



Temple Beth Orr
Avi & Alison Rosenberg
Religious School

Rabbi Marci Bloch

Scott London
Religious School and Youth Director

Sunday: 9:00am - 12:30pm
Grades K - 7

Temple Beth Orr
2151 Riverside Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33071
www.templebethorr.org



Avi & Alison Rosenberg Religious School

Dear TBO Families,

Welcome to TBO's religious school! My name is Rabbi Marci Bloch and I am so thrilled to join the synagogue this year. This is going to be a fantastic year for all of us. We are exploring creative ideas and we will have a new wonderful curriculum. Scott London, our Religious School and Youth Director, and I will be working very closely to ensure that your child will love learning about Judaism and being here will be fun. We hope that you will be an active participant in your child's education.

Judaism teaches us in Proverbs 22:6 "Teach children the way to go and when they are old they will not depart from it." It is our goal that your children will cherish the learning they obtain here at TBO and bring it to all they do.

I look forward very much to being part of your child's Jewish journey. I know it will be an exciting adventure.

Be sure to come by and meet me. Feel free to contact me at any time rab-bibloch@templebethorr.org.

With blessings,

Rabbi Marci R. Bloch



Avi & Alison Rosenberg Religious School

Dear Religious School Families,

Here at TBO we have been in full planning mode since February for the coming year for our members of all ages, especially our religious school students. I am thrilled to have come onboard with the extraordinary professional team here and look forward to working with you and joining you and your child(ren) on their Jewish journey.

We know that the religious school experience has had a huge impact on our connection to Judaism as an adult and it is our goal that your child(ren) be both educated and *excited* about being Jewish. Our program offers a wonderful foundation of Jewish knowledge infused with community building, exploration of Jewish identity, respect for our world, and each other.

The Rosenberg Religious School will continue to use the **URJ's Chai Judaica Curriculum**, which teaches Torah, Prayer, and Ethics using a spiral format, increasing in sophistication and depth as is appropriate for each grade. A greater emphasis will be placed on the partnership between me and our teachers to better implement the curriculum.

Our **Hebrew curriculum** has changed from previous years with basic letter recognition as early as Kindergarten, with a goal toward having students able to read Hebrew functionally by 4th Grade, and to be totally comfortable with Hebrew reading by the time they begin Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons 6 months prior to their Bnai Mitzvah. The Religious School schedule has been modified to allow for greater emphasis on the Hebrew program.

The **Religious School day** begins, as always, at 9:00 am and ends at 12:30 pm. Our students will learn about Judaism through activities such as art, music, cooking, and Hebrew in our Judaic program. Our first day is Sunday, August 27th, and parents, please plan on attending with your children for a fun-filled morning!

For 8th graders and above, we are happy to announce that **we will continue with our Madrichim (teacher's aide) program!** Earn community service hours and gain important leadership and communication skills! As well, all students in 3rd through 12th grades are invited to be a part of our **extraordinary youth groups**. Youth Group fees are already included in the religious school tuition. If you have any questions about either program, please feel free to contact me, your Religious School & Youth Director, Scott London at slondon@templebethorr.org.

This coming year will be even more exciting and rewarding for you and for your child(ren). Please register now! All forms are attached, and can also be found on the Temple website, www.templebethorr.org. We look forward to seeing you in August, and to an exciting year of learning and growing together!

L'shalom,

Scott London

Religious School & Youth Director

Avi & Alison Rosenberg Religious School

Goals of Our Education Program

Welcome to our school! The school's lay and professional leadership are excited and honored that you chose to be part of our lifelong learning community.

Our Judaica and Hebrew programs at Temple Beth Orr serve as a pathway for our children to learn, grow and be challenged through Jewish education. Our programs exist to help create and strengthen the Jewish identity of our children as we encounter what is central to Judaism: our love of learning, our love for God, our love for Torah and our identification with the Land of Israel and the Jewish people. We seek to develop a sense of *menschlichkeit*, of being good people who are sensitive both within and outside of our community and who see the world through Jewish eyes.

In our Judaica and Hebrew Programs we seek to create a community in which:

- Students feel that others know who they are, care about them, and miss them if they are absent.
- Students know that they can trust the other individuals in the community.
- Students feel that they have a sense of shared goals and values.
- Students know that they have a role in their own education and decision-making process.
- Students are aware that they are a part of a specifically Reform Jewish community and participate in living Jewish experiences.

Our congregation recognizes that a Jewish education should meet the needs of each child. With this goal in mind, our school is committed to working with every family with a child requiring a specialized Jewish education. We look forward to partnering with families and using our resources in creative ways to meet these needs.

Lastly, we aim to promote Jewish learning and commitment among all ages, including our teens. One of the ways that our post-B'nai Mitzvah students demonstrate their newly adult commitment to Judaism and to their community is through service. We offer all students in grades 8-12 the opportunity to be *madrichim*, teacher's aides, in order to serve as leaders, guides, and role models for our younger children.



We at TBO also firmly believe that finances should never be an impediment to Jewish education. If needed, please contact us for scholarship information.

Temple Beth Orr Religious School Curriculum

TBO's Judaica and Hebrew curriculum aim to enrich students' involvement in synagogue and Jewish life. As such, our programs appeal to a wide variety of learning styles, and incorporate kinesthetic, active learning alongside textbooks. The following are our primary religious school programs:

Kindergarten covers holidays, Hebrew terms, prayers, tzedakah, the synagogue and basic Jewish concepts.



1st-7th grade Judaica utilizes the Union of Reform Judaism's *Chai Curriculum*, a spiraling curriculum that builds upon itself year by year. It asks the big questions that are relevant to students' lives and explores the richness and depth of Jewish tradition through a core program of Torah, *Avodah*, and *G'milut Chasidim*, covering God, sacred texts, values, holidays, Israel, and more.

Our 1st-3rd grade **Hebrew program** focuses on letter-recognition and reading fluency using Berhman House's *Sam the Detective*, *Satm the Detective & the Alef Bet Mystery*, *Ready, Set... Go Alef, Bet, and Alef Bet Quest*, while 4th-6th grade Hebrew utilizes *Kol Yisrael 1, 2, and 3*. Our 7th grade focuses on B'nai Mitzvah training, and its text is the Reform movement's siddur (prayer book) *Mishkan Tefillah*, as well as finishing lessons from *Kol Yisrael 3*. Prayer is always taught in a manner that stresses fluency,



familiarity, and comfort with Hebrew liturgy.

Please know that we recognize that students have different learning needs and often enter our program at different times. It is our goal to make Hebrew reading accessible to all of our students. If your child needs some additional assistance, please contact the Religious School Director to discuss tutoring during or outside of class time.

Regarding Tefillah (prayer), our 5th– 7th graders will be using *Making T'filah Meaningful*, a guide to unlock their personal connection with prayer. Our students will dig deeply into the meaning of prayers, and explore questions like, "Why do we pray?" "What meaning can prayer bring to our lives?" *Making T'filah Meaningful* is a companion to our prayer program. Each class will also have the opportunity to learn and lead a different service for the congregation beginning in Kindergarten. Please check the calendar for your child's specific service and date.



Temple Beth Orr

Family Involvement: A Holy Partnership

“Religious School alone won’t accomplish the two things you may most hope to give your children: a lifelong commitment to ethical and spiritual teachings and a legacy that they can pass on to your grandchildren....learning values and developing a sense of the holy must start at home.”

- Wendy Mogel, *Blessings of a Skinned Knee*

Through consistent communication, parent participation and education, and promotion of observance and learning at home, we hope to develop a true partnership between Religious School and home life. Families will receive a letter of welcome and introduction from teachers at the start of the school year, and teachers will continue throughout the year to communicate with families. We also strongly encourage engaging in discussions, learning experiences and celebration of Jewish life with family and friends, so that together we can fulfill the *mitzvah* of “*v’shinantam l’vanecha*—you shall teach them [the Torah’s teachings] to your children.”

As you think about ways to engage your child, below are some questions that you can ask at the end of the school day:

- What was the funniest thing that happened today?
- What art project did you do today?
- What question did you ask today?
- What prayer did you discuss today?
- What does that prayer/activity/art piece mean to you?
- What was your favorite part of class today?
- Can you tell me an idea you talked about in class?
- Can we read one of your Hebrew pages together?
- What was one of your favorite things you did today?
- Can you teach me something you learned today?

You can also get more involved! Contact Scott London at slondon@templebethorr.org or Marc Weinstock at agr8mc@gmail.com to become part of the Religious School & Youth Committee, and take part in recommending new policies, volunteering in various capacities, and making the decisions that help shape your child’s religious education!



Temple Beth Orr Policies and Procedures

Derekh Eretz: The Conduct of Our Community

Our religious school is founded on the following values and principles from our Jewish tradition. They undergird behavioral expectations of all members of our school community.

1. Talmud Torah (The Study of Torah)

The school is a place for the pursuit of learning with the goal of personal growth and the development of Jewish identities. To promote this goal we ask that your child:

- Attend all required study times.
- Leave games, toys, and electronic games at home.
- Come to school prepared with the necessary supplies and homework.

2. V'ahavta I'Re'acha Kamocho (Love Your Neighbor as Yourself)

Be respectful of the rights and feelings of others.

- Show respect to all teaching faculty, fellow students and other members of Temple Beth Orr.
- Eat politely and only in designated areas.
- Clean up after eating or other messy activities.
- Show proper respect to others using proper language, manners, and not touching others' possessions.

3. Al Tifrosh min haTzibur (Don't Separate Yourself from the Community)

Be respectful and take responsibility within the community.

- Out of consideration for other students and teachers, maintain a quiet manner in walkways on campus while classes are in session.
- Enter the *Beit K'nesset* (sanctuary) quietly and with reverence. While there, keep feet on the ground and regard the *siddurim* (prayerbooks) with respect. Do not eat or drink in the sanctuary. All students are encouraged to wear a kipah while in the sanctuary.

4. Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh ba Zeh (All of the People of Israel are Responsible for One Another)

Take responsibility for the safety of oneself and others.

- Respect the wishes of classmates and talk with one another respectfully in order to resolve differences of opinion.
- Remain on campus at all times from the time of drop-off until pick-up unless alternative plans have been arranged in advance.

5. Bal Tashchit (Do Not Destroy or Waste)

Be respectful and take responsibility for the environment and property.

- Use bathrooms properly and keep them clean.
- Treat all synagogue property with respect and act in accordance with the sanctity of our synagogue whenever you are on our property.

6. Im Ein Ani Li, Mi Li? (If I Am Not For Myself, Who Will Be For Me?)

Take responsibility for your actions.

- Comply with the customs of the school and temple. In the event that this *brit* is violated, take responsibility for your actions.

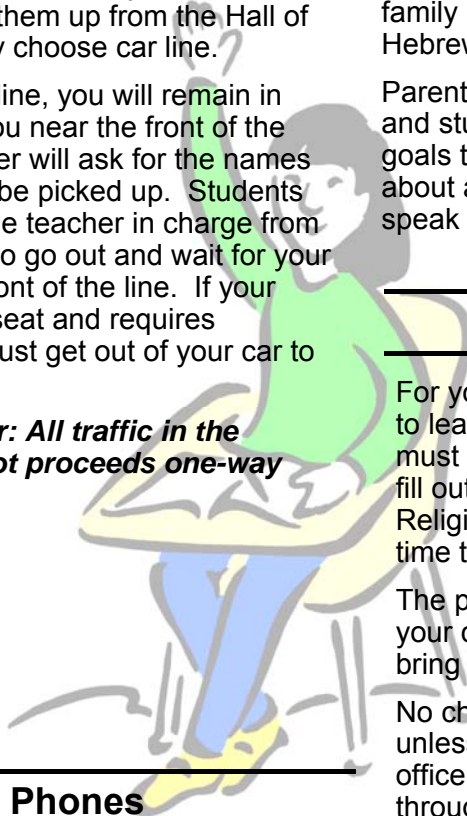
Student signature

Parent signature

Temple Beth Orr Policies and Procedures

9:00am and 12:30pm

1. **BOB (Beth Orr Bagels) sells bagels and juice from 8:30-9:00am every Sunday in the Hall of Honor.** It's a wonderful way to get to know your child's friends, other parents, and have your breakfast too!
2. All students end their day in the Hall of Honor at 12:30 PM. You may either park your car and pick them up from the Hall of Honor, or you may choose car line.
3. If you choose car line, you will remain in your car and as you near the front of the line, a staff member will ask for the names of the students to be picked up. Students will be called by the teacher in charge from the Hall of Honor to go out and wait for your car to reach the front of the line. If your child sits in a car seat and requires assistance, you must get out of your car to assist him/her.
4. ***Please remember: All traffic in the school parking lot proceeds one-way only!!***



Cell Phones

We ask that all students turn off cell phones during Religious School hours.

In case of an emergency, parents can reach students at (954) 753-3232 during Religious School.



Homework

It is the policy of our school that teachers may assign homework. They will keep such assignments realistic, interesting, and relevant to the curriculum.

Examples of appropriate homework assignments may include: workbook pages, collection of artifacts, interviewing family members, as well as weekly Hebrew reading drills and prayer practice.

Parents are asked to support our teachers and students to achieve the educational goals that we set. If there are questions about a particular assignment, please speak to the child's teacher.

Early Release

For your child's security, if he or she needs to leave Religious School early, parents must park their car, walk to the office, and fill out an early release form at the Religious School desk. A note ahead of time to the teacher is also appreciated.

The person at the front desk will collect your child at his or her classroom and bring him or her to you.

No child will be allowed to leave campus unless an adult is present in the front office. This policy will be strictly enforced throughout the school year.

Storm Alerts

In the event that inclement weather results in the need to cancel Religious School:

1. You will receive a text message from Temple Beth Orr Religious School. **Please sign up** when the information is disseminated at the beginning of school. Details will be forthcoming.
2. Call the Religious School Office at 954-753-3232 Ext. 206. Any cancellation notice will be on the school's voicemail.

Temple Beth Orr Policies and Procedures

Religious School Attendance

Religious School students are expected to attend at least 80 percent of class sessions throughout the school year.

After two consecutive absences, parents will be contacted. We make a point of recognizing outstanding attendance. Our goal is that our students be part of a vibrant positive Jewish learning community.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

In order to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah at Temple Beth Orr:

- The family must be members in good standing of the congregation and encourage their student to continue his/her religious education through Confirmation and high school.
- The student must have satisfactorily completed a minimum of three years of religious school immediately prior to the anticipated Bar/Bat Mitzvah service.
- We hope that our B'nai Mitzvah candidates and their families regularly attend Shabbat services during the B'nai Mitzvah process.
- *Please see the B'nai Mitzvah Handbook for further information.*

Shabbat Service Attendance

Participation at Shabbat services brings together all of the parts of the Liturgy/Prayer curriculum, and prepares the students for an active Jewish life.

We invite you to make Shabbat a “family affair,” for attending services as a family ensures that your student feels comfortable with the prayers and melodies of Jewish worship, as well as fosters their confidence with the prayerbook and helps them feel a part of the Jewish community at large.

We suggest that your student attend services the following amount of times throughout the year:

K-2 grades:	3 total
3-5 grades:	6 total
6 grade:	8 total
7 grade:	10 total, including 3 Shabbat morning services

When you arrive at services, please look for the large binder containing the list of religious school students, organized by class. Please check off your name and mark the date.



Temple Beth Orr Policies and Procedures

Dress Code

One important aspect of Religious School is to set an appropriate tone and atmosphere for Jewish study and worship. How we dress and present ourselves is a part of the way we demonstrate our serious purpose and show *kavod* (respect) for our synagogue and the activities in which we engage.

With this in mind, we ask that ***all students, parents and faculty*** dress in an appropriately modest manner for Religious School, and specifically adhere to the following guidelines:

- Wear blouses and tops that cover the midriff, back and shoulders. Choose fabrics that are opaque.
 - Wear shorts and skirts at mid-thigh or longer, and no shorter.
 - Wear clothing that does not reveal undergarments at the waist or shoulders.
 - Wear blouses or tops that do not have spaghetti straps.
 - Wear T-shirts devoid of vulgar, obscene, offensive or inappropriate messages.
 - Wear shoes without wheels and open-toed shoes that are not “flip-flops” for safety reasons. Wear shoes at all times.
 - Sports uniforms are acceptable, assuming they meet these guidelines. However, cleats and other “outdoor” sports accoutrements should remain outside the temple.
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*Thank you for entrusting TBO
with your child's religious school education!*