

The Summer Sentinel

SCHOOL'S OUT, SUMMER'S IN!

4TH THRU 9TH
GRADE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS SUMMER
PROGRAM

****This letter was run in our first edition for Bridge Week, but is being printed again for the full first week of the summer.****

To Our Summer Family,

It is so exciting to think that we are less than a week away from the start of first full session! For some of us, we have already started at Bridge Week! From

SHARK WEEK DETAILS:

Daily Schedule:

Morning Drop Off

-First Activity*

Morning Snack

-Second Activity*

Lunch Time (outside)

-Third Activity*

-Fourth Activity*

Afternoon Snack

-Choice Activities*

Afternoon Pick Up

*Activities range from field time, gym time, tent time, art, library/computer lab, and arcade time.

There are no field trips this week due to it being not a full week. Field trips will start next week (Week 2).

the moment we returned from last summer, we started recruiting our staff, analyzing last summer, and deciding how to improve on our program and our facility for 2017.

We are creating a community that is constantly asking, "How can we do it better?" We are so lucky that at all sites our best staff continue to come back

year after to year to work with our students. This year, we have also taken in more than twenty Leaders In Training (LIT's), most of whom have been in our summer program since they were young.

The staff at all sites are all so excited and prepared for this great summer ahead of us! We cannot wait to see what memories it brings!

Warm Regards,

Tom Morrill and the
Wynn and Rec Staff



TOP 10 THINGS TO BRING EACH DAY

Each day brings a whole new set of opportunities and fun here at the summer program. Here's a list of essentials that your student should bring daily to be prepared.

1. WATER BOTTLE: This is number one on the list because of how important it is. While we do have water fountains at each site, it is vital for the kids to have water bottles that they can carry with them and refill all day long to stay hydrated.



2. SNEAKERS: We spend a lot of time running around both inside and out and proper shoe attire is so important for both safety and efficiency.

3. CHANGE OF CLOTHES: Sometimes you never know what's going to happen at camp on a day to day basis until it happens, like rain or mud. We encourage every child to have a change of clothes packed every day, JUST IN CASE!

4. SWIM WEAR: On the same page as a change of clothes, make sure your student has swim wear packed- especially on Wednesdays (Water slides on Field day) and Thursdays (if your child is signed up for the swimming field trip). Sometimes we even build our own water slide on Fridays.

5. TOWEL: If you send your kid with swim wear, please make sure that he or she also has a towel as well!

SUNSCREEN IS A MUST FOR EVERYONE!!

6. SUNSCREEN: We spend a good portion of our day outside, so please pack sunscreen daily no matter the weather forecast.

7. SUNGLASSES: We recommend sunglasses for kids since we spend a good majority of the day outside playing games. Putting your last name somewhere on them may be a good idea as well.

8. HAT: Along the same side as sunglasses, we recommend a hat as well for outdoor time. Again, having your last name on it is helpful.

9. LUNCH/SNACK/MONEY: We have snack twice a day as well as lunch, so packing food for each of those is a must. We want your student to stay healthy and active in the heat. Your child also has the option to buy both snacks and lunch at the rec center, so if you go that route please send money with your child (preferably in a zip lock bag with their name on it in case it gets lost).

10. SMALL BACKPACK: Finally, a small backpack is a necessity to put all of your belongings in. Students have a place to put their backpack at both sites. Remember to put your name on your bag!



SURVIVING THE FIRST WEEK AS AN L.I.T.

BY: JON DIPRIMA, L.I.T. COORDINATOR

After their first field day, the LIT's sat down to discuss their time in the program so far. The LIT's are students from Tewksbury's Wynn Middle School who have just finished eighth grade. Many of them started in the summer program in kindergarten and have been looking up to LITs every summer since. As leaders now, they reflect on their successes and difficulties in their new roles.

The LIT's are prompted to think of something positive from their week as well as something negative. Most of the LIT's shared how they enjoyed feeling involved--not only in helping set up field day and organizing games, but also in helping teach the kids. While they acknowledge their position as role models, they learn they are developing skills as teachers, even though they themselves are only freshmen in high school. The LITs admitted they loved being idolized by the younger kids, and they recognized how important it is to set a good example every second of the day.

Each week, the L.I.T.'s will meet like this to reflect on their previous work and prepare for the rest of the summer. In this time, they will be able to identify winning strategies and develop solutions to their teammates' struggles. Ultimately, they look forward to using these group sessions to improve their abilities as leaders and make themselves ready to join the workforce.

(Look for an LIT spotlight each week in the Newsletter as we highlight the great members of our team.)



Dennis Ong

Summer's Worked: *Seven*

Hometown: *Tewksbury*

Any Pets?: *One Turtle*

Favorite Summer Field Trip: *Fenway/ TD Garden*

Favorite Current Song: *Redbone by Childish Gambino*

Spirit Animal: *Panda*

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



A STAFF MEMBERS' S GUIDE TO SUMMER FUN

Here's some tips from our staff member, Tori, to share with your students to ensure they have the best summer possible:

- **PARTICIPATE!** Make sure you get involved, even if you think it looks lame, it isn't. Break loose and have fun!
- **STAY POSITIVE!** It gets hot and the days are long, but stay positive, it's the best way to ensure you have a good time.
- **MAKE NEW FRIENDS!** Whether this is your first summer or sixth summer, there's always new kids to make friends with. Reach out and hang out with new people throughout the week.
- **DON'T GIVE UP!** Don't give up during the day, or during individual activities. You can only have fun if you keep on keeping on.
- **TRY NEW THINGS!** Try going down the big water slide or a new game you've never played in gym. You never know what you might love
- **HAVE FUN!** This one is the most important, always always always have fun! The summer program is a blast and you get out of it what you put into it.



LIT SPOTLIGHT

Leaders in Training (LITs) are incoming Freshmen who spend their summer with us learning to be a counselor and have fun working with kids. Many attended the program when they were younger

Cat Burke

Summer's Attended: *None*

Hometown: *Tewksbury*

Favorite Mac's Ice Cream: *Moose Tracks*

Fun Fact: *Learned to surf at age seven!*

Place She'd Like to Visit Most: *California*

Spirit Animal: *Dog*



This is just the beginning of The Summer Sentinel! Please check both online and at the front desk each week for our weekly newsletter!

A REMINDER FOR OUR TECHNOLOGY POLICY

PLEASE REMIND YOUR CAMPERS OF THE FOLLOWING...

The Summer Program is a great time to “unplug.” As most of you would agree, it is good for our children to have time without access to technology. While students will have small amounts of time each day to use their own devices and computers in the library, the majority of the day we will ask that their devices are put away. We are so busy both inside and outside that it is just easier to unplug while here.

WEEK 2

Theme: Disney

Field Trip 4-9

Wamesit Lanes 7-9

WEEK 3

Theme: Sports

Fenway Park 4-9

Lowell Spinners Game 6-9

WEEK 4

Theme: Espionage

Canobie Lake 4-9

Patriots Place and 5WITS 4-9

Jay Gee's- 7-9

WEEK 5

Theme: Monsters

Wamesit Lanes 4-9

Boda Borg 7-9



TOM MORRILL

Site Director of the Wynn
(Grades 4-6)



JARYD PALMER

Site Director of the Rec Center
(Grades 7-8)



JONDIPRIMA

Leaders in Training (LIT) Director



LINDSAY APPLEBY

Writer and Editor of the Summer Sentinel



DID YOU KNOW?

We run field days on every Wednesday. Make sure to bring your swimsuit! We often have big water slides as part of it!



KICKING OFF SUMMER RIGHT

