

## LIMUDIM 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Over the past several years, we have had the opportunity to explore multiple educational models and carefully consider best practices, the needs of our students and families, and the mission and vision of IKAR's Limudim program. Our new program is simultaneously flexible and rigorous, and the curriculum and structure are designed to reinforce the centrality of the core elements of our b'nai mitzvah program: text learning, davening and social justice. The structure also reinforces our commitment to building community and our belief that b'nai mitzvah at IKAR are true celebrations for all.

### Tuesday Limudim:

- ✓ Students will meet at B'nai David from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM to explore aspects of their curriculum related to holidays, Hebrew, Torah, Israel and the Holocaust (please contact Lisa Alpern for details).

### Shabbat Limudim:

- ✓ Our Shabbat morning program is designed to optimize learning on prayer, ritual and text in IKAR's Shabbat environment while allowing for independence and flexibility.
  - Students will attend at least 12 Shabbat morning IKAR services to complete the 7<sup>th</sup> grade *tefillah* curriculum. The curriculum will be divided into 12 distinct *shiurim*, or lessons, and each *shiur* will include group discussion, individual learning during the service and an at-home written component. Each Shabbat, students will approach one of the *shiurim* either individually or in *hevruta*, or partnership, with other students.
  - The learning schedule on Shabbat will be as follows:
    - 9:15 – 9:30 AM: Students join the community for *Birkhot HaShahar* and *Kavannot*.
    - 9:30 – 10:00 AM: With teacher guidance, students identify and begin working on their *shiur* for that day.
    - 10:00 – 11:30 AM: Students participate in the IKAR service and continue their *shiur* on their own.
    - 11:30 – 12:00 PM: Students reconvene with their teacher to conclude the day's experience/learning.
  - At the end of the year, students will demonstrate skills to show they have mastered the material.

### Other:

- ✓ Students will attend six pre-determined Friday night services as a class (they will both attend services and engage in learning together). The tentative dates are Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Students will engage in IKAR's Minyan Tzedek initiative together. They will determine the topic (education or food/hunger) and the components of the path (text study, hands-on work, teaching the Limudim community, etc.) and then work together in that area.
- ✓ Students will attend the IKAR Shabbaton, which will likely be held in May 2010. This experience will include learning and community bonding time.