

Vav (6th Grade) Curriculum

Jewish Identity:

The Vav year presents a unique opportunity to perfect the students' t'fillah skills, so that they are able to participate in a variety of services. Taught by the Rabbi and Hazzan, our students will learn proper nusach, as well as meaning of the various prayers. This pre-Bar and Bat Mitzvah year will also focus on the skills necessary for the Bar and Bat mitzvah year. Although trope will be learned separately, students will learn the structure of the Torah, the relationship of the Haftorah and the geography of the siddur.

Graduation Program

At the end of the Vav year, a Graduation ceremony takes place. The Vav students lead a Kabbalat Shabbat Service followed by a Shabbat Dinner.

Hebrew

The Vav year serves to reinforce the reading skills learned thus far, continuing to examine complex prayers in the Shabbat Morning Service and honing grammatical skills such as recognizing pronomial suffixes and prefixes and roots. The Hebrew/Prayer curriculum also reinforces the Torah Service, preparing the Vav student for the upcoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah year.

Bible

Vav students continue to bridge the gap between Bible stories and scholarly exegesis, as they study the *Book of Judges*. Learning the original text and the traditional commentaries, Daled students discover the historical and ethical significance of the Book of judges and learn what lessons we can draw from the leadership skills of each of the rulers of Israel.

Holidays and Mitzvot

Vav students review and consolidate the graded curriculum of the Melton Research Center of the Jewish Theological Seminary focusing on group and independent study.

Prayer

In addition to reviewing the Shabbat Morning Service and all the prayers and blessings learned thus far, Vav students learn the Daily *shacharit* (morning) Service, adding *Haleluyah* (*Psalms 150*), *the Weekly Amidah*, chanted with the proper *nusach*, and the **Kabbalat Shabbat Service**: *Lcha Dodi*, *Mizmor Shir*, *Mourners Kaddish*, *Barchu*, *Ma'ariv Aravim*, *Ahavat Olam*, *Shema*, *Va'Yomer*, *Mi Chamocho*, *V'Shamru*, *Va'Yechulu* (*Kiddush*), *Magen Avot*, *Shalom Aleichem*, **Birkat Ha'Mazon**: Long and short version.

Israel : Vav students will begin a serious study of the State of Israel, learning geography, history, culture and the way in which the new modern Israel has adjusted to the rapid development of the State.

Texts and Resources:

Siddur Sim Shalom- USCJ

*Barvaz Press – Kabbalat Shabbat
Service and Ma'ariv.*

***Text: Artzeinu: An Israel
Encounter, Torah Aura***

Holiday Curriculum for Daled

*Students – Melton Research Center
of the Jewish Theological Seminary*

The Gift of Wisdom, URJ

Tanach - JPS

Our Sacred Texts - A.R.E

Barvaz Press – Kabbalat Shabbat

Music / Israeli Dancing

Music is offered every week in grades Gimmel - Vav (3rd – 6th.) Children learn a variety of Hebrew, English or liturgical songs that are related to Shabbat, the holidays, the siddur and Israel. Children will also receive instruction in Israeli Dancing from time to time.