

SHAVUOT at BES

5770

SERVICE TIMES

Tuesday 18th May

Early Evening Service at Yavneh College and Ascot Close **7:30pm**

Regular Evening Services in the Main Shul **8:30pm**

Candle Lighting at **8:36pm**

For those davening early candles can be lit as early as 7:15pm

Wednesday 19th May (First Day)

Morning Services in the Main Shul and Limmud **9:30am**

The Ten Commandments reading (approx) **10:45am**

Evening Services in the Main Shul,

Ascot Close and Yavneh College **7:30pm**

Candle Lighting from **7:45pm** onwards

Thursday 20th May (Second Day)

Morning Services in the Main Shul and Limmud **9:30am**

Yizkor (approx) **10:45am**

Evening Service in the Main Shul followed by Special Lecture **8:40pm**

Festival Terminates **9:53pm**

TIKKUN LEIL ALL NIGHT STUDY PROGRAMME

Tuesday 18th May / Wednesday 19th May

Come join us for a special night of learning with 'Scholars in Residence' Erin Leib Smokler and Rabbi Dan Smokler

11:45pm

Coffee and cheesecake

12:00am

Erin Leib Smokler

On the Other Side of Revelation

On Shavuot, we celebrate the awesome Revelation at Sinai. But how can we understand our world that lacks supernatural experience of the Divine? How has the Jewish tradition conceptualised the experience of God's absence? We'll look at the concept of hester panim, as it developed from ancient sources to contemporary ones, and ask: Are we really on the other side of revelation?

1:00am

Second helping of coffee and cheesecake

1:15am

Rabbi Dan Smokler

Broken Tablets and the Residue of Revelation

Shavuot is called 'chag matan torateinu' - the holiday of the giving of the Torah. What is the significance of the two sets of luchot? Why would the second ones last? And why were the shards of the first preserved? How is our celebration of the giving of the Torah - and the way we receive Torah - changed in light of these questions?

2:15am

Third helping of coffee and cheesecake

2:30am

Rabbi Naftali Brawer

Authenticity and Innovation of Torah

Torah in general and Jewish law in particular has clearly expanded over the years. How authentic are the innovative Torah ideas of contemporary scholars? And what place if any do they have in the revelation at Sinai?

3:22am

Early Bird Shacharit

BES IS PROUD TO WELCOME OUR SCHOLARS IN RESIDENCE FOR SHAVUOT

Erin Leib Smokler teaches Jewish Philosophy at the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education in New York City. She is pursuing a PhD in Philosophy and Religion at the University of Chicago's Committee on Social Thought, writing a dissertation on "God in the Ruins: Jewish Theology in the Holocaust." She holds an MA from the University of Chicago and a BA from Harvard University. Her writing has appeared in *The New Republic*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The New York Jewish Week*, and *The Jerusalem Report*.

Rabbi Daniel Smokler is the Educational Director of Hillel's Senior Jewish Educator Programme, which places outstanding educators on campuses across North America to study Torah with university students. Dan also serves as Senior Jewish Educator at New York University's Bronfman Center for Jewish Student Life, and is a visiting scholar in NYU's Jewish Studies department. He graduated cum laude from Yale University with a BA in the History of Art and received his rabbinic ordination from HaRav HaGaon Zalman Nechemia Goldberg.

Study Torah with your children (aged 5- 12) this Shavuot at our special Parent and Child Tikun at BES

First Day of Shavuot (Wednesday 19 May) from 6:00-7.00 pm (Refreshments will be served)

A special booklet containing exciting Torah texts in English has been prepared for this programme.

A background in Torah study or knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary.

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THE **TEN** COMMANDMENTS

It is a great mitzvah to hear the Torah reading of the Aseret ha-Dibrot (the Ten Commandments), on the morning of first day of Shavuot.

We invite all the children of the community, under the age of Bar and Bat Mitzvah to join the Rabbi on the Bimah for this reading on Wednesday 19 May at 10.45am (approx).

Every child who participates will receive a special treat. This will be followed by special coca-cola and ice-cream kiddushim in all the usual children's services.

Tea&Torah

Shavuot Learning
for Women

**At 5:00pm for
about an hour**

Wednesday 19th May

Led by Sarah Silkin
at her home 22 Park
Crescent, Elstree

Thursday 20th May

Led by Dina Brawer
at her home 91 Furzehill Rd,
Borehamwood.

Special Lecture by Erin Leib Smokler

God as *Ger*: The Spiritual Significance of Ruth

The Talmud radically suggests that the path from Exodus to Sinai was one of conversion. The Jewish people, long the children of Abraham and Sarah, only came into itself fully at the foot of the mountain. The central figure of the holiday, Ruth, is accordingly a convert. What is the religious significance of this emphasis on conversion? How might it shape our understanding of the nature of Shavuot?

At Shul between Mincha and Ma'ariv on the second day of Shavuot.
For Men and Women.

Borehamwood and Elstree Synagogue

Tel: 020 8386 5227 Fax: 020 8386 3303 Email: info@borehamwoodshul.org

Website: www.borehamwoodshul.org

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