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Dear Religious School Families,

My name is Lindsey Danziger and I am the new Director of Lifelong Learning at Temple Sholom. I hope this summer is bringing you renewal, relaxation and fun! I speak on behalf of everyone at Temple Sholom when I say we are thrilled to welcome you and your children back to our Religious School this fall. You are so very important to us and we hope this will be a year of learning, growth and new connections for every member of your family. I am here to make sure this happens for each of you and am dedicated to tailoring your student’s experience to meet all needs. I look forward to engaging further with each of you throughout the year to learn more about your family and create pathways of Jewish Learning for every member.

We already have some exciting plans in the works for this coming school year! Here are some things to look out for….

* *Living our Vision*: This year, every four weeks focuses on a new Community Value from our temple’s Vision Statement. Each value is integrated into our living and learning on Sunday, culminating in an **all-school special program or trip** (families welcome!) in the fourth week. For example, instead of just talking about welcoming strangers, we will join with the local Bhuttanese refugee community for a day of Yoga. Rather than learning about the blessing of sustenance, we will volunteer at a local community garden. Look out for updated schedules at <http://templesholom.net/education-overall/> and in your email)
* *Innovative Hebrew Learning*: Join as we learn Hebrew prayer through music and technology with the multimedia “Hebrew in Harmony”curriculum. Students will benefit from tablets in the classroom and an app to practice their Hebrew at home by playing games and rocking out to Jewish tunes. They will connect deeply to prayer through music, movement, arts and journaling.
* *Enhanced Communication*: look forward to receiving weekly school email updates from me and a written summary from your child’s teacher detailing classroom activities each Sunday
* *Opportunities for Parent Involvement:* Be our guest at, “Bubbes & Babies,” a monthly open house for all families with children. Grownups can schmooze, snack and learn with our rabbi and educator while the “Bubbes” care for your non-Religious School kids. Everyone wins! We will also be bringing back community lunch. **Please sign up** for a date to cook your family favorite and nourish our school community as we build meaningful friendships over food. (Google Doc sign up can be found on <http://templesholom.net/education-overall/> or look for the link in an email)

All of these highlights will only supplement the meaningful relationships and deep Jewish learning that are the building blocks of our school. Your students will learn from three amazing faculty members and six enthusiastic teen madrichim—check our website for pics and bios soon. I am expecting a baby girl in August, so will be on maternity leave when the school year begins. Our faculty member, Caroline Sim, who is studying to be a rabbi and brings years of teaching experience, will be filling in as Interim Director of Education in the first weeks of school. Rabbi Terlinchamp and School Administrator, Julie Solomon will also be present and ready to help with all needs. Please don’t hesitate to contact any of them with questions in the first weeks of school. I am hoping to work closely with each of you when I return in order to work together crafting a program that inspires and engages each student and parent. Thank you and please reach out at any time!

Sincerely,

Lindsey Danziger, Director of Lifelong Learning

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