



a great place for kids to grow.

calendar for week 6

	SUN	<b>30</b>
	MON	<b>31</b>
camp is closed in observance of tisha b'av	TUE	<b>1</b>
	WED	<b>2</b>
	THU	<b>3</b>
variety show	FRI	<b>4</b>
	SAT	<b>5</b>

calendar for week 7

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

Hey there B.T. Camp friends, we're baaaack! We have had another amazing and fun filled week at B.T. Camps. From the siblings running up and hugging each other throughout the day to the friends high-fiving one another we love seeing relationships grow. There were several VIP sightings around camp this week: Larry Brash was seen on the lawn mower, Dr. Schorr was walking down the hills in her high heels, Rabbi Wohlberg was spotted around camp, Brian Singer performed at the Siyums for the 9 days, and Baltimore Ravens Offensive Lineman Ronnie Stanley visited our sports camp program.

Rave Reviews: The B.T. Theatre Camp performed their 2017 production of, "Into the Woods, Jr." The costumes, the make-up, and the scenery were nothing short of fabulous. But, it was the campers themselves who truly shined.

Our Travel Campers did not skip a beat. From the Turkey Hill Experience (yummmmm...ice cream) to Hickory Falls, Dave N' Busters, and then Round Top these campers had a non stop fun filled adventurous week.

Sports Campers had a visit from... well, you know what, we think you should read the Varsity and J.V. Sports articles to find out! (Or just simply look above at the first paragraph). Art Campers continued to produce works of art that make our jaws drop.

Survival Campers are putting final touches on their overnight where they will use the skills they have been developing thus far. From orienteering to outdoor skills, to cooking, and learning how to survive outdoors (build tents, creating safe fires) these campers will be putting their skills to the test. You will hear more about it in next week's newsletter. Stay Tuned!

On Tuesday and Thursday, we had special programming that was previewed in last week's newsletter. Since this week of camp took place during the 9 Days of Av, with the assistance of Brian Singer, campers participated in brief interactive educational programming followed by a Siyum. Why did we do this? Well, to us it was important that campers not just be told what the 9 Days are, but also take away a bit of knowledge from an interactive experience. We were thrilled to partner with the clergy and administrative staff at the synagogue for this initiative.

The rain on Friday did not stop us from celebrating Israel - with our themed Israel Day! With the help of Rivka Bresler, campers participated in engaging and fun activities focusing exclusively on Israel and its culture. They completed in a trivia game, sang Israeli songs, Played Israeli bingo, wrote letters to IDF soldiers, made art projects, enjoyed an obstacle course, and the entire camp came together to sing Hatikvah to close the day. Side note - if any of you have a great relationship with Mother Nature, please tell her we've had quite enough rain!

## hey... why are you closed on tuesday, august 1?

This coming Tuesday, camp will be closed in observance of Tisha B'av. Tisha B'av, which means the ninth day of the Jewish month of Av, is a twenty-five hour fast day commemorating the destruction of both Holy Temples in Jerusalem. The first Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE, followed by the destruction of the second Temple on the same day in the year 70 by the Romans. This day is considered to be the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. On Monday night, at the beginning of the fast, Jews read from the book of Eicha (Lamentations), which sadly recalls the destruction of Jerusalem.

According to many commentaries, one of the reasons for the destruction of the Temples was baseless hatred

of other people (Sinat Chinam). While this concept, and that of the destruction of the Temples in general, may be a difficult one to relate to with children, at camp we have focused on discussing the positive results of being nice to each other and treating others with respect. In fact, on Thursday, Brian Singer worked with the campers to act out scenarios in which they treated other campers badly, and then they rewinded the scene to show how they could change their behavior to act with kindness. At BT Camps, we work very hard to instill this sense of kindness and friendship into each of the campers, and we hope that the activities we have done at camp will lead to some insightful conversations at home.

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

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

Unit Aleph had an amazing week 5. We wish summer would just slow down a little bit. This week our campers showed off their talents in the pool. Many of our campers have passed to the next swim level and they are so proud of themselves. If you walk by the pool during free swim, you will often here, "Jessica! Watch this!" or "Stacy, did you see what I can do?" It is amazing.

In nature many of the campers have had the chance to go fishing which is always a thrill. Some of the bunks participated in their stream walk and others fed animals. During arts and crafts, the children created Jewish stars using tissue paper. They turned out beautiful.

In athletics this week our bunks played basketball, kickball or hockey. You should see how fast some of our kiddos can run.

On Wednesday, we gave our biggest smiles as we had our bunk pictures taken. The pictures will be posted to the website in the coming weeks. On Friday, we participated in Israel Day. We learned an Israeli dance, created an art project and played an Israeli game. The campers enjoyed participating in all of the activities as they learned about Israel.

Talent show will take place next Friday. Our campers have been working hard to perfect their acts and are looking forward to performing.

Please remember to label all of your child's belongings. We had a busy and exciting week at camp and we are looking forward to next week. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or email.

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**rivka bresler | unit bet**

I want to begin by sharing with you some highlights of our week, in the campers' own words: "Going down the lake slide was awesome!" "I love going to arts and crafts. My mommy loves what I bring home each week." "Ewww, we fed some worms to the bearded dragon in Nature. I'm so glad that I'm a person and not a reptile!" "Look how strong my arms are - did you see how well I was able to run the paddle boat?"

As you can see, it has been another amazing week for all of the campers in Unit Bet. Campers who have passed the deep water test continue to go down the lake slide. It is a scary walk up all the steps, but a really fun slide down into the lake. During our time at lake, the campers have also gone out in paddle boats and had the chance to jump off of the dock into the lake and swim around. It has been especially nice on the very hot days.

On Wednesday, we all smiled brightly in our bunk pictures. If you haven't already done so, please check out the camp's photo gallery to find and download the pictures. There are also hundreds of wonderful camp pictures on the site.

On Friday, the campers participated in Israel Day. With their bunks, they rotated around five different stations, all of which were related to Israel. They had a chance to create an art project, write notes to soldiers in Israel, sing Israeli songs, run through an obstacle course, and play a four corners game with different cities in Israel.

It was a busy week, and we are looking forward to another awesome week! Enjoy your weekend. As always, please feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns.

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**cindy terodemos | unit gimmel**

It has finally cooled down here at Beth Tfiloh Camps. However, the cooler temperatures have not stopped the campers from having a blast. They are swimming in the lake, going on paddle boats, swimming in the pools, and playing in the splash pad.

Unit Gimmel had a lot of fun this week in science. They got to make bubbles by using soap and water and then they used various items to blow the bubbles. In Art, they made spice cups and Havdalah candles. The campers got

to put gems on the cups and then used wax sheets to make the candles by twisting them together.

On Friday it was Israeli Day. The campers went around to various stations to participate in different activities. They wrote letters to the Israeli Army, played Israeli games, and even got to learn some Israeli Dances.

Shabbat Shalom. Have a wonderful weekend.

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## melyssa perman | daled and hay

The long summer days at camp continued to be exciting during week 5. Many of the bunks in units Daled and Hay slid down the zip-line over the lake, while others played Battleship on canoes as they saw their friends zip by. In Arts & Crafts everyone created beautiful door hangers which allowed the campers to work with patterns. Several bunks could be seen practicing their routines for the Variety Show.

In Unit Daled, the campers improved their athletic skills in track & field, hockey, or newcomb, while our campers in Unit Hay enjoyed one of several elective activities. Whether they were making goo at Nature, climbing the Alpine Tower at Ropes, or playing hockey at the sport court, all of the children really enjoyed their elective.

Everyone was all smiles on Wednesday for Picture Day! Be sure to check the camp website for all of the bunk pictures. Of course, the highlight of the week was experiencing Israel Day. We rotated through several activities which allowed the campers to learn about the culture of the country. One of the favorite activities was the obstacle course. Many of the campers also created heartfelt messages to IDF soldiers which will be delivered later this summer.

Everyone is really getting excited for the Variety Show next week. Many of our campers have already practiced their routines several times and can't wait to perform. In observance of Tisha B'Av, the camp will be closed on Tuesday.

I wish you a wonderful Shabbat and a great weekend.

Melyssa Perman



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## doug kotula | senior camp

In a slow cooker of humidity amongst the golden rays of sunshine under a sky blue as the sea, we persevere through our morning routine as we venture in to week five of camp. Our battle cry echoes through the trees, taunting those around us with the idea of wishing they were a senior (camper) rallying us together in preparation for the week's activities. With enthusiasm coursing through our veins, we depart the Ulam, bunk by bunk, ready for fun, games, skills, and challenges, assured that Doug will see us at the pool.

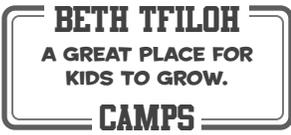
Naturally, the thing that I must mention first, since it is something so near and dear to my heart, something that I not only treasure, and am passionate about, have studied at both FSU and NYU, have been involved with since the age of 5, in fact, have made a living at it, in some capacity for 22 years now, is (if that wasn't an unnecessary build up, I don't know what is) that bunk Ashkelon performed improvisation (a spontaneous acting technique basic in all theatre training) while at Ruach! The boys gave imaginative performances as they met the challenge of making things up on the spot. The most memorable scene had two of the boys being attacked by zombies as if it were all playing out in a horror film. Bravo! Two-thumbs up! Papier-mâché was the product of choice this week at Arts and Crafts. Campers designed Jewish symbols from an array of brightly colored tissue paper options. The finished products can be displayed in any room of the house, presumably his or her bedroom, either as a table-top icon or as a small, wall hanging. Our rides along the zip-line came to an end as our final three bunks, Ashkelon, Haifa, and Yerush were presented with the opportunity to safely glide high above the BT lake. This week, and

only this week, smaller bunk sizes brought about many more times an individual camper could nock the arrow, draw the bow, aim and release the string during archery. This week was filled with exciting, strenuous games of kickball, TRB, whiffle ball, and newcomb during our fifth period stay at sports. On Wednesday, cheese wasn't only on the pizza, but also on our sheepish grins when we posed, with our fellow bunkmates, for this year's camp photos. Bunk pictures will be posted in the Gallery section of the B.T. Camps website very soon.

We ended our week by participating in Israel Day. This year, senior campers participated in four special activities. Among the activities, writing notes to Israeli soldiers, a tick, tac, toe trivia game and running an obstacle course. The event was held on the Horse Shoe Field as well as the Amphitheater. All four activities were well-planned and held camper's attention throughout the duration of their stay.

As always, I would like to conclude with a reminder to those with a child in bunk Afula or Ashkelon. Since these are the oldest bunks, they will have Canteen, on Monday, during last period of the day. Canteen gives campers the opportunity to purchase Glatt Kosher snacks ranging in price from .50 to \$3.00. It is not necessary for campers to bring money, it is your discretion as the parent, which is why we are providing popcorn free of charge.

Until next week, may all your days that end in why be good ones.



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**- stream walks -**

Next week the following bunk has a stream walk: Friday - Hannah

**- variety show -**

On Friday of week 6, August 4, camp will hold its annual Variety Show. There are different shows for the younger and older campers. Many acts have auditioned. Should your camper be participating in Variety Show, please know that we understand you'd love to see them, but we do not allow visitors to the show. We do record the show and post the videos 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.

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**tracey robbins | art camp**

We've been super busy at Art Camp learning new skills and perfecting the old ones.

Last week we made our glass fusion wall hangings. This is one of my new favorite classes. I love how all the children feel a sense of accomplishment with their finished pieces. All brought home beautiful pieces of original art. We also made multi media mirror frames. We used tissue paper, paint and buttons to create "our tree of life".

This week we are working on ceramic owl wind chimes that will hang from a branch. These are hand built

items that are hand made, painted, glazed and fired twice. We are also working on mosaics with cut glass on terra-cotta planters with saucers.

Next week is Paper week. We will be making our own marbled stationery and embossing them with "Emboss it" ink pads and stampers. This is a new skill we have brought to B.T. Art camp. We can't wait for all the campers to take home a stack of their own handmade cards and stationery. We will also be making our own pop up books and journals to highlight our amazing time here at B.T. Art camp.

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**andy bloom | varsity sports**

Our largest group ever had an awesome week in Varsity!! 90 total campers kicked off the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of camp by participating in the sport of football or tennis. Tennis campers visited Green Valley where they completed drills in the a.m. working on forehand, backhand, and serving. During the afternoon session they would complete mini 1-v-1 or doubles tournaments. Friday they were back on campus and merged with our football kids for a fun filled day of electives.

Our football campers spent Monday morning completing stations evaluating their skill sets at the same time as working to improve those skills. Campers were divided into groups and completed stations working on passing, catching, defense, punting, and kicking. Monday afternoon, campers were divided onto "semi-pro" teams and began their regular season. Games were played over the next few days and teams were ranked for the playoffs depending on their

regular season success. The highlight of the week for most was a visit from Baltimore Ravens Left Tackle Ronnie Stanley. Ronnie did a great job of interacting with the kids and creating memories with them that should last a lifetime.

Next week we will be completing our 2<sup>nd</sup> session of Baseball and our only week of Lacrosse. Lacrosse players should bring all equipment. If the child would like, we will provide a secure place for those things to be stored so it doesn't have to be brought back and forth each day. Baseball players are required to bring a glove but are also able to bring a bat and helmet if they choose. On Wednesday (tentative), we will also have a visit from Baltimore Oriole Joey Rickard. Thursday will be our "Field Trip" to visit Camden Yards and watch the Orioles battle the Detroit Tigers (more information to follow).

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**dex miller | j.v. sports camp**

Welcome to week 5 of J.V. Sports! This week featured another special guest, a day dedicated to Israel, and two sports each day in the afternoon. Needless to say, this week was another action-packed week full of excitement.

On Tuesday morning, our campers had the opportunity to meet, and hang out with Ravens Offensive Lineman Ronnie Stanley. Stanley was eager to answer any questions that our campers threw at him, and hung around to sign Ravens collectables, and took bunk photos. J.V. Sports has met a lot of awesome athletes this summer, and each experience has been equally as memorable as the next.

This week our campers had the opportunity to play two different sports, hockey and basketball. After lunch

each day, the second and third grade bunks would alternate between playing each sport for a period. Our campers really enjoyed playing both sports, and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship all week long.

The week ended in spectacular fashion with our weekly game of Battleball, followed up with a special Israeli show. The Israeli show provided our campers with very festive musical selections and dances from Israel. It also provided an opportunity for our campers to learn more about the unique and fascinating culture of Israel. Lastly, our campers capped off the week with another spirited Shabbat.

Stay tuned for more updates involving J.V. Sports by reading our week 6 newsletter!