

Rabbi Avi Kaplinsky, Director



February 2019

Dear Pre1A Parents,

I would like to introduce you to Camp Nofesh. Camp Nofesh runs a heimishe summer program for boys from Pre1A through fifth grade. We have been serving the Passaic community for 18 years and we have earned ourselves a well-deserved reputation as a fun, happy, exciting, and safe place for children to spend their summer. In Camp Nofesh, under the guidance of our experienced and talented staff, your son will play organized sports, group games and go on fun trips, while learning social skills and building confidence and self-esteem, in a setting that just cannot be equaled in a school environment. As a first grade Rebbe for twenty years, I am confident that our campers are very well prepared for first grade, both socially and in limudei kodesh as well, since group activities, davening and important kria'h skills are emphasized all summer long.

Camp Nofesh is proud of its caring and highly competent staff, who work tirelessly all summer to ensure that your son has a safe and fun summer. Our head counselor Rabbi Shabsi Horowitz, our aquatics director, Rabbi Yaakov Rabinowitz, and our learning director, Rabbi Ephraim Levi, are mechanchim, each with more than twenty five years of experience with children. We are also fortunate to have Rabbi Baruch Gopin, a noted veteran mechanech, as our camp program director. All of our counselors are carefully chosen for their midos tovos and matched to a bunk most fitting to their strengths and talents. We are particularly careful, to choose only the most gentle and caring counselors for the youngest bunks. In addition, we have Rabbi Shmuel Rowner as the Camp Nurse. He has many years of experience and is very capable in his role providing first aid care, handling boys with allergies and asthmatic conditions and the staff knows he is available for any and all concerns. Parents are requested to contact him any time with any health concerns they may have with their son.

Each day begins with learning groups, taught by experienced mechanchim, under the guidance of our outstanding learning director, Rabbi Ephraim Levi. Incentives are offered for participation and good behavior. Our Pre1A counselors introduce a variety of sports and activities to the boys, such as wiffle ball, kickball, dodge ball, and others, with an emphasis on teaching them the art of the games, as well as midos tovos and sportsmanship. We have an excellent arts and crafts program, run by Mrs. Kontente, with one major project each half and a great computer room and game room for indoor fun. Gymnastics is exclusively for Pre1a boys run by Mrs. Markowitz. This year it will be offered during the last three weeks of camp. Pre1A campers will also enjoy our extremely popular pedal kart activity. Virtually all activities for Pre1A boys are on campus except for swimming, which is a short bus trip away in a beautiful spacious and well-guarded, newly renovated Olympic sized pool.

Camp Nofesh boasts an excellent aquatics program, run by Rabbi Yaakov Rabinowitz and Rabbi Shabsi Horowitz. Our aquatics staff is trained to give small group instruction to each and every child. Our pool is supervised by either Rabbi Rabinowitz or Rabbi Horowitz. Camp Nofesh recognizes the need to give attention to Pre1A campers, to give them confidence in the big pool.

Each child is provided with a life-vest to help them as they quickly get used to the new environment.

This year the Pre1A will be going on an exciting trip to The State Fair at the Meadowlands during the first half of the summer on a day designated for frum camps only, (extra supervision will be provided). We have also reserved Adventurers Amusement Park for our big second half trip, exclusively for our Pre1A and 1st Grades. Both trips will be run by a member of our adult head staff. They will also be treated to our annual bowling outing, a zany bubble machine activity, a grand carnival featuring incredible inflatable rides with an amazing on-campus amusement park, featuring many rides and attractions, the Nofesh petting zoo and a host of other special activities including Color War, Olympics, Deal or No Deal, a string hunt and much much more. (Note: All trips and special activities are subject to change or cancellation 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 enlists 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 and masmidim dismissals). As you can imagine this is very expensive. Camp Nofesh will therefore be charging \$60 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 9:15am) and ends at 4pm (Fridays at 2pm). In addition, we offer an optional early drop off, with supervision: Monday thru Friday, 8:30am *and* late dismissal: 4-5pm, Monday thru Thursday, for a nominal fee. Details will be in the pre-camp mailing.

Please send in your registration forms soon to take advantage of our special Pre1A early-bird special. See referral page for information on how you and a friend can receive a referral discount.

Register by February 28, 2019 and receive the early bird discount. See the pricing sheet for details.

Please visit our website at campnofesh.org and view our videos and picture gallery. If you would like a DVD, please email agoldman773@gmail.com with the grade your son is currently in and your home address.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me in the evenings at 551-206-3395. We look forward to another amazing summer in Ruchniyus and Gashmiyus.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Avi Kaplinsky