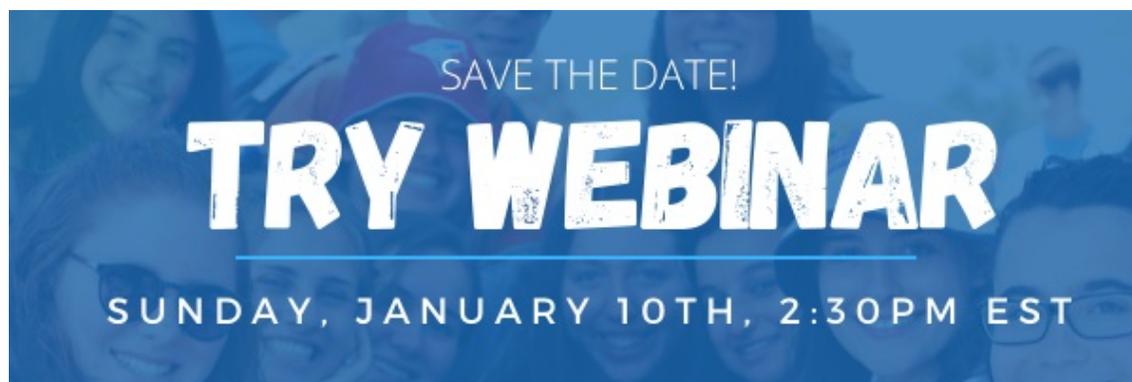




December 29, 2020

Tevet 14, 5781



Shalom TRY Families,

My name is Elinor Kaufman and I am the TRY Registrar and Family Liaison. This is my first year on the TRY team, after many years at Ramah Israel working for other departments - [Ramah Israel Institute](#) and [Ramah Jerusalem Day Camp](#). It's been a pleasure getting to know all the families during the registration process, and I am looking forward to meeting this year's TRY students in person soon.

Right now our tzevet (staff) are working really hard to make sure that our students' once-in-a-lifetime journey will be fulfilling, amazing, and educationally challenging. As you read this email, I imagine that you have already begun your preparations before the big departure.

Parents and guardians - as TRY Family Liaison, I will be your first address for any questions or concerns that may arise, whether it be helping you mail something to your child or how to celebrate your child's birthday while you are thousands of miles away. When questions arise, please e-mail me directly at info@ramah.co.il. Depending upon the nature of the correspondence, I will either respond to you myself or forward your inquiry to another member of our professional team. You can expect a response within 24 hours, keeping in mind there may be delays on Shabbat and Holidays. If you need to contact us for any urgent reason, and you haven't managed to reach me, please call Jonathan Madoff directly on his cell phone +972-54-427-5752.

We have tried our best to post as much useful information as possible on our website. Much of this information can be found under the 'Student & Parent Info' menu. From there, you will find a drop-down menu with a few tabs, and under 'Parents and Families' is the [Downloads](#) tab. This page has lots of information that should answer many of your questions. You can also get to this page by clicking on the "Useful Links" button at the bottom of our newsletters.

Did everyone read the [COVID-19 email](#) Jonathan sent last week? It has a lot of important information regarding our COVID-19 policies and procedures for 2021. If for some reason you missed that email, or

any other email we sent out, or just want to take a quick peek at one of them but don't want to search through your emails, you can find them archived on the Downloads page in our website (link above).

Please check that all family members are receiving our newsletters. If for some reason they are not, send me their name, email address and relationship to the student.

Below is information on several topics that should be helpful to reference throughout the semester:

Medication on TRY

If you are bringing **any** medication with you, whether it's something you take regularly, sporadically, or even only once on the program, **[PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM](#)** letting us know all DAILY MEDICATIONS and SEASONAL/OCCASIONAL MEDICATION you will be taking on TRY. **It is very important that you fill out this form accurately, as it is a necessary component of your medical file and helps keep our students safe.**

We strongly advise you **not** send medication via snail mail. Medication may be stuck in customs for weeks. We strongly advise that students bring all the medication they will need with them for the entirety of their stay in Israel. Students unable to do so should have their doctor write a letter, explaining the reason for treatment. They should email this letter to Jonathan or me, along with a scanned copy of the prescription. We will then forward this along to a local doctor who will assess if we can write them the same script here in Israel to be filled out a local pharmacy.

Visitation on TRY

In the time following the quarantine period, students will not be allowed to leave campus at any time until further notice from Jonathan Madoff. This includes visiting with family and friends in Israel. If your family has relatives or friends who are in Israel and wish to visit with a TRY student, they may only do so only on campus, while masked and under strict distancing measures. Any and all visits **MUST** be coordinated with me and confirmed in advance. Visitors will be required to sign a document stating their temperature is below 38 degrees Celsius, they have not been abroad, and did not come into contact with anyone who is COVID-19 positive in the last two weeks. See our **[Handbook](#)** (page 21) and our **[Family Visit Guidelines](#)** for additional information. **These visits will only begin a couple of weeks after the quarantine period ends.**

Sending packages/mail

When sending packages to Israel, it can take over a month for them to arrive (it has become even slower since COVID-19)!! Students will be notified when a package arrives at the post office which usually needs to be retrieved in person. Used clothing and printed material in small quantities are duty-free. Electronic goods, new clothing, and other "commercial" items are subject to heavy taxes.

Israel has a 17% VAT (Value Added Tax), as well as Import Taxes (around 12% for most items). This additional 29% is charged on the entirety of the package: the combined value of the items inside AND the shipping if the total exceeds \$50. Therefore, please specify that the items you are sending to Israel are "used" and have "NO VALUE." DO NOT send food in a package, as it will get stuck in customs. You may be able to send candy if you list it on the customs form as "candy (not agriculture)." TRY has no control over which items get through and which are not permitted by the Israeli Customs Authority.

All mail should be sent to the following address:

(Student Name)

Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim

P.O. Box 31709

9131602 Jerusalem

ISRAEL

Please note that the zip code should go before the word Jerusalem and Israel should be underlined.

Direct Delivery via UPS/FEDEX

(Student Name)

Ramah Israel (TRY)

8a Yitschak Katznelson St.

9262116 Jerusalem

ISRAEL

Birthdays on TRY

If you are going to have a birthday while on the program, please know that we will celebrate it as a group. We have found that some families wish to augment the celebration with extra treats, and we're happy to offer a few options to choose

from We will handle the logistics for you. In order to make a request for a special birth treat, please fill out our [TRY Birthday Sign-up](#) or [send me an email](#).

If you'd like us to try coordinating the celebration with your family, so that they can take part from afar via zoom, please contact me and we will make every effort to set it up.



BIRTHDAYS ON TRY

We celebrate all birthdays on TRY together as a group with cake and balloons. If you wish to supplement the festivities with something extra please contact Elinor, the TRY Family Liaison, at info@ramah.co.il

Popsicles	\$100
Ice Cream	\$150
Birthday Cake	\$200
Pizza / Falafel	\$400

Facebook

Please feel free to join our official [TRY 2021 Facebook group](#) so that families and students can get to know each other through social media before arriving to Israel. This is a closed group. Please note, any questions for the TRY administration should be sent directly to me by email and not posted on Facebook.

Photos on TRY

We will use Facebook to post photos once or twice a week. We apologize in advance if you don't have a Facebook account, and recommend you open one for this purpose only.



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רמה ישראל
Ramah Israel
TRY - Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim

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www.talknsave.net/ramah-try

*Offer valid through 1/1/2021

Reminders:

SAVE THE DATE for the [TRY Webinar](#)

Get updated info, Q&A with the staff, and more!
Sunday, January 10th at 2:30pm EST

Get your TRY merch here!

Check out our [online store](#) for all your needs on TRY - clothing and apparel with the TRY logo, bedding, toiletries, and more. Order now and have some of it shipped directly to Israel!

Did you arrange phone service already?

If not, go check out the packages [Talk'nSave](#) is offering.

TRY is offering an SAT course

To sign up please [email Aliza](#) by December 28!

Complete your registration!

Please make sure all your registration forms are completed and you've submitted all the necessary documents and/or files. For questions please contact [Elinor](#).

After reading through this email you may have more questions. As always, I'm happy to answer your questions and assist you in any way that I can.

I look forward to working together with you and welcoming TRY 2021 here soon.

Thanking you,

Elinor Kaufman
TRY Registrar & Family Liaison

www.try.ramah.org.il

Useful links



Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim is a program of [Ramah Israel](#), a division of the [National Ramah Commission](#), which operates under the educational and religious supervision of [The Jewish Theological Seminary](#). Since 1962, Ramah Israel has provided substantive experiential education and meaningful Conservative Jewish living for North Americans in Israel in the spirit of the Ramah Camping Movement.

Think Israel. Think Ramah.

STAY CONNECTED