Indianapolis

After School Care

Parent Handbook

2023–2024 School Year for Grades K–5

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact Information 3

ASC Program 4

- Our Philosophy and Goals
- Our Staff
- Our Facility
- Transportation
- Special Needs
- Enrichment Opportunities
- Jewish Learning and Culture

Enrollment Procedures 6

- JCC Membership
- Admission Forms
- Emergency Contacts / Authorized Pick-up
- Updating Information
- Fee Payment
- Schedule Changes

Policies & Procedures 8

- Arrival and Departure
- Late Pick-up Fees
- Intoxicated/Impaired Adult
- Cell Phone Policy
- Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Responsibilities
- Personal Items
- Food
- Data Privacy and Confidentiality Policy
- Behavior
- Positive Behavior Pledge
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behavior Management Policy

Health 12

- Communicable Disease Management
- Medication
- Medical History / Medication Form

Communications / Special Days 14

- Inclement Weather
- Holidays (+Guide to Jewish Holidays)
- School's Out Days

Closing / School's Out List 18

Welcome!

After School Care at the J

We encourage parents to communicate directly with ASC program staff.

To reach program staff after 2 pm, please use Remini.

Kraft Youth Wing 317-613-9915

JCC Indianapolis. 317-251-9467

Staff (Admin Team)

Director of CampJCC and Youth

Myranda Tetzlaff . . . . . .317-715-9246 | mtetzlaff@JCCindy.org

Assistant Director of Camp and Youth

Hamilton Hensel . . . . . .317-715-9254 | hhensel@JCCindy.org

AFTER SCHOOL CARE (ASC) PROGRAM

Our Philosophy and Goals

The After School Care Program at the JCC is committed to providing the most well rounded quality experience and care for your child.

Located in the Kraft Youth Wing of the building, we offer a safe, nurturing After School Care (ASC) program focusing on academic, recreational and creative activities. The program is led by full-time JCC staff providing supervision and guidance to ensure a quality program in a "family environment."

Goals are identified in all areas of development:

- **Social**: To help children feel comfortable, trust their environment, make friends and feel they are part of the group.
- **Emotional**: To cultivate in our children self-confidence, independence, self-control and a positive attitude towards life.
- **Physical**: To help children feel confident about what their bodies can do.
- **Cognitive**: To encourage children to become independent learners through opportunities to complete homework assignments and provide quiet reading time as well as promote problem-solving and curiosity through special planned activities including STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math).

Our Staff

Our After School Care staff strives to make all children feel welcome and comfortable. Staff focuses on the individual needs of the children through their interests and talents and encourages curiosity, creativity and positive communication. Our staff is well-trained (and retrained each year) in the areas of child development and health and safety standards. The JCC is also a Darkness to Light Partner in Prevention committed to the time and effort necessary to be educated on how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

Our Facility: Gymnasiums, Playgrounds and More!

Our entire facility is the children's playground at the JCC. We play sports in our gymnasiums, and all children play outdoors on our school age playground and open sports fields. Not only do children benefit from the fresh air, but running, jumping, climbing and playing help to exert energy after being at school during the day. The ASC program offers so many opportunities to stimulate children's physical growth and cultivate their social skills.

The ASC program starts at 2:15 pm and closes at 6 pm. Healthy, kosher snacks are provided daily. Activities such as art projects, outdoor or gym free and staff-led play, organized group games, mitzvahs (good deeds) and athletic activities help stimulate the social, emotional and physical development of your child.

Transportation

The ASC admin team has coordinated free transportation from the following Washington Township schools: Crooked Creek, Fox Hill, Greenbriar, Nora, Spring Mill and Willow Lake.

Special Needs

The JCC strives to have inclusive programs. Any special needs should be communicated and included with your enrollment documentation. ASC may request a meeting with parents prior to the child's start date and/or ask parents to observe our program in advance to determine if it is a good fit for their family. If your child has a Behavior Intervention Plan, a meeting with the program director to go over the plan will be required prior to the child's first day of attendance at ASC. This plan must be submitted along with your child's ASC Registration and Health/Medical forms.

Enrichment Opportunities

Our After School Care families are welcome to participate in any number of classes and sports activities that the JCC offers during after school hours. For a nominal fee, your child may participate in enrichment activities, including dance classes, soccer and basketball leagues, swimming, tennis lessons and karate. Our staff escorts children to their enrichment activities during our programming hours. **Any program or class that starts or ends at 6 pm is the parent's responsibility to drop off or pick up.** Class offerings can be found on the JCC website (JCCindy.org) and on the display slat walls in the building.

Jewish Learning and Culture

While we recognize that many children in our program are not Jewish, the values we teach apply to all equally. In addition to kindness, respect and responsibility, we focus on "tzedakah," the Hebrew word for doing good deeds and sharing with those less fortunate. Our children participate all year long in activities to perform acts of kindness not only for their peers and counselors but for others in the community through partnerships with other not-for-profit agencies (Gleaners Food Bank, United Way of Central Indiana and more). The JCC also inspires children to explore traditions by participating in Jewish holiday celebrations. The Guide to Jewish Holidays begins on page 14.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

JCC Membership

Participation in our After School Care program is reserved for JCC members only. A child's immediate family must maintain an active JCC family or single-parent membership in good standing throughout the entire time the child is in our program.

Admission Forms

Children entering Grades K–5 are eligible for admission. Children and parents must agree to abide by all of the policies and procedures of the ASC program at the JCC. Applications for enrollment can be obtained at the JCC Welcome Desk or online at JCCindy.org/after-school-care, and may be submitted via email to Myranda Tetzlaff or Hamilton Hensel.

Enrollment requirements include:

- Completed enrollment form including child and parent information, emergency and authorized pick-up contacts, health information and signed enrollment terms agreement
- Health and Medication Consent form (see page 13 for more details)
- Authorization form for auto-pay (if different from card on file)

Emergency Contacts & Authorized Pick-up

Emergency contacts, as well as persons authorized to pick your child up from the program, **must be at least 16 years of age and have a photo ID ready to present**. Please provide the names, relationship to child, and phone numbers for those individuals when you enroll your child. You may change/add or delete contacts by sending an email to Myranda Tetzlaff.

Updating Information

Parents are asked to keep contact information current by sending updates to address, email, phone, emergency contacts, or changes to individuals authorized to pick up children to Myranda Tetzlaff as soon as they are known.

Fee Payment

Payments will be deducted from your checking account or charged to your credit card on the 1st of each month. **If you require a receipt for reimbursement, please contact our accounting department (accounting@JCCindy.org) to arrange for a monthly receipt.* You will receive written notice in advance if there is a change in the monthly fee.

The JCC does not grant tuition waivers for vacations or other absences. For extenuating circumstances, tuition prorating may be granted at the discretion of the program director. Please submit those requests in writing. **We also require notification in writing a minimum of two weeks in advance if a child is being removed from the After School program.**

The primary member is responsible for all childcare charges. Insufficient funds and/or denial of payment to the JCC will result in a $25 service charge for each occurrence. Two insufficient funds notices and/or credit denials will result in termination of childcare services.

Schedule Changes

Parents may change their student's schedule and corresponding tuition plan by submitting an email to the program director. A minimum two-week notice is required. To add days, request approval in advance from the program director. **Only one category change is permitted each semester. Additional changes incur a $50 change fee.**

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Arrival and Departure

After School Care hours are from 2:15–6 pm. School buses drop children off at the JCC between 2:15–3 pm.

At pick-up, parents will scan in at the Welcome Desk, proceed to the Kraft Youth Wing entrance, and use a key fob to enter the wing. The parent or other authorized pick-up person must then sign out their child(ren) by initialing a sign-out sheet. One key fob will be given to the primary pick-up person; please notify the program director if multiple fobs are needed.

All individuals must be at least 16 years old to be authorized for drop-off/pick-up. Please inform the ASC admin team of any changes in authorized individuals as soon as possible.

In case of an emergency where no previously authorized individuals are available to pick up, a parent/guardian must contact the ASC admin team by telephone or email in advance. Please utilize the Remini app if an unauthorized pickup change will be occurring and the notification is being communicated after 2 pm on that same day.

Late Pick-up Fees

Our late fee policy is as follows:

- 1st occurence, parent will receive a verbal warning
- 2nd occurence and after, you will be charged $5 per minute per child for each minute of tardiness after 6 pm (or stated ASC early closing time)
- Three (3) late pick-ups may results in a two-day suspension from the ASC program.

Intoxicated/Impaired Adult

The State of Indiana requires that in the event a JCC staff person suspects the individual picking up a child to be intoxicated or impaired, JCC staff will separate the individual from the child(ren), discourage them from leaving with the child(ren), including offering to call someone else to pick up. JCC will alert them that the Welcome Desk staff and on-site security will be notified if they choose to leave with the child(ren).

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones will not be permitted for children while they are in ASC. If this policy is not followed, cell phones will be confiscated and kept in Myranda's office until parent picks up.

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Responsibilities

In the event there is suspicion of child abuse or neglect of any enrolled children, staff members are considered mandatory reporters for child abuse and/or neglect. ASC staff members will, if they have a reason to suspect a student is a victim of abuse and/or neglect, notify Child Protective Services (CPS) by calling the CPS hotline at 1-800-800-5556.

Personal Items

Please be sure that all clothing and personal items are clearly labeled with your child's name. The JCC is not responsible for loss or destruction of personal items, including cell phones or other electronic devices that students bring to the ASC program. Parents are responsible to cover any costs incurred due to misuse of personal cell phones or other electronic devices. There is a lost and found area in the Youth Wing hallway. Lost and found will remain in the Youth Wing until school sessions are over. Please refrain from having children bring stuffed animals or any other fabric items, as well as any other toys from home.

Food

The JCC provides children with nutritious, balanced kosher snacks. **For the safety of all children in our program, outside food is not permitted**. If your child needs to substitute ASC-provided food with foods from home for allergy reasons, this must be indicated on their health form and communicated to the ASC admin team prior to the child attending ASC. Parents are responsible for providing any alternative snacks for the child. For specific information on the ASC snack menu, please contact Myranda Tetzlaff.

The Youth Wing is nut-aware, but not nut-free, during School's Out Days.

Data Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

Confidentiality of information about child and family will be maintained. Enrollment forms and all other information concerning the child and family will be accessible to the parent/guardian, program director and ASC staff members. Information concerning the child will not be made available to anyone, by any means, without written consent of the parent/guardian.

It is the policy of this program not to disclose the names of the children who may have caused injury to another child or children while attending ASC. This ensures each family's data privacy.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Behavior

In the event that the rules listed below are not being adhered to, the ASC administration team and ASC staff members will work with children to correct the situation using positive incentives and reinforcement. The limits we set and expectations we have for our children respect the ages and abilities of the children. However, there are occasions when our best efforts are not successful in resolving an issue. When this occurs, we will work in partnership with parents to find a solution. If necessary, a progressive discipline routine will be instituted. Sometimes a formal conference between parents and staff will be necessary. Any discussions with staff will be strictly confidential.

Parents, please review the following Positive Behavior Pledge with your child:

- I will be kind to other ASC participants through my behavior and words.
- I will be polite, respectful and listen to all ASC staff members.
- I will respect the rights, space and property of others.
- I will learn to accept the consequences of my actions.
- I will share with students in the ASC program.
- I will use appropriate words to say what I feel and need.
- I will keep my hands, feet and body to myself.
- I will return materials and equipment to the appropriate place and keep both the ASC hallway and JCC building and campus clean.
- I will remain with ASC staff and programming at all times unless given permission.
- I will respect the rules and guidelines of ASC and the JCC.

Anti-Bullying Policy

In order to provide a place where all children can feel safe and happy, both physically and emotionally, we take a proactive approach to bullying by adopting an Anti-Bullying Policy. Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated malicious and targeted verbal, physical and/or social behavior that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. Using guidelines set forth by the American Camping Association (ACA), our Anti-Bullying policy is an initiative that is aimed at taking appropriate steps toward managing this behavior. Our staff is trained to prevent bullying and raise awareness by using different techniques and tools that will help us avoid such behavior. Using these tools, they will also be able to identiy bullying behavior, take appropriate steps to intervene and then role model and discuss with their groups that bullying behavior will not be tolerated.

Behavior Management Policy

The ASC staff is dedicated to working with children and parents to create a successful experience and to promote the educational, social and personal development of all our children. When situations of inappropriate behavior arise that undermine an environment conducive to building important skills, intervention is required. While we recognize that children develop at different paces, we expect children's behavior to be consistent with age-appropriate actions and responses. In order to address and correct inappropriate behavior, the ASC staff will use the following progressive disciplinary steps as a supplement to the routine, ongoing communications that should occur between parents, ASC staff and children:

1. **When guiding and correcting young children**, ASC staff will provide instructive guidance to the child. Staff will discuss the behavior with the child, explain what behavior the child needs to change and offer acceptable alternatives. The child will be given an opportunity to correct his/her behavior. ASC staff will reinforce the appropriate behavior.
2. **If the unacceptable behavior continues**, the child may be separated from the group. This will provide the child with the opportunity to think about his/her inappropriate behavior. ASC staff will inform the program director about the incident, and the situation will be addressed at pick-up, including the explanation of the behaviors observed and the consequences of those behaviors. A note will be retained in the child's file as well.
3. **If the behavior does not improve**, the program director will contact the parents by telephone to discuss the inappropriate behavior. Note: It is recommended that children be present when their parents are called. If applicable, the use of behavior modification techniques will be discussed at that time. The parents will be advised of potential consequences if the behavior does not change.
4. **If the inappropriate behavior continues**, a conference between the program director and parents/guardians will be arranged to determine whether or not the child can further benefit from the ASC program. If behavior modification techniques are being used and some improvement has been noted, an additional conference may be scheduled to keep communication channels open. Depending on the severity of the issue, the child may be removed from the ASC program for up to three days at the discretion of the program director.
5. **If inappropriate behavior persists and behavior modification techniques are ineffective or not used**, permanent dismissal from the ASC program may be necessary, at the discretion of the program director.

Inappropriate behavior may include but is not limited to such acts of aggression as biting, hitting, pinching, kicking, spitting, bullying, verbal barrages such as vulgarities and racist remarks, refusal to follow the direction of an ASC staff or program director, or generally disruptive behavior.

HEALTH

The health of all of the children in our care is a primary concern. If your child is not feeling well or is displaying signs of illness, please keep your child(ren) at home for their own well-being, as well as for the health of other ASC families and staff. If a child stays home from school because they are sick, they cannot attend ASC.

Should a minor injury occur during programming hours, ASC will document the incident on a Minor Injury Report and discuss the details at pick-up. If a child suffers any sort of head or more serious injury, ASC staff will call immediately.

Communicable Disease Management

Should any of the children in our care be exposed to a communicable disease, all parents will be notified. As dictated by the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration, a child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be isolated and discharged immediately to a parent or guardian:

- Fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit) or chills – students should be fever-free for 72 hours without medication
- Eye infection
- Sore throat
- Earache
- Nausea or vomiting within the last 24 hours
- Impetigo or rashes
- Diarrhea during the last 24 hours
- Cold symptoms causing discomfort to your student and/or risk of contagion to others
- Lice – while head lice do not pose a health hazard, they are highly contagious. Children who have head lice will be temporarily excluded from ASC until treated with a pediculicide (see your pharmacist) and all nits are removed.

If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we will contact the Marion County Health Department for guidance and notify all those who are considered close contact for monitoring

If ASC staff members have a concern about the health and safety of a child, the parent(s) may be called to pick up their child early from the program. **ASC asks parents or authorized persons to pick up their child less than one hour after being contacted.** If a child is sent home, they will not be able to return to ASC the next day. After that time has passed, your child may return if he/she has been nonmedicated and symptom-free for 24 hours.

To prevent the spread of illness and in the interest of the child's well-being, the child may be temporarily excused from activities. ASC may have temporary exclusions when the illness prevents the child from comfortably participating in activities, the ill student requires more care

than the staff can provide, or the staff based on training and experience believe the child could impact the health of others.

If your child has been to the doctor and has been cleared to participate in activities with other children, please provide a copy of the doctor's note to ASC.

Medication

JCC staff will administer prescription and non-prescription medications to children with parent's written permission only. Parents should complete and sign a Medication Consent Form. Prescription medicine should be brought to the ASC in a properly-labeled pharmacy bottle. Non-prescription medication must be supplied by a parent from their child's use, given to the program director by the parent themselves and clearly marked with instruction for how/when it should be used. A Medication Consent Form is required for non-prescription medication as well.

All medications are stored out of reach of children and are checked monthly for expiration dates. Expired medication will be sent home. Medications cannot be sent with the child.

Medical History & Medication Consent Form

All children must have an updated ASC Health Form on file, which should be completed with the initial registration form. This form covers pertinent medical history, doctor/emergency contact information, IEP disclosure and allergy information. This form may be completed in-person or emailed to Myranda Tetzlaff.

If a student must take medication during our After School Care Program hours, parents/guardians must provide written instructions with the medication prescribed by a doctor in its original prescription bottle. **Parents must fill out a Medication Consent form prior to the administration of any medications.** Medications cannot be sent with the child.

COMMUNICATIONS / SPECIAL DAYS

The JCC ASC staff is committed to establishing relationships with parents and guardians to bridge the gap between “life at home” and “life at after school.” We encourage families to call the program director with any questions or concerns and to keep ASC staff informed of any variations in sleep or appetite, special concerns, irritability or unusual situations at home. In the event of a life change affecting the family, please notify the program director. Our program director is always available to meet with you privately to discuss any concerns you have regarding the welfare of your child.

ASC will communicate with parents via JCC email, telephone and Remini. Unless a situation of an emergent nature occurs, our staff have been directed not to use their personal cell phones, including text/picture messaging, for ASC communications. Conferences and phone calls between parents and ASC program staff may be initiated by either parents or staff.

In case of any programming changes or updates, Remini will be used to communicate with families.

Inclement Weather

If a determination is made that ECE/ASC/School’s Out/Camp programming will not open or have a delayed opening due to inclement weather or for any other reason, an announcement will be posted on the JCC website, JCCindy.org, and a Remini message will be sent. You may always call the JCC at 317-251-9467 for confirmation that we are operating under normal hours.

Holidays

The JCC closes in observation of Jewish and secular holidays and for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s days. In some cases, special hours apply. Please check the JCC website or building signage for holiday hours and updates.

Guide to Jewish Holidays

The Jewish holidays provide rich opportunities for learning and different sorts of activities (dressing in costumes, parades, food preparation, candle-lighting and more). All Jewish holidays begin at sundown the day before and conclude at sundown on the day of the holiday.

Shabbat

Celebrated weekly Friday sundown–Saturday sundown. Shabbat is the celebration of the creation of the world and of human dignity and freedom. The holiest day of the week is a day of rest, worship, study and fellowship.

Rosh Hashana: The New Year

"In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe complete rest, a sacred occasion proclaimed with loud blasts [of the shofar]" Leviticus 23:24–25. The blast of the ram's horn is a call to attention to examine our behavior over the past year and to repent for our transgressions. On Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, everyone is judged by God based on his or her actions during the previous year. The resulting judgment is inscribed in the Book of Life, and a person's future is determined for the following year. Though that judgment is inscribed, it is not yet sealed and can still be changed for at least another ten days, when, on Yom Kippur, God seals the book for the next year.

Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement

Yom Kippur is the holy day that brings Jews closer to God through the process of prayer and repentance. On this day of atonement, Jews all over the world fast for 24 hours to help us transcend our physical natures and to completely focus on our prayers. Individually and collectively, we seek forgiveness for our transgressions against God and our acquaintances. By so doing, we in effect wipe the slate clean for the upcoming year. On Yom Kippur, God judges all Jews and inscribes those who have atoned for their sins in the Book of Life for the next year.

Sukkot: Celebration of Safely Wandering in the Desert for 40 Years

This joyous holiday comes just five days after Yom Kippur. It is only after achieving a new level of purity through atonement on Yom Kippur that we can be truly joyous on this holiday that celebrates the Jews' exodus from Egypt. For 40 years the Jews lived in the desert in temporary dwellings called "sukkot." During the seven days of this festival, we celebrate by building, eating, entertaining and sleeping in a "sukkah," the temporary shelter constructed with a view of the sky and decorated with produce, branches and all things natural and beautiful.

Shmini Atzaret: Close of Sukkot

Shmini Atzaret is celebrated on the eighth day following the first day of Sukkot. Not only does it officially mark the close of the seven days of Sukkot, it is significant in that the number eight recalls the eighth day upon which a newborn boy's covenant with God is sealed with the "brit milah," circumcision.

Simchat Torah: Rejoicing of the Torah

The holiday of Simchat Torah celebrates the completion and the beginning of the reading of the Torah. In so doing, it celebrates the relationship between God and Israel when God was revealed on Mount Sinai and handed down the Torah to Moses. It is a holiday of much joy and dancing with the Torah scrolls. The scrolls are laid out for all to see and rerolled so as to begin reading anew from the first chapter, first verse of Genesis.

SPECIAL DAYS

Chanukah: Festival of Lights

When Judah Maccabee and his band of freedom fighters entered the Temple in Jerusalem after a hard-fought war, they were distraught to find that three years of Syrian occupation had turned the holy place into a pagan site. They cleansed the Temple and rededicated it (in Hebrew, "Chanukat Habayit") on the 25th day of the month of Kislev, 165 BCE. Although the war to free the land of Judea from Syrian/Greek rule lasted many more years, we joyously commemorate Chanukah based on the regaining of our Temple. Years later, the Rabbis of the Talmud revealed the famous miracle story about the small jug of oil that provided the Temple with enough fuel for eight days. Chanukah is celebrated by lighting the hanukkiyah (Chanukah menorah), playing dreidel (a top), eating latkes (potato pancakes) and giving children gelt (money).

Tu B'Shevat: Festival of Trees

Tu B'Shevat (the 15th of Shevat) is also known as the New Year for Trees. It is customary on this day to eat fruit and nuts from trees and to plant trees in Israel.

Purim: Day of Rejoicing

The revelry and rejoicing of Purim celebrate the defeat by Mordechai and Queen Esther of the wicked Haman, who had attempted to destroy all the Jews in Persia. The name "Purim" means "lots" or "dice," the device Haman used to choose the date for the Jews' destruction. Traditionally, children and adults dress in costume, and a carnival atmosphere prevails. The book of Esther is read out loud, and children twirl noisemakers known as groggers to "blot out" Haman's name each time it is read. The holiday reminds us that Esther's privileged status as queen did not lessen her responsibility to her people, and neither should privilege in our life lessen our sense of responsibility toward others.

Passover (Pesach): Exodus from Egypt

Passover recalls the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian slavery. The name refers to God's "passing over" or protecting the homes of the Israelites from the ten plagues levied against the Egyptians. At the "seder" or "ordered meal," the story of Exodus is read from the Haggadah narrative and shared with family and friends. Through this ritual, we symbolically recreate the experience and hardships of our ancestors and celebrate God's gifts of freedom and redemption. During the holiday period Jews eat flat, unleavened bread—matzah—in remembrance of the haste in which the Jewish slaves left Egypt without enough time to allow the bread to rise.

Yom HaShoah: Holocaust Memorial Day

On this solemn occasion, we remember the six million who perished during the Holocaust. In the period of a relatively few years, approximately one-third of all European Jewry, including nearly 90% of Jews in Poland, Germany, Austria and the Baltic nations, perished under the Nazi regime. Rituals, liturgy and customs for this day are still developing. Communities gather to read memorial prayers as well as testimonies of victims and survivors.

Yom HaAtzma'ut: Israel Independence Day

Yom HaAtzma'ut (Israel Independence Day) celebrates the founding of the State of Israel in 1948. Over six decades later, Israel still stands as the cultural and spiritual center of the Jewish people as well as the refuge for oppressed Jews worldwide.

Lag B'omer: Day of Celebration

Lag B'omer is a students' or scholars' holiday associated with the great Rabbi Akiva and other rabbis and disciples during the revolt against the Romans. It is a day of rejoicing celebrated with picnics and bonfires.

Shavuot: Harvest of First Fruits

Known as the Harvest of First Fruits, Shavuot marks the end of the grain harvest, which began on Passover. Shavuot also commemorates the revelation of Torah with its Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai during the forty years of wandering in the desert. The Torah mentions that it took 49 days, or seven weeks, to reach Mount Sinai from Egypt. Shavuot (which means "weeks") comes at the conclusion of this "week of weeks."

Tisha B'Av: Day of Mourning

Many tragic events happened to the Jewish people on the ninth day of the month of Av: the fall of the first and second Temples in Jerusalem, the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492 and the beginning of World War I, ultimately culminating in the Holocaust, as well as other events throughout history. This is one of the saddest days in Jewish history.

SPECIAL DAYS

School's Out Days

School's Out provides an enriching environment for children when is school is closed. Children will enjoy participating in programming that includes: crafts, swimming (please remember to pack a swimsuit and towel), games, sports and a chance to spend time with old and new friends outside of school. Snacks are provided, but please pack a lunch.

School's Out Days are open to all children — members and non-members — in grades K–5 from 8 am–6 pm (this is subject to change due to state and local health guidelines).

2023-24 Closings

Mon, Sep 4 - Labor Day

Fri, Sep 15 - Erev Rosh Hashana (Eve)

Mon, Sep 25 - Yom Kippur

Fri, Sep 29 - Erev Sukkot (Eve) (close 5 pm)

Fri, Oct 6 - Erev Shemini Atzeret (Eve) (close 5 pm)

Wed. Nov 22 - Day before Thanksgiving (close 5 pm)

Thu–Fri, Nov 23–24 - Thanksgiving

Thu, Dec 14 - JCC Staff Event (close 5 pm)

Mon, Dec 25 - Christmas Day

Mon, Jan 1 - New Year's Day

Mon, Apr 22 - Erev Passover (Eve)

Tue, Apr 23 - Passover 1st Day

Mon, Apr 29 - Passover 7th Day

Mon, May 27 - Memorial Day

2023-24 School's Out

MSDWT E-Learning Day: Wed, Sep 20
This will be a regular JCC School's Out Day, *not* a place for children to do e-learning

Fall Break: Mon, Oct 9–Fri, Oct 13

MSDWT E-Learning Day: Wed, Nov 8
This will be a regular JCC School's Out Day, *not* a place for children to do e-learning

Thanksgiving Break:
Mon, Nov 20–Wed, Nov 22*

Winter Break: Thu–Fri, Dec 21–22
Tue, Dec 26*–Fri, Dec 29
Tue, Jan 2*–Fri, Jan 5
Mon, Jan 8

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Mon, Jan 15

Presidents' Day: Mon, Feb 19

MSDWT E-Learning Day: Wed, Mar 6
This will be a regular JCC School's Out Day, *not* a place for children to do e-learning

Spring Break: Mon, Apr 1–Fri, Apr 5

MSDWT E-Learning Day: Wed, Apr 17
This will be a regular JCC School's Out Day, *not* a place for children to do e-learning

*Please note early and/or full closings at left

JASC
After School Care

After School Care

Parent Handbook

2023–2024 School Year

for Grades K–5