

THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Volume 14

Smiles Guaranteed

April 2026

From the Directors:

It's hard to believe, but camp is just 73 days away—and the excitement here is already building!

Around camp, we like to say that we work "10 for 2," and this is the time of year when you can really feel what that means. For ten months, our team pours everything into preparing for the two unforgettable months of summer. And now, with the warmer weather finally here, Eagle's Landing is coming back to life. Ruth Ann, Barry, Hanna, Katia, and the entire team are outside every day—walking the grounds, setting things up, and getting everything just right for another incredible summer.

Tents are going up, fields are being prepped, and each day brings us one step closer to hearing the sounds we've been waiting for—campers laughing, cheering, and making memories together. There's truly nothing like it.



To all of our camp families—both new and returning—thank you. We know you have so many choices, and the fact that you've chosen Eagle's Landing means the world to us. Your trust is what makes this place so special, and we

can't wait to share this summer with you.

As we get closer, a quick reminder: if you're hoping to add or adjust any weeks, now is the time. We're down to about 40 spots left across camp, and some grades are nearly full. We want to do everything we can to get you the schedule you're hoping for.

You've also been receiving emails about camper forms, and these are a really important part of setting your child up for a fantastic summer. Please make sure everything is submitted by April 24. The Camper Profile Form is one of our favorite ways to get to know each child—what they love, what makes them feel comfortable, and how we can help them thrive. Ruth Ann personally reads every single one, along with your child's Division Leader, because we believe every camper

deserves a fresh start and a team that truly understands them from day one. The Health History Form is just as important, helping our nursing team be fully prepared to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Right now, camp is buzzing with energy. The grass is being cut, buildings are getting fresh coats of paint, and there's a steady stream of deliveries arriving every day—art supplies, sports equipment, and everything in between. Each box we open feels like another piece of summer falling into place.

We also love this time of year because we get to see so many of you stopping by. Camp is open, and we always welcome visits—whether you want to run around, explore, or meet friends before the summer begins. Just pop into the office to say hello, then go enjoy camp! For our new families, we're more than happy to help connect you with others in your child's group so those friendships can start even before opening day.

The countdown is officially on, and we couldn't be more excited. In just a few short weeks, this quiet preparation will turn into the most joyful, energetic, unforgettable summer—and we can't wait to share every moment of it with you.

– Barry, Ruth Ann, Hanna, & Katia

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 and we have already sold 50 out of the 100 we made!



What's New in the Kitchen?

Guess what? Last summer's new meals were such a hit that they're making a comeback by popular demand! And we didn't stop there—we've got even more tasty menu options lined up for this summer.

Here's a little secret: Barry is on the hunt for some fun, new ice cream flavors this year, and we're all super excited to see what he finds.

We've been listening to your feedback about morning snacks and we hear you! Get ready for a delicious mix of breakfast bars, muffins, and other goodies (plus, of course, fresh fruit every day). The best part? All our morning picks are whole grain, low in sugar, and still totally yummy—so you can feel good while your campers fuel up for a big day of fun.

Summer just keeps getting tastier!



Check This Out

Every summer we're reminded of something pretty special: when kids put down their screens and jump into camp life, amazing things start to happen.

At camp, kids get to just be kids again. Instead of staring at a screen, they're laughing with friends, making up games, trying new things, and letting their imaginations run wild. It's incredible how creative kids become when they're busy exploring instead of scrolling.

We see it all the time. Campers grow more confident, more independent, and more comfortable talking and connecting with others face-to-face. Those friendships and social skills stick with them long after summer ends.

There are some great physical benefits too. After a full day of swimming, playing sports, and running around outside, campers fall asleep fast and sleep deeply. The first couple of days can be an adjustment (we often hear they're extra tired!), but soon their bodies settle into the healthy rhythm of camp life.

One of the most rewarding things for our team is watching shy or anxious campers find their place. When parents let us know their child might be nervous or have trouble making friends, our Division Leaders and Specialty Coordinators keep an extra eye out to help them connect with a buddy. Sometimes all it takes is one shared activity or a friendly introduction.

At Eagle's Landing, we want every child to feel comfortable being themselves. Camp is a little less rigid than school, which gives kids the freedom to relax, make friends, and grow in their own way.

And honestly—that's the real magic of camp.

Here are some great resources to back up this data. Many parents ask us for resources about screen time and the growing concerns around kids and technology. Here are a few books we often recommend to families.

For younger children (ages 4–7):

Screens Away, Time to Play: A Children's Book Inspiring Screen Free Activities for Kids and a Resource to Explain Why You Limit Screen Time.

This is a great read for younger campers and parents to enjoy together. It helps children understand why families sometimes limit screens while encouraging creativity, outdoor play, and imagination.

For parents and older kids:

The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt is one of Ruth Ann's favorite books. It provides eye-opening insight into how smartphones and social media are affecting childhood and offers thoughtful guidance for families navigating technology today.

Another helpful read for parents:

Generation Zombie: How Devices Are Damaging Our Children by Charlotte Armitage.

This book explores how constant device use affects children's development and offers practical ideas for creating healthier tech habits at home.

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 ask any parent whose child has a cell phone, no matter the age of the camper, to 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. Going to camp means socializing and 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. Please help us help your kids and keep that screen at home. Recent studies show that children who use screens before the age of 5 demonstrate developmental delays.

Our staff are required to follow the same guidelines regarding phones or they are terminated.

TAX CREDIT

If you were gainfully employed in 2025 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.



2026 Camp Calendar

Week 1 .. June 29 - July 3

Week 2 .. July 6 - July 10

Week 3 .. July 13 - July 17

Week 4 .. July 20 - July 24

Week 5 .. July 27 - July 31

Week 6 .. Aug 3 - Aug 7

Week 7 .. Aug 10 - Aug 14

Week 8 .. Aug 17 - Aug 21

Camp will be closed Friday, July 3

Meet & Greet Orientation Dates:

June 16: 5th Grade - CIT Meet & Greet (7pm)

June 17: Kiddie Kingdom Meet & Greet (6:30 pm)

June 18: Drama Show Auditions (6 pm)

June 22: 1st/2nd Grade Meet & Greet (7 pm)

June 23: 3rd/4th Grade Meet & Greet (7 pm)

June 28: Spring into Summer - All Ages! (10 am - 12 pm)

June 29: CAMP BEGINS!!! WooHoo!!! Yay!!!

Mark your Calendar!

In June, we scheduled Meet & Greets for every Division. At each Meet & Greet, parents/guardians come to camp with their campers and have the chance to meet the Directors, Division Leaders, Counselors, and the other campers in their groups. Parents have the



opportunity to attend an quick informative session and have any questions answered while their campers are outdoors playing with our staff and other campers.

For returning parents who want to bring their campers and choose not attend our talk (because you've already heard it before), we will ask that

you "hang out" down by our Coffee Bar 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!

For families who are new to Eagle's Landing, we are bringing back our **New Parents Orientation on Thursday, May 21 from 7 - 8:30 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. 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.



Division Leader Update

We have a Division Leader Update! We are going to miss our former 5/6 Girls Division Leader Jamie very much this summer, but stepping into her shoes is a person who campers will be very familiar with: Sydney!

Sydney has been working at camp for over 15 years! She is an educator and looks forward to working in the school system as a speech therapist. Sydney has had many different roles as a staff member at camp with her most recent being an Assistant Division Leader.

She enjoys working with all age groups, and especially with our campers in our Inclusion Program. Sydney is excited to take on this role! Sometimes Sydney might get mistaken as a camper but don't let her size fool you, she is the biggest fan of camp, and you can see it on her face every day!



Stage Left

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

The Great Cookie Caper!
3rd & 4th Grade

Annie Kids
5th & 6th Grade

The Little Mermaid, Jr.
7th, 8th, & 9th Grade

You can audition for any of the shows on Thursday, June 18 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

We ask everyone to audition on the date above so we can cast and start rehearsals during Week 1. More information, including how to sign up for an audition time slot, will be sent closer to camp. The Drama Shows are performed on August 19 during the last week of camp. (Don't worry, we invite parents to an evening performance on August 19.) 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.



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EaglesLandingDayCamp.com



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Camp starts in 73 Days!
Who is ready to try the new morning snacks??

