

Camp Gan Izzy

*Parent Handbook
Summer 2019*

WELCOME TO CAMP GAN IZZY!

We are proud to be a part of the largest network of Jewish Day Camps in the world. Our goal at Camp Gan Izzy is to provide a fantastic summer of excitement and fun for all ages, a safe environment to explore, enhance creativity and make new friendships, all the while imparting strong Jewish pride.

Camp Schedule: As campers arrive, we have an activity prepared to make the transition easier. During the day, campers enjoy age appropriate camp activities such as swimming, sports, baking, mad science, dance, crafts, drama and lots more! Throughout the week we have carnivals, treasure hunts, theme days and a very exciting Shabbat party and Challah baking on Fridays. Each Monday, we start the week with a special entertainer, such as a Mad Science Show or Magic Show. In addition, we hire a special person just to make sure that the staff is always supplied with games so the kids are occupied in a fun and positive way, even during lulls between activities.

Our camp calendar lists the trips, special days and many of our fun activities. See www.solonchabad.com/campcalendar.

Specialty Programs: We offer a daily Specialty Program that all campers participate in every morning for 1 hour. After every 2 week session, each camper can choose a new specialty.

- **Theatre:** Creative and exciting program, concentrating on singing, dancing and acting, culminating in a one of a kind performance!
- **Sports:** Coaches from The Force teach new skills and inspire the kids in basketball, tennis, soccer, football, and hockey.
- **Art:** Our qualified art instructor challenges the children to create and express original masterpieces each session.

GENERAL CAMP INFORMATION

Safety: Safety of our campers is the number one priority of every member of the Camp Gan Izzy staff. We have a low camper counselor ratio and CPR trained staff on site. In the case of illness or injury, parents are notified by phone/email.

At the pool, in addition to Red Cross certified lifeguards, we have our staff strategically placed around the pool on guard duty. We also hire a pool director to maintain a calm and controlled atmosphere and ensure that campers and staff are following safety procedures at all times.

We have an exceptionally well trained staff. Before the summer, counselors attend comprehensive training sessions that define our expectations of safety, judgment, and leadership. In addition, our staff members meet every day after camp for continued training on group dynamics and problem solving skills through role-play scenarios. When problems arise, staff members are trained to seek immediate assistance from directors.

Conduct: We expect responsible behavior from all campers. In building a community, we ask that children take responsibility for their actions and for ensuring the safety of others. If improper, irresponsible or unsafe behavior occurs, parents will be notified, and if our staff deems it necessary, they will be asked to leave the program.

Field Trips: All campers leave on a field trip each Wednesday, and the Explorers program (grades 5-7) goes on an extra field trip on Mondays. Your child will receive a camp T-shirt on his/her first day of camp. On trip days, please dress your child in the camp shirt, and send along socks in case of weather related trip changes. Transportation is provided by Solon Schools Transportation.

On trips, we have an extra low camper counselor ratio, and our camp shirts have the camp phone number on them. Please note that we do not allow campers to buy anything on trips, so please do not send along spending money.

We invite parents to join on our Creek walk trip to the metro parks on July 18, so that every child that needs can have a hand to hold while walking through the water.

Lunches: We are proud to offer an optional hot lunch buffet daily. Our menu is online and available in the office. The lunches are quite popular and we always have buttered noodles, fruits, and vegetables on the side.

Please note: If you are bringing lunches from home, please be aware that we are a kosher facility and peanut free and therefore our policy is that no meat may be brought in, or anything with peanuts.

*If your child is eligible for one session of free hot lunches, they will receive those during their first session of camp.

Swimming: Please pack a swimsuit and towel every day, aside from Wednesday. Our pool is heated so even if the weather does not look promising, always send swim gear. We recommend applying sunscreen in the morning so it seeps into the skin and doesn't wash off in the pool. If you would like your child to reapply after swimming, please send in a labeled bottle of sunscreen.

All campers enjoy free swim, and we offer optional swim lessons for \$36 a session. The campers receive 6 lessons per session, and are divided into groups based on level. On your child's last day of camp, you will receive a report detailing which skills were covered.

Birthdays: We are happy to celebrate your child's birthday at camp! No outside food or candy may be brought, but you can order a treat through the camp office. You will find the information on our website, under the tab Birthday Treats or in the office.

Electronics/Toys: Our policy is that no toys/electronics can be brought from home, including fidget spinners, cell phones, i-pods etc. Firstly, we take no responsibility if something gets lost or damaged. In addition, we believe that camp is a place to be social, interact with your peers, and get involved in the activities, and we don't want anything to distract the kids from enjoying themselves.

Medications: If your child has an allergy or medical condition that requires the camp to administer medication, please be sure to fill out the Medication Form online and to bring the medicine and form to Mushkie or Irina two weeks before starting camp.

Lost and Found: Please, please label all belongings. We do not take responsibility for any lost or damaged items but we do keep a box of Lost and Found and parents are always welcome to come take a look.

Bring to camp:

- Bathing suit and towel (labeled) every day aside from Wednesday
- Water bottle (labeled) to keep at camp all week and take home each Friday.
- K & 1st graders – Please send a full change of clothes in a labeled bag to keep at camp.
- Please send your child in shoes with backs, preferably closed toe.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off: Drop off begins at 8:50 am. Pull up your car to the Gan Izzy entrance (back door) and drop off at the curb. You are welcome to walk your child inside; just park in main lot & come in the Gan Izzy entrance. If you come before 8:50 am, please wait with your child until drop off begins.

Pick up: Your car will be directed to the pickup line and a staff member will come to your window to take the names of the campers you are picking up. The line begins at the front door and winds around to the back lot. We start dismissing at 3:20 or when the line of cars starts backing up traffic on Harper Rd. If you would like, you can park your car and walk around to the pavilion.

Early Pick Up: Park and walk in the front door to sign your child out in the office.

Late Drop Off: Park and walk your child into the front entrance to the office. Do not leave your child alone until they are accounted for by their counselor or a staff member.

Extended Care: Before Care begins at 7:45 am and is \$5.00 per day. Drop off your child at the Gan Izzy entrance as usual, and wait in your car until your child is buzzed in. After care ends at 6:00 pm and is \$15 per day. At 3:30 pm, all children that are signed up for Aftercare are served a snack and then enjoy activities both outdoors and indoors. To pick up your child, please park in the regular lot and come in the front door to the Main office. You will be asked to sign your child out each day.

Payment Policy: All camp fees must be paid in full 2 weeks before camp begins. A session may be switched or cancelled 2 weeks in advance. After that, we reimburse 50% for a cancellation and charge a \$100 fee to switch sessions.

Swim lessons, lunches, or extended care can be added at any time by paying online at www.ganizzysolon.com under the payments tab, or calling the office 1 week in advance. Cancellations less than one week in advance will not be reimbursed.

COMMUNICATION:

Email: Our main form of communication with parents is through email. Please let us know if your child is registered for camp and you have not been receiving emails.

Facebook: We are constantly posting pictures and notifications in our Facebook group, **@Camp Gan Izzy Solon**. Request to join the group to see what's going on at camp!

Contact Info: Mushkie Galperin at 440 498 9533 or ganizzy@solonchabad.com.