

RTR RS Foundation for 2020-2021

Joyful Judaism - This year ahead, more than perhaps any other year, we want to lean heavily into the work that our Religious School programs have always done to engender a love for Jewish life. This is a year where finding joy in Jewish holidays, rituals, stories, music, and lifecycle events will be crucial. To that end, our programs will evolve to meet the form that the moment demands. In person gatherings may happen in shifts, or programs may be designed as take home kits with necessary resources and materials.

Hebrew Skills - Our Hebrew faculty remain dedicated to ensuring that our students build a strong foundation for Hebrew reading and comprehension. In order to facilitate that learning, students grades 4-6 will meet for 1:1 Hebrew tutoring throughout the year on Tuesdays.

Self Care & Community Through A Jewish Lens - Responding to Hillel's first question, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?", students and families will explore the Jewish values that provide comfort, hope, and direction for us during challenging times.

Building towards Justice - Responding to Hillel's second question, "If I am only for myself, what am I?" students and families will engage in the work of becoming an anti-racist community. This will include a focus on opening ourselves up to the experiences of others, and will rely on a developmentally appropriate "ladder of justice" (echoing Maimonides' ladder of tzedakah) that invites learners to build an understanding of justice founded on the belief that all human beings are created B'tzelem Elohim (in the image of God).