Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School

2015-2016 School Year

3rd Grade Judaic Studies Syllabus

COURSE OVERVIEW

Over the course of the year, we will be learning the following topics:

1. Chumash: We will continue to learn from Sefer Beresheit. We will study parshiot Va’era, Chayei Sara, and Toldot. During our Chumash lessons, we will focus on skill building: enabling each child to feel comfortable reading, translating, and understanding text from the Chumash. We will also learn to find relevant life-lessons in each Perek we study, and apply them to our everyday life. During the year, we will introduce Rashi to our curriculum. We will learn how to read Rashi script, and how to read and apply his commentary on Chumash to the topics we are studying.
2. Dinim: In Dinim class, we will learn various topics in Halacha. We will learn about the Jewish holidays, Shabbat, the laws of Kashrut, various tefillot (prayers) and brachot (blessings), among other topics. In Dinim class, we will work on a year-long project called “Sefer Hamitzvot,” The Mitzvot Book. We will learn about a new mitzvah every week, and each student will compile a beautiful booklet containing vivid depictions and explanations of each mitzvah.
3. Parasha: Each week, we will learn about the current Parasha, weekly Torah portion. Students will learn an overview of each Parasha. We will pick one topic from each Parasha and learn how to apply it to our lives.
4. Pirkei Avot: Pirkei Avot is a compilation of teachings by Rabbis from the Talmud; their focus is on ethics and values. We will be learning several of these throughout the year and discuss what we can learn from these teachings and how they apply to our lives.
5. Middot Development: We will spend much time this year developing our middot, our good character traits. We will find opportunities in every topic learned to hone our character and learn how to be our best selves. We will discuss Derech Eretz, Chessed, and other related topics. We will also be studying a textbook called “Shalom Secrets,” which teaches children practical ideas for conflict resolution.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework will be assigned 2-3 times a week. Homework will be a relevant review of topics learned in class. A few notes about homework:

1. A homework sheet listing each week’s homework will be distributed each Monday. The homework sheet should be returned to Morah Michal the following Monday with a parent signature for each completed assignment.
2. There will be no written homework over the weekend. Weekend homework will include relaying a weekly Dvar Torah on the Parasha to the family over Shabbat. In addition, students can earn extra credit points by helping their parents over Shabbat, and davening over the weekend.
3. Late homework will be accepted for 50% credit.

GRADING POLICY

Students will be graded in the following manner:

1. Each homework assignment will be worth 10 points
2. A weekly Tefilla grade of 10 points (2 per day) for proper decorum and participation in Tefilla.
3. A bi-weekly notebook check in each subject will be worth 15 points
4. Tests, projects and other assessments will be assigned different point values, depending on their nature.
5. Students are graded on both completion and quality of content.

CONTACT INFORMATION

I am always happy to hear from parents! Whether is it a question, comment, or concern, I will gladly discuss it with you. I’m a firm believer that one of the keys to student success is strong parent-teacher communication!

I can be reached by email at [mshapiro@ssdhds.org](mailto:mshapiro@ssdhds.org), or by phone during school hours at (858) 279-3300. After school hours, I can be reached on my cell phone at (858) 353-2614.

When sending me an email or leaving a voicemail, please allow me 48 hours to respond.

I look forward to a very exciting, productive, and enjoyable school year!