

## Our Camp Philosophy

The goals of our camp are to provide a safe, happy and meaningful camp experience in a Jewish setting. We really want to help children grow and feel good about who they are. We believe that children can mature both emotionally and intellectually through their participation in a group setting with the support of an interested, accepting and caring staff.

## Forms

The following forms **must** be completed before your child can come to summer camp:

1. Application form
2. Health form (all campers) and Birth Certificate (children under 5) **due by June 1<sup>st</sup>**
3. Waivers for Teen Tour, Trekkers, Rock Climbing, Advanced Horseback Riding, Horseback Riding, Jump In, Cheer Camp, Gymnastics (August 18-22 only) and Camp Hollywood.

## Payments and Transportation

All fees must be paid in full by May 8, 2009. Bus assignments will be announced prior to each session of camp to campers whose files are complete and whose fees are paid in full.

## Health and Safety

Your physician should examine your child and fill out the Camp Medical Form. Please submit medical forms and emergency cards before the start of camp. Children cannot participate in the program without this information. Please make certain to inform the camp office about your child's food or other allergies as well as any medical conditions that we should be aware of so that we can insure a safe camp environment.

The State of Michigan requires re-vaccination of any child if there is a doubt concerning the date of initial vaccination. We encourage you to check with your pediatrician as this relates to your child(ren). If your child has specific allergies (i.e. bee stings, grass, food, etc.) it is best to notify camp immediately. This vital information will be shared with the camp nurse and your child's counselor. Please notify the camp nurse prior to camp if your child requires special medication arrangements. Our camp nurse is present at all times, on the West Bloomfield Campus, and is available to address any medical issues that may arise.

If your child is sick in the morning, please do not send him/her to camp. The camp staff will have your child's best interest in mind always. If your child is not well enough to

remain at camp, you will be called to take your child home. If your child is at home with a fever, he/she should remain at home until their temperature is normal for 24 hours.

**In case of an emergency, you will be notified immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will notify your child's physician or emergency contact.**

### **Communication**

Effective communication between camp, parents and campers is very important. We will be sending ENewsletters weekly to keep you informed. Notes are frequently sent home with your camper, so please check your camper's backpack daily. A zip lock bag in your child's backpack will keep notes and flyers dry.

We also need and encourage communication from you. Keep in mind camp is only eight weeks long and it is best to work out any concerns as soon as they arise. If your child expresses any concerns about camp, or if any unique situations occur at home that may affect your child, please let us know by contacting the camp office.

Director, Traditional Camps K-4 (Chaverim, Keshet, B'yachad)  
Meagan Williams- 248-432-5469

Director, Travel Camps and LIT's  
Lindsey Fox- 248-432-5428

Director, Sports Camps  
Michael Sandwies- 248-432-5578

Director, Preschool (K-Ton-Ton)  
Robin Herman- 248-432-5528

Director, Imagitivity Camps  
Brad Chiasson- 248-967-4030

Administrative staff will be on the grounds during the camp day so **we are likely to only be available to return calls after 4:00 p.m.**, at the conclusion of the camp day. Of course, any urgent matters will be handled immediately.

During regular program hours of the camp season, you can get a message to camp staff by calling (248) 432-5578 (Kahn Building) or (248) 967-4030 (JPM)

## Traditional Camps

### Camp Structure

Camp is divided into units according to age groups. The units are given names to develop spirit and to provide thematic unit programs. Campers in grades **1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>** are placed in groups with children of the same grade and gender. Preschool and kindergarten camper groups are co-ed.

### Camp Offerings

**K'Ton Ton Preschool Camp:** 2½ -4½ years of age (toilet trained)

**Chaverim:** Kindergarten

**Keshet:** Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>

**B'Yachad:** Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

**Trekkers:** Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

**Teen Tour:** Grades 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

**Imagitivity Camps:** Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> JPM Building & Kahn Building

**Pro-Sports Camps:** Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

**Center Stage:** Grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

**Leaders in Training (L.I.T):** Grade 10

### Weekly Schedules

Weekly "What's Happening" cards will be sent home with your child each Friday. It will list activities and things your child should bring to camp. You can also check our website at [www.jccdet.org](http://www.jccdet.org) to find field trip dates and destinations.

### Dress & What to Bring

The normal summer camp attire is shorts with a lightweight shirt and gym shoes or other **closed-toe footwear**. All campers usually swim at least once per day and should pack a towel and swimsuit. A large zip lock bag is handy for wet swimsuits. We ask that all campers bring their daily supplies (swim suits, towels, lunch, sunscreen, bug spray, water bottles) in a backpack. Please **label everything** with your camper's name so that lost items can be returned quickly. On field trip days we ask that your child wear his/her Center Day Camps T-shirt. On very hot or sunny days, we suggest sending your child to camp wearing a sunhat or baseball cap. (Note: Some campers may benefit from bringing extra sets of underwear and shorts in a zip lock bag.)

Kosher-style, nut free lunch (requested and highly encouraged due to the fact that we have several campers that are severely allergic to nut products), swimsuit with a zip lock

bag, towel, extra underwear and shorts in zip lock bag (if appropriate), sunscreen, bug spray, water bottle, hat, zip lock bag for camp flyers and notices. Please label all items with your child's name.

When the campers are at the main pool they may be interested in purchasing snacks from the Inline Hockey Grill. The grill is not under the supervision of the council of orthodox rabbis. This option cannot interrupt the daily schedule of the campers. Parents must let their children know whether this is an acceptable purchase or not.

### **What Not to Bring to Camp!**

Please **do not** bring valuables such as jewelry, video games, any type of electronic, or I-pods to camp or on the bus, as we cannot be responsible for them. **Cell phones, electronics, and pocket knives of any kind are not allowed at camp.** Do not send anything in glass.

### **Lost and Found**

All items misplaced during camp will be brought to the "Lost and Found". Your camper's name should be clearly tagged on all items he/she brings to camp. All articles of clothing not claimed will be laundered and sent to a charitable organization at the end of camp. The lost and found is accessible after camp. Please call the summer camp office for more information.

### **Accommodating Campers with Different Abilities**

The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit is committed to providing an inclusive environment for all children. When we talk about inclusion we mean that all children at camp, regardless of their strengths or weaknesses in any area, become part of the camp community. Inclusion helps to maximize individual growth of all children and builds a sense of community, because everyone has an opportunity to be involved. The Special Needs Director and other support staff will be available for information throughout the summer, but it is up to all of us to help each child feel comfortable and welcome at camp.

### **Rainy Days**

It does rain occasionally. Because campers in Chaverim, Keshet and B'Yachad are outdoors unless conditions are too severe, please remember to dress your camper appropriately. Please send them with a raincoat and a complete change of clothing in case your child does get wet. **Imagitivity campers will be inside the JPM building.**

If thunderstorms threaten, campers in Chaverim, Keshet and B'Yachad may move inside the JCC building. The camp Aquatics Director will determine whether camp children will swim based on the water and air temperatures. If thunderstorms threaten, there is absolutely no swimming allowed in the outdoor pool.

### Swimming

The swim program is operated under the guidelines of the JCC's Aquatics Department and the Red Cross Swim Program. Personal safety, swimming skills and a positive self-concept will be the primary goals of the program. Campers' aquatic success will be encouraged in the areas of attitude, cooperation, ability, self-awareness and camp spirit.

If your camper does not participate in instructional swim they will not be allowed to take part in free swim.

If your camper is unable to go swimming on a particular day, please send a note with your child. If you have any questions about the swim program please contact the Camp Aquatics Director at (248) 432-5578.

### Our Typical Day

#### Traditional Camps (West Bloomfield)

9:00am	Buses start to arrive	12-12:45pm	Lunch
9:30 -10am	Morning Ruach	1-2pm	Activity III
10-11am	Activity I	2-3pm	Activity IV
11-12pm	Activity II	3-3:15pm	Afternoon Ruach & Snack
		3:15pm	Transition to Buses

#### Imagitivity Camps (Oak Park)

9:00am	Buses start to arrive	12 - 1pm	Lunch and Swim
9:30-10am	Ruach	1-2:30pm	Afternoon Block & snack
10-12pm	Morning Block	2:30-2:45pm	Transition to Buses

\*\*Campers from the West Bloomfield area will arrive by bus at the West Bloomfield JCC and ride our shuttle to the JPM Imagitivity Camps.

#### Travel Camps (Depart from West Bloomfield)

9:00am Buses arrive

9:45am Leave for destination  
 3:00pm Arrive Back at West Bloomfield  
 3:15pm Transition to Buses

Pro Sports Camps (West Bloomfield & Various Vendor Locations)

9:30-12pm	Morning Block	3-3:15pm	Snack
12-1pm	Swimming and Lunch	3:15pm	Transition to Buses
1:15-3pm	Afternoon Block		

**Snacks**

Each day campers will receive a snack and on Fridays a special Shabbat treat is given. **Just a reminder, for the health and safety of all our campers, the Center Day Camp snacks are nut free.**

**Guest Policy**

No one is permitted on the campgrounds except for campers and staff. Please go to the transportation trailer (located by the Child Development Center Entrance) for pre-arranged pick-up times.

**Transportation**

**Please note: There might be slower pick up and drop off times on the first days of each camp session. Also, there is no transportation on July 17 and August 14!**

The camp transportation supervisor is in charge of bus transportation. **Please note that early dismissals require notes written by the camper's parent or guardian.** Also, campers should be ready for pick-up at designated times and places because **buses cannot wait.** Please allow for time changes the first days of each camp session. There are slower pick up and drop off times. There are no drop-offs permitted other than assigned stops. Rainy day drop-off is by the main buildings front lobby. K'Ton Ton Campers will still be dropped off at the Child Development Center entrance.

**It is camp policy that, except in the case of an emergency, changes in transportation cannot be made after 12pm.** This policy is for the protection of our children. Therefore, if you must make changes to your child's pick-up arrangements, please do so before 12pm. Campers are not allowed to go home on any bus unless they have been assigned.

**K'Ton Ton Half Day Campers (9:30am-noon):** Transportation is provided to camp and parents can pick up campers at 12:10pm. Campers will be in front of the Child Development Center under the awning.

**Parent Pick-up:** If, instead of riding the bus home, your camper will be picked up by car, a note must be sent to the camp transportation office. Please include the name of the person who will be picking up your camper, your child's name, the date and the signature of the camper's parent or guardian giving permission for this change. **Campers being picked up by car must be met by the bus loading area closest to the main entrance of the JCC. Park in the lot next to the buses. Please note: until all camp buses have left the grounds, car traffic is not allowed on the service drive in front of the Drake Road parking lot. Please enter and exit the JCC via the Maple Road entrance. Please be cautious of campers that are walking to the bus.**

**Early Pick-Up:** Written notes are also required for early pick-up. The transportation office must receive notes specifying early pick-ups no later than 9:30am.\_

### **Late Arrival**

If your child arrives at camp after 9:45am, please bring the camper to the transportation office so we may escort him/her to the appropriate activity. Please do not walk up to camp due to security policies that are set in place for the safety of our campers.

### **Extended Care**

**Pick up and drop off will be in the Teen Center.** Extended Care hours before and after camp for grades K-5<sup>th</sup> are available one to five days per week. Parents must pre-register for this program. Care is available from 7:30- 9:30am and 3:30-6pm. Pick-up and drop off will be in the teen center. An extended care schedule will be posted at all desks.

### **Medication**

Medication brought to camp by your child should be given to his/her Unit Head supervisor upon arrival to the camp with notification from the guardian. It will then be transferred to the camp nurse or the camp director. Medication must be in its original container and directions must be marked on the bottle. A signed note must be brought with the medication detailing how and when it should be administered. If a change in medication is to occur, please notify us immediately. The camp nurse will be in charge of storing and dispensing medication. Parents are responsible for picking up medication at the end of each camp session.

### **Nut Sensitive**

In response to the health and safety needs of our campers, the Center Day Camps are nut sensitive. Please help us by not sending any nut products or food items containing nut products in lunches or snacks. Our goal is to provide a safe and healthy environment for all our campers! Additional information is available about healthy lunch alternatives and

local availability of nut-free products. Please contact the camp office with questions, comments or for additional information.

### **Sunscreen and Insect Repellant**

Sunscreen should be applied each morning before sending your child to camp. Camp encourages the use of sunscreen and insect repellant products by all campers. We encourage each camper to have these products labeled with his/her name and carried in his/her bag during the camp season. Remember to check your child's sunscreen and insect repellant regularly. Counselors are prohibited from applying sunscreen or insect repellant that does not belong to your child.

### **Birthdays**

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at camp, please notify the camp office in advance. If you send food to be served to other campers, pre-packaged, kosher and nut free baked goods may be purchased from many stores in the area. Entenmann's products are Kosher and many are nut free. Be sure to include enough "party" paper goods (i.e. plates, napkins, forks, spoons, etc.) for your child's entire group. Please give at least one week's notice to the camp office of any birthday arrangements you plan to make.

## **2009 CAMP DATES**

**No Camp Friday July 3**

**Echo Camp June 8 thru June 19**

**Traditional, Travel, Specialty, Camps June 22-August 14**

**Echo Camps and Specialty Camps August 17 thru August 28**

**No transportation on July 17 and August 14**

**Additional traditional camp info:**

**First day of camp for Session I is Monday, June 22**

**Last day of camp for Session I is Thursday, July 16**

**First day of camp for Session II is Monday, July 20**

**Last day of camp for Session II is Thursday, August 13**

**TRADITIONAL CAMP FAMILY ORIENTATION K-4  
SESSION I and II is SUNDAY, JUNE 21  
10:00 AM SHARP  
Meet in Handleman Hall**

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**TRADITIONAL CAMP  
SESSION I FAMILY FUN NIGHT IS MONDAY,  
JUNE 29  
SESSION II FAMILY FUN NIGHT is WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 5**

**More Information To Follow**

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[www.jccdet.org](http://www.jccdet.org)