

Rabbi Avi Kaplinsky, Director



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Camp Nofesh 2020! Once again, we have planned an outstanding summer of ruchniyus with an emphasis on Torah and middos tovos and a summer of fun, excitement, and adventure, including exciting trips for all ages. We encourage you to register early so that you and your boys can take advantage of our early bird special.

For those of you who are new to Camp Nofesh, we are proud of our reputation for an excellent learning program headed by Rabbi Ephraim Levi, an outstanding local mechanech with more than twenty years of experience, and featuring professional adult Rabbeim. There is a prize store providing learning incentives for every camper from prela through fourth grade and for boys leaving fifth grade we provide other exciting learning incentives. We have weekly and monthly best-in-learning winners to encourage every learning group and weekly/monthly best in middos winners in every bunk.

We also offer an optional Masmidim program for boys, leaving grades 1-5. The program is for one hour after camp, Monday thru Thursday, after regular dismissal, for approximately six of the eight weeks. There is a \$5 a week fee for boys leaving grades 1-3. For boys leaving 4th and 5th grades the masmidim program is free. In addition we run a popular mishmar program (at no extra cost) in the evenings, approximately five times during the summer. Refreshments are served at each mishmar and a mishmar banquet catered by K. D. Jr. is held once each half. A schedule of exact dates and times will be given out before camp.

Our camp also boasts a full-scale camping program including a beautiful and well guarded pool, and spacious grounds, as well as full access to nearby parks and well manicured ball fields. (The younger boys use our onsite facilities for sports.) Boys leaving first grade and up have exciting league competition with championship trophies and middos trophies awarded each half. Each grade has their own leagues! Our excellent staff of counselors headed by Rabbi Shabsi Horowitz provides a safe, caring, and fun environment for our boys to play competitively. We are also keenly aware of those boys who enjoy alternatives to sports and we will provide them with extra access to the hobby room on days of arts and crafts, as well as our exciting game room. Boys leaving first grade will have arts and crafts. Boys leaving first and second grades will be treated to our popular Nofesh Pedal Kart activity.

Camp Nofesh boasts an excellent aquatics program run by our Aquatics director Rabbi Yaakov Rabinowitz, an experienced and talented water safety instructor. Our aquatics staff is trained and coached by Rabbi Rabinowitz and Rabbi Horowitz to give small group instruction to each and every child.

In addition, we have Rabbi Shmuel Rowner as the Camp Nurse on premises. He has many years of experience and is very capable in his role providing first aid care and handling boys with allergies, asthmatic conditions and for any and all health related concerns. Parents are requested to contact him any time with any health concerns they may have with their son.

Of course, among the highlights of camp are our fabulous trips and entertaining special activities. This year all the boys in Camp Nofesh will enjoy the spectacular on campus Nofesh amusement park/carnival day, with amazing inflatables and rides, as well as trips to the bowling alley and the rollerblading rink. The amazing bubble machine is a special treat added for first through third graders only. Plus there are a host of other special activities including Color War, Nofesh petting zoo, Olympics, Deal or No Deal (for boys coming out of first through fourth), and much much more.

Special trips for boys leaving first grade include a trip to The State Fair at the Meadowlands on a special day reserved for frum camps only, (with extra supervision of course), a trip to the Adventurers Amusement Park, on a day reserved exclusively for Camp Nofesh and an early evening trip to Keansburg Water Park (August 19th.)

Boys leaving second grade will enjoy fun filled full day trips to an exciting amusement park, a trip to the fabulous Clementon Splash Park on a day specially reserved for frum camps, and during second half they'll enjoy a trip to Air Trampoline and Keansburg Water Park, rented out exclusively for Camp Nofesh. (With extra supervision provided for the Adventureland Park and Clementon.)

Boys leaving third-grade will be going to Clementon Splash Park on that day reserved for frum camps, and an exciting day trip which is still in the planning stages. During the second half of the summer they will bounce at Air Trampoline and frolic at the Keansburg Water Park, reserved exclusively for Camp Nofesh.

Boys coming out of fourth grade will go on an overnight to the beautiful Berkshire Mountains for rides on the alpine slide the mountain coaster, climb the ropes course and enjoy all of the other amazing rides and attractions at Jiminy Peak. They will also go on another exciting adventure to the amazing Kalahari Indoor Water Park for a late night extravaganza including a sleep over in camp all during first half. For second half the boys will go on another big trip to be announced. They will also be treated to outdoor laser tag and the Keansburg Water Park, rented out exclusively for Camp Nofesh.

Boys leaving fifth grader get the ultimate Nofesh trip treatment! The first half campers will enjoy the premier Nofesh overnight to Niagara Falls to behold the beauty and majesty of the falls, to get splashed at the Cave of the Winds, get even closer and wetter on the Maid of the Mist tour of The Falls and to get soaked on the wild and crazy Whirlpool Jet boat ride. We have a late-night trip to the amazing Kalahari Indoor Water Park for a late night extravaganza including a sleep over in camp. For second half there will be another big trip to be announced. Fifth graders will also enjoy a great day trip to outdoor laser tag and Keansburg Water Park, rented out exclusively for Camp Nofesh.

All trips are run by a member of our adult head staff and an E.M.T. will accompany all overnight trips. Transportation for all full day major trips of any significant distance will be on coach busses.

Note: All trips and special activities are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Although the most effective security measures for our campers are our tefilos, our Torah and our shmiras hamitzvos, taking more concrete measures seems to be the appropriate response to the current 'matzav'. As such, Camp Nofesh will once again be hiring a security agency to provide guards for our campers every day from 8:30am until the camp is dismissed each afternoon or evening. (Including late camp dismissals). As you can imagine this will be very expensive. Camp Nofesh will therefore be charging \$75 per family to help defray the cost of providing this service. This fee will be due regardless of how many weeks the child/ren will attend camp. We look forward to a time when this service will no longer be necessary bimheira b'yameinu.

Camp begins at 9:25am each day (with supervision beginning 9:15 AM) and ends at 4pm (Friday 1:00pm). In addition to our regular program, there is an option for an early drop off, whereby, for a small fee, parents can drop off their children at our facility as early as 8:30 A.M. We also offer on Monday – Thursday, when your son has a 4:00 dismissal, an optional 5:00 dismissal, for a nominal fee. Details will be in the pre-camp mailing.

As you can see, Camp Nofesh has been working hard all winter to assure that your children have the absolute best summer experience possible. So, register now for an exciting, memorable summer! Register by March 1, 2020 and receive the early bird discount. See pricing page for details. See referral page for information on how you and a friend can receive a referral discount.

Please visit our website at campnofesh.org and view our videos.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me in the evenings at 551-206-3395.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Avi Kaplinsky