



a great place for kids to grow.

BETH TFILOH CAMPS

calendar for week 7

	SUN	5
color war begins	MON	6
color war continues	TUE	7
color war continues	WED	8
color war concludes	THU	9
5,6,7,8 survival camp overnight	FRI	10
wacky olympics	SAT	11
cookie minyan/mini minyan for ages birth to 5 10 am @BT kid cong 10 am at Beth Tfiloh shabbat party at 5 pm		

calendar for week 7

	SUN	12
	MON	13
	TUE	14
super hero day	WED	15
	THU	16
festivus maximus	FRI	17
closing day, summer:2018	SAT	18
cookie minyan/mini minyan for ages birth to 5 10 am @BT kid cong 10 am at Beth Tfiloh		

from the director, david schimmel

WELCOME TO the 2018 COLOR WAR/ MACCABIAH!!!!

For those of you that are new to BT Camps, this is quite the week of fun, competition and unexpected twists!!!! Next Monday through Thursday we will have the whole day camp (Unit Bet through Senior Camp) split into four teams finishing up with the awarding of the spirit stick early Thursday afternoon! Doug Kotula, Senior Camp Unit Head and Color War programming extraordinaire, has planned an amazing week with our theme for 2018 being Charles Schulz's Peanuts! We have the Green Peppermint Patties, Blue Lucy Van Pelts, Yellow Charlie Browns and White Snoopys! The blue team has won for the last two years (congratulations Aaron Stein and the AMAZING ALLI SCHIMMEL), so it will be very exciting to see who wins this year!!! Please check your campers bag to see what team they are on this year. This is a fun week and campers and staff look forward to it year after year!

A few other quick notes. Our Travel Camp ended their season yesterday with a final trip to Hershey Park. Our Travel Camp, while only being

7 years old can only be described as a success story. At the beginning it was only 6 kids traveling on a Beth Tfiloh School small bus being driven by our staff members. Here we are, in 2018 with 116 different campers who participated in the travel camp and traveling in yellow and coach buses! We are so thrilled at BT that your camper loves our trips so much - we love it too! Survival Camp had their final overnight and tubing trip. While Survival Camp is smaller (45 kids) than its travel camp brethren, the campers who are in the camp absolutely love it. Our Leadership Trainees joined the Survival Campers on the tubing trip and everyone had an amazing time!

A quick reminder, please do not send ANY food to camp for your camper to share with others. We ask this due to allergies and the laws of kashrut. Thank you for your cooperation.

We have a great two weeks left of camp planned for your camper. Thank you for being part of our camp family!

don't make charity a rarity

The theme of this week at camp was Chesed. Chesed, which is most commonly translated as loving-kindness, can refer to kindness or love between people, and the love or mercy of God towards us. The term can also be used to discuss charity between people.

Kabbalah, the study of Jewish mysticism, describes chesed as the unbounded love with which God created the world. In fact, chesed was the reason for creation. Since God is benevolent and the epitome of loving kindness, He created the world so that He would have creatures upon which to bestow His kindness. In addition, chesed is one of the main ways in which humans engage with God to sustain creation.

Here at camp this week, campers have been singing "Olam Chesed Yibaneh," which means that the world was built on kindness. We have also witnessed so many acts of chesed being done throughout the camp. Campers, counselors, and instructors constantly compliment each other, making others around them feel great and appreciated. So many people this week have helped pick up trash, even trash that does not belong to them, doing a chesed by making our camp a beautiful place. There are so many other examples of chesed that we see each day.

We wish you a Shabbat and weekend filled with acts of chesed!

aleph@btcamps.org

jessica layman | unit aleph

Unit Aleph had a fantastic week! Luckily, the weather was amazing and we were able to have fun at all of our activities.

Our campers have been doing such a great job at the pool and I am enjoying watching their progress as they swim around like little fish. They look forward to swim and have a blast in the pool.

On Wednesday, each bunk smiled for their bunk photo. Be sure to visit the camp website and check out the gallery to see the pictures of your child and their friends.

On Friday, the campers enjoyed participating in and watching the variety show. Each bunk had the opportunity to show off their talents by singing and dancing, which made them feel proud. They also loved watching the other bunks perform songs, dances and magic tricks. It was by far one of the best variety shows ever!

Thank you so much for sending us your beautiful children each day. Please remember to put sunscreen on your child before they get on the bus in the morning. I look forward to seeing all of their smiling faces next week. Shabbat Shalom.

bet@btcamps.org

rivka bresler | unit bet

Week 6 was a fantastic week in Unit Bet. The rain stayed away for most of the week, enabling us to enjoy the beautiful weather and participate in so many wonderful activities. In Arts and Crafts, campers made beautiful covers for a sketch book. They enjoyed painting the covers, and experimenting with mixing various paint colors together. In Ruach, they played freeze dance (the campers are MUCH better at it than the counselors!), and they played Uno in Games. Some of the bunks got to play with the reptiles in Nature, while others went fishing at the lake. As always, campers enjoyed canoeing and paddle boating on the lake and swimming in the pools. On Wednesday, everyone brought their best smiles for our bunk pictures. Be sure to check out the gallery on the website in the next couple of weeks to see their beautiful pictures.

Everyone has been looking forward to the Variety Show all summer and it was an amazing show featuring YOUR children! Be sure to check out the website in the next couple of weeks to see videos from today's show. Bunks Leah, Sarah, and Rachel each performed a different dance and the girls looked awesome in their coordinating outfits. Bunks Avraham and David sang "We Will Rock You," Moshe danced to the theme song from Ghostbusters, and Bunk Yaakov had us laughing hysterically while they told jokes. In addition to the Variety Show, we all had a blast at Color War breakout. There have been so many fake-outs that the campers really weren't expecting this to be real! In Unit Bet, we all participate in Color War, but stay with our bunks. We are really looking forward to it!

gimmel@btcamps.org

stacy lunenfeld | unit gimmel

This was one of the best weeks we've had at camp! Unit Gimmel had a blast at all of our activities. During Games, the bunks loved playing Uno with giant cards. They enjoyed the competition and were such good sports.

Making string bracelets in Art was a highlight of our week. Many campers are pros and enjoyed helping their friends learn how to braid the string to create cool designs.

The pool was one of my favorite places to be this week. It was amazing to see how much growth the campers have made. Many of our campers have moved up a level and are working on perfecting their strokes. Some groups were working on their backstrokes while others were working on front crawl.

Some of the groups were practicing diving in the deep end. I am so proud of all of our kids.

On Wednesday, each bunk smiled big for their bunk photos. Be sure to check the gallery on the camp website in the next couple of weeks so you can see your camper and their friends.

Today was our annual variety show. Our campers were adorable as they danced and sang for the rest of the camp. All of their hard work and practice really paid off. It was so much fun to see some of our kids also perform their talents independently. I was so impressed with all of them.

Looking forward to seeing all of our campers next week!

daled@btcamps.org
hay@btcamps.org

melyssa manhoff | daled and hay

It's so hard to believe we only have two more weeks of camp. Unit Hay enjoyed their electives which included hockey, ropes, GaGa, and creating mirrors in arts & crafts. In unit Daled, the campers enjoyed base sports and basketball. All of the campers completed key chains using string. The Variety Show was quite an event!! Bunks in both units sang songs, showed their dance skills, and even shared their musical talents on the guitar.

At Nature, all of the campers were able to build and work with catapults. They also had time to interact with mammals, reptiles, insects and even fish at the lake. While at ropes, everyone had an opportunity to go on the lake zip line as a challenge by choice. Others worked on climbing skills at the Alpine Tower.

During swim, everyone continues to focus on improving skills with the front crawl, back crawl, and treading water. Many of the campers were tested and promoted to the next swim level. Our amazing instructional pool staff has done a wonderful job teaching the campers the skills necessary at the pool.

Shortly after the Variety Show, campers were given their Color War team. Please be sure that your child wears his/her color every day. Beginning on Monday, the competition will begin! I hope you and your family have a wonderful Shabbat and a great weekend.

Melyssa Manhoff



seniorcamp@btcamps.org

doug kotula | senior camp

With the arrival of week 6 comes the realization that camp, and summer in general, is passing by rather quickly. Before long the summer of 2018 will be nothing more than a collection of pictures stored, online, in the BT Gallery. Our lasting memories of this summer became a little fuller because of our past week at camp. In Ruach, campers took center stage, or at least stood in the center of the pavilion, singing their favorite hit songs, Karaoke style. Like the Siren's to Odysseus' men, I was drawn to Ruach when I realized the voices creating a melodic sound were none other than my senior campers. It was time for senior campers to prove themselves this week in Archery. A week-long tournament resulted in several senior campers receiving award-winning recognition. During campcraft, campers created tables by cinching sticks of varying lengths together with twine. They also made homemade gliders. Kickball, hockey, newcomb, and basketball were some of the games we played while at sports. We took our bunk photos on Wednesday. Look for these photos to be posted online soon. Pictures were staged with the lake in the background.

Friday afternoon we held our annual BT Camp Variety Show. This year, Senior camp was joined by Daled and Hay. Campers gave impressive performances that featured their ability to play musical instruments, sing, both solos and duets, dance in pairs, tickle our funny bones with stand-up comedy routines and impress with skills of magic.

On Friday, the highly anticipated Color War Breakout 2018 finally took place. Heroically positioned on the golf cart, the pink, red, black and camp morphs were paraded amongst a crowd of excited children who thought things started to look very reminiscent of the previous Friday's Fake Out Break Out. However, when the generals were to emerge from the Hot Lunch Shed, the children's attention was diverted by the sound of a car horn announcing the arrival of this year's generals representing Color War 2018 - The Peanuts Gang.

In almost no time flat, the generals were engulfed by overjoyed children who clamored to their sides overwhelmed with emotion expressed through their yelling, screaming, laughing and chanting because this break out was for real. Represented in Color War 2018 will be Charlie Brown for the yellow team, Lucy for the blue team, Snoopy for the white team, and Peppermint Patty for the green team. Each camper received an official Color War 2018 key chain indicating his or her team by displaying both the character and color they were placed on for this year's color war. Amongst a wash of silly string, I had the honor of introducing this year's team of fantastic generals. The burning question, will be the blue team make this their third victory in a row or will a new color replace them on the spirit stick? That answer is news for next week's article. Speaking as a former general, I know first-hand the hope of each general is that today's enthusiasm, that welcomed them on the Ulam field, will carry over throughout next week's competition.



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- stream walks -

Next week, no campers have a stream walk scheduled.

- bus changes -

Is your camper sleeping over a friend's house? Do they need to leave early to compete on MasterChef Junior? Please call the office at 410.517.3451 before 2:30 p.m. or by noon for Part Day campers to make a bus change or request an early pickup.

- hot lunch -

The last day to order hot lunch for Summer:2018 is Wednesday of week 7.

- bunk photos -

Each camper enrolled and present this past Wednesday had their photo taken with the bunk to which they were assigned during week 6. These bunk photos will be available on the Gallery free-to-view, download, and keep before the end of the summer.

- forgotten lunch -

You just waved goodbye as the bus pulled away from your house. As you walk back inside, you see the lunch you lovingly prepared for your camper sitting on the counter. No need to worry! Campers without a lunch receive bread with cream cheese and jelly, fruit, chips, and a beverage. Campers do not receive a Hot Lunch as a "forgotten lunch" replacement.

varsitysports@btcamps.org

andy bloom | varsity sports

This week in Varsity we revisited the sport of football. The fields were muddy and the grass taller than usual, perfect elements for some fun games! On Tuesday, Hall of Famer Jonathan Ogden stopped by on his way to Canton and spent his birthday with us answering questions and signing autographs. He commented to me afterwards how the campers had some great questions and enjoyed the ice cream cake we provided to help him celebrate.

Wednesday we jumped back into our regular season games with the campers continuing to battle for the

#1 overall seed heading into the playoffs. Electives for the week included: gaga, ultimate frisbee, archery tag, and battleball. Friday we enjoyed the variety show with the rest of camp, cheering on some of our fellow sports campers.

Next week campers will have the option of traveling off campus for the first time this summer as they travel to the Suburban Club for Tennis or Golf. If they stay on campus they will be participating in basketball.

jvsports@btcamps.org

dex miller | j.v. sports

Welcome to week 6 of j.v. sports! This week featured bunk pictures, a visit from a Ravens Hall-of-Famer, base sports, and a very entertaining variety show. As I keep saying every week, things seem to get better and better in j.v. sports. Despite some on off showers during the week, our campers had a very solid week, and made the most out of things.

On Tuesday, j.v. sports had a rare opportunity to meet an all time Ravens great, Jonathan Ogden! Ogden is a former offensive tackle for the Ravens, and 2013 Pro Football Hall-of-Famer. He truly fits the phrase of "gentle giant," as he paid us a visit on his birthday, and was very nice and down to earth. Our campers were delighted to sing him "happy birthday," and enjoyed taking pictures with the former Ravens standout. This was truly a special occasion that our campers will remember for years to come.

Throughout the week, j.v. sports enjoyed a second round of base sports (mainly tennis racquet baseball) on the infamous "Soldier Field". All week our campers were hitting home runs, and making highlight reel plays. I am pretty sure if you were to ask the average j.v. sports camper if they could play base sports all day, they would certainly respond with a resounding "yes".

This week featured bunk pictures, which can be seen on the BT Camps website, under "Wednesday" of this week. Friday capped off a wonderful camp week with a great Shabbat, and variety show. The variety show featured great songs, dance moves, and interesting talents on display. Stay tuned for updates regarding j.v. sports in our week 7 newsletter!

the beth tfiloh weiner old court campus

SHALOM! KINDLY welcome back to this week's BT Congregation Connection! This week's theme is: 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 continue to rock it out with Birkat (the blessing after the meal thanking G-d for the scrumptiousness we eat) at the end of every lunch.

Continue celebrating this week's theme by joining us for children's Shabbat services at 10am on Saturdays and learn more about CHESED. Our combined Cookie and Mini Minyanim bring together parents and children from Infant to Kindergarten age, allowing KIND interaction with their peers and leader.

We also offer Kid Cong, a highly participatory service for children in grades 1- 4 led by BT Camps very own Kabbalat Shabbat leader Brian Singer. This week our CHESED themed Kid Cong will KINDLY connect us to the Parshah, sing songs, and participate in raffles.

Each service ends with a mini-kiddish, after which all children are invited to sing Adon Olam on the bema and get a unique treat from the Rabbi.

This Saturday, August 4, from 4pm - 5:30pm in the Zimmerman Gym is our final Summer Shabbat Party! Come celebrate the end of summer with a Pre-Shabbat Family Chinese Dinner, Friday, August 31.

For more information or to register for an event, contact the Youth Center: 410-413-2221.