

Dear Parents,

Mazal Tov! Your son is becoming bar mitzvahed! Please see below for the Tashbar SYK procedures with regard to Bar Mitzvah celebrations:

1. תפילין-הנחת תפילין-Congratulations! Your son is putting on תפילין for the very first time! While not mandatory, the usual practice at Tashbar is that the father of the bar mitzvah boy joins our minyan on the day of the הנחת תפילין. The minyan takes place at 7:40 each morning in our Bet Medrash on the 2nd floor of the Boys Campus.

Following tefilla, the parents of the bar mitzva boy provide a Mezonot treat (such as cookies, donuts, cupcakes, danishes etc) as well as juice (apple or orange juice etc) for all of the students in the Junior High as well as their Rebbeim. All baked goods must be pat yisrael, cholov yisrael and yoshon.

Rabbi Abady and Morah Batya must be notified at least a week prior at which time you can confirm the number of students in Junior High so that you can be sure to bring a mezonot treat and juice for the correct amount of people.

2. ביום בו-If your son's ביום (the actual date that his Hebrew birthday falls out on) falls out on a Monday or Thursday, your son will have the exciting opportunity to read the Torah in school. Family and friends are invited to join our minyan. We welcome you to bring a photographer to take photos of the entire minyan and of your son reading the Torah with his tefillin on (a photo op you won't get on Shabbat)! Unfortunately, we do not have a women's section in our Bet Medrash but immediate family members are welcome to join us for the breakfast.

After the conclusion of the tefilla, the parents of the bar mitzvah boy generally provide a special breakfast for the Junior High students and their Rebbeim. The breakfast should consist of bagels and/or other bread and rolls, cream cheese, vegetables, orange juice and some kind of pastries for dessert. Family and friends are welcome to join as the Rebbeim share divrei torah in honor of the bar mitzvah boy. Again, all food items must be pat yisrael, cholov yisrael and yoshon.

New Tashbar Policy-we no longer allow our students to participate in bar mitzvah breakfast celebrations outside of school as these often create needless bitul Torah. If you would like to make a bar mitzvah celebration outside of school in another shul, recognize that we will not allow the other students to miss the school minyan or school to participate.

Note: If the ביום בו falls out on a Sunday, Tuesday or Wednesday, you may choose to celebrate on the following Thursday together with the Torah reading or you can celebrate on the actual day without the Torah reading.

If the ביום בו falls out on a Friday, you may choose to celebrate the day Thursday preceding it in which case the father of the bar mitzvah boy will receive the aliyah.

If you prefer to bring in breakfast for the הנחת תפילין and a mezonot treat for the ביום בו, that would be fine as well. Each student is allowed only one breakfast.

Again, Morah Batya and Rabbi Abady must be notified at least a week in advance and all foods must be pat yisrael, yashan and cholov yisrael.

3. Shabbat Aliyah-please make sure to invite the hanhala, rebbeim and classmates so they can do their best to attend and share in the simcha!
4. Party-as per our handbook, the following are our bar mitzva guidelines:
 - Kashrut-all foods must be: A. ישן B. פת ישראל C. חלב ישראל D. בית יוסף E. Under the supervision of RCC or Kehillah
 - If the next day is a school day, music and dancing must end by 10:30 pm so that classmates can get enough sleep for the next day at school
 - Music-
 - a. Only Jewish music should be played.
 - b. No Non-Jewish music or Persian music can be played.
 - c. Separate dancing **only** with a 3 wall מחיצה enclosure for the ladies.
 - d. If the event is on the night before a school day, music should be stopped at 10:15 for at least a fifteen minute break to allow for the Tashbar students to say their farewell Mazal Tavs before leaving.
 - Proper attire for the Bar Mitzvah student and tzniut attire for all family members
 - All activities/entertainment should be in the spirit of Torah and respectful to all guests
 - All classmates of the Bar Mitzvah boy must be invited to the Simha without exclusion
 - The bar mitzvah boy should say a Dvar Torah.
 - It is accepted practice to invite the Hanhala and Rebbeim of the Yeshiva and to ask one or more of the Rebbeim to say a Dvar Torah.
 - Boys must purchase their hats well in advance so they will be able to wear them on the day of their Bar Mitzvah