

Westchester Jewish Center Religious School

Gan: Our Kindergarten program offers young learners a joyful and engaging introduction to Jewish life and learning. Each week, children explore stories from the Torah, culminating in the creation of their very own Torah scroll. Students are introduced to Hebrew through colors and numbers, participate in weekly Tefillah (prayer) and music sessions, and celebrate Jewish holidays together. Highlights include a special Hanukkah family program families together to celebrate the joyful holiday.

Kitah Alef: In 1st grade, students delve into weekly lessons on mitzvot and core Jewish values, learning how these traditions shape each of our families. Hebrew learning expands to include vocabulary related to family, emotions, and body parts. Children enjoy weekly Tefillah (prayer) and music sessions, and celebrate Jewish holidays throughout the year. A special Sukkot family program offers a joyful opportunity for community and connection.

Kitah Bet: In 2nd grade, students begin recognizing Hebrew letters and vowels, building the foundation for reading Hebrew. They explore the geography, culture, and people of Israel, deepening their connection to the Jewish homeland. Students begin participating in Tefillot with the school community, enjoy weekly music, and learn with Cantor Goldberg. The year includes joyful holiday celebrations and a special Tu B'Shvat Family Program.

Kitah Gimel: In 3rd grade, students deepen their Hebrew skills by beginning to read full words and build confidence in decoding. They explore Torah stories from Bereishit (Genesis) and Shemot (Exodus), discovering timeless lessons and values. Weekly sessions with Cantor Goldberg help prepare students for their meaningful Siddur Ceremony in the spring. The year also includes joyful holiday celebrations, weekly music, and a special Family Values Program that invites parents to learn and grow alongside their children.

Kitah Dalet: In 4th grade, students strengthen their Hebrew reading skills by learning prayers from the Friday evening service with Cantor Goldberg. They explore powerful lessons from the Prophets, Kings, and other books of the TaNaKh, deepening their understanding of Jewish history and values. Students enjoy weekly music, and take part in a special Jewish Art and Values Family Program that brings learning to life through creativity and connection.

Kitah Hey: In 5th grade, students expand their Hebrew reading skills through the study of the Shabbat morning service with Cantor Goldberg, gaining greater fluency and confidence in prayer. They also participate in engaging Sunday morning electives alongside 6th grade, exploring dynamic topics such as Jewish Music, Jewish Pop Culture, the Jewish Life Cycle, and Female Jewish Heroes. These experiences help students connect Jewish learning to their own lives in meaningful ways.

Kitah Vav: In 6th grade, students participate in Sunday morning electives alongside 5th grade, exploring engaging topics such as Jewish Music, Judaism in Real Life, Fiddler on the Roof, and Kashrut. Students will build on their skills in Hebrew by reading prayers from the Shabbat morning Torah service and will be introduced to modern Israeli Hebrew through music and culture.

Kitah Zayin: Using the Facing History and Ourselves curriculum, 7th grade students explore how Jewish choices throughout history inform the decisions we make today. As part of their lessons on the Holocaust, our group will visit to the Museum of Jewish Heritage in November. They will study Israeli history—including the founding of the State of Israel, major wars, the Israeli army, geography, and culture. Weekly classes include a shared dinner to build community and connection.

2nd - 6th grade Tefillot Sunday @ 11:30am
2nd - 5th grade Tefillot Wednesday @ 5:30pm
6th and 7th grade Tefillot Thursday @ 3:45pm

Religious School Shabbat: WJC will hold its Religious School classes on Saturday, for Shabbat, in lieu of Sunday. All students in Kindergarten - 6th grade enrolled will join us for Religious School Shabbat. School will be held on the first Saturday (Shabbat) on October 4th, November 1st, December 6th, February 7th, March 7th and May 2nd. The RS Shabbat Program will begin at 10am and conclude at 12pm – the same hours as Sunday Religious School.

Sunday (K-6) 10—12pm
Wednesday (2-5) 3:45—6pm
Thursday (6th grade) 3:45—6pm
Thursday (7th grade) 3:45—7pm

Jewish Journey at WJC Religious School - By the end of 7th grade, what can I expect my child at WJC to learn?

	GAN	ALEF	BET	GIMEL	DALET	HEY	VAV	ZAYIN
Hebrew Letter and Vowel Recognition								
Hebrew decoding								
Hebrew vocabulary								
Community Prayers and chanting certain prayers								
Exposure to Prayer Skills								
Celebration of Jewish Holidays								
Torah and Prophets								
Jewish History during the Holocaust								
Israel (History, Geography, Culture & Peoplehood)								
Values and Mitzvot								
Jewish Music								
Jewish Customs and Culture								