



January News

2020

Shabbat:

Aleph-Bet's Friday Lunch Time Tradition

Central in Jewish life, Shabbat, also known as Shabbos or the Sabbath, is a day of rest and celebration that dates back to the beginnings of Judaism. It begins at sunset on Friday and ends at nightfall on Saturday. It is tradition to wash, recite brachas or blessings, light candles, break bread known as challah and drink wine and dine with family and friends.

At Aleph-Bet, we partake in this celebration with the children on Friday's at lunch time. The children wash their hand and are lead in the Shabbat songs. They gather around a tray of braided challah, juice, candles and a Tzedakah or donation box. Each week a boy is chosen to be the Aba or the Dad and a girl is chosen to be the Ima or the Mom. They perform a blessing or bracha over each item which has special meaning. The Ima lights and blesses the candles and the Aba blesses the juice. The blessing for the challah is done and the bread is broken and shared amongst all of the

children and educators as a symbol of sharing one's good fortune. The tzedakah box is then passed around and the children place a coin in the box to give to a worthy or just cause as they sing:

“One penny, two penny, three penny, four...

What do you think this money is for?

To help the poor man knocking on the door...

That's what tzedakah is for.”

The children then enjoy a kosher meal made in our kitchen.

Shabbat is something the children all look forward to each week. It is a time for them to sing, share a meal with one another and learn about this rich Jewish tradition.

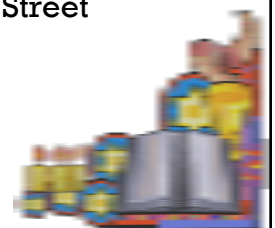
Shabbat shalom!

Source: <http://www.chabad.org>

Important Dates

December 31	4:00 PM closure for New Year's Eve
January 1	Closed for New Year's Day
January 8	Pizza Day
January 20	Board of Directors Meeting at 4:30 PM –1007 Sinclair Street
February 17	Closed for Louis Riel Day
April 10	Closed for Good Friday
April 13	Closed for Easter Monday

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year from everyone at Aleph-Bet!



Visit us at <http://www.alephbetdaycare.ca>



Jewish Holidays of 2020 at a Glance

Tu B'Shevat (New Year of Trees)	February 9(*)-10(**)
Purim (Festivities celebrating Queen Ester's bravery in saving the Jewish people)	March 9 (*)-10(**)
Passover (celebration of the Israelites exodus from ancient Egypt)	April 9(*) – 16(**)
Yom Ha' Atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day)	April 28(*)- 29(**)
Lag Ba' Omer (Commemorates the passing of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai and the end of the plague)	May 22 (*)- 23(**)
Shavuot (Commenorates the receiving of the Torah)	May 28(*) - 30 (**)
Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year)	Sept. 18(*)- Sept 20(**)
Yom Kippur (Time to atone)	Sept. 27 (*) -28 (**)
Sukkot	Oct.3 (*) - 9 (**)
Simchat Torah (commemorates the annual cycle of the public Torah readings)	Oct. 10 (*)- 11(**)
Chanukah (celebrates the miracle of Chanukah by burning candles for eight nights)	Dec. 11(*) – Dec. 18 (**)



*eve **nightfall