



a great place for kids to grow.

calendar for week 7

	SUN	<b>6</b>
color war begins	MON	<b>7</b>
color war continues	TUE	<b>8</b>
color war continues	WED	<b>9</b>
color war concludes	THU	<b>10</b>
color war	FRI	<b>11</b>
	SAT	<b>12</b>

calendar for week 8

	SUN	<b>13</b>
	MON	<b>14</b>
	TUE	<b>15</b>
	WED	<b>16</b>
	THU	<b>17</b>
festivus maximus closing day, summer:2017	FRI	<b>18</b>
	SAT	<b>19</b>

# BETH TFILOH CAMPS

**Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Beth Tfiloh Camps 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Reunion scheduled for Sunday, August 6 has been canceled. You will be receiving a full refund which will appear as a credit to your credit card account.**

## from the assistant directors, ryan and melissa

Ryan: Come on Melissa, you should tell them!  
 Melissa: No Ryan! We can't tell them yet.  
 Ryan: But Melissa!!! All of the campers are having their parents call us to find out when Color War will be!  
 Melissa: Well, they've waited this long....  
 Ryan: Melissa, you do realize that by the time everyone is reading this, they'll know that Color War HAS ALREADY STARTED?!  
 Ryan: Well then, Melissa, what team are you on?  
 Melissa: Hehe. Wouldn't you like to know. J/k... I'm on the pink with purple polka-dots team.  
 Ryan: Lucky. I'm on taupey-mauve.

This week might have been short, but on short weeks we pack in extra fun. Let's start with Survival Camp who braved the summer heat to set up their campsite complete with tents. Campers really loved learning to cook their own food and who doesn't love s'mores? No really, if you know someone who doesn't let us know!

In Art Camp we personally watched campers use shaving cream that had been dyed colors to create amazing patterns. When applied to a heavy-weight

stock, the dye stains the paper and as excess is removed with a squeegee, campers magically create their very own stationary. (Ryan: Though I should have listened to Melissa when she told me not to shave with the dyed cream.)

There's so much more going on as we walk around, it's impossible to cover everything here, so make sure you read all of the Unit Heads' articles.

With Color War now underway, it helps your camper's team if they come wearing an item with their team color.

It's hard to believe there are only two weeks of camp left! We've said it before, and we want to say it again: THANK YOU! You trust us with your most precious possession: Your children. We are continually humbled by the amazing feedback we receive. Please, if you have any questions or concerns, do call us at 410.517.3451. Ask anyone who has called us; we take all feedback seriously.

## swimming: it's the law!

The Talmud (the body of Jewish civil and ceremonial law) lists three things that every parent must teach their child. These are the Torah, how to make a living, and how to swim. The first two seem very obvious and make sense. The Torah contains our laws and history as a Jewish people. It is important to teach our children where we come from. It seems obvious that we would want our children to know how to make a living. As parents, one of our greatest accomplishments comes when our children receive their first paycheck and don't need our money anymore. But learning how to swim? It seems that there would be many more important lessons to teach our children other than swimming.

Most commentators agree that when the Talmud says that we must teach our children to swim, it does not mean it literally. Instead we must teach our children to survive in different situations. Here at BT Camps, we take this creed from the Talmud very seriously. On a basic level, we teach swim instruction to all campers

beginning in Unit Aleph. Our swim staff teaches the campers how to swim, breathe, and be comfortable in water. We feel confident that children leave our program knowing how to swim, and you, as parents, have effectively taught your child to swim.

On a deeper level, we work hard at camp to teach our campers basic survival skills. Children learn to get along with other children and adults, a definitely life necessity. They learn how to stick up for themselves in an effective way and to ask for help when needed. Many children even learn how to dress themselves and tie their own shoes! In our Survival Camp, campers learn how to start a fire in order to cook their dinner. Here at camp we help you with all three things that the Talmud says to teach your child. Lessons from the Torah are infused into everything we do here at camp. We teach your child how to swim in instructional swim each day. And we hope that when your children are older, they will choose to work here at camp and begin to make a living.

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[aleph@btcamps.org](mailto:aleph@btcamps.org)

**jessica layman and stacy lunenfeld | unit aleph**

Week six was a fabulous week in Unit Aleph! We have been so busy having fun. In Arts and Crafts this week, we created butterflies using string and pipe cleaners. The campers used their fine motor skills to design beautiful butterflies. Science was definitely a highlight this week as we used ingredients to make a bubble mixture. After the mixture was finished, the teacher put it on dry ice and when it started to fog, the bubble kept growing and growing. The kids absolutely loved it. They also loved blowing their own bubble and having them put on their heads.

In Athletics this week, some bunks had the chance to use the parachute and the campers were all smiles. Other bunks really enjoyed playing kickball and others participated in track and field. The boys and girls really had a blast running as fast as they could.

In Yoga this summer, the girls have been learning how to relax, breathe and stretch. They have learned poses such as, down dog, tree, airplane and child's pose. They really seem to be enjoying the relaxation time.

Of course all of the campers continue to enjoy the playground, gaga and the pool. The splash pad is the place to be if you want to see huge smiles and hear loud giggles.

This Friday was our annual Variety Show. Our campers have been practicing their talents and enjoyed showing off their songs and dances. They had a great time watching all of the acts and performing their own. We certainly have a bunch of very talented campers in unit Aleph. We look forward to seeing all of their smiling faces next week!

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**rivka bresler | unit bet**

We had a wonderful week in Unit Bet. Even though it was a short week, we had a fabulous time in all of our activities. The campers love the pool, especially on the hot, sunny days we have been having at camp. It is so nice to see the progress that they have made in instructional swim. Ruach is always fun, with so many exciting songs and games that campers and counselors love to play. In Science, we explored sounds, and in Nature, bunks took hikes, went fishing, and got to play with the animals. Campers continue to use their artistic skills to make wonderful projects in Arts and Crafts. I hope that you have been enjoying their work.

The definite highlight of our week was Friday. The campers have been looking forward to the variety show all summer, and their fifteen minutes of fame finally arrived! Several of our bunks told hysterical jokes that left everyone laughing! We had bunks that sang and danced. Some of our bunks even made costumes for their act! I loved watching the kids have such a great time up on stage. In the coming weeks, you will be able to watch parts of the variety show on the camp website.

We are looking forward to the last two weeks of camp, and are very excited to find out when Color War will be (I don't even know when it is!!). In the meantime, have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

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**cindy terodemos | unit gimmel**

What an amazing week in Gimmel. The campers had a great time making string jewelry with beads. They took their time and made them all look beautiful.

In Science, the campers got to experiment with magnets. They used different items and materials to see which ones were magnetic. The campers also got to use cardboard and duct-tape to keep water inside a cup when flipped over. Gimmel is enjoying the team building activities in ropes. This week they had to go over a wire without touching it. The counselors even had to get involved and be a tabletop for them!

Gimmel boys enjoyed stream walking this week. During the stream walk the campers got to catch various fish.

On Friday, the Gimmel bunks got to participate in the Variety Show. Each girl bunk did an awesome job singing and dancing to different popular songs and the boys worked together to perform to the song "Whip Nae Nae". The campers got to enjoy all of the other bunks performances.

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## melyssa perman | daled and hay

Our sixth week of camp has been filled with excitement! Both units enjoyed making personalized hangers using modge podge in Arts and Crafts. During instructional swim, all of the campers are making great strides with the skills for the front and back crawls. Many children were tested this week. Be sure to check your child's backpack for swim cards which show advancement to the next level.

The campers were also able to continue to develop their skills playing with Newcomb, Track & Field, and basketball. During electives for Unit Hay, the children had an opportunity to choose from so many options. A favorite this week was pioneering at Campcraft. For that elective, the campers developed skills with making knots and building structures. In Nature, the campers made goo and playdough.

Everyone really enjoyed the Variety Show today. Many of the campers in our units showed amazing dances and talents. It was wonderful to see bunks come together and perform for the rest of the campers. Even our counselors were involved and created shirts for many of the campers.

Of course, the highlight today was COLOR WAR BREAKOUT!!! Be sure that next week your child wears his/her appropriate color beginning Monday. Everyone is looking forward to the camp-wide competition and to see what surprises are in store for all of us next week.

Have a wonderful Shabbat and a great weekend.

Melyssa Perman



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## doug kotula | senior camp

This week Senior Camp were trailblazers! Bunk Haifa went on an amazing nature hike that proved to be quite adventurous. The campers created the trail as they followed Edwin who cut through the brush. Campers saw sights that have never before been observed at B.T. camps. They saw deer bones, odd bugs, and even a graveyard. Geri, a head counselor, claimed, "this was the most interesting of all the nature walks this year."

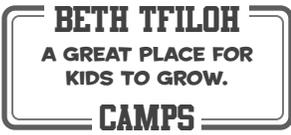
When not hiking on the back paths of B.T. Camps, campers were in Arts and Crafts to create bracelets out of string. A unique string pattern was developed into their designs and colorful beads were interspersed throughout the bracelets. Jamie, head counselor of Tiberias, enthusiastically proclaimed, "I loved that I could select different colored beads!" Many campers continue to wear their bracelets around camp.

Down by the lake, campers got the opportunity to practice diving off the floating dock. This is the deepest section of the lake and always a fun activity.

Tohar, head counselor of bunk Haifa stated, "I love jumping off the floating dock because the water is so cold when it hits my feet!"

Many of the games this week were very well enjoyed by the campers. Campers played TRB, basketball, Newcomb, and even got the chance to do tumbling! The week ended with the B.T. Variety Show. All of the acts were extremely well performed and the host was by far the highlight of the show. OK, I'm a little biased because it was me, but it's always fun to MC!

Finally, and always a highlight, break out for Color War 2017 occurred when everyone least expected it. This year's theme is "Sesame Street." Make sure to ask your camper what color they will represent next week so that you can send them to camp in the appropriate color. The Red Team is Elmo, the Blue Team is Cookie Monster, the Green Team is Oscar the Grouch, and the Yellow Team is Big Bird.



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**- stream walks -**

There are no more scheduled stream walks this summer. :(

**- variety show -**

Today campers participated or watched the annual Variety Show. This show will be posted online for all to view later in the summer.

**- bunk photos -**

All campers who were enrolled and present on Wednesday of week 5 had their bunk photos taken. These photos will be available in the Gallery later in the summer.

**- bus changes -**

Please phone the office by 2:30 on the day you wish to pick a camper up early or use a different afternoon bus. Campers may not be picked up from off-site activities or trips.

**- electronics -**

Campers are not permitted to have electronic devices at camp. Should campers bring devices to camp and they become a distraction, devices will be confiscated. Also, should devices be lost, camp is not responsible for, nor will search for said devices. More information on this policy is available in the Parent Manual that was included in the Camper Confirmation Packet.

travelcamp@btcamps.org

**rachel hellman | travel camp**

The second session of travel camp went by so quickly! For the past three weeks, campers entering 7th and 8th grades participated in incredible trips culminating with our "fav" of Hershey Park! (More about that later).

We began with a trip to a brand new bowling alley, followed by a visit to the Utz Potato Chip factory! As we looked down at the workers making all sorts of snacks, campers tried to get them to play "rock, paper, scissors" but they could not be distracted. Cascade Lake is always a favorite place to swim and dive, but this time we dressed it up with s'mores. Wednesday was our flying day! Skyzone really brought out the gymnasts in our campers. We closed out week four with a visit to Dorney Park in Allentown, PA. It was a hot day, so many campers chose to forego the coasters for the water park. Great choice and a great way to stay cool.

Week five begin with delicious ice cream! The first stop was the Turkey Hill Experience where we ate copious amounts of ice cream, including flavors each camper invented on his or her own. What did the next two days bring? Trips to two arcades, of course! Campers won prizes, drove go-karts and laser-tagged away at Hickory Falls. Dave and Busters' was our second arcade trip. Have you ever played four-way air-hockey? We

have! Roundtop was our last trip of the week. Skiing in the summer? No way! We experienced their mountain adventures: ropes course, bumper boats and best of all, rolling down the hill in OGO balls and tubing on a brand new waterslide!

Week six may have been the most extreme week of Travel Camp of all time! On Monday, we went to the incredible Guppy Gulch. Campers swam and climbed all over obstacles in the huge outdoor lake. And we can't forget about the BLOB! In what must have been a camp record, all three groups escaped their rooms in under an hour at Get a Clue. Travel Camp would not be complete without a Hershey Park trip. Not only did we stuff ourselves with chocolate, but we rode coasters and splashed in the waterpark to cool off. A rare Friday trip sent us to Baughers' Orchard to pick fresh fruit. A sweet way to end our session together.

Can't believe all the stuff we did? Check it out! The camp photo gallery features photos taken by both counselors and campers chronicling all twelve of our trips. Get a taste of our summer! Pictures will be posted in the Week 6 gallery under Travel Camp.

Can't wait for next summer! -Rachel, Clarissa, Nick, Riva and Emily

varsitysports@btcamps.org

**andy bloom | varsity sports**

Week 6 was another action packed week for our Varsity Sports campers. This week was highlighted by two field trips, a special guest, and an opportunity to cheer on some of our campmates in the Variety Show. The baseball campers jumped right into games Monday morning with Tuesday being an off day for the camp. Campers were divided into teams within their bunks and competed to be recognized as the camper with the: highest average, most homeruns, or most R.B.I.'s. If the camper was able to lead the group in all 3 categories they were given the Triple Crown Award.

Wednesday we had a visit from Baltimore Oriole Joey Rickard. Joey visited last year but had such a great time with the kids last year he wanted to return to play with them (last year he was limited because of breaking his hand a few week before). The campers had some great questions for Joey including what is the grossest food in the clubhouse (broccoli, but all the players force themselves to eat a little) and who is his best friend on the team (Adam Jones who seems to be everyone's best friend!!!)

Thursday was another game day but the highlight of the week for most campers was after camp as we took our annual field trip to Camden Yards to watch the

Orioles battle the Detroit Tigers. The campers did a fantastic job and had a wonderful time! Friday we wrapped up our games and some of us went and watched some of our fellow campers perform in the Variety show.

The other camp that was in session this week was Lacrosse camp. Rob Slade, a local trainer and teacher returned for another year of running this camp. The campers worked on cradling, shooting, passing, and defense, but also spent a large portion of time working on their agility. The campers were given new mesh and some other goodies from East Coast Dyes.

Thursday they were treated to the Orioles game with the rest of the Varsity Sports camp. Friday, we visited Rob's training complex the S3 Training Center and played a bunch of "Box Lacrosse." The campers seemed to really enjoy themselves and Rob spoke with me multiple times about how much talent he saw amongst the group.

Next week we will be revisiting the sport of Soccer. Please remember that cleats are not allowed but shin guards are optional.