

WELCOME TO Camp B'Simcha!

Camp Director and girls division head, Leah Savage
Boys Division head, Rabbi Yitzchakv Barer
Communication/marketing/admissions, Valery Lebowitz

Dear Parents, Welcome to the 1st summer of Camp B'Simcha! Summer Camp provides a uniquely transformational experience for campers and staff. We have a magical summer ahead of us, and we are excited about the creative and inventive programs, sports, arts, specialties and trips that we have planned for your children this summer.

We spend the winter working to craft a wonderful schedule for you and your children, and we can't wait to launch! In the following pages, you will find important guidelines and information for the upcoming summer. Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the handbook, as its contents will be helpful throughout the summer. Important dates, policies, program content, and other helpful information will assist you as you prepare your child for camp. Please note: it is essential that you adhere to the deadlines for all information or payments required. If you have any specific concerns, please contact the camp office directly, and we will be happy to assist you. Over the course of the summer, we will stay in touch through emails, our website, weekly newsletter, We welcome your thoughts and input at any point, so please feel comfortable reaching out to us by phone at 617 817 8429 or campbsimchabus@gmail.com We thank you for joining us and appreciate your patience with any concerns that arise over the course of the summer. We are confident that, with the capable and qualified staff at the helm of the camp, as well as our enthusiastic and spirited group of emerging young leaders, Camp B'Ssimcha will be an unforgettable learning and growing experience for your children! Sincerely, Leah Savage, Director

IMPORTANT DATES SUMMER 2024 • March 15 Tuition is due in full • May 1 Camper Forms Due • June 26 First day of camp • July 4 National Holiday - No Camp • August 2 Last day of camp

CAMP HOURS Our regular camp hours are Monday-Friday, 9am-3:30pm. We will not accept campers before 8:50 am each day. **STAFF/Counselors** We take great pride in the quality and dedication of our staff. Camp B'Simcha counselors are selected for their warmth, expertise, and desire to work with children, as well as their commitment to the ideals and values for which We orient all staff members prior to the camp season with a week of pre-camp training and orientation, as well as follow-up training and professional development over the course of the summer.

COMMUNICATION At Camp B'Simcha, we believe that a close relationship between camp and parents helps enhance each child's summer experience, and that open lines of communication are critical to a successful summer. In addition to weekly newsletters distributed via e-mail each Friday, we communicate regularly through email. If you are not receiving your newsletter via

e-mail, please email the camp office at campbsimchacbus@gmail.com to confirm the correct contact information. If at any time during the course of the summer you would like to speak with someone directly regarding your child, please call the camp office. Please appreciate that your child's division head and Camp Director will not be available to talk during the camp day, as they will be busy observing and overseeing camp programs (and spending time with your wonderful children). We will make every effort to return calls as quickly as possible; our goal is to return all messages within 24 hours. For schedule or transportation changes, please contact the camp office directly. We cannot make any transportation changes without notification by a parent or guardian.

SWIM LESSONS We are working on both instructional swim lessons and free swim everyday at camp. More information will coming soon.

CAMPER PERSONAL FORM Camp B'Simcha educational philosophy embraces the importance of individual attention and program personalization. The Personal Form is an important tool to help our staff prepare for your child. This form is designed to enable us to help your child become an integral part of camp life and adjust to general and specialized activities as smoothly and easily as possible. Any requests for individualized attention should be indicated on this form. While we cannot guarantee fulfillment of all requests, we do our best to honor as many as we can. You should fill out this form as accurately and completely as possible. Under no circumstances should you permit your child to fill this form out. Your complete and honest answers to all questions will greatly facilitate our ability to care for your child. Please complete your forms via your email account by May 5th

. MEDICAL FORM All children must be examined by a physician prior to their arrival at Camp. Medical forms are available in your on your email, and can access through our website. Please note that all medical forms must be completed by May 5th. No child can be permitted to enter camp without a properly completed and signed medical form on file with the camp. Please also read 4 the section in this manual that is dedicated to health and medical information.

THERAPY with increasing frequency, it has become perfectly natural for children to see a psychotherapist or counselor to assist with growth, development or adjustment issues. If your child is, or has been in therapy, please provide the information requested in the appropriate section of the personal information form. We will review the information you provide and will expertly address all mental health and behavioral needs on campus.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL Our primary concern is for the safety, health and welfare of your child. We are minutes from hospitals where we have access to a full complement of specialists and advanced facilities. While minor injuries and illness are part of camp life, you can help minimize any problems by doing your part. This involves properly completing our camper evaluation and medical forms —important tools in our child welfare efforts— and by heeding the information, requirements and suggestions which follow.

MEDICAL LIMITATIONS Please be in touch with the Camp Director if your child... • cannot swim due to physical limitations • needs special medication or constant medical attention • is diabetic, asthmatic or subject to fainting spells • has life-threatening allergies • for any reason cannot participate fully in our very active outdoors program Should your child's ability to participate during a regular camp day change over the course of the summer due to injury, illness, etc, please be sure to speak to the camp director to arrange proper assistance from our staff.

VACCINATION RECORDS Every camper must be up to date on his/her immunizations, and the Vaccination Form must be completed and submitted to our office. No child will be allowed in camp without an up-to-date immunization record on file. **MEDICATION** If your child receives medication on an ongoing basis, please bring the medication to our Open House program prior to the start of camp. Please provide a type written set of instructions with the medication, including prescribing physician and any side effects observed related to this medication. If the need for medication arises during the summer, parents should deliver the medication to the camp office. We are unable to dispense any medication to a child that is not supplied by the child's parents. Our medical staff will keep and administer all medications. Please include any specific instructions, warnings or indications which your physician or pharmacist may provide. The medication must be in an original container with the following information labeled directly on it: 1. camper's name 2. name of medication and dosage 3. doctor's name 4. whether medication needs refrigeration In some special cases (ex.: asthma inhalers) campers may keep and administer their own medications. These cases must be discussed in advance with the camp director and information must be provided to us in writing, including permission for the camper to hold and administer his/her own medications. **EPI-PEN** If your child requires use of an Epi-pen, the parent/guardian must provide it on the first day of camp with complete orders from the child's physician. The Epi-pen must be labeled exactly as it came from the pharmacy. In the event that it becomes necessary to treat your child using the Epi-pen, it is our policy to have your child treated by our camp nurse and then transport him/her to the nearest emergency room by ambulance for further evaluation and stabilization. **LICE** In a "communal" living setting, like camp, lice can periodically become a problem. All children will be checked for lice within the first days of camp. Campers who are found to have lice during this initial check or at any point during the camp season are required to stay home for the prescribed duration as determined by the camp nurse. If we find lice on a camper during the camp day, our policy is to separate the child and be in touch with the parent regarding immediate pick-up from camp.

SUN SAFETY AND SUNSCREEN Please be sure to apply sunscreen to your child every morning before camp. Please keep in mind that, even on overcast days, the sun is quite strong, and your child should come prepared. Please be sure to send your child with sunscreen in his/her camp bag, and please label your child's bag. Children will be reminded to reapply sunscreen throughout the day, especially before and after all swim periods. If your child requires assistance in applying sunscreen, our staff is happy to help. Every child should bring or wear a hat to camp every day. As the majority of our activities are outside, hats provide great sun

protection. **CLOTHING** While clothing tends to be a very personal matter, there are some guidelines for appropriate clothing and equipment for camp. As campers swim every day, we recommend that you send a swimsuit and towel each day. In general, keep in mind that clothing undergoes a lot of wear and tear in camp. Do not send particularly fancy or delicate clothes, as they are prone to damage. All campers and staff will be expected to wear a Moshava Ba'ir t-shirt every day. Each camper will receive a Camp B'Simcha T Shirt. Please send in a full change of dry, clean clothing with your child to be left at camp in case of need on the first day of camp.

WHAT TO PACK FOR CAMP DAILY: (please label all belongings with camper's name) • Lunch • Refillable water bottle • Sunscreen • Change of dry clothes • 1 towel • 1 swimsuit • Plastic bag for wet items • Hair bands (to tie back long hair during swimming) • Sneakers and socks (wear to camp) • Sandals (for pool use only) • Hat/visor (recommended) Every day before camp, apply sunscreen to your child. Sunscreen will be reapplied at your request after each swim. Please remember to send in a labeled bottle of sunscreen for your child.

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME: • Water-guns and other toys • Cell phones • Money • Watches with the ability to take pictures • Ipods, I pads, electronics, and electronic games • Trading Cards (Pokemon, Yugimon, Sports Cards, etc.) Please make your child aware of these restrictions. These items may be confiscated! Jewelry, expensive cameras, etc. are also discouraged. Cell phones and watches with photo capabilities are not allowed and will be returned to parents. DVD players, laptops and similar devices are also not allowed and should not be brought to camp.

DRESS CODE As an Orthodox program, appropriate dress is a critical part of creating an environment reflective of the camp's religious affiliation. Girls: • The camp t-shirt or a ¾ length or T shirt • skirts that approach the knee Boys: • the camp t-shirt • pants or shorts that approach the knee • boys must have their heads covered with a kippah or hat • boys should wear tzitzit to camp every day

LABELS Label, label, label. Every item which you send with your child should be identified with a label bearing his or her first and last name. Where a label cannot be attached, use a permanent marker to write your child's name on a piece of adhesive tape, and attach it to the item.

BOYS and GIRLS Campus: Camp B'Simcha runs a boys and a girls division out of CTA. They are two separate camps. The boys and the girls will not interact at camp. The girls will drop off in front of CTA and the boys will drop off by the big gym. There will be all separate activities, lunch and swim.

LIABILITY Camp B'Simcha assumes no responsibility for wear and tear, damage to, or loss of camper's clothing, equipment or belongings. We recommend that you do not send expensive cameras, 8 watches, jewelry, fancy clothing, etc. to camp, as we will not be responsible for loss or damage. By placing name tags on all articles, you will help us keep losses to a minimum. Insurance carried by the camp does not provide coverage for personal effects. Therefore, if such coverage is desired, you are urged to make arrangements for such coverage with your own insurance company

TRANSPORTATION BUSING: Bus information coming.

ABSENCES, LATE ARRIVALS, EARLY PICK-UPS If for any reason your child needs to miss a day of camp, please notify us by email at Campbsimchabus@gmail.com or by phone at 6178178429. If you know in advance that your child will be leaving early or arriving late, please contact the camp office. If your child is arriving after morning drop-off is completed, please bring your child directly to the camp office; you will need to sign him/her in for the day. All campers who need to leave early will be brought to the camp office so that their parents can sign them out. The camp office must be notified of same-day changes by no later than 2:50 PM, and children being picked up early must be picked up no later than 3:15 PM.

FOOD POLICIES KASHRUT Camp B'Simcha is a kosher camp. All food provided by Camp B'Simcha is kosher. Campers bring lunch or snack with them are required to bring kosher food only.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS Campers who celebrate their birthdays during camp are made to feel special by being recognized during the camp day and given a camp-provided treat. Because we have many campers with dietary restrictions, we ask that parents not send birthday treats for distribution to the other campers. For parents who so choose to purchase, we are happy to arrange birthday cupcakes for your child's bunk. Please contact the camp office for more information.

CAMP POLICIES AND GUIDELINES CAMPER PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION

Summer camp offers opportunities and experiences that will lead to the growth and development of your child, all while he or she is having an enjoyable and exciting time. To ensure a positive and safe camping experience, we must have the full and active cooperation and participation of your child. Please make sure to discuss the following central issues and guidelines with your child before his or her departure for camp:

- Respect for counselors, supervisory staff, fellow campers, other campers, personal belongings of others, the environment and camp property: Abusive behavior, including use of disrespectful or vulgar language and physical attacks, are not allowed and will result in immediate removal from camp activities. We expect speech and attitudes consistent with an educational and religious environment.
- No child is permitted to leave camp's grounds, at any time, except on organized, authorized, supervised camp trips. Any child leaving camp without proper supervision and authorization will be sent home immediately.
- Campers are expected to behave responsibly and safely. This includes avoiding areas which are off limits without proper supervision and authorization. These areas will be pointed out to your child upon his or her arrival at camp. Your child is not permitted to bring any items that present potential danger to others. These items are spelled out in the subsection "Items not to bring." The possession, in camp, of items that present potential danger to others is grounds for immediate dismissal.
- Graffiti and Damage: Campers and their legal guardians will be held responsible for any damages that they may cause Camp B'Simcha as a result of a violation of camp rules, regulations or the instructions of the supervisory personnel. There will be an automatic \$75 charge for each incident of graffiti writing

on walls, tables or any other camp property. • Taking Children off Campus. Children may only be taken off campus as part of authorized, organized and supervised camp activities.

VISITOR POLICY Unaccompanied visitors are not permitted on the Camp B'Simcha grounds during camp hours. If parents need to come to the camp during the day (to pick a child up early, to meet with the staff, etc.), they must stop in the camp office and wait there for their child. Parents may not walk through camp unescorted. Children adjust to being away from their parents differently—please respect our policy, and be in touch with the camp office with specific concerns.

CUSTODY ISSUES In the event of divorce, parental separation, or other custody issues, in order to maximize your child's camp experience, we follow the wishes of the parent that signs the enrollment form in deciding who may have contact with the child, who may remove the child from the campus and who may have access to the child's files and records. Any such instructions should be provided to us, in writing, by the parent who signs the enrollment form. If both parents sign, then each will have the same rights in this regard. Similarly, the parent(s) who sign the enrollment form remains financially responsible to the camp for any obligations resulting from the child's stay at camp, including but not limited to tuition, and regardless of any private arrangements between the parents.

CANCELLATIONS All cancellations and changes of registration must be in writing. Please be aware that no refunds or changes to your camp registration will be issued after April 1st. Parents who voluntarily withdraw their child from camp or children who are asked to leave the camp and children who are sent home for disciplinary reasons are not entitled to a refund. All refund requests must be made in writing to the Camp Office.

ACE Ohio scholarships are pending. We will update you with this information ASAP.

IN CLOSING Thanks for reading our camp guidelines! As you can see, this handbook contains a great deal of important information, and we hope that you find it a useful reference tool. We ask that you become familiar with its contents, and we would be pleased to hear from you with any questions.