kogan.

Our next ACTIV8! event will take place on **Sunday, October 23rd from 10-12 pm**. We will be meeting in the Mercaz (near Lifelong Learning). We cannot wait to see you and for you to become a part of all the wonderful work that this group is doing. This is truly an *avodat kodesh*, a sacred endeavor, in helping our local community as well as in helping our TBS2U initiatives for our homebound and elderly.





(right top) ACTIV8! Board addresses the Religious School student body at their opening assembly on 9/11/22 about the most recent ACTIV8!initiative and the Religious School "Mitzvah of the Month"—the breakfast cereal collection campaign.

(left) ACTIV8! Members and advisors, Sharon Solomon, seated left and Silvia Kogan, seated right.

(right bottom) ACTIV8! Planning meeting with Phyllis Pellman, TBS V.P. for Tikkun Olam on Sunday, 9/18/22. Phyllis spoke with our students about the positive connection that TBS has made with the local JCC Food Bank in collecting items sorely needed for those in need in our area.





TBS Shabbat Experiences

(Left) Kita Dalet students enjoyed welcoming Shabbat with Cantor Barnoy and Sharon Solomon and their families as they gathered at a fellow student home for a Shabbat Experience/Pool Party.



Kita Dalet shows off their holiday pull-apart challot that they made under the instruction of Morah Sharona (our "dough-2-go lady")

By Silvia Kogan

The amazing religious education your child is currently receiving at the TBS Religious School gives your child a strong academic foothold in the Jewish world. However, we also hope that they will make Jewish friends and become socially immersed in Jewish life and this way, strengthen their identity and

relationship with Tem-Beth ple Sholom and

We are delighted to announce that we will be offering such informal educational and social programs through our Youth Group. Experiences like the ones your children will receive through the frame of a youth group program will provide them with a strong desire to be involved in the Jewish community for years to come and hopefully, make friends that will last a lifetime.

While at Youth Group, your children will discover a wide variety of meaningful and fun activities including Jewish holiday games, baking/cooking, and arts & crafts.

We are excited to start the year off with new, fun, and exciting programming for this

Welcome to TBS – Machar Youth Groups its community. For grades Gimel-Daled-Hay (grades 3/4/5)

> school year 2022-23 that will be led by our Religious School staff members: Morah Stephanie Whalen, Morah Sharona Abraham, and Mora Nira Binyamini.

> We will meet monthly for a lounge night and program on selected Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:15 pm promptly.



Kita Hay students, Joey Bank and Spencer Goldberg Show off their holiday pull-apart challot that they made under the instruction of Morah Yochi Thum

> Our opening event will be held on TUESDAY, October 25th.

The schedule for this year is as follows:

- Meeting 1: Tuesday, October 25
- Meeting 2: Tuesday., November 22
- Meeting 3: **Tuesday, December 13**
- Meeting 4: **Tuesday, January 24**
- Meeting 5: Tuesday, February 28
- Meeting 6: **Tuesday, March 28**

The yearly cost of this program is \$85 per student, plus dinner (\$5 per Tuesday)

To register, copy the link below and also look out for our email with a clickable link.

https://tbsroslyn.shulcloud.com/form/ vouth-group-2022.html

We look forward to seeing your child then! 5



By Hanna Harel

Temple Beth Sholom is extremely proud to be in our fourth year of the Legacy Heritage—Better Together Grant with our seventh-grade students and The Atria at Roslyn Harbor. This successful program, lovingly referred to as "The Buddy Program", has created a strong interpersonal connection between our seventh-grade students and the seniors at the center. Through monthly meetings, projects, and programs, students have found a way to

Buddies Program at The Atria on Roslyn Harbor

give of themselves as they foster meaningful relationships with their senior buddies.

At the beginning of the year we have an "Icebreaker Session" where our students are paired with a senior friend or friends and get to know them through planned activities . Each month our students attend creative organized programs with their "buddies" at the Atria. Students have enjoyed a variety of bonding programs such as making challah creations together, painting, shucking pearls and many other valuable experiences. During these sessions, magically, student and senior relationships flourish!

By year's end, students and seniors have solidified bonds and have learned with and from each other. It is our fervent desire that by giving each student these real-life experiences, our Jewish traditions and the love of giving back to the community will always be a part of your child's life.





The 75 Words Initiative for the Religious School

By Janet Jeddah

SHALOM! שָׁלוֹם FALAFEL שָׁלוֹם KEN לא Most America Jews have a love of Israel; its food, its culture, its people and accomplishments. But how many of us are able to understand the Hebrew language, let alone be able to converse with another in Hebrew?

Our goal this year, in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel in 1948, is to reintroduce the "every day" Hebrew language to our students. This task goes beyond the words we need to understand our prayers. We hope to be able to create an **otzar milim** עוצר מלים, treasure of words as it is referred to in Hebrew, or vocabulary as we know the word, that our students will be able to internalize and run with and hopefully develop further as their connections with the State of Israel grow stronger over the years.

Each class in the Religious School has been tasked to create a vocabulary list, of 75 words (for 75 years), appropriate for their grade. The best way we know to do this is to incorporate these words into the every day nature of our lessons. For example, someone sneezes and your response will be *la briut* אות God bless you, or you ask a student to close the *delet* לְּבָּרְיאות door to the classroom. We even introduced a Hebrew Through Movement class this year where our students are able to practice NIA bringing together body mind and soul—and Hebrew. Below are some of the moments of Kita Hay students learning its moves.





Everyone likes to hear a good story. How much better then, than to hear a story and learn some Hebrew while enjoying the tale?

Our very own Morah Vered Wolfstein is spearheading a new TBS Religious School initiative. It's called, "Sh'at Sipoor" אָעַת סָפּוּר Story Time.

Through story telling, props, repetition, song and body movement, Morah Vered weaves a tale while at the same time infuses it with a Hebrew base from which to grow.

We hope that in no time our youngest students will gain fluency in some basic Hebrew language—just in time for Israel@75 fun!





Aides to the Religious School

Meet our Madrichim!!

By Sharon Solomon and Janet Jeddah

Madrichim מְדְרִיכָם are guides. Their role is to assist the teachers in their assigned classrooms and help guide the learning of the students in their charge. Last year we began to incorporate some instruction for our madrichim in conjunction with their assignments. The program was such a success that we are now looked upon as an example of how to train madrichim/Teacher Assistants which has led to a very exciting development for this year.

TBS Religious School is now the recipient of a two year Better to Serve grant designed to help us train our classroom madrichim in ways we could only dream of before!

The grant funds will be utilized as follows; two Sundays each month, a time will be set aside before the start of Religious School classes to train the madrichim in first aid as well as in basic child development. We will now have the funds to work with child and school psychologists and give them the support they will need for dealing with a variety of situations in beneficial ways. Each madrich or madricha will be trained in age-appropriate techniques for their specific classes. They will be given tools to allow them to become "experts" in the needs of the specific age and grade of the students they serve. They will be given the tools to understand effective learning methodology, child development and psychology and how to aid both a teacher as well as a learner.

The newly designed Madrichim program also allows and empowers its participants to take on the unique opportunity to be a leader within the Religious School. The best part of their jobs is that they are not just assisting in a class as before, but they are now role models for our younger students while refining their own skills. They are also influencing future generations of young leaders in our Jewish community.

This new and improved program helps us to complete the circle of student-mentor-guide-facilitator which leads to Jewish involvement in community and leadership in a very deep and meaningful way.







Introducing the 2022-23 Religious School Classes



Hay



Vav







CALLING ALL ECC, PRE-GAN, GAN CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES

JOIN US FOR AN EPIC SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION



MONDAY, OCTOBER 17 5:30-6:30 PM

DINNER! SINGING! DANCING!



מנין הילדים ומשפחה בבית שלום

Mishpacha Family Service

October 22nd, 2022 at 10:15 am In the Chapel

FALL FESTIVAL

Led by Joseph Soffer, Sharon Solomon, & Roya Mizrahi

Join us for a Holiday Harvest themed Shabbat service Filled with Torah, games, prizes and fun all in a Fall theme.

> For students in grades 1-7 and their families. Receive Minyan Credit!



Teaching Torah in Kita Gimel with Morah Susan Daniels

By Sharon Solomon and Janet Jeddah

Torah is a fundamental subject in every grade in the Religious School. From the very beginning, our youngest students hear stories and create craft projects related to them.

By the time Religious School students reach Kita Gimel, Third Grade, they are old enough to embark upon the beginnings of "serious Torah study".

Torah in Kita Gimel is the introduction - the gateway - to the study of our sacred heritage. In this year-long course, the stu-

dents begin the Torah with the first book, Sefer Bereishit, The Book of Genesis. As they delve into the many stories of beginnings; of the world, civilization and our Jewish narrative, they create for themselves a scroll using artistic expression based upon their discussions and understandings of the plot of the text.

The art scroll that they work to create is the result of a multi-dimensional process of understanding the story and the beginning of simple interpretation. The instruction includes:

1. text study

- 2. use of the Hebrew language through the text
- 3. the study of Torah through the lens of the time period
- 4. analysis of values and middot that appear in the text
- 5. artistic interpretation of the plot of the story

As a group, students study a particular story and are guided by their teacher through discussion and thought provoking questions that help them to personalize the story. They soon are able to imagine themselves in the situation and learn to describe their own feelings and the values that can be learned.

"The students are creating a Torah that they them selves live within. Their artwork places them within each story. By the end of the year, they own what they have worked so hard to create." Morah Susan Daniels

By year's end our students' studies coalesce into an ability to identify values, morals and dilemmas that each parasha and character present and they grow stronger as Jews.



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Led by Julie Gittlin

Join us for a Holiday Harvest-themed Shabbat service Filled with Torah, games, prizes and fun all in a Fall theme

For Pre-School and Kindergarten students and their families



Wednesday, October 19th at 8pm **Meet the Author** Rabbi Stanley Ringler presents his book The Arc of Our History A Social and Political Narrative of Family and Nation

In conversation with Rabbi Alan B. Lucas

Tour the TBS Museum



Saturday, November 5th at 12 Noon

The Essence of the Hebrew Letters

With Batsheva Slavin

Torah Trop Class for Beginners

Sunday mornings *9:00-9:30 am* with Educator Janet Jeddah



October 23, 30 November 6, 13, 20 December 4, 11, 18

\$72—payable to TBS

Israeli Cooking Series with the Clergy

Session 1: Learn how to make shakshuka

Sunday, November 13th at 9:30 am



With Rabbi Cara Weinstein Rosenthal Yochi Thum Robert Bichoupan

CELEBRATING ISRAEL



M'dabrim b'Ivrit—HaMifgash **Vlapa**n

(במפגש מדברים בעברית)

A Hebrew class for Hebrew speakers (intermediate-advanced level) Touching on relevant topics and Israeli culture

Sunday afternoons at 5 pm with Educator Shmulik Baumvoll

Via ZOOM

October 23, 30 November 6, 13, 20 December 4, 11, 18



\$72—payable to TBS (For Zoom information, contact religiousschool@tbsroslyn.org)



Author Event

Deborah Bodin Cohen

The Engineer Ari Books

For ECC, Religious School and Families with young children

Tuesday, November 29th at 4 pm