



BNEI AKIVA SCHOOLS YESHIVAT OR CHAIM

STUDENT LIFE 2017 - 2018 • 5778



A student's experience at Yeshivat Or Chaim extends well beyond the classroom. The wide array of co-curricular activities, teams and programs encourage students to get involved in school life. Students are part of an environment that stresses contributing to the Jewish people while at the same time channeling their passions and honing their leadership skills. Bnei Akiva Schools emphasize a commitment to Medinat Yisrael. We expect our students to demonstrate Ahavat Yisrael, Derech Eretz and social responsibility towards the Jewish Community, Canada, and the world at large.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

As part of their graduation requirement outlined by the Ontario Ministry of Education, students at Bnei Akiva Schools must complete 40 hours of documented community service. The vast majority of our students, however, complete well more than the ministry's requirements with a variety of organizations within the Jewish community and beyond.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Bnei Akiva Schools maintain a close relationship with the Bnei Akiva / Mizrachi movement. Many of our students lead weekly Bnei Akiva youth groups and participate in Bnei Akiva Shabbatonim and attend or staff Bnei Akiva camps. Our students have also been directly involved in community Yom

Haatzmaut / Yom Hazikaron programs.

As an organization, "Bnei Akiva inspires and empowers young Jews with a sense of commitment to the Jewish people, the Land of Israel and the Torah." The school also maintains close relationships with organizations advocating inclusion of individuals with all abilities.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

CHIDON HATANACH

A longstanding annual tradition, Or Chaim students compete in the final round of the International Chidon HaTanach competition held in Israel on Yom Haatzmaut. In 2014, the international winner was an Or Chaim student and another Or Chaim student placed in the top 16. In 2017, after placing first overall in the national competition, an Or Chaim student placed within the top 8 internationally.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Bnei Akiva Schools has partnered with the following community organizations:

- Baycrest
- Bernard Betel Centre
- Bnei Akiva
- Canadian Blood Services
- CHAI Lifeline
- CIJA
- CJPAC
- DANI
- Emunah Women
- Free the Children
- Friendship Circle
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hatzolah
- JACS
- JLIC
- Kensington Retirement Place
- MADD
- Mizrachi Canada
- National Council of Jewish Women Toronto
- NCSY
- Od Yosef Chai
- One Family Fund
- Shalva National Children's Center
- Sharsheret
- The Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre
- Tomchei Shabbos
- YU Torah MiTzion Beit Midrash
- UJA
- United Chessed
- V'Ahavata
- Walk with Israel
- Yachad
- Yeshiva University
- YPI
- Zareinu

TEAM SHALVA JERUSALEM MARATHON

The past 4 years, Yeshivat Or Chaim sent a delegation of dedicated students to Israel for the chance to participate in the Jerusalem marathon in order to raise funds for Shalva and this new tradition has been so successful that it will continue into future years. The team from each school is coached separately and each student has to raise \$3,000 in order to participate. Once in Israel, the group tours the country guided by our teachers and rebbeim, runs the marathon and has the opportunity to spend an entire day in Neve Michael seeing the amazing work of Emunah Women as well as getting involved in a beautiful chessed opportunity. Our students also join with a select cadre of Yeshiva day schools from across North America for a shabbaton as well as a tour of Shalva's facilities.

MODEL UN

Each year, our students participate in two different Model UN programs. Under the guidance of faculty members, students research the politics of the country they have been selected to represent, in order to play the roles of real United Nations delegates at the conference. Participating in the Model UN programs adds to participants' knowledge of world affairs and their debate and public speaking skills. Qualifying students participate in Yeshiva University's Model UN Conference with hundreds of other yeshiva high school students across North America. All students are invited to participate in the Jewish Canadian Youth Model UN held in Montreal.

“MY TIME IN THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM HELPED INSTILL AND CULTIVATE CRUCIAL CRITICAL THINKING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY PROMOTING AN AIR OF COLLEGIALITY AND FRIENDSHIP AMONGST THE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB. I CAN SAY WITH UTMOST CERTAINTY THAT THE SKILLS THAT I WAS TAUGHT IN MODEL UN, HAVE PROVED ESSENTIAL IN BOTH MY POST-SECONDARY AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.”

- Shimshi Dukesz ('10)

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

HEW is a week observed city-wide at the beginning of November. Institutions around Toronto host events, speakers, panels, and show films around a topic designated by the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre. Every year, Ulpana and Or Chaim have worked with the Holocaust Education Centre in order to host an academic scholar to come speak to our students about historical aspects of the Holocaust that they likely have never learned about before. In the past few years students have learned about the Euthanasia program, the role of Canadian soldiers in the liberation of Bergen Belsen, and Austrian restitution claims. The speakers are always excellent and all those present, students, faculty, and parents, come away with greater knowledge and understanding of yet another aspect of one of the greatest tragedies in our nation's history.



ART EXHIBITION

At the culmination of the school year, Bnei Akiva Schools hosts an Art Exhibition evening. The work displayed is a representative survey of all the artwork done throughout the year from all grades at both schools. The high quality artwork comprises pieces in painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, and multimedia. Invitations go out to all Bnei Akiva Schools families, as well as to those in the wider community. Visitors typically come away with great enthusiasm, inspired by the quality of art done by our students.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Bnei Akiva Schools runs an Annual Public Speaking Contest available to all students. Judges vary from year to year, usually made up of a panel of teachers, alumni and community members. In recent years, a people's choice component was instituted to the competition, whereby the audience members themselves act as judges and text the number of their favourite finalist. The public speaking competition is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn to successfully communicate orally, to hone their public speaking skills and to give students an opportunity to share their beliefs in an encouraging atmosphere.

LITERARY NIGHT

As part of their summer reading curriculum, grade 9 and 11 students participate in a book club evening. Parents are encouraged to read the books and participate in the program as well. Students craft the discussion questions and a faculty member moderates the discussion. This evening is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their thoughts, perfect their public speaking skills and engage their classmates, parents and teachers in a sophisticated literary discussion.

SCHOOL E-NEWSLETTER

A weekly e-newsletter is published, highlighting the events of the week in both schools. Student committees in both schools are involved in the input and editing of the articles as well as a contributing photographer. Students gain public communication and editorial skills.



STAFF: MR. GERALD LAZAR

Director of Student Life
glazar@bastoronto.org
416-630-6772 ext 237

Mr. Lazar oversees the co-curricular programme at Yeshivat Or Chaim. Working with student council directly, he ensures the smooth-running of programs, the creation of clubs and initiatives and the grade 12 committees. He coordinates the organization of programs run by the school's religious leadership. Additionally, many other teachers are involved directly with specific programs, clubs and events.

YOM HASHOAH

Every year, Grade 11 at YOC is tasked with the oversight of the school-wide Yom Hashoah program. As a group they determine a theme and then create a program around that theme. The students usually present on current Holocaust research, recite Kel Maleh and hear from a survivor speaker. Aside from the education and commemoration aspect of this program, this is also a way for a grade to work together toward a very worthy goal.

YOM HAZIKARON

Grade 10s work together with a member of faculty to create a meaningful program to commemorate Yom Hazikaron. They focus on Israel, tzahal as a whole, and individual heroes who have become victims to the ongoing struggle for statehood in Israel. The program includes a performance by the choir, a video presentation, speakers, and various other commemorative elements. This program is always a meaningful way to pause and reflect on the sacrifice of those who live in Israel as well as a reminder to the students of the centrality of the State of Israel in our lives.

FREE THE CHILDREN

Free the Children is an organization focused on creating and funding sustainable solutions for African youth in need. Through their Me to We Day event, they hope to inspire activism and involvement from teenagers. Students have run assemblies to spread awareness on the needs in Africa, as well as having facilitated fundraising initiatives. Involvement in this organization has encouraged students to join our Chessed Committee and do what they can to make a difference in the world.

FIELD TRIPS

Teachers are always on the lookout for trips that will help enhance the learning that is done in the classroom. Trips have included a physics day at Wonderland, various exhibits at the ROM or the Science Centre, theatre trips to see Shakespearean plays in Stratford, and trips to various local universities as well.

SHALHEVETH FREIER PHYSICS TOURNAMENT

Students in grades 11 and 12 have the option of competing in the Weizmann Institute's Annual Shalheveth Freier Physics Tournament. Competing groups build a safe using physics principles that should be impenetrable by other teams, while trying to crack their competitors' safes. The national winners compete in a two day international competition in the Davidson Institute of Science Education, at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, Israel.

LEADERSHIP

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student council consists of grade 11 and 12 students. Working closely with the administration, they oversee and facilitate programming in the school. Annual activities coordinated by student council include sukkah building, pre-Pesach car wash, school lunch programs, school-wide Shabbaton, Sports Day, Winter Activity Day and basketball intramurals. A portion of funds raised by student council is donated to various local and Jewish charities.

SUKKAH BUILDING

Every year, grade 12s advertise their sukkah building skills to the community. The students book appointments, create a schedule and go around the community in groups to build upwards of 50 sukkahs. The experience is one of bonding while learning both physical and entrepreneurial skills.

GRADE REPRESENTATIVES

Grade Representatives consists of students in grades 9 - 11. Their role is to work with student council on supporting and running programming. Grade reps gain valuable leadership experience in student governance and affairs. They make decisions involving school-wide programming and enjoy taking the lead on shaping special activity days.

"I GAINED A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT FROM THE SUKKAH-BUILDING EXPERIENCE. I LEARNED HOW TO PLAN AND SCHEDULE IN THE MOST COST AND TIME EFFECTIVE MANNER AND I ALSO LEARNED HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH MY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS IN WAYS I HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE"

- Uri Frischman ('14)



SPORTS DAY

The first school-wide program run by student council during the academic year is Sports Day. There are many activities scheduled for the day (not just sports!) including volleyball, basketball, soccer, torah trivia, an art activity, a science activity and chess. Grade 12 students are offered an invaluable leadership experience, organizing and scoring the activities. Students appreciate having the opportunity to get to know students in other grades, particularly our new grade 9s and to see their teachers involved in fun activities beyond the classroom.

LUNCH PROGRAM

Our student council and lunch committee offer daily lunch options for students to order. Students sample the best Toronto kosher restaurants have to offer with different establishments patronized each day; choices include BBQ, salads, pizza, sushi, laffas, among other delicious choices. Grade 12 students spearhead the initiative to raise money for their grade 12 trip and in the process gain valuable planning and organization skills. Each year the rising grade looks forward to the time where they will choose what to offer to their peers and take charge of the BBQ.

PRE-PESACH CAR CLEANING

Yearly, our grade 12 students organize a car wash before Pesach. Prior to the car wash, students learn about Halachot of cleaning for Pesach and gain valuable teamwork experience during the day of the program. The car wash takes place at Or Chaim and students wash upwards of 40 cars in a day. Students enjoy the opportunity to bond outside the classroom and provide a community service.

GRADE 11 LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMING

In preparation for acting as the school's student leaders, our grade 11s participate in several leadership and teambuilding activities. Following an opening program, they participate in several sessions, focusing on practical leadership. Themes include: what does leadership look like and how to enact leadership; planning school-wide programming 101; and the essentials of working in a team.

INTRAMURALS

Intramurals take place several days a week during lunch. They are an opportunity for students in different grades to play together on the same team. On occasion, a staff member may be on a team as well. A grade 12 student is elected into the "convener" position, organizing the teams, games and playoffs for the intramurals teams. Intramurals provide a fun way to unwind during the day and students look forward to seeing who will compete in and ultimately win the playoffs.

ACTIVITY DAY

Student Council generally runs two Activity Days a year. In addition to Sports Day, Or Chaim hosts a winter activity day. Students choose to ski or participate in an indoor activity such as Skyzone. An opportunity to interact outside of the classroom and within different grades, the Winter Activity Day provides for school bonding and highlighting a different aspect than is seen in the classroom.

ATHLETICS

BASKETBALL

The school has two basketball teams: Junior Varsity for grade 9 and 10 students and Varsity for grade 11 and 12 students. The teams compete in the TDCAA. The varsity team has the opportunity to play in various tournaments, including Yeshiva University's Sarachek Tournament in New York. Tryouts for the basketball teams are held at the beginning of the school year and the season typically lasts from September to March.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country Running team, open to all students, also competes in the TDCAA. Tryouts and practices start at the beginning of the year and the season typically lasts until the winter.

SOCCER

The Soccer team is open to all students who qualify. While the soccer season is typically in the spring and summer, tryouts and practices usually begin in January. The soccer team also competes in the TDCAA.



STAFF:
MR. GORD SKAROTT

Athletics Director
gskarott@bastoronto.org

“PLAYING ON THE BASKETBALL, SOCCER, AND CROSS-COUNTRY TEAMS GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPRESENT OUR COMMUNITY TO ALL TYPES OF SCHOOLS, AND SHOW THEM HOW WE CAN BE A TOP TEAM, WHILE REMAINING MENSCHLIKE. OVERALL, IT HELPED ME GROW IN A WAY THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE IN THE CLASSROOM, AND I WAS ABLE TO FORGE RELATIONSHIPS AND HAVE AN ENJOYABLE TIME!”

- Akiva Maresky ('10)

VOLLEYBALL

For the first time this year, students in grades 9 and 10 will be offered the opportunity to join a volleyball team. Students are excited about this additional athletic option, which will compete in the TDCAA.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

CHESED COMMITTEE

The Chessed Committee has become one of the most popular committees in the school. Around 5 or 6 students are selected to plan chessed events and fundraisers and encourage activism and volunteerism amongst the student population. It spearheads projects throughout the year, a selection of which are detailed below. In addition, many of the students on the Chessed Committee choose to volunteer their time to these organizations beyond the school setting.

PESACH FOOD DRIVE

Yearly, our grade 10 students assist with Passover Packaging at the National Council for Jewish Women. They learn about those in our community in need and hear about more opportunities to help. It is important as a team-building experience as well, as they work together to package the food.

MATZAH BRICKS

Our Chessed Committee raises funds for the food drive as well, selling “Matza Bricks.” Each year, our committee manages to improve upon the previous year’s amount, exceeding their goals. Bulletin boards are designated for the Matza Bricks and students try to maximize the board space. The students are always proud of their accomplishment, particularly when they see multiple boards were needed!



CHARITY CHOLENT CONTEST

A yearly highlight, our own homemade “Chopped,” the Charity Cholent Contest raises funds for Od Yosef Chai. Students learn how Od Yosef Chai helps needy families in Israel. They create teams, generally two per grade, and compete to make the tastiest cholent. A panel of esteemed judges, led by Mrs. Ripsman, taste the cholents and rank them based on taste, texture and visual appeal. The winning team takes home the Cholent Trophy and has bragging rights for the year.

NURSING HOME VISITS

Under the guiding principle of developing active chessed among our students, Or Chaim facilitates at least one nursing home visit a year. In preparation, students in leadership positions plan a program to present at the Home and gain important pointers as to how to communicate with the residents they meet. Often, different groups will meet residents at different cognitive stages and hear wisdom and life stories gained by the residents. Once there, students sing, play musical instruments, schmooze with the residents and assist in the regular programming of the Home.

YACHAD

Many of our students participate in Yachad programming, an organization dedicated to integrating individuals with special needs into the community. Our students attend shabbatonim and programs. Some of them have also been asked to sit on the Yachad Board. Yachad members have attended occasional mishmars, enjoying the Jam and Torah session in particular.

MOVEMBER

The Chessed committee encourages students and male teachers to grow a moustache and raise funds in support of male health. Students are encouraged to become knowledgeable about male cancer. Throughout the month of November, the committee tracks facial and fundraising growth!

ARTS

CHOIR

Now in its tenth consecutive year, Yeshivat Or Chaim’s choir has performed at Closing Night of Holocaust Education Week, the school’s shabbaton, the community Yom HaShoah commemoration, as well as Mizrahi’s Yom Hazikaron / Yom Haatzmaut Tekes. The choir is trained by a professional Chazan and creates leadership opportunities for students in various grades. Students have appreciated the opportunity to perform at community events. All students with vocal talents are encouraged to join the choir.

A CAPPELLA GROUP

Building on the choir’s success, core choir members formed an a capella group three years ago. They began by focusing on Kabbalat Shabbat tunes, performing at the school-wide shabbaton. They have also led davening at Zichron Yisroel Congregation, Shaarei Tefillah and Shaarei Shomayim. Students may join the a capella group, whether they are also in the choir or not. The group trains with an experienced a cappella singer. Participating students were excited to be able to begin their own initiative and expand an already-popular group.

BAND

A staple for more than a decade, the YOC band offers an opportunity for students with musical talents to perform for the school and other groups. Their speciality is infusing current rock songs into classic Jewish tunes. The band performs yearly at the school-wide Shabbaton and has also performed at the Simchat Beit Hashoeva, Netivot’s Yom Haatzmaut program and our Shushan Purim program. Students select the songs to perform and rehearse throughout the year.



ADDITIONAL LEARNING

MISHMAR

Most Thursdays from 5:30-7:00 PM, students participate in a school-wide mishmar program. Mishmar is an opportunity for students to spend extra time learning about a wide array of topics including upcoming Jewish holidays, current events and ethics. On occasion, guest speakers from the community are invited to address the students as well as well as visiting scholars from Israel and abroad. As well, members of our Judaic studies faculty will run informal classes related to Torah, Jewish music and relevant current Jewish issues.

MATMIDIM

The Matmidim program aims at giving our talmidim a greater breadth and depth of gemara understanding and love of torah learning. Our Matmidim program meets for three additional times of learning each week. The learning consists of guided chavruta learning focused on independent learning, chaburah or small groups led by one of our Rabbeim. Students have a choice of thirteen topics, ranging from mishnayot to parsha to shmirat halashon. In addition to the fulfillment of learning lishma, students enjoy strengthening their relationships with our Rabbeim.

PRE-DAVENING SHIUR

Twice a week, Rav Yair invites students for an early morning shiur, learning Masechet Sotah. Students learn for about an hour and then have an early-morning workout in the gym. Students feel energized and ready to take on a full day of school. Rav Yair has one caveat: students who participate must go to bed early the night before!

PARENT-STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAMS

Father-son Sunday morning learning and Mother-son mishmar are two popular programs that have been running for a few years. Learning is generally in chavruta, with a summary at the end by a presenter. Presenters have included members of our staff, as well as community members. Students whose parent cannot attend learn with one of our teachers. These programs are great ways for our students to showcase their learning skills for their parents and take on a different social quality before / after the learning.

ALUMNI CHAVERIM BEIT MIDRASH PROGRAM

Alumni studying in post-secondary institutions in Toronto are encouraged to join the Yeshiva University Beit Midrash's Chaverim program. Chaverim commit to learning as part of the Beit Midrash several times a week. It is great to have a continuous presence of alumni who are committed to life-long learning and growth. This program has fostered a spirit of Torah lishma throughout the building as well as demonstrating an eagerness on the school's part to continue the relationship with the students well beyond graduation.

WHEN I JOINED THE MATMIDIM PROGRAM, IT REALLY MADE A SPIRITUAL IMPACT ON MY LIFE. THE PROGRAM GIVES ME THE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO GROW IN MY GEMARA LEARNING, AS WELL AS THE CHANCE TO LEARN TORAH LISHMA. WITH A PIZZA LUNCH AND LEARN EVERY WEEK, I FEEL THAT I HAVE DEVELOPED A STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AMAZING REBBEIM THAT DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO OUR SHIURIM. THE MATMIDIM PROGRAM HAS TRULY HELPED ME TO GROW SPIRITUALLY AND ITS BENEFITS ARE COUNTLESS.

Eli Weltman ('17)



YIMEI IYUN

Prior to several Jewish holidays, including Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Pesach, the students spend some time learning about those dates lishma, outside of normal curricular topics. They learn and discuss Halacha and hashkafa. These Yimei Iyun also provide an opportunity for different styles of learning not always possible in a normal classroom setting.

LEARNING WITH THE YU BEIT MIDRASH

Our students have the opportunity to learn with members of the Yeshiva University Torah Mitzion Beit Midrash Zichron Dov, permanently housed in Or Chaim's Beit Midrash. In addition to individual opportunities to learn, students at Or Chaim participate in Friday breakfasts, Bikiut optional lunch program, or Lunch 'n Learn programs.

OPTIONAL BIKIUT

Once a week, Rav Yair guides students through Mesechet Taanit following Yeshiva University's established Bikiut program. An amud is covered each week.

CLUBS

At Yeshivat Or Chaim, students have the opportunity to participate in clubs and / or committees. Clubs vary year-to-year based on interest and student leadership. Students are encouraged to speak to members of student council or student activity coordinators if they are interested in initiating a new club or committee. Clubs must have a staff liason supervising the activities in order to be an official school club.

INVESTMENT CLUB

This club teaches students valuable business skills through interactive means. Club programming has included a TD Seminar, a "dress for success" presentation and lessons on investing and stock market basics. This club also competes in a simulated stock market exchange program. Winners receive a prize and their names are placed on the YOC-IC plaque

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

A grass-roots, student-based movement, staff have been thrilled to see students take up this cause within the school. The students in this committee work on brainstorming initiatives related to how the school can improve its environment. They have been working hard to encourage recycling so that papers and cardboards do not end up in garbages.

FILM CLUB

A classic film, some popcorn and Mr. Teversham's analytical words. What could be a better way to spend an evening after school?

BUSINESS CLUB

A student-created initiative, this group arranges for speakers working in the business field to share their experiences with our students. Topics of discussion have included work-life balance, university experiences, career path choices, the specifics of a day-to-day business career and suggestions for remaining religiously connected while working in the field. This club has allowed students to gain valuable real-life ideas and advice.



MOTIVATIONAL CLUB

A recent student-created initiative, this club focuses on motivating and inspiring students to work hard and succeed in school and beyond. The club re-energizes students and aims to keep them excited about achieving academic success.

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Students who enjoy writing and are looking to develop their analytical skills are encouraged to join the school newspaper. Our young journalists ask the tough questions and search for the truth, keeping our school community informed. Newspaper sections include outside news, opinions, divrei torah, athletics and more.

PR/BRANDING COMMITTEE

This committee is tasked with publicizing student council events and fundraisers. In addition to spreading the word about events, they create a student council logo. Students gain design, marketing and business skills as part of this committee.

SHABBATONIM

YOC SHABBATON

The Or Chaim Shabbaton is a yearly opportunity for the school to spend a Shabbat together. The grade 12s generally go up early, organizing programming for the rest of the school, including Friday night learning groups. Shabbat includes davening, divrei torah, singing and shmoozing. Programming in the afternoon has included a shiur with a member of the Yeshiva University Beit Midrash, a nature walk and a “Shmooze” with members of the English department. The Shabbat is a spiritual, community-building experience, allowing our students to interact with each other and some of their teachers in an out-of-classroom, Shabbat atmosphere. Following Havdalah, the boys participate in dancing led by the Or Chaim band and conclude the evening with a bonfire and kumsitz. An annual highlight for students and staff alike - an experience not to be missed!

GRADE 9 ORIENTATION AND SHABBATON

Before the school year begins, the grade 9 orientation introduces the students to who they need to know, how their schedules work and what the essential tools required for high school are. Following the academic orientation, the grade 12s welcome the grade 9s with a BBQ. The students meet and get to know one another and are arranged into “big brother / little brother” pairings. Grade 12s share their advice and ideas with the grade 9s and the family feel of Or Chaim is palpable for grade 9s – even before their first class!

At the beginning of the current school year, our grade 9s travel to Moshava Ennismore for a shabbaton to start the year. They have shiurim in small groups with several rabbis, as well as a schmooze session with the student leaders who attend the shabbaton. They enjoy meals together, singing and davening together and getting a feel for what the school-wide shabbaton will look like in a few months. It provides an opportunity for all students – no matter what elementary school they came from – to get to know one another and become a united group of Or Chaim students.

REBBE SHABBATONIM

Throughout the year, various Judaic Studies staff open their homes and host shabbatonim for groups of students. Generally, each student will be invited to two “home shabbatonim” with their Gemara Rebbe during the year. These shabbatons have become an important part of the experience of the Yeshiva. The students enjoy singing together and informally schmoozing about Torah and Judaism.

