



a great place for kids to grow.

BETH TFILOH CAMPS

from the director, david schimmel

calendar for week 3

	SUN 8
water day	MON 9
	TUE 10
rockstar day	WED 11
	THU 12
show	FRI 13
cookie minyan/mini minyan for ages birth to 5 10:30 @BT kid cong 10 am at Beth Tfiloh	SAT 14

calendar for week 4

	SUN 15
	MON 16
	TUE 17
	WED 18
	THU 19
israel day	FRI 20
cookie minyan/mini minyan for ages birth to 5 10:30 @BT kid cong 10 am at Beth Tfiloh	SAT 21

Baltimore weather, whether we like it or not!!!

Well, the beginning of this week was WACKY (wait, are we having a wacky week this year? Um.....actually, no.), with SUPER hot days early, a pleasant Thursday and a schedule change for Friday due to storms. UGH! To say the least!

Before I forget, next Wednesday is ROCKSTAR Day! So dress up in your most rocking clothes and pretend your a modern version of the band KISS!!! Just no Bay City Rollers (wikipedia it if you need to know who they were! YES, I AM OLD!!!!) I will be revisiting my "Aladdin Sane" days from 1973.....and 2011, so get ready!!!!

A quick reminder for hot days, get your kids drinking that morning PRIOR to coming to camp. To be truly hydrated, you have to start early and OFTEN!

We have had some questions about Maccabiah, also known as color war, and what week it will be taking place. Color war will be one of the last three weeks of camp, but in the tradition of camps EVERYWHERE, it's fun to make color war a surprise! It's also tradition to have a color war official break out and official FAKE BREAK OUTS too (that's when campers THINK color war

has begun, but instead, it's a RUSE!). Color war is only for day campers, Units Bet and above, so if we announce color war breaking out and your camper wants to switch in, call us that day and we can make it happen!

Travel Camp has been amazing so far! Beyond being sold out, the kids are having a blast, going to places like Dave and Busters, Turkey Hill and next week, Hershey Park! The camp sold out four of the six weeks, so keep that in mind for your kids for next summer! Sports Camp was visited this week by Sam Koch, Kicker/Punter extraordinaire from YOUR Baltimore Ravens! Last week, we had David Hess from YOUR (well, maybe!) Baltimore Orioles! More guests to come this summer!

Finally, we have loved the smooth start to our summer, but please call us if you have a question, comment or concern. BT Camps is YOUR camp, so help us make it all it can be!

Campfully Yours,

David Schimmel

the kind of thing we like to see at camp

This week's theme at camp was chesed - loving kindness. All week, campers and counselors were challenged by trying to see how many acts of chesed they could do. By the end of the week, campers truly understood the meaning of chesed and the positive effect that it can have on others.

In Tehillim (Psalms), it is written that the world is built with chesed. We know that chesed means loving kindness, but the meaning goes even deeper. It is the acts that people do for each other, without reason and without expecting anything in return. It is what we do without looking over our shoulders to see who witnessed our positive act or what our reward will be.

Chesed means having a positive outlook on life and treating all people with respect and sensitivity. It also means searching out opportunities to do acts of chesed.

The ultimate way to perform acts of chesed is to do it with love and to really, truly love doing it. It is this love of chesed that we work to imbed in your children at BT Camps. We are teaching them to seek out opportunities to help others and to do the kindness just because it's the right thing to do.

So many campers help pick up trash in the camp, just because they want the camp to be a nicer place. Children lend each other towels and sunscreen and help each other when needed. We witness these various acts of chesed performed by our campers each day.

See if you can continue this theme of chesed at home. How many acts of chesed can your family perform this weekend?

Do you have spirit? Show camp spirit with Spiritwear. **Order today at btcamps.org**

aleph@btcamps.org

jessica layman | unit aleph

The campers and counselors in Unit Aleph had an amazing second week of camp! This week we enjoyed extra time in the pool due to the heat! All the campers loved splashing around with their friends during free swim! In instructional swim campers are learning how to put their face in the water, blow bubbles and float on their backs. We have had so many campers who have advanced to level 2 in swim.

This week in Science the kids had a blast making bubbles. They made both soap bubbles and dry ice bubbles. It was super cool. Make sure you ask your kids about it!

In Arts and Crafts the kids made patriotic crafts to celebrate the 4th of July! They used their fine motor skills to string red, white and blue beads to make necklaces and bracelets. They also made a super cute Uncle Sam craft! In

Music they sang happy birthday to America and a silly song about Herman the Worm. The girls' bunks are really enjoying dance with Mrs. Irina. They love putting on tutus and fairy wings to do the fair princess dance. The boys bunks are having so much fun learning how to play ga-ga with their counselors.

We missed seeing everyone on Wednesday, but hope you had a wonderful 4th of July celebrating with your families.

On Friday we celebrated Shabbat with our friends in Unit Bet. We are looking forward to a great 3rd week of camp.

bet@btcamps.org

rivka bresler | unit bet

This was a fun and HOT week at camp! Our favorite places to be this week were the pool, splashpad, and lake. To help combat the extreme heat earlier in the week, we really enjoyed having extra swim time in the afternoons. That really helped us cool off.

We have sports each day at camp. Bunks rotate each week between tennis, soccer, hockey, and tumbling. In the beginning of the week, our fantastic sports instructors teach the campers skills and fundamentals of the game. Towards the end of the week, campers are able to engage in fun games, showing off what they have learned.

Even though this was a short week, it was jam-packed with fun. In Nature, many of the bunks had a chance to search for fossils and minerals. The

campers were so proud of their findings. During Science, the campers had great fun making soap bubbles and playing with water beads. In Arts and Crafts, campers made a special project for the Fourth of July. In Games, we all had a great time playing hot potato, with the campers trying their hardest to get their counselors out.

We continue to have a contest each day to see who can clean up the best after lunch and snack. You should be very proud of how neat and clean your children are!

Make sure to check out the photo gallery on the camp's website. It's a great way to see how much fun your child is having at camp. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Shabbat Shalom!

gimmel@btcamps.org

stacy lunenfeld | unit gimmel

Week 2 was a fantastic week in Unit Gimmel. We had so much fun on Monday and Tuesday enjoying extra time in the pool. Many of the children in the unit have already improved their swim skills and are learning more and more each day. Campers in our unit are also loving their time at the lake each week. They really enjoy going down the lake slide and doing cannon balls off of the dock. The splash pad is also a huge source of fun each day as they stand under the buckets and get splashed. The laughter and screams can be heard from the other side of camp.

During ropes this week, the campers had the opportunity to participate in team building activities as well as conquer the low ropes course. Many of them are experts now as they fly around the course.

During ruach, the bunks learned songs about chesed and enjoyed singing the songs they have learned. In games they played Jenga and were so careful as they moved each piece because the competition was fierce. It was fun to watch them as they tip toed by the tower so as not to knock the pieces down.

Our amazing campers have been earning awards each morning for being good friends, good sports, huge helpers and having an amazing attitude. They also love winning the coveted "clean table" award each day.

We are enjoying our time together so far and look forward to an amazing week three. Shabbat Shalom!

daled@btcamps.org
hay@btcamps.org

melyssa manhoff | daled and hay

Even with a shortened week, units Daled and Hay had plenty of fun in the heat and sun. We were all able to enjoy extra time at the lake and splashpad to keep cool. Campers were able to go down the slide and fly into the lake if they desired while others enjoyed running through the water at the splashpad. At the pools, everyone continued to work on their swimming skills and several of our children have passed the deep water test.

Fire races were so much fun at campcraft. Bunks were so excited to work together and develop their skills around the campfire. At Arts & Crafts, we worked on our Origami skills creating fans to keep us cool. At archery, everyone is working on sending the arrow to the bullseye. In sports, our Daled campers in Ben Gurion and Herzl developed their soccer skills on the horseshoe field while the girls in Szold, Dina, and Golda enjoyed playing wiffle ball. At nature, everyone was able to meet the newest member of our camp, Nigel, the goat. He traveled long and far from the Eastern Shore and is quickly

becoming comfortable at BT Camps. The campers in Hay enjoyed their electives, even with the shortened week. Whether playing hockey, GaGa, working on archery skills, or creating beautiful kindness rocks, everyone enjoyed their time.

Today, we enjoyed Kabbalat Shabbat together in the Ulam singing songs and eating delicious challah. The most joyful moment was when everyone came together with smiles on our faces and friends by our side. Next week, we have "Rockstar Day" on the 11th. Don't forget to wear your favorite musical group t-shirt. Have a wonderful weekend and a great Shabbat!

Melyssa Manhoff
Unit Head



seniorcamp@btcamps.org

doug kotula | senior camp

Thinking Back on July 4th by Doug, Senior Camp Unit Head:

The charcoal on the grill has cooled, the embers turned to dust, the burgers and dogs are eaten, grandma's potato salad was a must. The coolers are damp with melted ice that couldn't withstand the heat, and during the 3-legged race and lawn darts, you were the one to beat. The fireworks crackled and blazed in the sky - red, yellow and green, stretched out on a childhood blanket each colorful burst was seen. It's one of those unusual holidays that begins in the night, just like the one in October when ghosts give kids a fright. But no matter how you spent this patriotic day, I trust that your July the 4th was special in every way!

A short week didn't mean senior camp was short on fun. On the contrary, like astronauts destined for the moon, we had a blast! Because of high temperatures, we enjoyed an extra swim on Monday afternoon. The kids, the counselors, as well as myself, all appreciated the extra time in the water. Kori and her team of trusted lifeguards were amazing! Tuesday, bunk Ashkelon took a river walk during their time at Nature. Since the red indicator on the barometer was hovering near the top, the boys enjoyed the river walk as it provided a means of cooling down. Low-intensity versions of TRB, hockey, Newcomb, and basketball were enjoyed during our afternoon visit to sports. Water breaks every ten minutes kept the campers hydrated and focused on their games. The best way to cool down was inside the Arts and Crafts buildings. This week, campers created a patriotic craft in recognition of the Fourth of July.

Thursday night's late stay provided a few extra hours of enjoyment to those who attended. Our evening began at the pool. Swimming is the perfect way to build up the camper's appetite, ensuring that everyone will be hungry for the cook-out that immediately followed our extra hour in the pool. A traditional BT Camp Late-Stay dinner complete with hamburgers grilled to perfection, a fresh, green salad, and a side order of chips went down easy chased by a bottle of crisp, chilled water that rested in a cooler of ice.

Dinner provides the perfect sustenance as campers prepared to play "Extreme Puzzlement - Senior Camp Late Stay Edition." The campers indulged in this game for almost an hour as they unscrambled letters that lead them to certain locations around camp. At said location, team members found a bag of puzzle pieces along with another set of letters to unscramble that sent them darting to their next location. Once all four bags of puzzle pieces were collected it was off to the Ulam to begin putting it all together. Each team strategically manipulated pieces hoping they would be the first team to complete their Pixar-themed puzzle.

However, like the popular 1960's hit by Chubby Checker, players quickly discovered a twist! As teams began to finalize their puzzles, it was evident that one piece was missing. To help teams find their missing piece, Doug provided an additional clue (and a key) that lead players to the barn and indirectly to their team's lock box. Like the apparatus that keeps the bread wrapper tightly wound players discovered, in chagrin, another twist! This twist sent teams to a bunk house at the top of camp and then to the amphitheater (final location) where their last piece of the puzzle waited for them inside a metal, pencil case. The winners of the game got a few minutes of bragging rights and well-deserved congratulations. Everyone agreed this version of "A Puzzlement" was a lot of fun to play. The evening concluded with popsicles, basketball on the sport court and a game of four-square in the Ulam.



Phone 410.517.3451
FAX 410.517.3454
email mail@btccamps.org
Taxpayer ID 52-0592126
Director David Schimmel

400 Delight Meadows Road
 Reisterstown, Maryland 21136



- stream walks -

Next week, some campers have a stream walk. Please pack an old pair of shoes that can be used to walk in the stream. The shoes will get very wet and very dirty!

Monday: Tzahove, Resnick, Sagol;
 Tuesday: Tiberias, Deena;
 Wednesday: Katom; Thursday: Techelet, Kachol; Friday: Sachor, Yaakov.

- bus changes -

Is your camper sleeping over at a friend's house? Have they been signed by the Orioles to help improve the team? No matter what the reason, we can handle that. Simply phone the office at 410.517.3451 before 2:30 p.m., noon for Part Day Campers, and we'll make the necessary arrangements.

- hot lunch -

Hot Lunch is provided by Eden Cafe. Campers are very happy with this year's menu choices. If you'd like to register for Hot Lunch, you must do so by the Wednesday of the week prior to when you want lunch. Hot Lunch is just \$5 per day.

- office hours -

During the camping season we do not have voicemail. We do not accept transportation related emails. For urgent matters call 410.517.3451 during camp hours.

varsitysports@btccamps.org

andy bloom | varsity sports

This week was a scorcher in Varsity Sports! As always, even the heat can't stop or slow our campers down from wanting to compete!

Sam Koch from the Baltimore Ravens visited us Monday morning. My favorite question from a camper was if Sam was happy with his rating in Madden. Sam quickly told them "no, and that his throwing accuracy should be higher because he is 4-4."

Due to the abbreviated week, Monday afternoon campers were divided into teams and began the regular season. Tuesday, the heat... Wednesday, we celebrated our countries independence!!! Thursday, the weather gave us a little break (not really) and we were able to at least complete a day of activities as we normally would. Friday, the weather again made an impact on our day, but your campers had a great time anyway!! Next week will be highlighted by water day Monday and Basketball!

jvsports@btccamps.org

dex miller | j.v. sports

Welcome to week two of JV sports! Our first week was packed full of excitement. Highlights of the week included a visit from Sam Koch, of the Baltimore Ravens, and Baseball as the sport of the week. As is the case every summer, our campers wasted no time making friends with one another, and demonstrating first class sportsmanship all week.

This week was a hot week but our campers didn't let the heat/ weather put a damper on their spirits and their desire to play sports.

On Monday, the campers were visited by Sam Koch, where they were able to get autographs and take pictures with Sam. We also played a little football on Monday (getting the campers ready for week 4) but we also began our baseball / "base-sports" week by playing kickball and tennis-racquet baseball. On Tuesday, the campers played some soccer, football, and continued with our base-sports theme of the week.

On Wednesday, we didn't have camp as we celebrate Independence Day, and we hope that you and your camper had a fun relaxing day.

On Thursday, the campers returned full of energy after their relaxing day off and they continued playing their base-sport, without letting the weather bother them at all, playing hard and making some impressive catches in the field during TRB.

On Friday, the weather played a factor (just like the rest of the week) but the campers did not let it put a damper on a fun week and had a great time with camp and shabbat.

Next week we will have our water day on Monday (which we had to move due to weather) and we will join the rest of the world in celebrating the FIFA World Cup as we begin our Soccer week.

We hope that your camper had a great week and look forward to seeing them bright and early on Monday.

the beth tfiloh congregation

SHALOM! We KINDLY welcome you back to this week's BT Congregation Connection! We warmly (well, it has been quite hot out lately) introduce this week's theme to you: CHESED which means kindness! Once again, campers have been introduced to this theme throughout their specials this week, including during Shira (music) where they learned a related song: Olam CHESED Yibaneh, "We build the world with kindness."

Looking to continue celebrating this theme?? Join us for Shabbat services on Saturdays and learn more about CHESED. Our combined Cookie and Mini Minyanim bring together parents and children from Infant to Kindergarten age, led by teachers that will add fun and games to prayers and songs.

We even offer Kid Cong, a highly participatory service for children in grades 1- 4 led by the charismatic Brian Singer. This week our CHESED themed Kid Cong will be

even more special with creative ways to connect to the Parshah, including more raffles and songs.

Each service ends with a mini-kiddish, followed by a trip to the Bimah to sing Adon Olam, and a special treat from the Rabbi.

Reminder, sign up to come play on Saturdays, July 14, 28, and August 4, from 4pm - 5:30pm in the Zimmerman Gym during our Preschool/Elementary Summer Shabbat Parties! For more information or to register, contact the Youth Center: 410-413-2221.

More "friendly" themes are coming your way next week!

~ Wishing you all a Shabbat SHALOM filled with CHESED!