



Welcome to **Temple Emanu-El's Religious School**.

We are so happy to have you join us this **2025-2026/5786** school year!

Our first day is **Sunday, September 14th at 9:00 AM** where students will have the chance to meet their teachers, classmates, and enjoy a special treat at the end of the day! Parents can join us on **Sunday, October 26th at 9:30 AM** for a Parent Meet & Greet Breakfast.

Meet Your Gan (K) Teachers!



REVA JUDAS

reva.judas@gmail.com

Reva has been an Early Childhood Educator for over 30 years. Reva has taught both Pre-K and Kindergarten, at the JCC on the Palisades, Gan Rina in Teaneck, and the Moriah School of Englewood.

Reva is a participant of the joint Jewish Federation/Partnership with Naharia Israel. Reva has a Bachelor of Science in Human and Child Development.

Reva is also the founder and Director of NechamaComfort which supports families who have pregnancy loss, infant loss, and miscarriage. Reva has worked at TE for 12 years and is excited for another great year!



ELIZABETH LISSMANN

elizabeth.lissmann@gmail.com

Elizabeth Lissmann is looking forward to starting her 23rd year of teaching at Temple Emanu-El.

Elizabeth has a Bachelor of Psychology Degree from Barnard College. She spends her weeks as the HR Director at a Food Manufacturing Company.

In addition to Hebrew School, Elizabeth has taught English as a Second Language in her native country Venezuela and led numerous corporate training sessions.

She is grateful for the opportunity to spend time with your children on Sunday morning.



FELICIA GROSSMAN

Felicia0221@optonline.net

Felicia Grossman lives in Teaneck, NJ, and is a proud single mother of two daughters, ages 23 and 25. She has dedicated more than 40 years to the field of early childhood education and, for the past five years, has served as an art teacher for students from nursery through sixth grade.

In addition to her work in education, Felicia chairs the Community-Wide Holocaust Commemoration of Greater Bergen County, helping to preserve memory and foster understanding through meaningful community engagement.

Questions, Comments, Concerns? We're here to help!

Administration

Adam Schwartzbard

Director of Youth Engagement

schwartzbard@tecloster.org



Shelby Effron

Administrative Coordinator, Lifelong Learning

effron@tecloster.org



Rabbi Jeremy Ruberg

Rabbi for Lifelong Learning

ruberg@tecloster.org



Temple Emanu-El Religious School Curriculum

Gan (K)

Learning Hebrew:

We will use basic Hebrew words during our learning. Words and concepts like “Shabbat” and “Shalom” will be used regularly as we expose our learners to the Hebrew language.

Teaching Israel:

Our Gan class will be introduced to Israel the country and how special it is to the Jewish people.

Tefillah – Prayer:

Singing and praying as a community is an important value that will be introduced to our Gan learners. The students will sing prayers like “Modeh/Modah Ani”, “Mah Tov”, and “Shema”, and learn the basic meaning of these prayers.

Music with Moreh Matt:

For a half hour each week, Moreh Matt will visit our class and lead us in Jewish holiday and Shabbat songs. Throughout the year and during the holidays, he will teach primarily Hebrew songs.

Special Programs:

Throughout the year, our class will have special on-site programs to complement our lessons including programs focused on Shabbat and Jewish holidays. Activities include planting parsley for Tu B'Shvat, and Lag Ba'Omer Field Day. Throughout the year, we will incorporate singalongs in our classes to learn through music and many art-based projects that allow our students to take the Jewish learning in school home with them.

Clergy Involvement:

During the year, our clergy – Rabbi David-Seth Kirshner, Rabbi Jeremy Ruberg, Rabbi Gabe Cohen, and Cantor Israel Singer – will visit the class. Our Rabbis will participate in “Ask the Rabbi” sessions, and Parasha/Chumash portions.

Teaching Torah/“Chumash”:

In our study of the Torah, we will focus on stories from the books of Genesis and Exodus, including the story of Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah and the Ark, the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, Moses, the Ten Commandments, and more. We will also learn portions of the Bible, such as Jonah and the Whale, David and Goliath, and story of the Megillah for Purim.

Teaching Mitzvot/Values:

Teaching mitzvot/values is an important component of our study at Religious School. We will address concepts such as, Tzedakah, Chesed/kindness, blessings for food, lighting Hanukah candles, Shabbat, the special nature of Torah, prayer, Israel as the Jewish homeland, honoring one's parents; V'ahavta L'Reiecha Kamocho – respecting all people, and Tikun Olam – repairing the world.

Teaching Holidays and Shabbat:

As we celebrate Jewish holidays throughout the year, our guiding focus word will be “identification.” Through special programs and fun class activities, we will teach the basic concepts of each holiday so that the students will be able to confidently identify a holiday and the reason for celebrating. As students grow older, we will begin to shift our focus to explanations and applications as guiding concepts. For now, we want students to understand the basics of each holiday.

Teachers

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