Gan Izzie's *Got-Falent! PAREN HANDBOOK

CAMP GAN ISRAEL SUMMER 2016











Meet the Counselors

Meet the Swim Instructors

Enjoy a delicious BBQ with Family

Pony Show and Pony Rides with Punkin Patch Farm Monday, July 4, 2016

4:30pm Hampton Park (behind Hampton Park Plaza)

- \$36 per Family
 - \$180 Sponsor

(tax receipt issued)



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

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

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. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in this handbook. Please contact Devora Caytak or Tracie Fisher, the JYL's Administrative Assistant, 613-729-7712 or office.jewishyouthlibrary@gmail.com

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



Dates and Times:

Tuesday, July 5th – Thursday, August 4th.

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

Location:

Jewish Youth Library of Ottawa

192 Switzer Avenue

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

- On Fridays, we 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.
- There will be 'random' run-ways to 7-Eleven (or a similar place) for some of the 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.

Punctuality:

Your child(ren) should not be dropped off earlier than thirty minutes before camp begins at 9:00 am. If you need to drop off your child(ren) earlier, please call Mrs. Caytak to discuss. Please ensure that your child(ren) arrives to camp on time. We begin the day with important announcements and lots of fun at line-up.

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!



Please **do not** park on the North side of Switzer Avenue (the side opposite the camp), even for a second!!

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 or in Howard's driveway, 198 Switzer Ave., which is to the immediate right to the camp. These are the only driveways you can use to turn around in. Thank you for your cooperation.



When you drop off your child 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 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 pennies with your child(ren), so that they can donate a penny 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. We are proud to maintain our standard as a nut free camp. 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 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 28, 2015 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. 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.)

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 pennies for charity)
- Swimsuit and towel
- 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!