



ECE Glossary – Thank you to our wonderful ECE parent committee for putting together this very useful guide terms used in both the ECE and Temple.

Welcome Back Shabbat

- Join other ECE families and children at school for a chance to get to know each other and the ECE teachers.
- Purchase Shabbaque food or bring your own.
- Bring your own blanket for a picnic
- Arts ‘n’ Crafts and games included.

First day of school/meet and greet (what to bring/expect)

- Walk your child to their classroom
- Bring their lunch and sleep sack if staying for lunch and nap (12:00-3:00); extra change of clothes, diapers/pull ups if needed and water bottle. Water is also provided throughout the day.
- Join Claudine, new and returning parents for a light nosh and coffee in the Mercaz.

Back to School Night

- ECE director gives a brief overview about the ECE programs and vision for the year
- Visit your child's teacher and classroom to see their great work and learn more about your child's classroom.
- Specific directions about when and where to meet will be provided before the event.

ECE Parent Committee

- An association made up of ECE parents, who have children who are in the ECE; these parents volunteer to help the ECE chair and/or become members of different committees. These committees include: Special Events, Fundraising, Holiday events, Room Parents, Yearbook, and more.
- Volunteer with other parents to help make the ECE a wonderful place for our kids. Get involved!

ECE Parent Meetings

- Attend monthly ECE meetings on the 1st Tuesday (4x per school year) at 9:15 to hear what is happening at school.
- Bring any questions and/or comments. Hear updates from Claudine and each committee.
- Light refreshments are served.

Snack Parent

- Sign-ups for healthy snack take place at the beginning of the year.
- Each week a different family is responsible for Healthy Snack.
- Some examples of healthy Snack ideas include: fruit, string cheese, cereal bars, yogurt, mini bagels and cream cheese
- On Fridays only fruit is needed to accompany the Challah and juice which are provided by the ECE. **No desserts on Shabbat.**

Shabbat Parent

- Parents sign up to be the Shabbat Parent on a particular Friday and join the their child's class for a celebration of Shabbat with songs in the Beit Midrash and special in class time to enjoy challah, juice and possibly a book.
- For the Nursery Shabbat begins at 10:30, Mechina Shabbat begins at 11am, **but ask your teacher what time they would like you to arrive, and where to meet you.**

After class Enrichment Program

- School program offering different classes for an additional fee. For Nursery students this class takes place from 12:20-1:00. For Mechina families the class is from 3:10-4:00.
- Classes may include Cooking, Dance, Science & Art, Engineering, Drama and Sports
- Flyers for these programs will be in the welcome packet and or in the school office.
- These are different than the Special Enrichment that every class gets each week in class: Music, Hebrew, and Stretch n Grow

Hot lunch (Wednesdays)

- Every Wednesday the entire ECE gets the same hot lunch delivered to their classroom. (11:30 for Nursery and 1:00 for Mechina)
- Pizza, Quesadillas, Hamburgers and Chicken Fingers are just a few of the hot lunch entrees, along with a side and fruit.

Shabbaque

- Late afternoon Shabbat BBQ put on by the Temple.
- Play, eat, meet other families and relax on upper lawn.
- Shabbat services follow
- This event usually occurs at the end of August.

Parent/Teacher Conference

- Approximately 20 minute conference with your child's teacher to hear about their progress, likes and areas he/she is working on.
- For parents only
- Childcare is provided while you are in the conference
- Occurs twice per school year in October and March

Special Person(s) Shabbat

- Every ECE child invites a special person to join them at Friday morning Shabbat service. This is usually a great time for grandparents, aunts, uncles or even parents to join.
- This Special Shabbat takes place in the sanctuary.
- After the service, the special persons are invited back to the classroom to enjoy challah, and sing songs.

Tot Shabbat

- Family Shabbat service geared towards ages 6 months to 5 years old.
- Some families picnic on the upper lawn beforehand.
- Enter synagogue when services begin for a kid friendly service.
- Stay after for Oneg Shabbat for an art project, snacks, juice and for special Tot-Shabbat services.

Family Shabbat/Shabbat services

- All Shabbat services are for all families. Though they might be titled differently and geared toward specific ages at certain Shabbats, the Family Shabbat and regular Shabbat services are for everyone!

Class Seders

- During Passover, each class has a Seder in their class.
- Parents help bring items, cook, set and clean up.

Seder in the Desert

- Chance to have a group seder with other temple members.
- Located in San Bernadino foothills, about 1hr, 20 min from TBH.
- 2 night camping trip in tents or you can rent RV. Experienced campers are there to help!
- Food arrangements for the Seder are made with Rabbi Sarah. Other meals are done on your own or with groups of friends.
- There are planned activities throughout the weekend
- There are working bathrooms
- Come by yourself, with your whole family or just one other member.
- Attend the planning meeting with Rabbi Sarah for details for each year.

Purim Parade

- A fun school event where the elementary kids cheer on the ECE kids as they parade around the school in costume for Purim.
- Kids are welcome to come to school dressed up, but please NO MASKS. An email will go out closer to the event with details about appropriate Purim Costumes.
- This is technically not an event for parents but if you are planning on staying and you have a camera, we would love you to take pictures so we can have some for our yearbook.

Purim Carnival

- Temple Beth Hillel's Community Carnival.
- Carnival Rides, Bounce Houses, Games, Music, Prizes, Food and more! This is a very fun event that is open to the Public.
- Starts in the morning with a march in our Purim Costume Parade followed by a Purim Show; immediately followed by our big Community Carnival.
- Tickets are available as a pre-purchase at www.bethhillel.info or you can get tickets at the door.

Minicamp

- During Winter Break, Spring Break and before the new school year begins, mini-camp is available on a first come, first serve basis and always fills up very quickly.

Mitzvah Day

- Mitzvah Day is a day when the entire Temple community comes together to work on projects that help heal the world.

Thanksgiving Feast

- The school's celebration of Thanksgiving.
- Each classroom helps to prepare a specific Thanksgiving dish for our celebration.
- While some of the food is prepared at school, volunteers will be needed to help cook and store the food at their homes.
- On the day of the feast, family members gather in the social hall as they enjoy a Thanksgiving meal prepared by the ECE children as well as a performance from each age group.

Chanukah Boutique

- Sponsored by the Women of Temple Beth Hillel, this is a great place to get gifts for everyone on your holiday list.
- There'll be many terrific vendors selling all kinds of wonderful gifts for the holidays -- and you don't have to be Jewish to stop by and shop.
- Enjoy lots of yummy eats, too.
- Children love the special table where no gift exceeds \$5. Wrapping is included with the purchase so children get to surprise the people on their list too.

Chanukah Rotations

- During Chanukah, a celebration takes place where the kids get to rotate between various Chanukah stations.

Mechina Graduation

Culmination ceremony for children in Mechina who have finished the ECE. This program is in the early evening and lasts approximately 1 ½ hours.

The Holidays

Tu B'Shevat or B'shebat Seder;

Just as Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of the world, Tu B'Shevat is like a birthday for trees. In texts dating from the first centuries of the Common Era, we learn that Tu B'Shevat was the day that separated one agricultural year from the next. On this day we celebrate Tu B'Shevat to thank God for the gifts of creation, especially foods that grow on trees and the beauties of nature we enjoy. The holiday also reminds us of our responsibility to care for the earth that God created in order to preserve it for future generations. Source: Jewishappleseed.org

Yom HaShoah

Yom HaZikaron laShoah ve-laG'vurah (ולגבורה לשואה הזיכרון יום); "Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day"), known colloquially in Israel and abroad as **Yom HaShoah** (השואה יום) and in English as **Holocaust Remembrance Day**, or **Holocaust Day**, is observed as Israel's day of commemoration for the approximately six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as a result of the actions carried out by Nazi Germany and its accessories, and for the Jewish resistance in that period. Source: Wikipedia

Ha'atzmaut

Yom Ha'atzmaut (Hebrew: *Yōm hā- 'Aṣmā'ūt* lit. העצמאות יום "Independence Day") is the national day of Israel, commemorating the Israeli Declaration of Independence in 1948. It is celebrated either on the 5th of Iyar, according to the Hebrew calendar, or on one of the preceding or following days, depending on which day of the week this date falls on. Yom Ha'atzmaut is preceded by Yom Hazikaron, the Israeli Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terrorism Remembrance Day. Source: Wikipedia

Shavuot

The Torah was given by G-d to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai more than 3300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of G-d's gift, and G-d "re-gives" the Torah. The word *Shavuot* means "weeks." It marks the completion of the seven-week counting period between Passover and Shavuot. Source: Chabad.org

Tashlich at the Beach

Tashlikh (Hebrew: תשליך, meaning "casting off") is a long-standing Jewish practice usually performed on the afternoon of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, although it can be said up until Hoshana Rabbah. The previous year's sins are symbolically "cast off" by reciting a section from Micah that makes allusions to the symbolic casting off of sins, into a large, natural body of flowing water (such as a river, lake, sea or ocean).

-Temple Beth Hillel does this beautiful service every year at Will Rogers State Beach. Join!

Sukkot

For forty years, as our ancestors traversed the Sinai Desert, following the Exodus from Egypt, miraculous "clouds of glory" surrounded and hovered over them, shielding them from the dangers and discomforts of the desert. Ever since, we remember G-d's kindness and reaffirm our trust in His providence by dwelling in a sukkah--a hut of temporary construction with a roof covering of branches--for the duration of the Sukkot festival (on the Jewish calendar Tishrei 15-21). For seven days and nights, we eat all our meals in the sukkah and otherwise regard it as our home.

Yizkor

Yizkor, a special memorial prayer for the departed, is recited in the synagogue four times a year, following the Torah reading on the last day of Passover, on the second day of Shavuot, on Shemini Atzeret and on Yom Kippur. *Yizkor*, in Hebrew, means "Remember." It is not only the first word of the prayer, it also represents its overall theme. In this prayer, we implore G-d to remember the souls of our relatives and friends that have passed on.

Simchat Torah

Jewish holiday that celebrates and marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah readings, and the beginning of a new cycle. Simhat Torah is a component of the Biblical Jewish holiday of *Shemini Atzeret* ("Eighth Day of Assembly"), which follows immediately after the festival of Sukkot in the month of Tishrei (occurring in mid-September to early October on the Gregorian calendar).

Rosh Codesh

The name for the first day of every month in the Hebrew calendar, marked by the birth of a new moon. It is considered a minor holiday, akin to the intermediate days of Passover and Sukkot.

Rosh Hashana

The Jewish New Year. The Biblical name for this holiday is **Yom Teruah** (Hebrew: תְּרוּעָה יוֹם, literally "day [of] shouting/raising a noise") or the **Feast of Trumpets**. It is the first of the High Holy Days or יָמֵי הַנּוֹרָאִים *Yamim Nora'im* ("Days of Awe") which usually occur in the early autumn of the Northern Hemisphere. Rosh Hashanah is a two-day celebration, which begins on the first day of Tishrei. Tishrei is the first month of the Jewish civil year, but the seventh month of the ecclesiastical year. Rosh Hashanah customs include sounding the shofar (a hollowed-out ram's horn) and eating symbolic foods such as apples dipped in honey to evoke a "sweet new year".

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur (/jɔːm ˈkɪpər, ˌjoʊm, ˌjɑːm/;^[1] Hebrew: כַּפּוּר יוֹם *כַּפּוּר יוֹם* (הַכִּיפּוּרִים יוֹם), also known as **Day of Atonement**, is the holiest day כִּיפּוּר], or of the year for the Jewish people.^[2] Its central themes are atonement and repentance. Jewish people traditionally observe this holy day with an approximate 25-hour period of fasting and intensive prayer, often spending most of the day in synagogue services.

Chanukah

Hanukkah (/ˈhɑːnəkə/ ***hah**-nə-kə*; Hebrew: *khanuká*, Tiberian: *khanuká*, usually spelled חֲנֻכָּה, הַנּוּכָה pronounced [χanuˈka] in Modern Hebrew, [ˈχanukə] or [ˈχanikə] in Yiddish; a transliteration also romanized as **Chanukah** or **Hanukah**), also known as the **Festival of Lights** and **Feast of Dedication**, is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire of the 2nd century BCE. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar.

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a unique candelabrum, the nine-branched *menorah* or *hanukiah*, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. The typical menorah consists of eight branches with an additional visually distinct branch. The extra light is called a *shamash* (Hebrew: שַׁמַּשׁ, "attendant")^[1] and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest. The purpose of the *shamash* is to have a light available for practical use, as using the Hanukkah lights themselves for purposes other than publicizing and meditating upon Hanukkah is forbidden.^[2]

Tzedakah

- Hebrew, meaning righteousness, fairness, or justice - refers to actions that are taken to help those in need.
- The most common form of tzedakah involves giving money to the poor and to other worthwhile causes.
- Tzedakah can also include donating food, clothing, and other necessities, or volunteering one's time and energy to assist the needy.
- On Fridays, as a part of Shabbat, many classrooms ask that the students bring some change to donate to the Tzedakah well in the lobby. Some people choose to put a bag with pennies in their child's cubby to use throughout the year.
- This teaches the children about the importance of charity, as well as a fun opportunity to watch the coin roll into the well.

Mechina Graduation

- Culmination ceremony for children in Mechina who have finished the ECE program. This program is in the early evening and lasts approximately 1 ½ hours.