



## School Information Packet

Shalom and welcome to the Alfred G. Rayner Learning Center! We look forward to caring for your child and getting to know your family. This packet contains important information about our program and policies. Please also see our Parent Handbook. We encourage you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

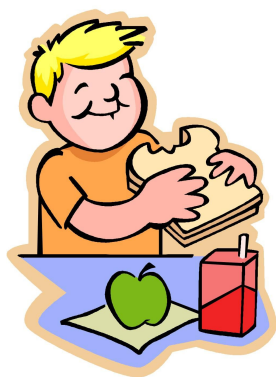
Contact the Rayner Office:

Phone: 225-924-6772

Email: [rayner@bethshalomsynagogue.org](mailto:rayner@bethshalomsynagogue.org)

Fax: 225-924-3697

# What Will My Child Need?



## Food and Drink

- For babies and young toddlers (Pilim, Jerafim, Kenguru, Tavasim, Aryot, Zaybrot and Kofim classes), please send bottles and/or sufficient food for lunch and 2-3 snacks per day in your child's lunch box. If you would like to send a non-perishable package of snacks (such as puffs, yogurt melts, etc.) please label with your child's name and we will keep it on hand for snack.

- For the two-year-old and up classes (D'vorim, Tsavim, Zikiot and Parparim), please send a nutritious lunch each day (see "Let's Do Lunch"), and two snacks per month for the entire class (see snack list for ideas). Also please send a reusable water bottle or sippy cup.

- Label all bottles, cups and food containers, as well as the outside of your child's lunch box!
- Don't forget to send any utensils (fork, spoon, etc.) your child will need.

## Classroom Supplies

- For babies and children in diapers, please send one pack of diapers (label with initials on the fold of each diaper) and one pack of wipes (label with your child's name). Your child's teacher will let you know when you are running low on diapers and wipes.

- For the two-year-old and up classes (D'vorim, Tsavim, Zikiot and Parparim), please send one pack of wipes per month. These are used for cleanup after art projects.

- All families, please send one box of tissues per month.

## Clothing and Napping Supplies

- Please send a complete change of seasonally appropriate clothing in a large Ziplock bag, to keep in your child's cubby in case of spills, accidents, etc. Label each clothing item as well as the bag.

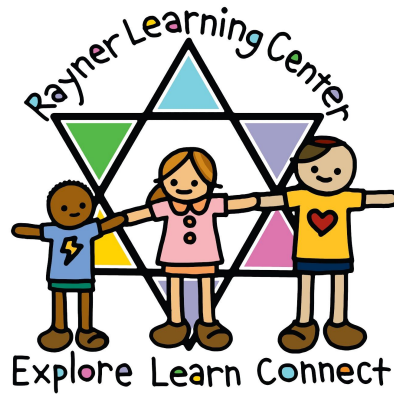
- If you are sending a pacifier, please label it with your child's name or initials. We cannot use pacifiers with clips or stuffed animals attached to them per state guidelines.

- For children over twelve months, please send a fitted crib sheet and a small (baby size) blanket or towel for nap time. If purchasing a nap mat, please check with office staff to make sure the mat is not larger than our cots (state health department requirement). These items will be sent home on Fridays to wash and return on Monday. Please label all items with your child's name.

- Children over twelve months may have a small soft comfort item (stuffed animal) for nap time if desired. Please label with your child's name.

***\*\*Check your child's Daily Report each day for notes from your child's teacher regarding supplies needed\*\****





# Daily Nap and Snack Schedule

For children over 12 months of age

**Morning snack:** 9:00am

**Lunch:** 11:30am

**Nap:** 12:15pm-2:15pm

**Afternoon Snack:** 2:30pm

**Late Afternoon Snack:** 5:00pm

# Snack List

Our children enjoy the following snacks during their snack time:

1. Teddy Grahams
2. Fruit snacks
3. Corn/cheese puffs
4. Applesauce
5. Animal crackers
6. Graham crackers
7. Vanilla wafers
8. Cinnamon schoolbook cookies from Trader Joes
9. Quaker Popped rice crisps snacks
10. Raisins
11. Austin Crackers variety pack (crackers with cheese or peanut butter in the middle)
12. Goldfish
13. Breakfast bars & granola bars
14. Veggie straws
15. Cheerios (no honey nut, please!)
16. Green bean crisps
17. Yogurt tubes
18. String cheese
19. Plain crackers
20. Rice chex cereal & Corn chex cereal
21. Fresh fruit (cut and individually wrapped or bagged)



**\*\*Please do not send Cheez Its, pretzels, marshmallows, any nuts, any items that come in a pop top lid, chips, popcorn with the kernel, OR seeds\*\***



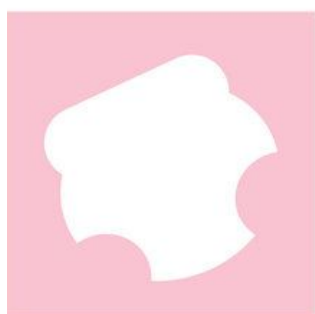
# Let's do Lunch!

- ★ Remember that your child needs to bring his or her lunch to school **each day**.
- ★ Everything should be in a **small lunch box or bag** (soft) that will fit into our refrigerator. (Space is limited.)
- ★ All food should be **wrapped** or in a **covered container**. Please include a drink and spoon or fork if needed.
- ★ Lunch should be **ready to serve** to your child—fruit washed, peeled and cut, sandwiches assembled, etc.
- ★ We will microwave when necessary. Hot dogs must be sliced lengthwise and cross way and grapes cut in half lengthwise to avoid danger of choking. We will not serve these items to your child if they are not cut properly.
- ★ Please **DO NOT SEND**: chips (including Cheez Its), candy, gum, carbonated drinks (in a can or thermos), nuts, seeds, pretzels, popcorn with the kernel, marshmallows, raw carrot rounds, hot dogs sliced in rounds, whole hot dogs, anything in glass, or anything your child can not chew or handle easily.
- ★ Also, please remember we are a Jewish pre-school and housed in a synagogue. With respect to Jewish dietary laws, we ask that you **not send pork products**, including: ham, bacon, sausage, pork hot dogs, or pepperoni. **Also, no catfish, or shellfish** including: crawfish, shrimp, or crabmeat.
- ★ We want lunch to be an enjoyable, social time for your child. Please remember, however, that what is simple to do for one child, or even a little messy, may be very complicated and very messy when trying to accommodate several children simultaneously.

# Diaper Labeling



Parents, we ask that you please **label all** diapers and pull-ups. Please place their **initials on the fold** of each pull-up/diaper so that it is easily accessed.





# Illness and Medication

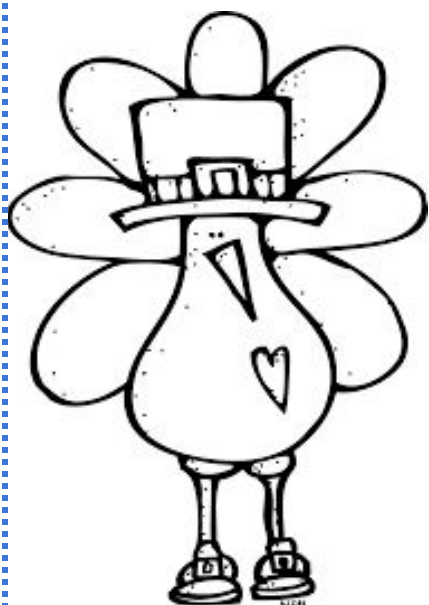


**ILLNESS:** We will call you if your child has an unknown rash, diarrhea, a fever of 100 degrees or higher, or is vomiting. They cannot return to school until they are symptom free for 24 hours. If your child vomits, please do not bring him/her to school thinking it's only something they have eaten. In the past, this has caused a virus to spread throughout the school.

**MEDICATION:** For the well being of all our children, we are unable to give any medication without instructions from your child's doctor. You must fill out a medication form giving the school permission to give the medication. Please be sure that no medication is brought to school in a backpack or lunch box. Medication must be given to the Director or a teacher and it will be kept in the school office.



**INJURIES:** By state law, licensing requires parents to be notified of: any injury above the neck, human bites that break the skin, blood not contained in an adhesive strap, animal bites, allergic reaction skin changes, unusual breathing, impaled object, broken or dislodged teeth, symptoms of dehydration, or any illness/injury requiring professional medical attention.



# Holiday Care

**Holiday care is a service we provide for all of our parents.**

Holiday care dates are listed in the calendar as well as being posted ahead of time in the monthly newsletter.

A sign up sheet will be posted in front of the office a few weeks ahead of time. If your child is not signed up by the deadline we will not be able to hold a spot for your child during these days.

Please note that your child's name must be removed from the sign-up sheet before the deadline in order for you not to be charged.

In order for us to provide this service, we must have 12 or more children signed up per day.

Children who are scheduled for holiday care will be charged \$17.50 from 7:30AM-6:00PM. You will be billed for all days scheduled to attend, whether your children does so or not.

When signing your child up for holiday care, please write down the times in which you need care; for example: 8:30 – 4:00 rather than saying "all day". This allows us to properly staff for these days.

**Thank you ahead of time for your cooperation in this matter!**







# JEWISH EDUCATION

**Shalom!** At the Rayner Center, we are a Jewish child care center and teach our children Jewish values, customs and traditions through music, art and play!

Ms. Taylor Pettit is our Jewish educator who also works as the Program Director at Beth Shalom Synagogue. She is a former elementary school teacher and visits classrooms once a week.

Here are some of the ways your child will experience Jewish education as part of the Rayner experience:

- ❖ **Tuesdays - *T'savim, Zikiot and Parparim* - Class Visit**
  - Hebrew Word of the Week
  - Hebrew Greetings and Phrases
  - Music, art, storytime and play centered around holidays and customs!
- ❖ **Wednesdays - *Zaybrot, Tavasim, Aryot and Kenguru, Kofim and D'vorim* - Class Visit** around music and storytime involving Jewish themes!
- ❖ **Fridays - Tot Shabbat** with Ms. Taylor, Ms. Bridget or Rabbi Natan. Through the use of puppets, music and more we learn the weekly tradition of *Shabbat*.
- ❖ **Each day** - Students say the *Motzi* prayer before they eat, use the hebrew names of their classes and learn about Jewish values like *Tzedakah* (giving charity) and *Mitzvot* (good deeds).
- ❖ **Special Occasions** - We celebrate special Jewish holidays as a school - like *Sukkot* and *Purim*!



Contact Taylor if you have any questions at  
[programs@bethshalomsynagogue.org](mailto:programs@bethshalomsynagogue.org)



# Music Class

With Mrs. Connie Boles  
**(\$7.50 a month)**

All children love music, whether it is watching a fun video, singing along with a beloved CD in the car, or participating in a live music class. The value of music learning has been a prominent subject in the news media for almost ten years, and no one can dispute the priceless look of sheer joy on a child's face when he is singing a favorite song.

My name is Connie Boles, and I provide instructional music classes for the children at the Rayner Learning Center. I earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in music education from LSU, and I have been teaching music for over 20 years. I have numerous excellent references from the various facilities at which I have taught, including public elementary schools and preschools, daycare centers, and a local music store.

In addition to the inherent value of music education, there is the added benefit of using music to teach innumerable concepts such as the alphabet and vowel sounds, vocabulary, numbers and counting, nursery rhymes, and singing in languages other than English---just to name a few!



All music classes include singing, movement, rhythm training, introductory music reading activities, ear training, and playing rhythm instruments.

*Music is offered to our one year old through four & five year old classrooms; all children participate.*



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# Mousercise

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**Mousercise is an in-house gymnastics program offered by Mrs. Courtney Macha, owner and head coach of Tumbling Tigers.**

Classes are held once a week for 30 minutes on Wednesdays.

This is an aerobics based class where a low balance beam, wedge mat, and other specialized gymnastics equipment are used.

Please have your child wear tennis shoes for Mousercise. If your child has long hair, please have it pulled back into a ponytail.



Each September, or on the first month your child becomes eligible to participate in Mousercise, you will be billed an annual Mousercise registration fee of \$30 to cover the cost of insurance.

There will be a monthly charge of \$15 that will be billed to you.

If you have any further questions, please see Mrs. Courtney Macha.



**\*\*Children may not participate without a registration fee, Mousercise sign up form, and a Rayner Learning Center permission form\*\***



Happy Feet Soccer is an optional enrichment program offered on Tuesday afternoons. Children aged 2 and up are eligible to participate. Registration and monthly payments for Happy Feet are managed through the Happy Feet website:

[www.happyfeetbatonrouge.com/agrayner](http://www.happyfeetbatonrouge.com/agrayner)

For more information about this program, contact Coach Lucky at 225-304-6434 ext.706 or [lucky@happyfeetsouth.com](mailto:lucky@happyfeetsouth.com)