

# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The monthly newsletter of Edmonton Talmud Torah Society



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?

- A Word From Our TT Society President
- Society News
- ELC/OSC Highlights
- School News

## FEATURE CELEBRATING TU B'SHEVAT



## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Families, Alumni and Friends,

Happy (secular) New Year 2022! My hope is that whatever you did during the winter break it was spent in good health, and you enjoyed it to the fullest.

It was a joy seeing the bright eyes of excitement as our students returned to school on January 10th, with much to say about their winter break happenings. Whether they spent it in the deep freeze of winter or the warmth of somewhere tropical, it is obvious that the time off was a much needed break. The weather has warmed up enough so that recesses outside are enjoyable and filled with the wonder of snow and ice! Teachers are passing along their knowledge once again to the students' eager minds, and the classrooms and hallways are bustling with enthusiasm. May we all continue to be safe and healthy.

*Natalie Soroka*



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## Message From Leeor Eliyahu President TT Society Board

Welcome to our inaugural monthly edition of the Talmud Torah Times! As you will see through this edition, the TT Time is getting a facelift. We have been working with the Edmonton based marketing team, Boost2Business, to help take our vision of our newsletter and create this upgraded edition. We have also hired Boost2Business to give our website a much-needed facelift and look forward to unveiling it later this year.

January 2022 sure has proven to be exciting and dramatic in many ways, including the continued polar vortex. The students are excited to be back after the extended winter break and to finally get to be outside during recess again.

The Society's Board of Directors are very excited to announce that, as promised, Judaic Studies minutes have been increased and your child's timetable has been adjusted to reflect this.

In addition, the Board has listened to your feedback from the strategic plan survey and has hired HLA and JS consultant Nurit Reshef.

Many of you may remember Nurit when she taught at the school, myself included! She later became the JS/HLA Program Coordinator and built the Junior High curriculum. Currently, she works as a Human Resources Consultant within Edmonton Public Schools and has been hired by the Society as a part time JS/HLA consultant.

Nurit has already begun working with our teachers to update and upgrade our curriculum. She will be here to support their work and act as an invaluable resource for their HLA/JS programming.

The Society is unbelievably excited to announce the generous donation from Don and Myrna Silverberg in order to turn our dreams of having a lunchroom into a reality!

We are well into our planning / organizing phase and hope to undergo construction over the summertime. We will be restructuring the Multi-Purpose Room and one of the classrooms in the JH wing and creating a lunchroom out of that space. We cannot wait to make this happen!

Your Board continues to work at implementing more initiatives that revolve around our Vision, Mission and Values. We encourage parents to consider running for the Board or to offer your valuable experience and insight to one of our committees. We are currently looking for those with an interest in joining our Fundraising or Communications & Marketing committees.

If you are interested or curious about these committees, please reach out to Natalie Soroka in the Society office at 780-481-3377 or [nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com](mailto:nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com)

Be safe and stay healthy!

Leeor Eliyahu





# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## INTRODUCING Our Society Board Committees



Jennifer Coppens, Arielle Whitham (Co-chairs), Doug Kondor, Sharon Ohayon, Shea Pertman, Michael Sadovnick.

The Governance Committee oversees the work of the Board. It sets the governance framework, ensures the Board governs in accordance with its framework, and oversees board recruitment, education, and self-evaluation.



Michelle Huberman (Chair), Melissa Benjamin, Ruth Coppens, Karen Hering, Gaylene Soifer, Debbie Sniderman.

The Education Committee's function is to assist the Talmud Torah Society (TTS) in: 1) Offering a robust program in all subject areas by ensuring and promoting high pedagogical and academic standards and outcomes in Hebrew Language Arts (HLA), Judaic Studies (JS), as well as in the secular program. 2) Providing assistance in accommodating for the diverse and individual needs of the ELC and TT students.



Noga Vaisblat (Chair); **the committee is looking for volunteers.**

The Communication Committee is tasked with guiding the internal and external communications of the Talmud Torah Society. The committee is working on developing a comprehensive communication plan for the Society to consolidate and streamline communication between the TTS board, the TTELC, the School Council and the Jewish community in Edmonton.

The committee is currently working to develop a new and enhanced website for the society and improving and consolidating the information delivered to the community.



Sharon Marcus (Chair); **the committee is looking for volunteers.**

A committee of the Board, the Fund Development Committee supports the acquisition of philanthropic resources and activities necessary to support the vision, mission, values and strategic priorities set by the Talmud Torah Society (TTS). OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2021-2022 YEAR:

- Build a culture of philanthropy by developing a set of organizational values and practices that support and nurture fundraising within the TTS
- Set fundraising goals based on TTS approved budget
- Participate in supporting the UJA campaign as a school initiative



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## INTRODUCING Our Society Board Committees



Noga Vaisblat (Chair), Andrew Gergely, Doug Kondor, Jenn Magalnick, Stacie Perlmutter.

The committee works with the ELC Director in developing and reviewing policies, procedures, and budgets for the ELC program, while ensuring alignment with the TTS Board mission, vision, values, and priorities. This year, the ELC committee's focus is on maintaining a balanced budget, enhancing Judaic and Hebrew content in our programming, and improving communication with families.



Megan Mandel (Chair), Melissa Benjamin, James Friedman

The Finance committee has a fiduciary responsibility to the members of the Society, and is developing strong financial procedures and controls, as well as working to adhere to the budgets set forth at the start of the 2021-22 fiscal year.



Doug Kondor (Chair), Dvir Egdal, Jamie Mozeson, Becky Saegert.

A committee of the Board, the Security Committee provides on-going, long-term leadership on security matters including emergency management and to provide guidance and input on the approval of funds for security improvements for the Talmud Torah School and property.

### OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2021-2022 YEAR

- Managing potential security grant
- Creating a community watch group



Melissa Benjamin (Chair), Ruth Coppens, Michelle Huberman

The Human Resource Committee's function is to assist the Talmud Torah Society in fulfilling its employee responsibilities by ensuring that personnel policies, procedures and practices are established, implemented, kept under review and modified when necessary. The Chair's role is to communicate and be a liaison between the TT Society staff and the board.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## January Committee Reports



Most recently the committee has been working with Talmud Torah School Council to help formalize our relationship and the way we work together to provide our students with a robust and meaningful Jewish education. We will be reviewing our Bylaws to reflect our close and collaborative relationship with the School Council, and recommendations will be presented for Society Membership review at the spring AGM. We are also developing a recruitment process to encourage Society members to run for election for the Board of Directors at the spring AGM.



The committee has met virtually with representatives from several Jewish day schools across Canada, gathering information on HLA and JS resources, materials and programs. In addition, we have met with Nurit Reshef and finalized her role as TT's part time Judaic Curriculum Consultant. Nurit has already met with the teachers on several occasions, facilitated opportunities for them to participate in second language PD sessions and is currently assisting with the planning and coordination surrounding Purim. Over the next month we will work with Nurit in laying the foundation for our HLA and JS curriculum review and revision.



### New Lunchroom / Communal Space!

With the idea of creating a lunchroom / communal space for today's students to gather to eat lunch, share prayers and create a stronger community, the Society found it's perfect match in an extremely generous donation from former Edmontonians, Myrna and Don Silverberg.

**The Don and Myrna Silverberg Lunchroom** will greatly enhance the pride and feeling of Ruach (life force) in the school and bring back a venue that has left indelible memories for TT children for decades. Proposed construction: July/August 2022



We are happy to report that the work on the website has begun. We started looking into conceptual design options and are finalizing the structure of the website, with the goal of making it as intuitive and easy to navigate as possible. The board has approved the inclusion of an online payment system that will be implemented in the new website. In addition, the TT Times newsletter template has been created and is used for the first time in this issue.

The committee is looking for members. Please contact Natalie at 780-481-3377 or [nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com](mailto:nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com) if you are interested in becoming a member!

# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## January Committee Reports



The committee is working with the ELC staff to improve the communication the ELC is sending to parents. the ELC committee is ever adapting to the rapidly changing Covid pandemic and trying to balance keeping the ELC open at all times while taking into consideration community and staff safety.



The committee is working closely with our bookkeeper, Tara Carlson, in preparing for the August 31, 2021 year end audit.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Last August Myrna and Don Silverberg, of Netanya, Israel, reached out to Talmud Torah expressing their wish to make a gift to this school that still holds a very special place in their memories and hearts. How does it happen that a family living in Israel since 1976 reaches out to Talmud Torah to make such a transformational gift? Here lies a story not to be missed.

Myrna and Don moved to Edmonton in 1968 and stayed until 1976, when Don had an opportunity to take a Sabbatical year in Israel at the Tel HaShomer Hospital's Kidney Department. They loved that year so much that they extended their stay for another few years until they reached the realization that Israel, indeed, was their new home.

The years in Edmonton were filled with activity for their three children, Monte born in 1964, Danny in 1966 and Tzvia (born Harriet) in 1969. Both Myrna and Don became very involved with Talmud Torah; Don being on the Board and serving as President the year the school joined Edmonton Public Schools. Myrna was an active member of Mother's Auxiliary, even serving as the Editor of the Edmonton Jewish Phone Book project.

By the time the family left for Israel Monte had finished Gr. 6, Danny Gr. 4 and Tzvia Gr. 1. Upon arriving in Israel, they were extremely proud of their kid's TT education.



*"The lunchroom was a particular highlight for all of us...the kids went to Junior Congregation there regularly, while Don and I were active in the parents' Jewish Music Group that practiced and put on their annual show in this venue. So much of our time was spent driving back and forth from our house on 81 Ave. to the old Talmud Torah on 133 St. Car pooling with the Starkmans, Pekarskys, and Weisz families plus all the extra curricular activities...that was our life!"*

All the kids adapted to their new life, easily mastering the Hebrew language and already having an appreciation of the country through their knowledge of Israel taught at TT. In Myrna's words, "...because they had been taught by wonderful Israeli teachers (and of course very good English ones as well!").

So why a donation to Talmud Torah now? The Silverbergs shared with the Board that when Myrna's younger brother, Dr. Larry Wine, passed away he left her some money. Wanting to make a gift back in Canada, Talmud Torah felt like the perfect place to make a gift that would mean the most to their family.

With the idea of creating a lunchroom / communal space for today's students to gather to eat lunch, share prayers and create a stronger community, it was apparent that the perfect match for their donation had been found. The addition of a lunchroom / communal space will greatly enhance the pride and feeling of Ruach (life force) in the school and bring back a venue that has left indelible memories for TT children for decades.

Kol HaKavod כול הכבוד to Myrna, Don and the entire Silverberg family for making this transformational gift to Talmud Torah. The impact of this gift will last a lifetime!

# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## Alumni Highlights

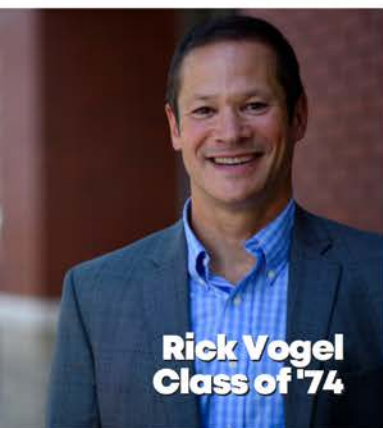
TT alumni, **WE NEED YOU!** Going forward, every newsletter will have a dedicated **Alumni Highlights** section. We welcome and encourage our TT alumni to connect with us so we can include you. Please don't hesitate to drop us an email. You can send us something short and sweet, or long and luxurious....we just want to hear from you, and so do all our TT alumni and friends.



Jeff Faber attended Talmud Torah School in the Glenora location and graduated in 1974. Jeff was really dating himself because he wrote that he attended Talmud Torah from nursery to grade 6. Only those of us who were born in the '60s and '70s use the term nursery school, as opposed to playschool or preschool! Some of Jeff's fondest memories at TT were:

- Mac & cheese in the lunchroom
- Mr. Yedlin's Shabbat services
- Mr. Chetner not yelling at me (a rare occurrence!)
- Leanne Rich and Leanne Sheckter teaching me how to dance for the Gr. 6 grad dance

Jeff moved to Calgary after TT and attended Woodman Jr. High and Henry Wise Wood High School. He lives in Calgary and is the Managing Director for Canada of AVI SPL, a global AV/IT company. Jeff is in touch with some of his TT classmates on social media, and says that his positive experiences at TT planted in him deep Jewish roots to this day.



A classmate of Jeff's, Rick Vogel attended TT from KG to Gr. 6. He has stayed in close contact with two classmates, John Goldsand and Howie Winestock. As well, he has been able to stay connected with Tslilah and Gershon Barzel. Some of Rick's fondest memories from his TT days include:

- Getting popsicles from Adeline in the kitchen (if you helped her out)
- Playing buck-buck at lunch
- Trading hockey cards at recess
- Hot dogs for lunch

Rick has been married to Nikki for over 33 years and they have two sons. Zach lives in Vancouver and Jordan lives in Edmonton with his wife Kayla. Rick is the Founding Principal of The Vogel Group, a leadership recruitment firm based in Edmonton. Rick's time at TT and the friendships he developed have been the cornerstone of his relationship to the Edmonton Jewish community.

We want to hear from our TT alumni. Please Email [nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com](mailto:nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com) if you wish to contribute to the newsletter.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## A Message from our Principal Sandra Marianicz



Happy 2022! Wishing all of our families and school community a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

A sincere thank you to Stacey Wright, CEO of The Jewish Federation of Edmonton, and Tammy Vineberg, Associate Director, Marketing and Communications, The Jewish Federation of Edmonton, for reaching out to TT and inviting our students and staff to be part of their Shine a Light on Antisemitism awareness campaign.

The goal of the awareness campaign was to shine a light, with positivity, using the powerful story of Chanukah to champion the message about antisemitism. The students and staff at TT were tasked with expressing how they feel about antisemitism by painting words or an image on a two inch by four inch tile. The students were asked to consider the following when painting their tile: Chanukah is the beautiful, eight-day Jewish holiday known as the Festival of Lights.

Chanukah reminds us that even one small light has the power to illuminate darkness and spark hope. How does Chanukah spark hope for you?

Overall, a very worthwhile, meaningful and special learning opportunity for our students and so exciting and memorable that they played such a relevant, significant and authentic role in the creation of the larger menorah mosaic art piece. Lewis Lavoie, an Edmonton area artist, created the mosaic art installation.

Tu Bishvat was a focus of study and was celebrated throughout the month of January and resulted in another successful Tu Bishvat campaign. At Talmud Torah, part of the celebration of Tu Bishvat means planting trees in Israel. Talmud Torah has a longstanding partnership with the Jewish National Fund (JNF) Edmonton, raising funds on their behalf to plant trees in Israel during Tu Bishvat.

Thousands of trees have been planted in Israel by Talmud Torah students over the years. Just last year, 238 trees were planted through this campaign!

This year, the Tu Bishvat campaign will help to rehabilitate the forest of the Jerusalem Hills. This past summer, a fire broke out in the Jerusalem Hills. It was the largest wildfire to occur in the Jerusalem area in recent years. Canadians have planted millions of trees in Israel over the decades, some of which were destroyed in this fire.

Many thanks to Jay Cairns, Executive Director of JNF Edmonton, all of our families and those in the community who donated so generously towards this year's campaign and a special thank you to our teacher leader, Moreh Ari, and our student campaign leads/organizing committee, including those that were "the face" of the campaign and those that worked "behind the scenes".





# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

This January, students' schedules were updated to accommodate an additional block and a half of dedicated Judaic Studies minutes. The inclusion of these additional Judaic Studies minutes will support in enhancing and strengthening the students' Jewish education and understanding.

At Talmud Torah School, as we continue to navigate this wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are committed to the safety and well-being of staff, students and families. A sincere thank you to everyone's continued support, community-mindedness and openness in sharing health updates/information with the school. We are mindful of the guidelines provided by Alberta Health, our Chief Medical Officer, the province and our Division. Protecting each other is a shared responsibility - we all have a role to play in following the safety protocols set out by the province and the Division. Our school-based protocols are intended to mitigate or reduce the risk of COVID-19, but do not eliminate all risk. Our focus on safety does not depend on one single strategy, but many strategies that work together to support the safest environment possible within the complex dynamics of our school community. Please continue to monitor SchoolZone for the latest updates from our school and Division.

Perhaps, hard to believe, but we are beginning to think ahead and planning for the 2022-2023 school year. Registration for new families to our Division opened on February 1st and pre-enrolment for existing families for the 2022-2023 school year will open on March 8th and close on April 14th at 4:00 pm. More information forthcoming via SchoolZone.

Thank you for the continued support and commitment to the school by our families, the school community, our TT School Council and the Talmud Torah Society. Looking forward to the many learning opportunities that await for our students as we embark on semester II of this school year!

**Stronger together,**

*Sandra Marianicz*





# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## KG. UPDATE with Ms. Kovacs



### Judaic and Hebrew

Tu B'Shevat came quickly after the break. We read stories, created our own classroom tree with important things about trees, planted, painted and sculpted trees. We read stories about Noah's Ark, had conversations and took part in an art activity. Students are continuing to learn their Hebrew names, the season, counting up to 20 and have started learning vocabulary for our family members.



### Phonics & Words

The students have continued working through our Jolly Phonics Literacy; learning the sounds and about the letters Pp, Nn, Cc, and Kk this month. The class has been Making Words with all the letters we have learned. Students have also been introduced to Morning Messages. This includes our "popcorn" words and the students need to find them. Our updated list of words are: the / I / and / can / see / have / like / look.



### Patterning Shapes & Addition

We have finished up our patterning unit. The students have created their own patterns, expanding on others patterns and recreating patterns. We have now started learning and exploring with shapes, as well as counting and adding dice.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Grade 6 students are excited to contribute a monthly article to the TT Times. Each month will have two students writing an article of their choice about something going on in our school, community or city. We are really looking forward to doing this because it ties in so nicely with our English Language Arts curriculum and the PAT (Provincial Achievement Test), where students will have to write a newspaper article for their functional writing assessment. Also, this is a cross-curricular activity because it relates to the current events portion of Social Studies where we read and discuss current events going on in our city, country or world.

In addition to the newspaper, students are participating in a Literature Circle in small groups. The non-fiction books are: *Who Was Anne Frank?*, *Fatty Legs*, *Behind the Secret Window* and *Farewell to Manzanar*. Students are writing weekly response journals, completing roles (summarizer, connector, discussion director, etc.), reading chapters (independent reading or with their group), and having literature circle group meetings to share their thoughts and ideas.

Another activity the students are going to participate in is a live, virtual event with award-winning and internationally renowned Canadian author, Lawrence Hill, in honour of Black History Month. On Tuesday, February 8th at 1:30 p.m. we will tune in to learn about Hill's writing practice, his new book, *Beatrice and Croc Harry* (which we have started to read), and the significance of his literary contribution to a greater understanding of black history in Canada.

So far 2022 is off to a great start for Grade 5/6!

*Ms. Lindsey*



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## YOUNG JOURNALIST A Special Grade 6 Project

Celebrating the Jewish holidays with Covid has been rough, instead of in person meetings it has been asking for the zoom code to join online. This year we have been trying to make these meetings fun and educational for the classes on the other side of the screen. With Tu B'Shvat close by, the JNF campaign has done this by holding a fundraiser to try and help reforest the Jerusalem Hills.

This past August there was a horrible forest fire in the area that killed thousands of trees and homes for many animals. The goal of the campaign was to raise enough funds to plant 250 trees in the area. So far we have raised 294!! If your kid(s) plant 1 tree or more they will get a certificate for their participation in the campaign. You can click here to donate.

Tu Bishvat is also known as the birthday of the trees, that is why we try to repay them by planting trees and plants. Although we could not have a Seder this year, we still wanted to honor the holiday and the trees.

*Now for a tree joke: Why are trees the worst frenemies? They are pretty good at throwing shade!*

*yael*

## COLD WEATHER IS BACK! Molly - Gr. 6 Student

The freezing weather is back in Edmonton. Temperatures are now hovering around -17 and colder. This means icy, slippery roads and shoveling your driveway a lot. This also means car crashes because of the horrible ice. Plus, now it's too cold for the children to go outside and go sledding, build snowmen, have snowball fights, make snow angels, make snow forts, and more. The weather has been going quite crazy: The summer was boiling hot (it actually beat a record in Edmonton!) Remember to be careful on the ice. It's really cold outside, and lots of people have slipped and gotten bad injuries, such as broken bones, sprains, concussions, and more.

*Molly*



Burned forest in the Jerusalem Hills

## YOUNG JOURNALISTS A Special Grade 6 Student Update



Near the Walterdale Bridge



Downtown Edmonton



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER


**ELC**

If you walked our hallways...



The children and educators in the ELC have had a wonderful time over the last several weeks. The highlight has definitely been learning about and celebrating Tu B'Shvat. As temperatures plummeted, the children had fun indoors planting, creating art, learning about trees and plants, singing songs and reading, pretending to go walking through forests, creating clay landscapes for their animals, learning about and tasting the seven species (שבועת המינים), and participating in Tu B'Shvat seders.

One of the things the educators will be focusing on for the next several months is creating curriculum as it relates both to the Holistic Play Based Goals (presented in Alberta's Flight Curriculum Framework) and Talmud Torah's official Values. This term we are focusing on the "Diversity and Social Responsibility" goal and the Value of "Community/קהילה" as articulated in Talmud Torah's Mission, Vision, and Values statement.



Rm. 6 "The Group of Seven Art"



Rm. 2 Tu B'Shevat Trees



Rm. 1 "Tu B'Shevat Artwork"



Rm. 5 "How Do You Feel?"



Rm. 1 "Tu B'Shevat Trees"



Curriculum Programming



Rm. 3 Tu B'Shevat Art



Rm2. "All Dressed Up For Winter"



Rm. 4 "These Are My Hands"



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## ELC...In Pictures



Under the new federal-provincial child care agreement, subsidy for child care is now available to families with a combined gross income of \$180,000 or less. If your family has not qualified in the past, perhaps it does now!

[Click on this link](#) for more details.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## FEATURE BAR/BAT MITZVAHS



Mazel Tov to these TT Gr. 6 graduates on their Jewish right of passage. A presentation was made on behalf of the TT Society and TT School Council and they both received a beautifully engraved Kiddush cup with their name in English & Hebrew, as well as date of mitzvah.

## FEATURE BABIES



We love it when babies wear our TT baby bib! Please let us know if you are a new parent or you know of new parents, so we can drop off a TT baby bib and gift certificate towards your first month in the TT Early Learning Centre or K to 6 school!





# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES

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The TT parent School Council (TTSC) has kicked off 2022 with a lot of energy and focus. Being in our second operational year, the SC is gaining momentum as we support teachers, engage parents, listen and advise the principal and each other, initiate enrichment projects, and fundraise to ensure we can support teacher/parent requests/ideas.

Our bi-monthly meetings include a report from the Principal and Chair, as well as a presentation by a featured teacher. Meetings are a solid platform for parents to be informed, engaged, and inquire. The SC Executive looks forward to the discussions that arise before, during, and after each meeting, as well as, the various conversations and emails that come our way. It is through these interactions that our monthly and annual initiatives are given purpose.

We are busier than ever! Take a look at what we have on the go:

**HAVE  
YOUR SAY**

[WWW.ALBERTA.CA/  
CURRICULUM-HAVE-  
YOUR-SAY.ASPX](http://WWW.ALBERTA.CA/CURRICULUM-HAVE-YOUR-SAY.ASPX)

**FILL OUT THE SURVEY!**

**Register and Attend  
Virtual Engagement Sessions  
for Edmonton:**

ELA: Feb. 5	SCIENCE: Feb. 8
MATH: Feb 10 and 12	FINE ARTS: Feb. 16
SOCIAL: Feb 23 and 26	

The TT parent School Council encourages you to "have your say" about the Alberta curriculum via the survey and information sessions above. In addition to the many improvements needed, we implore you to include a request for Holocaust Education to be a mandatory part of Social curriculum.

## IMPORTANT !

We are encouraging parents to share their voice about the Alberta Curriculum via the "have your say" survey and by attending subject specific information sessions throughout the month of February.

Now is the time for parents to share their thoughts and be heard! In particular, the TTSC is in the process of launching a campaign to lobby for Holocaust Education to be mandatory in the new Alberta Curriculum. We are working on gaining support from various organizations and politicians in the hopes of getting in front of the Curriculum committee. Whoopi has put the importance of Holocaust Education back in the spotlight, thus we implore parents to include a request for Holocaust Education in the "have your say" survey.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL COUNCIL Community Engagement & Support

TALMUD TORAH  
SCHOOL COUNCIL  
PRESENTS: קפה עברית

# Cafe Ivrit



Weekly  
Virtual  
Speak Hebrew  
Connect with  
Grade 5/6  
students  
BYO Beverage

Thursdays, 9-10am

PARENTS &  
COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS ARE  
INVITED

Register to join the conversation:  
[forms.gle/1tQnxEXPnkJKpr688](https://forms.gle/1tQnxEXPnkJKpr688)

Under the guidance of our Teachers, TTSC is supporting the following enrichment initiatives: **Café Ivrit**, a weekly virtual conversation in Hebrew between community members and our Grade 5/6 students; creating a **TT Music/Prayer Book** as a learning resource and memorabilia for our students and families; and **Pink Shirt Day** (February 23). Looking towards the remainder of the year, we will be working with and/or supporting (either with volunteer support or funding) teachers with end of year celebrations, Jewish Holiday enrichment as requested, and June mental health and fitness challenge.

In addition to teacher led projects, the TTSC currently has many projects on the go, each impacting various areas of Talmud Torah, including:

- Supplying every classroom with hand-washing cups and prayer posters
- Planning program(s) to utilize the ASCA Parent Engagement Grant
- Researching best practices and possibilities for offering a Hot Lunch Program
- Removal/replacement of broken spinner in the Division 2 playground
- Virtual Meet and Greet with Trustee Hancock (May 31)
- Junior High Transition Session(s) for Grade 6 students and parents

# BE PART OF IT



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

CONTACT US



talmudtorahschoolcouncil  
@partner.epsb.ca

## TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our students appreciate your support

**WANTED**

**STUDENT ART**

**FOR THE 2022-23  
TT WALL CALENDAR**

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:  
**TALMUDTORAHSCHOOLCOUNCIL  
@PARTNER.EPSB.CA**



say:  
**"Happy**  
(fill in the blank)  
**To You!"**

with **GIFT CARDS**  
to support  
**TT School Council!**


**ORDER AT:**  
**fundscrip.ca**  
**Group Code VV3TU7**



Raise funds for TT Council for free!

.....

**Pay with the  
FlipGive app  
EVERY DAY,  
EVERY WHERE!**



Payment

Download the App  
Join the TT Team: ZJG2WG

Takes seconds to setup  
Use immediately!

In order to continue the School Council efforts mentioned above, as well as initiate other projects, the TTSC has to work year-round to raise funds as we do not have access to large fundraisers reserved for Fundraising Associations, such as Casinos and Bingos. Please consider participating in any of the following fundraisers, so we can continue our fiscal duty to break-even each school year:

**2021-22 Yearbooks:** Order by February 25 at: [talmudtorah.wufoo.com/forms/w1wlunrf06f4kua/](https://talmudtorah.wufoo.com/forms/w1wlunrf06f4kua/)

**Fundscrip Gift Cards** (physical cards)

**Flippgive digital gift cards**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE FUNDRAISERS:** TT Spirit Gear, Post Pesach bottle drive on April 26, Growing Smiles Garden Supplies, and the 2022-23 School Calendar.



# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## ALL ABOUT... Tu B'Shevat



**SEED  
BOMBS**





# TALMUD TORAH TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## TU B'SHEVAT... And Jewish National Fund



TT Gr. 1 student Ella, and JNF Executive Director Jay Cairns, along with TT Society Executive Assistant Natalie Soroka, helped to promote the JNF tree campaign in honour of Tu B'Shevat. JNF supplied soil and seeds so our students could create seed bombs, with the intention of planting in the spring. Grade 6 tree leaders, along with their teacher supervisor Moreh Ari Sniderman, promoted the campaign with the hope that parents and community members would surpass last year's purchases of 238 trees for planting in Israel. The total so far is.....





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## THE LIBRARY





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## A PICTURE IS WORTH... A Thousand words.

The United Nations General Assembly designated January 27—the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau—as **International Holocaust Remembrance Day**. Talmud Torah staff showed solidarity for this day.





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## FEDERATION PROGRAMS



**VIRTUAL STORY TIME AND  
HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MIRAI!**

SUNDAY AT 6:30 P.M.

SHARE THE LOVE - FEBRUARY 13

VIA ZOOM!

**PJ Library**  
\$10 per family  
Includes hot chocolate and activity kit  
Register at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)

Edmonton Talmud Torah is a beneficiary of the Jewish Federation Of Edmonton.

**Follow Jewish Edmonton on  
social media or sign up for  
our weekly e-newsletter.**

**Visit our community calendar at  
[jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)**

**Save the date  
March 13**

Gather for Purim fun! Create Mishloach Manot packages (gifts of food/treats) to take with you and deliver to friends.

**PJ Library**  
& **PJ OUR WAY.**



Your donation helps all Jewish Federation organizations, including [Edmonton Talmud Torah](#), through its Integrated Bursary Program (IBP). Many TT families can send their kids to Talmud Torah School thanks to you and your contribution to the United Jewish Appeal Campaign.



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## Say it with a card

**Tribute cards are a wonderful way of honouring someone in your life**

Your donation helps us maintain a high quality experience for our students and families. A beautiful acknowledgement card is mailed to the recipient.

**Any occasion cards, including:  
Mazel Tov & Memorial Tributes**

Donate online: [talmudtorahsociety.com/donate](https://talmudtorahsociety.com/donate)  
Call 780 481 3377 or email:  
[nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com](mailto:nataliesoroka@talmudtorahsociety.com)

