

The Fox Valley Jewish School

FVJN is pleased to introduce a new education program for children ages 3 through teens. The program is designed to provide students with a positive Jewish identity, the ability to participate in Jewish life and b'nai(bar or bat) mitzvah preparation, if desired.

The Fox Valley Jewish School is a community school and differs from educational programs offered by synagogues. The program is flexible and designed with the understanding that many of the students are from mixed faith families. There is less emphasis on religious practices and Hebrew and more emphasis on cultural identity.

The program includes classes for children in four age groups:

- preschool through kindergarten
- grades 1 and 2
- grades 3, 4 and 5
- grade 6 and up

No Previous formal Jewish education is required for any of the classes.

Preschool- Kindergarten

This age group will explore Jewish themes primarily through stories and crafts and focus largely on holiday celebrations and a light introduction to the aleph bet.

This class will meet for one hour on two Sunday mornings each month.

Grades 1 and 2

This class will prepare the children to enter the more structured and educationally-focused program for grades 3 and up and the b'nai mitzvah program if desired. The students will begin more in-depth study of Jewish culture, history, traditions and the celebration of the holidays through the ages.

This class will meet for one hour on two Sunday mornings each month.

Grades 3, 4 and 5

Students in this class will have 4 major areas of study:

Bible: The Bible will be studied chronologically. Students will learn the historical context of the stories and discuss the meaning of each.

Ethics: Topics such as charity, care of the sick, treatment of animals and more will be discussed.

History: The class will begin with the destruction of the Temple and include the Diaspora, rise of the European Jewish community, the Holocaust, Jews in America and Israel.

Prayer/Rituals: Students will become comfortable with the Shabbat service, learn basic prayers and study major life cycle events.

The material covered each year will vary so that students enrolled in the same class level for multiple years will learn new material.

This class will meet from 4-6 p.m. on two Sundays each month.

Grades 6 and Up

There is no upper age limit for this class. It is anticipated that tweens and teens will attend. Students in this class will cover the same four major areas as the grades 3-5 class: Bible, Ethics, history and prayer/ritual. The difference is that this class will cover all topics in more depth and at a higher level. The material covered each year will vary so that students enrolled in the same class level for multiple years will learn new material. Students in this age group will also have the option to participate in the b'nai mitzvah program. This class will meet from 4-6 p.m. on two Sundays each month.

B'nai Mitzvah Program

Students in grades 6 and up will have the opportunity to prepare for a bar or bat mitzvah. Our goal is to enable the child and family to have an experience that is meaningful to them and also ensures that the child has achieved a level of understanding of Judaism.

Students will have to demonstrate competence in the four areas that comprise the school curriculum. They will also have to meet the following requirements:

- Attend class on a regular basis for a minimum of one academic year;
- Demonstrate proficiency by helping to lead a Friday night service;
- Present a research project of Jewish content on a subject of interest to the student. The project will be completed with the guidance of a mentor; and
- Participate in a tzedakah/community service project of the student's choosing.

There is no set time table for achieving b'nai mitzvah. Some students may complete all of the requirements by the traditional b'nai mitzvah age of 12 ½ or 13 years. Others may be significantly older.

FVJN will work with the family to design a b'nai mitzvah service for the student when he/she is ready.

Tuition

Tuition for children in the two younger classes (pre-school through 2nd grade) is \$125 for the first child and \$100 for each additional child in the same family.

Tuition for children in the two older classes (3rd grade and up) is \$180 per year for the first child and \$150 for each additional child in the same family. No child will be turned away due to financial circumstances.

Families with children in multiple tuition categories will pay the full amount for the oldest child and the appropriate reduced family rate for the other children.

Teachers

Each class will be led by a paid instructor. Rabbi Fred Margulies will assist with those areas related to Hebrew, prayer and ritual. Guest instructors may be brought in to discuss specific topics. Anyone interested in a teaching position should contact FVJN at 630 578-3375 or info@fvjn.org.

Location

All classes will be held at the FVJN building in Geneva or another nearby location.

Questions and Enrollment

Please contact FVJN at 630 578-3375 or info@fvjn.org if you would like more information. To enroll your child, complete the form below. Please make separate copies for each child. Return completed forms along with payment to: FVJN, P.O. Box 8, Geneva, IL 60134.

Fox Valley Jewish School Enrollment Form

Child's full name _____

Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade level Fall 2010 _____

Name of parent(s) or guardian(s) with whom child lives

Home phone _____ Cell phone of parent/guardian _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Program in which child is enrolling:

Preschool-Kindergarten (\$125, \$100 if 2nd child)

Grades 1-2 (\$125, \$100 if 2nd child)

Grades 3-5 (\$180, \$150 if 2nd child)

Grades 6 and Up (\$180, \$150 if 2nd child)

Will this child be working toward bar/bat mitzvah? yes no

Please briefly describe any formal religious education this child has had.

Please list any medical conditions/allergies.

Is there anything else you would like us to know about your child?

Payment due: \$ _____

Please enclose check payable to FVJN or complete credit information below:

Name as it appears on card _____

Billing address _____

Card type Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Security Code _____

Return to: FVJN, P.O. Box 8, Geneva, IL 60134