

Rabbi Avi Kaplinsky, Director



January 2021

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 twenty 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 two 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 full-time camp nurse, Rabbi Shmuel Rowner are mechanchim, each with many years of experience with children. We are also fortunate to have Rabbi Baruch Gopin, a noted veteran machanech, 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. The boys leaving Pre1A have only adult married rabbeim as their senior counselors. 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 and handling boys with allergies and asthmatic conditions. All campers and staff members are aware that 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 a separate Pre1A lineup under the canopy in the front of our building. Learning groups with their Rebbe/Counselor is held in their bunk rooms. Incentives are offered for participation and good behavior. Our Pre1A counselors introduce a variety of sports and activities to the boys, such as whiffle 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. Switzer, with one major project each half and we have a great computer room and game room for indoor fun. 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, Olympic sized pool. Free bottled water is distributed throughout the day.

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 IY”H we hope to be sending our Pre1A on some exciting trips as we have always done in past years before the virus. Each trip is chaperoned by one of our head staff and extra supervision is provided on all major trips. They will also be treated to many on-campus special activities including a zany bubble machine activity, an on-campus amusement park day, featuring incredible inflatable rides and other 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. When our 2021 trip schedule is finalized, we will notify you via email.

Camp Nofesh enlists a security agency to provide guards for our campers every day from 8:30am until the camp is dismissed each afternoon. Camp Nofesh will therefore be charging \$85.00 per family to help defray the cost of providing this service.

Camp begins at 9:25am each day (with supervision beginning 9:15am) and ends at 4pm (Fridays dismissal will be between one and two pm). 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, 2021 and receive the early bird discount. See the pricing sheet for details.

Please visit our new website at [campnofesh.org](http://campnofesh.org) and view our camp videos.

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