

CRS: Deepening Jewish Identity and Community

CRS is committed to creating a strong family connection, where the synagogue and the Cohen Religious School are an extension of your home. CRS is designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore and deepen their understanding of Judaism and to develop their Jewish identity through the study of Jewish liturgy, rituals, customs, Hebrew language, life-cycle events, Jewish holidays, and Jewish history



Learn more about CRS



Contact Us

Anna Besser
Director of the Jack and Mildred
Cohen Religious School



847-432-8900 ext. 227
Direct: 847-926-7904



abesser@nssbethel.org



www.nssbethel.org



1175 Sheridan Road
Highland Park, IL 60035

CRS

Jack and Mildred Cohen Religious School



North Suburban Synagogue
Beth El
בית כנסת בית אל



Ganon: Pre- Kindergarten Gan: Kindergarten Alef: 1st Grade

Sundays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Through hands-on activities relating to Holiday and Shabbat observances, Jewish symbols, Torah, Israel and Mitzvot, students learn what it means to be a Jew through the lens of the home, the family and the synagogue. Age-appropriate middot are integrated in everyday lessons, with a focus on gratitude.



Bet: 2nd Grade - Hey: 5th Grade

Sundays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Weekday (either Tues/Wed)
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Students are instilled with knowledge, respect and love of elements of the Siddur, Hebrew language, Torah, Israel, History, Mitzvot, Holidays and Jewish rituals.

- Hebrew/Tefillah curriculum focuses on developing literacy skills and learning Shabbat tefillot.
- Value-based Judaic curriculum helps develop a student's positive Jewish identity weaving in the study of Jewish text, History, Holidays and Israel.

Students are required to attend several Shabbat services during the year, either Junior Congregation or the main service.

- Bet & Gimel: 4 Shabbat Services
- Dalet & Hey: 5 Shabbat Services



Vav: 6th Grade

Sundays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Weekday (either Tues/Wed)
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Sunday morning Clergy Class: Parents and students participate in a learner's minyan and B'nai Mitzvah preparation classes with members of the Beth El clergy.

Hebrew curriculum focuses on learning Shabbat tefillot that can be used through their lifetime, with an emphasis on skills that will enhance the b'nai mitzvah experience. Judaic curriculum focuses on My Family Story, Moving Traditions, Israel, and developing a deeper understanding of Jewish skills and knowledge.

MY FAMILY STORY is a family root research project that has students use their creative skills to design an original, artistic display that captures the essence of their family history

MOVING TRADITIONS B'nai Mitzvah program is a new model of Jewish education for students and parents that speaks directly to the psychological, spiritual, social, and developmental issues that pre-teens face as they prepare for and celebrate the rite of passage.

Vav students are required to attend 6 Shabbat morning services during the year in the main sanctuary to acquaint families with flow of the main service as prep for their B'nai Mitzvah.

Zayin: 7th Grade

Sundays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesdays 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Zayin curriculum focuses on modern Jewish History, the Holocaust, Israel, Jewish Values, and Social Action projects. Occasional field trips and speakers add to this unique year. As time allows, students will review Shabbat morning tefillot and be introduced to modern conversational Hebrew.

