

SUMMER IS FINALLY HERE!

Week 1 Highlights Newsletter

Dear Friend,

We're so excited to start camp tomorrow after so many months away!

We want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new and returning campers to Camp Kinneret for 2023. We are very excited about the great staff that we have for this summer and are looking forward to another dynamic and fun-filled nine weeks.

After an intensive fun filled week of learning and growing, our staff are excited to get camp off to a terrific start! We are thrilled to have such a warm group of people so devoted to making this summer a wonderful one for all of our Camp Kinneret campers. They're ready and we hope your campers are too.

Please read through this email for some important reminders to help prepare for camp in the morning.

THE FOUR FLOCKS OF CAMP:

SPARROWS, QUAILS, OWLS, & CONDORS

The **Sparrow flock** consists of campers going into pre-K, TK, and kindergarten.

The **Quail flock** is made up of campers entering 1st–2nd grades.

The **Owl flock** has campers going into 3rd–4th grades.

The **Condor flock** is comprised of campers going into 5th–7th and includes CITs (8th & 9th graders).

DROP OFF & PICK UP AT CAMP - REMINDERS!

- **Only campers can enter the camp site.** Parents/guardians and siblings must be prepared to sign their camper in at the barricade and say goodbye for the day. Visitors are not allowed in to camp at any time during camp hours.
- **Drop off procedures:**
 - When arriving for drop off, it's easiest to head to camp from the west (Reyes Adobe Road) so you can make a right turn into the camp driveway.
 - If you need to drop you camper off late, please call the office to let us know. The main driveway will be closed from 9:00 to 10:00 but we may be able to accommodate drop off during that time.
- **Pick up procedures:**
 - As in the mornings, it's easiest to head to camp from the west (Reyes Adobe Road) so you can make a right turn into the camp driveway.
 - Remember to always have your photo ID ready for sign-out. Some staff members will get to know you by sight throughout the session but that won't happen immediately and there may be a substitute staff person at sign-out on certain days.
 - The driveway will be closed and **sign-outs will not be permitted between 2:00 and 4:00 every day.**
 - If you need to pick up your camper early, it must be prior to 2:00. Call the office to let us know when we should have your camper ready for you!
- **Schedule:**
 - Drop off is between 8:00 - 9:00
 - Pick up is between 4:00 - 5:00
 - Note: Campers Cannot be picked up between 2:00 - 4:00

PRE-CAMP INFORMATION PACKET

If you haven't had a chance to read through the pre-camp information packet yet, now is the time! You'll find lots of important information about summer at Camp Kinneret.

- What happens on the first day at camp?
- What should your camper bring to camp each day?
- What are the bus and bus stop rules for campers *and* parents/guardians?
- How will we maintain a healthy camp community?
- What about emergency procedures?

[Click here to read through all of this important information!](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your calendars!

Thursday & Friday, June 29th & 30th

- Group Photo Days! Feel free to send your camper in their Kinneret T-shirts.

Monday, July 3rd

- Independence Relay Day! (Our traditional 4th of July celebration)

Tuesday, July 4th

- Camp is Closed. We'll be open on July 3rd and 5th!

Friday, July 14th - Saturday morning, July 15th

- The Great Kinneret Sleepout! Sign up information will be available in an email during Week 2.

Thursday & Friday, June 20th & 21st

- Last days of Session One.
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GREEN, YELLOW, & RED SWIM WRISTBANDS

On the first two days of camp, our swim staff evaluates each camper, one on one, for water safety. Each day campers wear color-coded wristbands at the pool to help us ensure the safety of all of our swimmers. To be considered fully water safe (green wristband) a camper must demonstrate that they can both comfortably jump into and swim across our camp pool deep end and back without any difficulty. Campers with yellow wristbands can swim across the pool width-wise unassisted. Any campers who are considered to be "not water safe" will be playing in the Rockin' Red Corner of the pool with their red wristbands.

It is very common for campers to evaluate lower at camp than what they are capable of at home. It sometimes takes campers time to feel comfortable with their counselor, their peers and the pool. If your camper's swim ability is greater than what they may have displayed in camp during the first days, simply have them ask their counselor or swim instructor for a re-evaluation. We will be glad to do it again. As always, if you have any questions, please call the office!

Your camper may come home saying that they didn't get to swim much on their first day. It takes most or all of the swim period to get through everyone's evaluations and campers spend a lot of time on the steps or side of the pool. Rest assured that they will have more time in the pool the rest of the session!

HELP YOUR CAMPERS TO GROW

The first day of a new experience can be uncomfortable! Our goal at Camp Kinneret is to build better people by being an intentional camp. While having 'fun' is important, we know that children love the way they feel when they are growing and they accomplish challenging things! At Camp Kinneret, this means seeking out opportunities to help each child to practice important life skills like critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration and creativity each day. With that in mind, we wanted to share some of the types of questions that our counselors will ask your camper during the day to help them to process their experiences of the day. Perhaps you can ask your camper some of these questions when they get home:

1. Did you do anything new today that was hard or challenging for you?
 2. Tell us about some of the new children you met today. What kinds of things did you have in common?
 3. What were your counselors names? Did you remember their names?
 4. Did you get a chance to lead the group today?
 5. What did you do today to make the world a better place?
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LOST & FOUND

Please be sure to label all of your camper's clothing and other items. Every summer belongings are lost, and items without names often go unclaimed. Help us return your camper's things!

JOIN THE A-PARENTLY PODCAST

Parents are always asking us how we make camp such a special place for their kiddos. With that in mind, Camp Kinneret has teamed with a handful of camps from across the country to bring you, our families, a podcast led by parenting experts from inside and outside the camp industry. Each podcast tackles a different aspect of child development, with varied topics and guest speakers. The first episode of the summer is "Processing Emotions" with Ryan Rosen, the director of Camp Kinneret!



"When my kids go off to school, I tell them to do something to make the world a better place and to do something hard today. Most parents say, 'Have fun, have a good day,' but they're not really intentional about the things that they're preparing their kids for. I think you can ask more questions now and prepare them for [processing their emotions throughout the day] with what you say in the morning and what you follow up with in the evening."

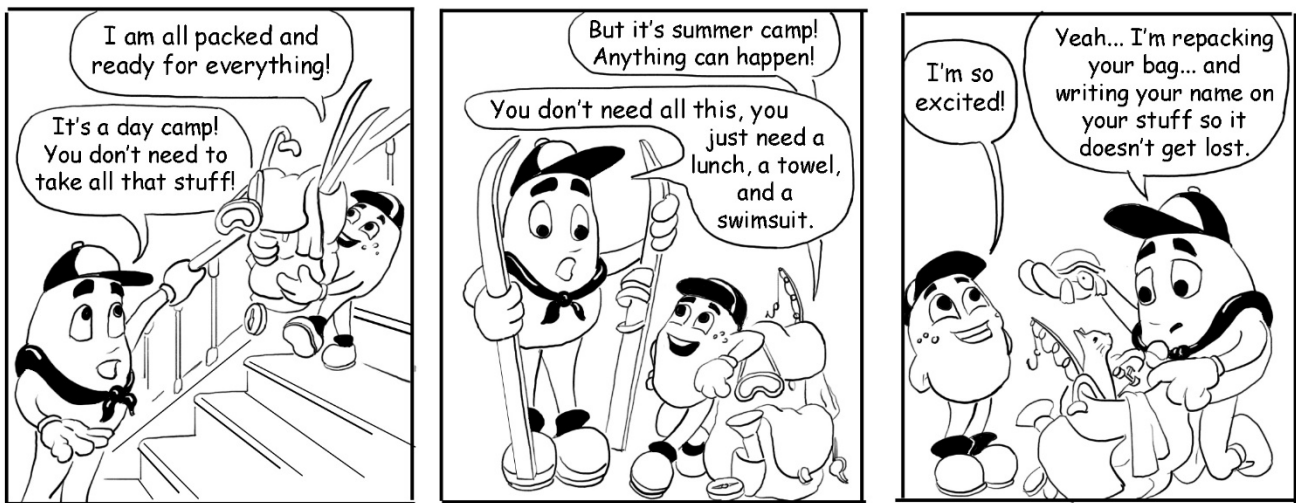
- Ryan Rosen

[Click Here To Listen!](#)

The A-Parently Podcast #34
Processing Emotions
with Ryan Rosen

CONTACTING CAMP

We love to hear from you! Our Leadership Team is happy to speak with parents and guardians about their campers' experiences at camp. Phone calls are almost always the best way to get ahold of us this summer. We'll still check emails but sometimes we're too busy outside with the campers and can't be at our desks to read or reply to them until later. Our office staff is ready to answer your calls and direct you to the person you need to speak with. Messages that are not time-sensitive will be passed on to our directors or the Leadership Team and we'll call you back as soon as possible, sometimes after the campers have gone home for the day.



Kinneretly,
The Camp Kinneret Team

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