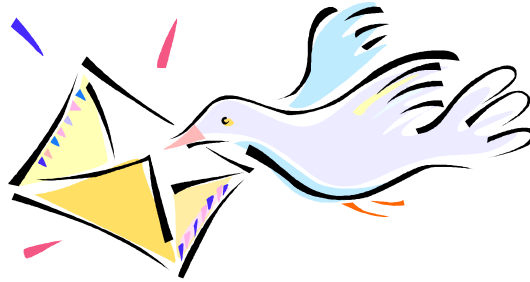


Camp Yomawha Week 7: Olympic Week



The Camp Catch-Up

Chirp chirp...

*The Littlest Worm
I ever saw
Was stuck inside
My soda straw*

*He said to me
Don't take a sip
For if you do
You'll surely flip!*

*I took a sip
And he went down
All through my pipes
He must have drowned!*

Announcements, Announcements, Announce-ments!

SIGN UP NOW FOR EARLY BIRD! Families signing up by the end of August for camp 2009 will be charged this year's rate. A deposit of \$250 is required and any withdrawals can be made before 12/31/08 to get refunded.

GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK! If you have not received this already, we are emailing all our camp families a link to our camp feedback survey on Survey Monkey. Please complete our survey so we can continue to improve Camp Yomawha and better meet your needs in the future. The link is already on the website now under News and under the Day Camp section.

Please continue to send notes with your bus counselor regarding any **missing items** and please return any items your child may have accidentally brought home that are not yours. Thank you!

We are happy to hear that campers are having great summers! If you are interested in **tipping** your camp counselors, please make a **staff contribution** and send a check made out to the YM & YWHA of Washington Heights and Inwood and write in the Memo line: "Camp Staff Contribution." At the end of the summer we will pool the money and use it to create a **fabulous staff celebration!** You can send these contributions in with your child on the bus or bring it to the Y to the attention of Shara Perlman, Camp Director.

Chai Life Line Swim a Thon

Our camp raised over two thousand dollars for the Chai Life Line charity, which sends children with serious illnesses to camps. Dove **Molly McIntosh** and Swan **Jacqueline Haimovici** both raised over five hundred dollars each! Donations will still be accepted on Monday, and all prizes will be distributed to campers by Tuesday. If your child is not at camp on these days, you can pick up prizes at the Y. Thanks to everyone for their support and contributions!

A note from the Camp Director, Shara Perlman

Thank you all for another exciting week at camp! It is hard to believe that we only have two more days of camp. I am looking forward to a fun carnival filled with all of the children's creativity in all of the booths the groups have created. The last day of camp is always sad, but we can all look forward to next summer! Thanks for all of the wonderful memories!

NEXT WEEK

Monday, 8/18, is our Camp Carnival! We will be in the carnival spirit all day long, so **DRESS IN MARDI GRAS STYLE** on Monday to celebrate! We'll kick off the day with a parade and later enjoy our carnival with each group preparing their own booth and looking forward to the water rides and bouncy rides.

Tuesday, 8/19, is our LAST DAY OF CAMP! The Tweens, Explorers, Juniors and Beginners will spend one last day participating in our activities and saying good bye.

This week at camp (8/11 – 8/15) was Olympic Week!

What happened this week?

Monday we geared up for this week's Olympic Games! Our Team Captains broke the games on Monday by descending upon Morning Meeting with candy, cheers, and everyone's team assignment for either the blue or white team! We worked on cheers and banners during the week in preparation for Friday's competitions.

Tuesday the Tweens and Explorers went to Bear Mountain State Park where we had a picnic lunch, played a big game of kickball, and played basketball. We impressed everyone around us with our Double Dutch skills and had fun at the big playground. We also went on a nature expedition to the lake, where we walked out on the rocks into the water.

Wednesday the Tweens (Dragons) and CITs had a fantastic day together at Six Flags Great Adventure. We braved the new Dark Knight ride, along with the Twister, teacups, Gravitron, and pirate ship, and on every ride we showed our Camp Yomawha spirit by doing the Announcements cheer! On our long ride back we bonded while singing, doing cheers and having fun, and ended the day with pizza at the Y.

Thursday the Tweens and Explorers went to South Street Seaport and on the Shark boat ride. We walked a guided tour of downtown Manhattan near the seaport and learned about historical buildings dating back to the 1600s. Blue Jay Allan Rice deciphered the dates of the buildings by reading the

Roman numerals in the stones. We learned that the name of Maiden Street came from New York girls hundreds of years ago who all did their laundry in the street. We had lunch on the pier overlooking the water and boarded the Shark, where we partied to the music and saw the New York Waterfalls exhibit as we cruised along.

We held our **Chai Life Line Swim a Thon** during swim periods this week, and all campers demonstrated their endurance and swim ability by walking or swimming laps to raise money for the charity.

Dove Molly McIntosh is the Michael Phelps of Camp Yomawha, swimming 100 laps in 20 minutes, and Flamingo Sera Knobler was close behind with 90 laps in 20 minutes! CONGRATULATIONS!

Friday was our annual Maccabi Games for Olympic Week! The camp was divided into blue and white teams for the whole day, led by Blue team captains **Ingris** and **Oscar** and White team captains **Tatyana** and **Jesus**. The campers competed in relay races, swim relays, sports competitions, and cheered for their counselors playing games as well. Silent Lunch was a blast with each team being completely silent during lunch even when judges tried to trick them into speaking! Each team created a fantasy nation as a theme for their team color: the white team was the **Great White Sharks** and the blue team was the **Blue Express**. The competition was close and banner presentations, cheers and songs presented to the judges all helped to add up the points for both teams. Good sportsmanship was shown all day and in the end the Blue team won, with 190 points, followed closely by the White team, with 165 points. GREAT JOB TO EVERYONE ON A FANTASTIC OLYMPIC DAY!

What's up in our specialty areas?

Asa Sports and Eddie Sports –The Explorers played the Riverdale Y in our second inter-camp competitions. We played soccer, softball and basketball. Eagles Tyler Castang and Christian Nuez were all stars on the softball field!

“Thank you to all the campers and counselors for making it such a fantastic summer! ...from Asa Sports.”

Nature – The Beginners took an extra long creek walk during club, and found a mystical looking branch on the return, which was hung up by the picnic tables and named the “Beginners Tree”.

Dance – The Mockingbirds shone in dance class this week, and camper Lily Yan stood out for her enthusiasm: “Lily is amazing rhythmically, very talented... she is very committed, always knowing routines and fabulous participation,” says instructor Monifa. The Flamingos were also stars at Dance this week!

Art – The Doves and the Swans showed enthusiasm and effort in art this week. Groups have been finishing up clay projects, finishing beading and making multi textured collages. Campers have also been working on banners and getting in the spirit of the games with banner painting. The Art Zone has also been busy getting ready for next week's carnival, with sparkly signs and props!

The **Hawkabats** made some very creative clay sculptures. What did each camper make?

“A spoon and bowl. What's in the bowl? Campbell's soup. Tomato with noodles.”

– Max Koerner-Imas

“A dagger.” – Adam Hametz-Berner

“A cobra.” – Julian Archer

“A snake.” – Jayden Gomez

“A cube house. A cube is three-dimensional.” – Ben Skinner

“A motorboat.” – Joseph Stellato

“A ghost surfing.” – Marc Routgauzer

“A butterfly highway sliced into awesome.” - Jeromeel Lendeborg

Seen and Heard at Camp...

Swan **Ashley Romano** doing tricks in the pool...Eagle **Cho Seugn Han** acting the expert fisherman in Nature...Eagles counselor **Robert** wading the creek to capture fish... The **Ducklings** making crazy hats and Model Magic in Art...Raven **Geo Davis** and Hawkabat **Jeromeel Lendeborg** being “ball boys” for our senior friends playing a ping pong tournament...Ravens counselor **Anthony Ravelo**, playing an intense ping pong game with our senior friends: “I didn’t expect an old lady to spike it. She spiked it and it hit me in the head!” ... CITs **Cristina Contreras** and **Kisleyanette Nova** working hard on signs for the Camp Carnival...**Ben Skinner** of the Hawkabats: “I LOVE art!”...

Haana Suero from the Swans: “Camp is so much fun this year. I’m participating in all the activities.”... “It’s a Robakeet egg.” – **Rachel Schindler**, who made a “Robakeet” bird, nest and egg clay sculpture, the namesake of the combined groups Robins and Parakeets!

Cardinal **William Chen** is on the White Team this week and has been getting into the spirit of the week by following the 2008 games in Beijing. “I really like watching the Olympics. I’ve seen them doing gymnastics, swimming, and basketball,” says William.

The **Dragons** came together while doing teambuilding games with instructor **Casey** this week, rising to the challenge of Pass Through the Circle, the Portal Jump, and the Levitating Hula Hoop. They also completed the Crossing the Lava Pit game, where eight campers had to get across a pit with only four feet touching the ground, working together to reach their goal. “The amount of energy and creativity that the Dragons displayed trying to tackle these deceptively complex challenges (and succeeding) was fun to watch and unmatched by any other group!” says instructor Casey. “They were a blast to work with.”... “As their counselor, this is a shining moment for me,” says **Charlene** of how her group grew leaps and bounds in their teamwork skills.

Interviews!

The Beginners all answered the question... If you were a fruit, what fruit would you be?

“Mango.” – Zadie Wolesko, Ducklings

“Pineapple.” – Alicia Beritan, Sparrows

“Watermelon.” – Shmoni Berrios, Chickadees

“Raspberry.” – Theo Yanos, Sparrows

“Strawberry.” – Katya Kurchin, Sparrows

“Cherry.” – Naylah Gomez, Hummingbirds

“Guava.” – Cynthia, Hummingbirds counselor

Lifeguard Steve answers: “Papaya!”

What's your favorite memory from camp this summer?

"I liked the Mets game. I just wanted to run down and play. And soccer, medic, court sports, library, art, swim, Ga Ga. And I liked nature and kickball." – **Max Silver**, Cardinals

"Soccer. My favorite specialists are Eddie and Asa." - **Julian Ferdman**, Hummingbirds

"Pool." – **Miguel Gura**, Chickadees

Q & A with James Rice, Cardinals Camper

What's your favorite activity?

Club, Boating

What's your favorite memory of camp this summer?

Late night when we did Counselor Roundup.

What's something new you learned in camp this summer?

The front crawl and the Superman glide in Instructional Swim.

If you were a fruit or vegetable what would you be and why? Tomato. Because I like tomato sauce.

What new activity would you add to camp? Math.

What counselors will you remember from this summer? Melissa, Kim, Kasha.

Q & A with Hawkabab Max Koerner-Imas

What are your favorite things to do?

I'm an easy person. I do karaoke and I play baseball.

What's your favorite baseball team?

This year, the Mets and the Red Sox.

What's your favorite memory from camp this year?

The Mets Game and Yomawha Idol [talent show during Wild West week].

What's your favorite activity at camp?

I love Asa Sports, Eddie Sports, Music with Gideon is awesome, and Drama.

If you could add something new to camp, what would it be?

A hot tub. Definitely a hot tub. And a limo. Definitely.

Q & A with Robakeet Ella Eggers

What's your favorite memory of camp this year?

Doing all the challenges every Friday.

What did you learn at camp this summer?

This year I learned how to swim underwater.

What is your favorite activity?

Playing medic, going to the pool, arts and crafts, drama, Monifa, and Club.

Ducklings Counselor Jen on what she's learned this summer:

"I've learned about the need to be positive and open minded! Even if you think an activity might not be fun, you can make it fun through positivity and being open. I've learned the power of positive remarks and positive feedback. Your attitude is everything!"

Staff Basketball Game...

The Y staff played Riverdale staff and won, 32- 29. Counselor **Jesus** hit the game winning shot with a stop and pop, and **Asa** was a star and "not afraid to drive the lane". **Carlos** got the whole crowd going when he came into the game with a three pointer to break the tie. Go Camp Yomawha!

Check back with us next week for our final Camp Yomawha News Goodbye...