

# THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Volume 12

Building Lifelong Friends

April 2024

## From the Directors:

**Can you believe that camp starts in 65 days?** If you visit us during the off season you'll hear us say that we work "10 for 2". Ruth Ann, Barry, Hanna, and the whole Eagle's Landing team work 10 months every year getting ready for the 2 months of camp. Now that the weather is getting warmer, we're outside getting ready for another amazing summer at Eagle's Landing! All of this is made possible by our camp families, and we want to thank all of our new and returning campers for joining us this summer. We know that there are lots of camps and the fact that you choose Eagle's Landing means so much to us.



If you're already enrolled, this is your reminder if you want to add or change any weeks for this summer. The sooner you let us know, the better your chance of getting the weeks that you want. We only have about 40 spots

left in the entire camp and certain grades are completely closed due to full camper enrollment.

You received an email regarding your camper forms that must be in no later than April 26 in order for your child to come to camp. If you have not finished,

please take a moment to fill out your paperwork. The Camper Profile Form is helpful to us when it comes to knowing your child, whether they are returning or new to camp. Ruth Ann reads every single form along with your child's Division Leader (the teacher who oversees their division). Children grow and change during the year, so it's important they start off with a clean slate every summer. The Health History Form is also due April 26 so that our Nurses have time to review the information. NJ State Law prohibits any child from coming to camp without the completed form.

Now that the sun is out, camp has become a busy place. We love watching the tents go up! We're also busy cutting the grass, painting buildings, fixing doors and roofs, and so much more! Every day



we get truckloads of packages full of our camp supplies from paint for Arts and Crafts to new soccer balls for Sports. We also love getting visitors at camp! We're here 7 days a week so feel free to stop by and say hello,



play outside, meet a friend that's coming to camp with you, or just to hang out. All we ask is that you pop your head into the office and let us know that you're on the property and then go have some fun! To our new families, if you would like to set up a playdate at camp, we are more than happy to share some cell phone

numbers with you so that you can connect with others in your child's grade.

We are so excited to see everyone in a couple of months!

- Barry, Ruth Ann, & Hanna

## Spirit Packs are Still Available!

As requested by our camp families, we've assembled a Spirit Pack that has some super cool stuff for our Special Days this summer. The bags are stuffed with items to celebrate at least 1 or 2 camp calendar days each week, and you get a reusable bag as a bonus! The cost of the bag is \$25 and parents won't have to run out and buy anything last minute. If you would like to purchase a Spirit Pack, please **fill out the order form by scanning the QR code**. Once we have sold out, we will not be ordering any more. The Spirit Packs will also be available the nights of your Meet and Greets while supplies last.



## What's New in the Kitchen?

Camp Lunch options change every year as we continue to update and improve our menu. For this summer, we are excited to announce that we are adding mini corn dogs to our menu. Barry and Hanna did a lot of taste testing at the camp conference last month and the



corn dogs are not only healthier (chicken instead of beef -- don't tell your kids), but they taste great (Barry kept sneaking back for more)! In addition, back by popular demand is a pre-2020 camper favorite: the egg and cheese bagel sandwich. Our amazing kitchen staff will even customize the order (as always) to have just an egg or just cheese or both! Last year we added falafel and pita to our menu, and surprising it was the #6 favorite for the summer (yes, every meal get evaluated and rated based on ingredients and the number of servings).

Last year, we also added a black bean taco salad wrap as well as the taco salad to our salad bar. Egg salad was also added to the salad bar and will be back for 2024. Every day we have two 6' salad bars end-to-end full of healthy options (plus the grilled cheese croutons)! We continue to evaluate the salad bar offerings for popularity and make adjustments throughout the summer. Over the past 3 years, we've added more vegetarian and plant-based options to our hot lunch program. There's also a new ice cream flavor this year, but we can't tell you now. You'll have to wait to find out! While both the campers and staff get sweets for dessert and ice cream in the afternoon, our menu is healthy as kid-friendly. Our breads are all light whole wheat and none of our food is fried or contains trans fats.

## New Attendance Procedures

Over 75% of our families are returning (YAY!), but that means we have lots of new families as well. This year, we implemented a new software system called CampSite, and with any major software change comes a learning curve. There are several reasons why we made the change; one of which is increased camper security. CampSite will track camper pickup at the end of the day more specifically WHO picks up and at what TIME. In past years, we used a family password as authorization to pick up a camper. This summer, if you pick up your child early from camp, and for both afternoon Parent Transportation (PT) and Extended Day (ED), we will be using individual 6-digit PIN codes instead of family passwords. When you arrive at camp in the afternoon, you will be asked to enter your PIN number into an iPad.

Every parent, guardian, babysitter, grandparent, and carpool person authorized to pick up your child will have their own PIN #. We can no longer share passwords. So, whomever picks up your camper this summer must know **their** PIN. If you would like someone other than a parent to pick up, you must add them to your CampSite portal

as an Authorized Pickup so that they can be assigned their own PIN number. This will effect the PT line in the back parking lot if the driver does not know their PIN. Likewise, dad will not be able to pick up using mom's PIN. While this might take some getting used to, the change increases our security and we're implementing this change to ensure a safer dismissal for our campers.



732-821-9155 and ask for Ilyse, Barry, or Hanna (Ruth Ann will be entertaining the cars in the back lot).

Many childcare agencies have already changed to the PIN number systems as an added layer of security and we felt it important to do the same. You will receive additional emails with step-by-step instructions in the weeks before camp. However, if you have any questions or would like more detail, please call us at

## CELL PHONE POLICY

The Eagle's Landing policy regarding cell phones and technology has NOT changed and we need your help to enforce this rule we feel is important to your kids. Studies show that children who use screens before the age of 3 demonstrate developmental delays.

We ask any parent whose child has a cell phone, no matter the age of the camper, that they ensure their phone is left at home. The only cell phones permitted on the property are for campers who have medical concerns and use their phone as a monitor.

Coming to camp means spending time with friends and talking to them without screens. We do not allow texting, use of a connected watch, or taking pictures of other campers. If we find a phone on your camper or in their backpack, we will take the phone and ask you to come to the camp office to pick it up after the camp day is over. Please help us help your kids and keep that screen at home. Our staff are required to follow the same guidelines regarding phones or they are terminated.



## Why should campers have all the fun?

You've asked for a "Parents Only" event and here it is! We'll have swimming, pickleball, ga-ga, ping pong, basketball, mini golf, corn hole, hatchet throwing, and tennis baseball to name a few activities. Our zip line and archery will be open too. Enjoy a camp BBQ and cook s'mores over a campfire. BYOB (we will even supply the ice and cups). Mark your calendars:

**Friday, July 12, 7 - 10 pm**

The cost is \$40 per person to reserve your spot; first come, first serve! To reserve your spot, sign up at: [bit.ly/eldcpno](http://bit.ly/eldcpno).

# Mark your Calendar!

In June, we scheduled Meet & Greets for every division. For each Meet & Greet, parents/guardians come with their campers and have the chance to meet the Directors, Division Leaders, Counselors, and the other campers in their groups. Parents have the chance to attend an informational session and have any questions answered while their campers are outdoors playing with our staff and other campers.

**Two new Meet & Greets** have been added to our pre-camp calendar this summer and we suggest that you add them to your calendar now. For families who are new to Eagle's Landing, a **New Parents Orientation is scheduled on Tuesday, May 21 from 7 - 8 pm.** Specifically designed for first time camp parents, we will share information about our program and answer any questions that you may have. This evening is open to all ages and we ask that you RSVP for the night by **scanning the QR Code below.** We will divide the night into two groups: Kiddie Kingdom through 2nd grade, and 3rd through 8th grade. The New Parents Orientation is purely informational for adults so please leave the kids at home.

We also scheduled a new **LIT/CIT Meet & Greet for ALL LITs and CITs and their parents on May 16 from 7 - 8 pm, whether returning or new (LITs/CITs are our rising 9th & 10th graders).** This summer we are bringing back our pre-2020 programming for this age group and we've also added a mental health component. The program is packed and we're excited to tell you all about it!

As usual, the month of June is full of Meet & Greets as an opportunity for parents to ask any specific questions and for your campers to meet their Counselors and Division Leaders who will be involved in their everyday schedules. Your kids will also have the opportunity to meet other campers in their group/division. For returning parents who want to bring their campers and choose not attend our informative talk (because you've already heard it before), we will ask that you "hang out" in the Nest (don't worry, we'll have yummy snacks and drinks for you) so that your children can interact on their own. For new families, be prepared to leave your child once they are with their Counselor so that they can get used to being with them and their friends. Don't worry we will have tissues for the moms and dads!



## TAX CREDIT

If you were gainfully employed in 2023 and incurred expenses for the care of your child or dependent so that you could continue to be employed or look for employment, you may be entitled to a tax credit for a portion of your camp tuition. Check the instructions in your income tax booklet and contact your accountant for additional information.

The Federal Tax ID number for Eagle's Landing Day Camp is: 45-3645311.



## 2024 Camp Calendar

Week 1 . . June 24 - June 28	Week 5 . . July 22 - July 26
Week 2 . . July 1 - July 5	Week 6 . . July 29 - Aug 2
Week 3 . . July 8 - July 12	Week 7 . . Aug 5 - Aug 9
Week 4 . . July 15 - July 19	Week 8 . . Aug 12 - Aug 16

Camp will be closed Thursday, July 4

### Meet & Greet Orientation Dates:

- May 16: LIT/CIT Meet & Greet (7 pm)
- May 21: New Parents Orientation (7 pm)
- June 11: 5th/6th/7th/8th Grade Meet & Greet (7 pm)
- June 11: Drama Show Auditions (7 pm)
- June 13: 3rd/4th Grade Meet & Greet (7 pm)
- June 13: Drama Show Auditions (7 pm)
- June 17: 1st/2nd Grade Meet & Greet (7 pm)
- June 18: Kiddie Kingdom Meet & Greet (6:30 pm)
- June 23: Spring into Summer - All Ages! (1 - 3 pm)
- June 24: CAMP BEGINS!!! WooHoo!!! Yay!!!



## Stage Left

We are excited to announce our Drama Shows for this summer!

**Make a Splash!**  
3rd & 4th Grade

**Frozen Kids**  
5th & 6th Grade

**Honk Jr.**  
7th, 8th, & 9th Grade

You can audition for any of the shows on  
Tue, June 13 from 7 - 8 pm  
Thu, June 15 from 7 - 8 pm

We ask everyone to audition on one of the two above dates so we can cast and start rehearsals during Week 1. The Drama Shows are performed on August 14 during the last week of camp. (Don't worry, we invite parents to an evening performance on August 14.) We spend all summer rehearsing for the show, so we ask that campers are enrolled for at least 6 weeks (including Week 8) if they would like to participate in the Drama Show. Please contact Hanna with any questions at 732-821-9155.



Eagle's Landing Day Camp  
74 Davidson Mill Road  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
732-821-9155

[EaglesLandingDayCamp.com](http://EaglesLandingDayCamp.com)



**Camp starts in 65 Days!**  
Who is ready to try the new corn dogs??

