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CAMP GAN ISRAEL

Parents Handbook and Information Kit

Valencia, California
Summer 2016

A Project of Chabad of SCV

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 15th season of Camp Gan Israel of SCV. Whether this is your first summer with us or you have a returning camper, I am delighted that you are joining us and I am certain that your child(ren) will have a wonderful camp experience. The counselors and staff at Camp Gan Israel are eager to greet your child(ren) with new and exciting programs.

At Camp Gan Israel your child(ren) will have the opportunity to bond with other kids of the same age in a 'bunk' setting. During bunk time campers' days are filled with activities, games, song, laughter and lots of camp spirit. A busy and well rounded schedule of Academy instruction, fun and exciting trips await your child(ren). Our counselors are wonderful role models and create meaningful and loving friendships that last a lifetime.

This booklet will provide you with all the necessary information regarding camp. If you need any more information or have questions, please feel free to call: 661-644-5734.

I am looking forward to another amazing summer!

Warmest regards,

Frumi Marozov – Camp Director

DATES AND TIMES

Camp begins on Monday, June 27 and runs through Friday, July 28. Camp will be located at Congregation Beth Shaom - 21430 Centre Pointe Pkwy Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Camp runs Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please be sure to drop off your children on time as on some days we will be leaving camp grounds right away. Be prompt in picking up your child(ren).

We will also be offering before and after- care for campers. The fee is \$8/hr per child and \$5/hr for each additional child per family. After care must be arranged with the camp office in advance.

FEES

Full summer: \$950

1 Week session (5 days): \$225

1 Week session (M,W,F): \$150

Tuition fees cover all activities and trips. There is an extra fee for “optionals” including overnights, late-night programs, Shabbat Family Dinners and lunches. One camp T- shirt will be given to every camper on the first day of camp. Additional T- shirts can be purchased for \$10 each.

DRESS CODE

For safety, children must wear appropriate shoes. No slides or flip-flops allowed. Croc-style shoes are not appropriate for athletic activities.

The wearing of the camp T-shirt is mandatory on Trip Days.

Clothes should be comfortable, washable and appropriate for camp activities.

Boys are encouraged to wear Kippahs.

OUR STAFF

OUR DIRECTOR: Frumi Marozov

Frumi has been in education for the past eighteen years. She has taught both elementary and pre-school. She also directed summer camps in New York and Switzerland. She is currently co-director of Chabad of SCV and directs the Chabad of SCV Hebrew School.

OUR HEAD COUNSLEOR: Mirel Marozov

Mirel was raised in Valencia, and has had many hands –on experiences in summer day camps. She has served as a counselor and head counselor in camps across America. She has also been a teacher in various Hebrew schools and youth groups..

OUR STAFF: The secret to our success

Gan Israel prides itself on its exceptional staff members, chosen for their personal warmth, sensitivity, and care for each child. Counselors have camping experience and some are trained in first aid and CPR. The camp maintains a low staff camper ratio.

TIPPING OF COUNSELORS

As with all camps, we can't deliver quality programming without quality staff and this coming year's complement of counselors are really phenomenal. They are enthusiastic, motivated and committed to making your child(ren)'s summer experience a memorable one. In addition to some local recruits, we also have a number of counselors who will be traveling from as far away as NY. These young women will do an exceptional job and your child(ren) will reap the benefits of their hard work. To this end, it would be a welcomed gesture to show them your appreciation. Although not required, a suggested gratuity at the end of camp would be \$25 per junior counselor and \$35-\$45 per senior counselor.

COMMUNICATION AND PARENT'S PARTICIPATION

We believe very strongly that open communication between camp and home is in the best interest of the children, staff and parents. Our staff is always accessible; however arrival and pick-up times are not the most convenient times to talk. If you should need to speak with your child's counselor, we ask that you leave a message or a note and that counselor will get back to you quickly.

If you have any concerns or questions you may always contact the Camp Director, Frumi Marozov 661-644-5734 (cell). Or Rabbi Marozov 661-644-5735

FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Please hold the following dates for family programs:

- **Moms 'n Muffins**

Wednesday, July 6, 9:00 a.m. at camp

Family night at the Dodger game-

TBA.

- **Dads 'n Donuts**

Wednesday, July 13, 9:00 am at camp

- **Camp Family Shabbat Dinner**

Friday, July 15, 7:00 p.m. at Chabad - 23120 Lyons Ave #19.

- **Camp Banquet**

Thursday, July 28, 6:00 p.m. Chabad 23120 Lyons Ave.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

MOCK JEWISH WEDDING

At CGI the mock wedding is a huge hit. From photographers to chefs to musicians and of course the bride and groom, we will simulate a real Jewish wedding. This program is a highlight of the summer. Please encourage your child(ren) to come dressed up in the costume assigned to him/her (them).

GOOD NIGHT GAN IZZY

This unique program is designed to show your child(ren) bedtime the "Gan Izzy" way. Your child may choose one night during the summer to have his/her counselor visit his/her home during bedtime. For twenty minutes, the counselors will read, sing, and play with your child in a completely relaxed, safe environment. Your child can show his/her counselor around his/her home or bedroom, and when the evening is over, your child(ren) will be left with a complementary souvenir Shema chart. This program is completely optional.

Divisions

Junior division- grades K-2

Campers will participated in playball- A professional, age appropriate sports activities, with a special coach, focusing on teamwork and basic sports skills. They will also enjoy Music and Movement with Wendee, Kids in the kitchen, and Karate . This is just some of the exciting activities planned for the Junior division.

Senior division – grades 2-4

Fun shops are back!! Campers choose from 3 exciting activities twice a week. This is all in addition to weekly special entertainers, fantastic field trips, and our amazing activities. The senior division will enjoy fun getaways to special programs in local supermarkets and Malls.

Pioneer division – grades 5&6

In addition to our fantastic funshops, entertainers and trips, our pioneers have special extra curricular activities. This includes our popular overnight at Castaic lake, complete with a bbq, games, songs, and bonfire. Late night at the dodger game is always a hit! A special day kayaking and sailboating at Castaic lake is also in the plans. Look out for more info!

Camp Gan Israel Funshops

Camp Gan Israel was created to provide children with a comprehensive and meaningful summer program, while fostering growth individually and socially, in a Jewish atmosphere. The daily schedule includes an exciting mix of sports, field trips, special courses and activities, designed to be educational, fun and conducive to building character and nurturing friendships.

This year at CGI each camper , grades 2 and up, will have the opportunity to be a part of the CGI Funshops. There are 3 Funshops running simultaneously, so your child could choose the one that they like best.

The younger division (grades k-2) will be enjoying Playball USA, Music & Movement, Art, Kids in the Kitchen and Karate.

WEEKLY SPECIAL ENTERTAINERS

All campers will participate in the weekly surprise entertainers.

Entertainers will include a Magician, Animal Show, Game Truck, and more.

SWIMMING

On swim days, if possible, please have your children wear their swimwear under their clothes and bring a towel in a tote or plastic bag. We will be using the Aquatic Center and city swimming pools. Please have all bathing suits and towels marked with permanent ink or labels.

MEDICATION

All medication to be administered during camp hours must be clearly marked with camper's name. A separate note containing dosage instruction and parent's signature must be sent as well. Please discuss details with the counselor and director.

LUNCH AND SNACKS & Menu

We are offering optional hot lunches for \$3.50 per lunch or \$10 per week. Every lunch includes a fruit/vegetable and drink. Campers who are not signed up for hot lunches should bring a dairy or pareve (no meat) lunch. On Wednesdays, we will be serving pizza lunch at no extra fee. On trip days, lunches should be brought in disposable bags and containers only. Morning snacks will be provided. This includes crackers, fruit, pretzels and juice. Water will be available to campers at all times.

If you would like to sign your child up for Lunches, please check off which weeks or which days you would like. Please send back to the Camp Gan Israel Office, or with your registration/tuition.

LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<input type="checkbox"/> June 27 Hot Dogs, Fries, and salad	<input type="checkbox"/> June 28 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> June 29 Pizza Day!	<input type="checkbox"/> June 30 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 1 Fish Sticks and Potatoes
<input type="checkbox"/> June 4 No camp	<input type="checkbox"/> July 5 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 6 Pizza Day!	<input type="checkbox"/> July 7 Choice of sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 8 Baked Ziti and Salad
<input type="checkbox"/> July 11 Hot Dogs, Fries, and salad	<input type="checkbox"/> July 12 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 13 Pizza Day!	<input type="checkbox"/> July 14 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 15 Fish Sticks and Potatoes
<input type="checkbox"/> July 18 Hot dogs, fries corn on the cob	<input type="checkbox"/> July 19 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 20 Pizza Day!	<input type="checkbox"/> July 21 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 22 Baked Ziti and Salad
<input type="checkbox"/> July 25 Hot dogs, fries corn on the cob	<input type="checkbox"/> July 26 Choice of Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> July 27 Macaroni & Cheese, Salad	<input type="checkbox"/> July 28 Pizza Day!	<input type="checkbox"/> July 29 Falafel and Pita

GENERAL CAMP POLICY

SIGN IN/SIGN OUT

Every camper must be signed in and out daily.

CAMPER RELEASE

Parents wishing to have their child released during camp to anyone other than themselves or their designate must make prior arrangements with the Camp Director.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

1. Camp does not take the responsibility for any personal items brought to camp
2. Personal sports equipment such as bats, hockey sticks sports balls, etc. will be stored by the counselor and used under staff supervision.
3. ABSOLUTELY NO illegal substance or weapon of any kind will be allowed on campgrounds. Camp reserves the right to conduct searches when we feel necessary.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) Must campers wear a camp shirt every day?

No. We require that all campers wear a Camp Gan Israel T-shirt on Trip Days.

2) How does my camper find lost items?

Please mark all belongings with your camper's name and group. This is very important since shirts, water bottles, caps etc. are identical and individual items are difficult to identify without a label. Lost & Found items are available each day at pickup. Please contact us in writing or by phone regarding specific items.

3) How does the transportation system work?

Camp Gan Israel uses a modern fleet of mini-buses and buses. Campers must remain seated at all times.

4) How do I arrange to pick up my camper during the camp day?

If you have to pick up your camper during the day, please notify our office. Once we are aware of your arrival time, we can arrange to have your camper ready for you. Please note that no camper will be released to ANYONE without parental permission.

5) When can I visit my camper?

Camp Gan Israel is open for parental visits every camp day. We suggest that you schedule your visit carefully as your camper may be involved in a field trip or other off-campus activity. This is a chance for you to see your campers in action!

6) What if my child does not want to participate in a particular activity?

No camper is required to participate in any activity. However, we do urge campers to try all activities and take advantage of the complete program offered at Camp Gan Israel.

7) Can my camper bring precious items to camp?

We do not permit your camper to bring jewelry, radios, expensive toys, etc. to camp. Camp Gan Israel supplies everything campers may need for the day..

8) What does my camper need to bring each day?

Campers will need to bring a lunch every day if they are not signed up for hot lunch, excluding Wednesday. They will need a bathing suit and towel on swimming days. We supply all sports and safety equipment. Counselors will apply sunscreen upon request.

9) How can I speak with a Camp Director?

The director is available to answer your questions, discuss your concerns, etc. most evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (except Fridays) at (661) 644-5734. Please feel free to call during these times or leave a message at the camp office during the camp day.

Welcome to CGI

Where there is fun and friendship...that lasts forever