

TERS Message

May 2019

We hope everyone had a wonderful Pesach celebration with family and friends, and that you enjoyed some rest and relaxation during Spring Break. We can't believe that religious school is now at the homestretch. Please note, there are **no more mid-week Hebrew classes** for the rest of the school year. We have three final Sunday sessions with our students this month.

Special thanks to our teachers Randee Siegal (Kitah Gan-Aleph/K-1), Rachel O'Brien (Kitah Bet/2), and Monica Goldstein (Pre-K), who helped lead the Passover Seder for our Pre-K through 2nd graders on Sunday, April 7. The children followed along nicely in their colorful children's Haggadot. Many thanks to Rabbi Ekstrand and Sherry Barnes for leading our Kitah Gimmel (3rd) through Kitah Zayin (7th) students during their Passover Seder on Wednesday, April 10. It was an especially meaningful and engaging version of the Haggadah that inspired many of the students to participate with much ruach. We purposely scheduled these early in preparation for the actual holiday during break. Thank you to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood for helping to sponsor the ingredients for the school's Passover Seders.

Many thanks again to Scott Wolfe for accompanying teacher Liam Feldman and his 8th graders Ethan Johnson and Spencer Haynes, along with our emissaries Liron and Roy, for their field trip to New York City on April 7. We very much appreciate that you took time out of your busy schedule to lend your experienced tour guidance as the group visited Jewish history sites of interest with you in Manhattan.

Remember the children's classroom themed baskets? Winners of those baskets, as well as family activity and destination donations from local businesses, will be announced at the Spring Fling Basket Bonanza Sock Hop Dance Party. **The last day for basket ticket sales is on the morning of Sunday, May 5, in the school atrium, which is open to our entire Temple.** Please consider supporting this effort as the event and baskets support Temple Emanu-El's Essential Services Fund. The drawing will take place during the Sock Hop dance party right after religious school that day at 12:30 P.M. Families, please join us with the kids for a fun social with pizza, ice cream, face painting and dancing! We need your R.S.V.P. as soon as possible to: religiousschool@tewaterford.org.

On Sunday, May 19, the last day of religious school, we invite all the religious school teachers, faculty assistants and students to join us for a fun barbecue picnic outside once we are done with end-of-year presentations in the sanctuary.

Very important...as the school year ends, we also need to plan for next school year. So teachers, faculty assistants and school families, please be on the lookout for a survey that will ask you to confirm whether you will be returning to religious school next year. We appreciate your prompt response so we can plan accordingly.

We have had such a productive school year, one filled with new knowledge and connections, as well as some learning curves. We couldn't have done it without the consistent support of Rabbi Ekstrand, Sherry Barnes, all of our dedicated teachers, faculty assistants and, of course, our amazing Young Israeli Emissaries Liron and Roy! We wish Liron and Roy all the best as they return to Israel to embark on their next chapters.

Wishing you all a great summer!

Armi and Jennifer
Co-Administrators
Temple Emanu-El Religious School