



Gan Izzy's Theme Park



PARENT HANDBOOK

CAMP GAN ISRAEL
SUMMER 2017





CAMP GAN ISRAEL

MEET & GREET

Meet the Counselors



Awesome concert by
Gerry Mitchell



Enjoy a delicious
BBQ with camp
Families



Bouncy Castle fun!
With Circus Delights

The **Camp Bag** with all
the camp swag (T-shirt,
cap and water bottle)
will be given out for
registered campers at
the BBQ.



Monday, July 3, 2017

4:30pm

Hampton Park

(behind Hampton Park Plaza)

- \$36 per Family
- \$180 Sponsor

(tax receipt issued for sponsor)



Please RSVP to The office at
office.jewishyouthlibrary@gmail.com
or by telephone 613-729-7712

Welcome to the Camp Gan Israel Family!

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with information regarding Camp Gan Israel of Ottawa. In this guide you will find information on the camp, how it is run and what is expected of parents and our campers. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in this handbook, please contact Devora Caytak or the JYL's Administrative Assistant at 613-729-7712 or email us at office.jewishyouthlibrary@gmail.com

We look forward to having a fun filled time at camp this year.

Dates and Times:

Tuesday, July 4th – Thursday, August 3th.

Mondays – Fridays from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm.

PLEASE NOTE OUR LOCATION FOR CAMP!!!

Jewish Youth Library of Ottawa

192 Switzer Avenue *our construction
and expansion will start G-d willing after camp ends

We will be on the camp grounds most of the time, with the following exceptions:

- On Fridays, a different bunk each week will be visiting the residents of Hillel Lodge.
- A few times a week, we will be going to Hampton Park (across the street, behind the Hampton Park Shopping Plaza) to play sports with our sports specialists.
- On Wednesdays, we have full day trips, please note, toddlers will not come on these trips.
- There will be 'random' run-ways to 7-Eleven (or a similar place) for some of the older bunks.



Communication:

We strongly encourage close communication between staff and parents to best guide your child(ren)'s development and adjustment. Please do not hesitate to call should the need arise (evenings are best). Some of the staff will be boarding at the Caytak residence, where you can reach them by phone at 613-729-7712. During the day, if you need to call the camp to speak to our Assistant Camp Director, Bracha Leah Caytak, you can reach her at 613-729-1619.

Staggered Drop Off and Pick Up: Please read carefully

Our camp is registered to capacity and we need to stagger drop off and pick up. Families with last names starting **A through L** can drop off between 8:15am until 8:30am and pick up between 3:20pm – 3:30pm. Families with last names starting **M through Z** can drop off between 8:30am until 9:00am and pick up between 3:30pm through 3:40pm.

Newsletters:

Our camp newsletter will be given out weekly, every Friday. This will include a detailed schedule for the upcoming week, reminders about special events and will keep the parents up to date with their child(ren)'s camp activities. Of course, we will have our usual fun pages included as well!

IMPORTANT DROP OFF, PICK UP and PARKING INFORMATION

Please read carefully! – These rules will be enforced for the safety of our campers.



Thank you for your cooperation

Please **do not** park on the North side of Switzer Avenue (the side opposite the camp), even for a second!! There can be no drop offs, pick ups, or parking there.

Parking there clogs Switzer Ave., creating an unsafe and dangerous environment in which children are crossing a congested street.

If you park on the north side of the street, you will be asked to move your car immediately. You can also get a ticket from the City of Ottawa.

Please do NOT turn around in our neighbours' driveways. We are trying to keep good relations with our neighbours. You can turn around in the Caytak's driveway, 185 Switzer or in Howard's driveway, 198 Switzer Ave., which is to the immediate right to the camp. Thank you for your cooperation.



When you drop off your child(ren) or when you pick them up, we ask that you park your car, walk your child(ren) to the rope and sign the sign-in/out sheet, which will be in the hands of a staff member. Thank you for your cooperation in this vital matter. For those of you who have enrolled your child(ren) in our half day program, pickup will be at 11:30 am sharp. Please do not come late, we do not want the other children in the bunk waiting for their next activity.

Davening and Tzedakah:

Davening (prayer) is one of the basic principles of Judaism. Every camp day will start off with prayer. We feel this strengthens our connection to G-d, as well as gives the children a boost to get through the day. Tzedakah (charity) is a basic concept in Judaism. Our camp attempts to develop a commitment amongst our campers to share with others less fortunate than themselves. Please send a roll of nickels with your child(ren), so that they can donate a coin a day to charity.

Food:

Please send a **non-meat** lunch, drinks and snacks for your child(ren). We are a **NUT FREE** camp. Please do not send any nuts or peanuts (please check all the ingredients) in your child(ren)'s lunch. A few campers have nut allergies and any contact with peanuts, peanut butter or any food containing nuts could be life threatening. Please respect this policy. The counselors will be checking the lunches everyday, and if they find some food with peanuts or nuts, they will confiscate the food.

We provide freeze pops at the end of the day and cold water throughout the day, however we ask that you send a cold water bottle along with your child(ren) in the morning.

Field Trips:

Wednesday is a full day trip. Please send your child(ren) in their Camp Gan Israel T-shirts and their caps. This helps keeps our campers safe on our trips, as they are easily identified. If your child(ren) is not coming to camp on a trip day, please call to let us know.

Please check the camp calendar and newsletter on Friday, to find out where we will be going on the following Wednesday, for our weekly trip, as well as to confirm drop off and pick up times, as some field trips may leave earlier and return later than the regular camp time. We are always in need of volunteers to accompany us on our trips – especially for the younger bunks. Please inform Bracha Leah if you are able to chaperone – it is a great help!

Every Friday a different bunk will be visiting the residents of Hillel Lodge. We will prepare songs and cards before the visit.

Swimming:

Every bunk will receive one full hour of swim daily, including instructional swim and free swim. The children progress beautifully in their swimming skills over the summer, and we will be holding a swim show to attest it!

The swim show will be on Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 2:00 pm.

Private Swim Lessons are available for an additional charge. Please contact our office at 613-729-7712 for more information.





Arts and Crafts:

Our arts and crafts program includes a weekly hands-on creative project. The craft incorporates various Jewish themes, as well as useful, fun projects. This nurtures creative expression and encourages children to discover their own unique talents.

Last year, we had some really innovative ideas suggested by parents. Please feel free to share your creativity with us.

Medical Policy:

If your child(ren) is sick, please do not send them to camp. If your child(ren) has a fever, you will be contacted to pick them up. Scrapes and abrasions will be treated with soap, antiseptic, and a band-aid will be applied. In case of an emergency (G-d forbid), the parents will be notified immediately and the child will be taken to the nearest hospital. If the parents cannot be reached, the emergency contact will be notified.

On the first day of camp we will be playing 'hairdresser'. Every child will be checked for lice. **If your child comes to camp with lice, you will be charged for the Lice Squad fee.** Please check your child(ren) at home to help ease this process. (If you would like to volunteer to help with our lice check, that would be most helpful.)

Good Night Gan Izzy:

Zzzzz Zzzzzz

Our counselors job does not end at 3:30pm! Once or twice a week our counselors will visit your home and read a bed time story, do a craft and say Shema with your child. Please sign up for this very special visit with your child's counselor. The campers love the visit and look forward to it every year.

What to send to camp: (Please label all items with your child(ren)'s name)

- Non-meat, nut free lunch, drinks and snacks
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen (please apply before camp. We will re-apply when needed.)
- Tzedakah (a roll of coins for charity)
- Swimsuit and towel
- An extra change of clothing, if applicable, with your child's name on each item
- Plastic disposable lunch bag or lunch box (plastic prevents tearing and leaking) with an ice pack
- Siddur, prayer book (we have extras at camp – preschool division is not required to bring one)
- and A Big Big Smile!!

Please do not send any expensive items to camp, including computer games or toys. While we will do our best to keep track of all your child(ren)'s belongings, we are not responsible for lost items.



We are looking forward to a Summer of a Lifetime!