Shaloh House Jewish Day School 29 Chestnut Hill Avenue Brighton, MA 02135 (617) 787-2200



Shaloh













[8:30 AM]

COCKATIELS, TURTLES, AND AFRICAN FINCHES.

The once-quiet lobby quickly fills with families. Parents chat with the school's director and staff, while younger children crowd the aquariums, greeting the turtles, cockatiels, and African finches. Older students head for the kitchen to see what Sveta has for them this morning. Monday usually means pancakes, and hers are the best. By 8:45, when the first bell rings, students are seated in their classrooms and a new week at Shaloh House begins.

[9:20 AM]

V'AHAVTA L'RAYECHA KAMOCHA.

"I like ice cream."

"Max likes ice cream and I like chocolate."

"Max likes ice cream, Aaron likes chocolate, and I like strawberries." And so it goes around the third-grade classroom. The game helps students learn that when you pay attention to others' likes and dislikes, you are able to treat them well. It is part of the Jewish custom of V'Ahavta L'Rayecha Kamocha (You Should Love Your Fellow Neighbor as You Love Yourself).

[11:00 AM]

BUILDING MATH SKILLS, AND A HOUSE.

Having correctly multiplied 17 by 12, 7-year-old Julie spins around in triumph as her classmate quickly takes her turn at the board. For each problem these first-graders solve correctly, their teacher adds another line to the house that he's drawing. As the picture takes shape, so do multiplication and division skills.

[2:00 PM]

PINOCCHIO RUNNING AGAINST SNOW WHITE.

While Pinocchio reasons that he should be president because everyone will know when he's not telling the truth, Snow White goes after the female vote. Having second-graders campaign as their favorite heroes and heroines in a mock election is an effective way to help the social studies class learn about the president's role in leading the country.





The school is highly responsive to parents' feedback. You feel like you're part of the process. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT





[10:20 AM]

BLACK BELTS IN HEBREW.

Daniel accepts his purple belt with all the dignity of a Ninja warrior though he earned his belt with Hebrew skills. As part of a nationwide program designed to promote early Hebrew skills development, kindergartners work toward their black belts as they learn the alphabet, vowels, words, and simple sentences.

[11:00 AM]

ASKING FOR MORE MATH.

"Don't erase them! Please show us!"

The cries of protest come from third-graders as the teacher clears fourth-grade math equations from the board. He smiles at his eager students, assuring them that they too will get to tackle geometry– but first, they must finish their unit on algebraic equations.

[12:00 PM]

IT'S NOT A NICE, QUIET LUNCH.

When the noon bell rings, students, faculty, and administration all descend on the cafeteria for a hot Kosher meal. While it's no place for a quiet lunch, it's a wonderful time to see the entire Shaloh House family together. Today it's a student's birthday, so the whole school joins in to sing "Happy Birthday" and have cake together.

[1:20 PM]

LEGATO OR STACCATO?

"*Legato*!" choruses the sixth-grade music class as the flutes play a smooth, fluid melody. They are learning to identify and use the correct terms for smoothly flowing notes (*legato*) versus abrupt, distinct notes (*staccato*).

[2:00 PM]

A MYSTERIOUS PLOT TWIST.

The sixth-grade English class has been immersed in Sherlock Holmes mysteries. Two-thirds of the way through the third novel, the class encountered the biggest plot twist yet: rather than reading the ending to this book, they would be writing it. Students took on the assignment with great enthusiasm, creating many well-written options that they'll share in today's class before reading how Sir Arthur Conan Doyle chose to end the tale.

> If we hadn't transferred our son to Shaloh House, we might never have known just how much he's capable of. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT





[9:30 AM]

GREEK MYTHS, REAL RESEARCH.

In writing her Greek mythology report, Rebecca did a lot of research online and at the library. She learned more than enough about the mythical Apollo to write an excellent paper. Now the challenging part: fielding questions from her curious fourth-grade classmates as part of today's oral presentation.

[11:00 AM]

OBSTACLES THAT AID LEARNING.

With all the happy shouts and smiles, it's hard to believe this firstgrade gym class is hard at work. Navigating through an obstacle course is more than a fun way to burn off excess energy, it is an effective way to build strong locomotion skills and the ability to follow directions.

[1:30 PM]

TESTING GALILEO'S THEORY.

Rubber balls, stop watches, and wooden ramps. It may sound like the makings of a simple experiment, but these seventh-graders are studying Galileo's theory of acceleration due to gravity-a physics lesson that many high school students find challenging. Seeing the students' concentration, it's not hard to imagine them developing a few theories of their own some day.

[2:45 PM]

CELEBRATING PURIM WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

Through reading, writing, discussions, and *mishloach manot* (sending gifts of food), third-grade students learn the story of how Queen Esther saved the Jewish nation from Haman. All the learning leads up to a community-wide celebration that brings together parents, students, and area families.

[4:00 PM]

HOW MUCH THEY WANT TO LEARN.

At the end of a one-on-one tutoring session designed to help a new student catch up in math, the teacher asks, "Do you have any questions before we stop for today?" Nodding, the determined boy replies, "Will you be here again tomorrow?"



Our daughter already understands the importance of respecting others' religious practices that vary from her own. I'm grateful to the school for that important lesson. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT





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[8:40 AM]

SHARING FAITH.

A student who davens early at home with his father still participates in the morning *tefilla* (prayers) at school. The boy mentors the younger students in the Hebrew words he knows so well.

[10:20 AM]

SECOND-GRADERS' BUSINESS CARDS.

Astronaut. President. Underwater Architect. The second-graders' career aspirations are almost as impressive as the computer skills they've learned in creating their own business cards using Microsoft Publisher.

[11:00 AM]

A TASTE OF FIRST-GRADE.

Students sit quietly at their desks, raising their hands and speaking only when called upon. Their good behavior is impressive-especially for kindergartners. As part of the school's "A Taste of First-Grade" program, kindergartners have three classes each week taught in a first-grade classroom by teachers they will have the following year. The program creates a smooth transition from the play-based kindergarten setting to the more focused first-grade classroom.

[2:20 PM]

CINDERELLA ACROSS CULTURES.

Happy endings are just the beginning of fairy tales for Shaloh House first-graders. The students explore variations of popular stories from many different cultures. Cinderella, the most popular fairy tale, has variations from Ireland, Korea, and the Caribbean. Fascinated by how their favorite stories are told in other countries, the students learn much about cultural differences.

[3:00 PM]

NEVER TOO YOUNG FOR CHESS.

Small hands hold tightly to the chess pieces as they move them around the board. These 5-year-old players are learning the basic rules of the game while developing formidable powers of concentration.



The confidence and discipline my son learns in school carries over to all that he does, including sports. He's now an award-winning hockey player. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT









Violin

[10:20 AM]

PROVIDING NEW CHALLENGES.

As students begin setting down pencils and looking up from their workbooks, the first-grade Judaic teacher glances at her two star pupils. She's pleased to see that they are still focused on their work. When the two boys began showing an aptitude for Hebrew and finishing their workbook assignments ahead of the rest of the class, she began customizing more challenging workbook pages for them. So, instead of becoming restless and bored, they became focused and engaged, learning at a level that is appropriate to their abilities.

[11:20 AM]

MEANING BEFORE WORDS.

The third-graders settle into their seats with little prodding. Today, they will finally recite Shmoneh Esrai, having spent weeks learning to understand the meaning of the prayer. Young voices speak the Hebrew words with a depth of feeling that reflects thousands of years of Jewish history-and the talents of one gifted Judaic teacher.

[1:00 PM]

SNOWFLAKES TO PHASE CHANGE.

In third-grade science class, the first snowfall becomes a lesson in physics. Students measure samples of snow, then the water it leaves behind. They're learning about phase change, the transformation of a thermodynamic system from one phase to another.

[2:30 PM]

"SHALOM, TURTLES!"

A young mother corrals her son toward the front door. "It's always easier getting him here than it is getting him to leave," she laughs. "Shalom, turtles!" the boy exclaims as he passes by the aquarium and, at last, out the front door. His small figure dances down the walkway, pulling his mother along, and the lobby is quiet once more-at least until Monday.



I know that Shaloh House was the right decision because our children love going to school. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT



RID ~

AMAZING THINGS CAN HAPPEN IN THE COURSE OF A SINGLE WEEK.

At Shaloh House Jewish Day School, we see children's incredible capacity for intellectual growth every day: in first-graders learning multiplication, in second-graders writing essays on the meaning of *Tefilla*, and in sixth-graders already learning physics.

What is most exciting is that these extraordinary accomplishments are those of "ordinary" students. Shaloh House does not cater exclusively to the gifted (though gifted students certainly thrive in our environment of individualized, accelerated learning). Instead, we dedicate ourselves to bringing out the gifts in every child.

BORROWING FROM THE WORLD'S BEST EDUCATION SYSTEMS.

The ability to learn is greater in childhood than at any other time in life. That is why we owe it to our children to feed their curiosity and challenge their intellect every day—to give them all that they need to grow as strong and vigorous in mind and spirit as they are in body.

The Shaloh House administration has created an educational model that borrows from the finest school systems in the world. From faculty who specialize in the subjects they teach, to the cockatiels that greet the children each morning and help kindle their interest in the natural world, we take every opportunity to engage young minds.

The school's commitment to providing children with the best education possible is foremost in every aspect of the environment, including:

- Faculty who are experts in the subjects they teach.
- A class dean for each grade who tracks students' progress across classes.
- Small class size allowing for a high level of individual attention.
- Tutoring opportunities each day.
- A curriculum that challenges students, along with the support to help them succeed.

- An after-school enrichment program that offers art, chess, martial arts, dance, and languages.
- Fun-filled, educational events such as the Math Festival, Judaic Fair, Chess Festival, and others.

WHY IT TAKES AN ADVANCED DEGREE IN STATISTICS TO TEACH FIRST-GRADE MATH.

Even young children benefit from having teachers who are experts in the subjects they teach. That is why we recruit math teachers with PhDs, and have language teachers who are published, awardwinning writers. In addition, children benefit from being taught by several different instructors who consult with one another on student progress.

The city of Boston, with its many excellent universities, provides us with a large talent pool from which to recruit teachers who are passionate about their areas of expertise and have a talent for sharing their enthusiasm with young children.

KEEPING PARENTS INVOLVED.

At Shaloh House, we have a firm belief that it takes parents and educators working together to help children reach their full potential. That is why we are open and responsive to parents' recommendations. And, in order to keep parents fully informed, we take the following steps:

- Provide each student with a planner that teachers and students fill out daily with assignments and comments.
- Publish a weekly newsletter updating parents on happenings in individual classrooms and in the school as a whole.
- Encourage phone calls and e-mails among parents, administration and faculty.
- Keep the doors of our Principal and Head of School open to parents and children at all times.
- Take the opportunity to chat informally with parents each morning and afternoon as they drop off and pick up their children.
- Conduct regular parent-teacher conferences.
- Hold a week-long open house, during which parents have the opportunity to attend and observe classes.

PROVIDING OUR STUDENTS WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE SECULAR EDUCATION.

One of the most rewarding aspects of being a part of Shaloh House Jewish Day School is seeing the joy children find in rising to the academic challenges before them. They delight in mastering things that perplexed them the day before, and take pride in learning at a more advanced level than many of their peers at other schools. And you will never see a happier child than the one whose performance has exceeded the expectations others once had of him, and those he had of himself.

Our academic program is carefully structured to help every student develop a love of learning and a strong foundation for lifelong academic success. While providing a well-rounded curriculum, the school does emphasize math and science.

As children practice math skills, they also improve critical areas including memory, logic, sorting, and categorizing. Numerous studies have shown that U.S. students lag behind peers abroad in math. At Shaloh House, even average math students come to excel, developing the skills and confidence to win local and international competitions. A solid foundation in math also allows our students to study advanced science subjects, such as chemistry and physics.

Our students' achievements are not limited to mathematics and science. Shaloh House students also have won awards at national poetry and art contests, and excel in areas including language, history, and athletics.

Our dual Judaic curriculum comprises approximatelyIn addition to covering all topics set by the12 to 15 hours of study per week, and accommodatesMassachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, we createboth Orthodox and less observant families. While allacademic programs that meet the highest internationalchildren study the joint curriculum, parents can choosestandards. We strive to give our students a world-either the "religious" or "traditional" curriculumclass education that will help set them on the path todepending on the family's interests and level ofa lifetime of achievement.observance.

INSTILLING JUDAISM IN CHILDREN'S MINDS AND HEARTS.

One morning it might be a first-grader reminding another child that it is not okay to tease. Another, it's an able math student coming to the aid of a struggling classmate. Every day, we see signs that our students are internalizing the Jewish values we strive to teach.

There is nothing more rewarding than to see children taking concepts such as *Derekh Eretz* (appropriate behavior and good character) and *Menschlikeit* (kindness and decency) and putting them into practice in their own ways. When taught Jewish values and ethics, children can be incredibly supportive of one another.

- This not only contributes to an atmosphere in which children feel encouragement and are therefore able to take on challenges, it assures us that these youngsters will grow to be caring—as well as accomplished—adults. And when we see the respect and compassion with which our students treat one another, it is not hard to imagine that, one day, they will help to build a better world.
- ORTHODOX TEACHINGS THAT WELCOME ALL FAMILIES.
 When it comes to understanding the richness of their Jewish heritage, there is much for children to learn.
 While our objective is to teach the splendor and depth of Judaism based on Orthodox teachings, we do so in a way that welcomes families from different backgrounds and who practice different levels of observance.

While accommodating the needs of families' belief systems is important, there is also tremendous value in having children from different backgrounds interact

OVERVIEW OF DUAL JUDAIC CURRICULUM Starting in first-grad

Mishanah

Grade 1:

Joint Curriculum Hebrew language*, Tefilla (prayer), weekly parsha (Torah portion), Yahadut (Judaica) Religious CurriculumTraditional CurriculumAdvanced YahadutHebrew language,(Judaica), ChumashChumash (Torah study)(Torah study)

Grades 2-4:

Joint Curriculum Hebrew language*, Tefilla (prayer), weekly parsha (Torah portion) Religious CurriculumTraditional CurriculumAdvanced YahadutHebrew language,(Judaica), ChumashChumash (Torah study)(Torah study), detailedparsha studyand interpretations,

Grades 5-8:

Joint Curriculum Hebrew language*, Tefilla (prayer), weekly parsha (Torah portion) Religious CurriculumTraditional CurriculumAdvanced YahadutModern Israel Social(Judaica), Chumashstudies, advanced(Torah study),Hebrew speaking,detailed parsha study,Chumash (Torah study)interpretations, andcommentary,Mishanah, TalmudKenter State

* Reading, writing and speaking.

with one another. They learn to be respectful of others' practices while being true to the practices they learn at home. This is a lesson that will aid children greatly in being active community participants throughout their lives.

MEANINGFUL CELEBRATIONS THAT INCLUDE THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

Celebrating our heritage is also important. That is why, throughout the year, we teach students the meaning behind each Jewish holiday. We explore both historical and contemporary perspectives, as well as the stories behind the holidays and how they lead to the laws and customs we practice today.

We also engage children in fun activities such as having an annual Chanukah concert, baking hamantaschen on Purim, holding a school-wide model seder, and baking Matzah on Passover. From the mock Sabbat dinner in kindergarten to a Purim celebration that attracts Jewish families from all over the community, we come together to celebrate our faith in joyous and meaningful ways.

KOSHER MEALS, PREPARED WITH CARE.

Ask any student what they like about going to Shaloh House and "the food" will place near the top of the list. Our cook prepares healthy and nutritious breakfasts, hot lunches, and snacks each day. Along with wonderful meals, she also provides the children with yet another caring adult looking after their needs.

FRESH AIR AND EXERCISE.

As hard as everyone works, there is still time for play. Children go out to recess each day, weather permitting, and use the playground and sports equipment. In addition, they take a gym class which covers activities including gymnastics, soccer, and basketball.

A SOLID FOUNDATION HELPS CHILDREN REACH FAR.

Our students develop a foundation for lifelong academic success. They have gone on to attend excellent high schools, including Maimonides, Milton Academy, Boston Latin School, and Newton, Brookline, and Sharon public schools.

WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT.

We encourage interested families to take advantage of our open house or to schedule a school visit. This is an excellent way to see all that Shaloh House has to offer, and it is the first step in our admissions process. To learn more, please call the admissions office at (617) 787-2200 x13.

OUR ADMISSIONS PROCESS.

The school visit is the first step in our admissions process. For children entering pre-k and kindergarten, a staff member will conduct an ageappropriate assessment of your child's skill level. For those students entering grades 1-8, a three-day visit is arranged as part of the admissions process. During this time, each applicant will participate in

WHAT I LEARNED IN SCHOOL TODAY.

Shaloh House Jewish Day School helps students perform well above the grade levels at most other schools. Beginning in kindergarten, where students develop a strong foundation in math, verbal, and social skills, students progress at an impressive rate. Here are just a few of the academic highlights of each grade. For a complete description of our curriculum, please visit www.shaloh.org.

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Language Arts	Spell over 400 words Read chapter books Write creative stories Understand basic punctuation	Spell multi-syllabic words Identify characters/main ideas Give short oral presentations Understand parts of speech Describe ideas in written format	Build vocabulary by reading Research/essay-writing skills Understand grammar rules Oral presentations	Improve reading comprehension Create outlines for written work Structure essays and poems Give oral presentations that engage the audience
Judaic Studies and Hebrew	Write Hebrew script Read Hebrew print Read and explain blessings Introduction to <i>Chumash</i> Hebrew prefixes/suffixes/roots	Chumash translation skills Simple Hebrew sentence structure/conversation Hebrew stories Read and explain Shema	Read and explain <i>Rashi</i> Hebrew past/present tenses Hebrew conversation/stories Read and explain prayers	Chumash translation skills Begin Navi and Torah commentaries Build Hebrew vocabulary/ complex sentence structure Strengthen Hebrew conversation skills
Math	Add/subtract 3-digit numbers Multiplication/simple division Math logic/problem-solving Read clock and calendar Measure mass and volume	Multiply/divide 4-digit numbers Multiply 2-digit numbers mentally Fractions/decimals Solve algebraic problems	Add/subtract fractions/decimals Multiples of 2,3,5,10 Identify perimeter Calculate area Algebraic expressions with 2 unknowns	Equations with fractions and decimals Calculate area/circumference Percentage word problems Square root expressions 2-dimensional graphs
Social Studies / History	Understand a map as a representation of a place Identify state capitals Understand American holidays	Read globes and maps World's oceans Key time periods/dates Study Native Americans in MA	Key political/economic/military events in American history Importance of government Meaning of American flag/anthem	Timelines of civilizations Interpret archaeological finds Greek civilization
Science	Mass and volume Materials' physical properties Forces and types of motion Life cycles of organisms	Identify plant parts Human organ systems Characteristics of magnetism Develop/test a hypothesis	How living organisms adapt Compare forms of energy Demonstrate action/reaction	Identify parts and functions of a typical plant cell Categorize features of organisms as inherited or learned Understand how the law of conservation of energy applies
	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Language Arts	Use formal/informal language Use context to define words Write book reports/essays Oral presentations with clarity/ audience connection	Use Greek/Latin to define unfamiliar words History, music, art, and folklore in literature Writing skills: draft/ revise/edit/proofread	ldioms Literal/figurative meanings Distinguish phrases/clauses Literary characters' language styles	Dictionaries/thesauruses/ references Employ grammar/usage rhetorically Voice/tone/diction/syntax in media presentations Build oral presentation skills
Judaic Studies and Hebrew	Navi: Sefer Shoftim Chumash/commentaries with translation Complex grammatical structures in Hebrew Modern Jewish/Israel history	Navi: Sefer Shmuel Aleph Chumash/commentaries with translation Basics of Talmudic thought Modern Jewish/Israel History	Navi: Sefer Shmuel Bet Chumash/commentaries with translation Jewish history/philosophy Talmud Baba Metziah	Start learning <i>Navi: Melahim</i> <i>Chumash</i> /commentaries with translation Continue Jewish history, tradition, and philosophy Continue Talmud

	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Math	Theorems of triangles/circles Positive and negative numbers Calculations in 3-D geometry Scientific notations/decimals Solve word problems with math logic	Pi and congruent numbers Basics of trigonometry Identify types of symmetry Theorems in geometry Manipulate complex numbers	Expressions with 2/more unknowns Solve complex word problems Solve quadratic equations Logarithms/exponential fractions Graph exponential functions	Plot complex numbers using rectangular /polar coordinates systems Polynomial roots/degree Uniform/normal/binomial distributions
Social Studies/ History	Map the Roman Empire Rise of the Roman Republic Slavery under the Romans Culture/science/art of Ancient Rome	Medieval Europe Byzantine Empire European expeditions	The Renaissance Machiavelli/Michelangelo/ Da Vinci/Raphael/Shakespeare Religion's role in the wars of the 15th/16th centuries	The American Revolution The Civil Wars Westward expansion
Science	Animal habitats The Solar System How Earth supports life Effect of humans on ecology Average speed/acceleration	Classification of substances Periodic Table of elements Physics of basic machines/ forces/heat transfer Cell division Mendelian genetics Human anatomy	Chemical equations Stoicheometry Electricity and magnetism Photosynthesis Cellular respiration Theories of evolution	The Gas Laws Nuclear chemistry Basics of quantum mechanics Physics of electromagnetic spectrum, light, and sound Molecular genetics

classes that are at his/her current grade level, and will be assessed academically.

This enables our teachers to observe your child's strengths relative to the level of his or her peers. It also gives your child the opportunity to meet future classmates and experience life at Shaloh House Jewish Day School.

We recognize that students who enter our school may come from a variety of educational backgrounds. If we determine that your child needs extra help in order to thrive in our academic setting, he or she may be expected to participate in our tutoring program during the summer and/or the school year. Shaloh House will often provide tutoring freeof-charge.

THE BARBARA F. GUZOVSKY PRESCHOOL (FOR TODDLERS TO PRE-K).

The preschool, with its low student-teacher ratios, blends Judaic and secular subjects into a program that is rich, fulfilling, and stimulating. It is dedicated to meeting each child's physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs. As early childhood educators, we keep our curriculum on the cutting edge–continually updating our programming to keep pace with new developments in the field of early childhood education. We focus on giving children skills necessary for blossoming into maturity: math and reading readiness skills, art, drama, music, and sports. As a Jewish preschool, we teach Jewish identity-the joy of being a Jew. At the heart of our program is our desire to nurture in our children a concern, kindness, and sensitivity for their fellow human beings. For more information on the curriculum, please visit the website at www.shaloh.org or call (617) 787-2200.

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM.

At Shaloh House, the learning and development continue after the school year ends. Camp Gan Israel is part of the largest and fastest growing network of Jewish day camps in the world, and provides your child with an exciting, fun-filled summer vacation. From sports (basketball, soccer, swimming, kickball, gymnastics, and martial arts) to specialized classes (art, dance, chess, math, and Judaics), as well as exciting field trips (baseball games, fishing in Cape Cod, Canobie Lake Park, and NYC), your children will have the summer of their lives. For more information, please visit the camp website at www.cgiboston.com or call (617) 787-2200. Hope to see you this summer!



The only change I'd mak add grades 9–12. shaloh house parent



They do a lot for the Jewish community. It feels like our whole family is part of Shaloh House. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT When you get to know the administration, you know Shaloh House has a bright future. SHALOH HOUSE PARENT



