

Parent Information Handbook

HORNER GROVE
DAY CAMP 2016



Horner Grove Day Camp 2016

<http://jcys.org/locations/buffalo-grove/northwest-family-ctr/summer-day-camp>

**JCYS Horner Grove Day Camp
1700 Weiland Rd. Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089
Phone 847-279-0900 Fax 847-279-0909**

JCYS Camp Horner Grove

SUMMER 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Day Camp Directors

Liz Kazarian

Lisa Peilet

Center Director

Naomi Samuels

Early Childhood Director

Ruth Taxy

Asst. Early Childhood Director

Keri Isacovici

Activity Specialist

Alexis Tobolik

Receptionist/Registrar

Jamie Warshauer

Financial Clerk

Ofra Baron

PROGRAMMING

North Stars

4-6 Year Olds

Full Day 6:45am-6pm

Half Day 9am-3pm

Little Dippers

6 Weeks- 3 Year Olds

Full Day 6:45am-6pm

Half Day 9am-1pm

THEMATIC WEEKS

Campers are invited to explore the outdoors, create art projects, investigate sensory activities, and develop long-lasting friendships during their summer at Horner Grove. To create a fun and engaging atmosphere we are promoting a new theme every week.

Themes at a Glance

- Week 1:** Space Week
- Week 2:** Pirates and Pixies
- Week 3:** Olympics and Color Wars
- Week 4:** Icky Sticky Week
- Week 5:** Winter in July
- Week 6:** Camping Week
- Week 7:** Jungle Week
- Week 8:** Final Fun Week

SAVE THE DATE

June

- 9** No Camp / North Stars Meet and Greet (6:30-7:30pm)
 - 10** No Camp / Little Dippers Open House (10am-Noon)
 - 13** First Day of Camp
-

July

4 No Camp

13 Family Night (6:30-7:30 pm)



August

5 Last Day of Camp

Before Camp Begins

The Following Forms Are Due:

Medical Form

Due by Monday, May 9th. – Children will not be permitted to attend camp unless medical forms are on file with us. *If your child was enrolled in our fall 2015-16 school year program, you do not need to submit a new medical, as long as the one we have on file is up to date.*

Medications at Camp

Unless deemed medically necessary by your physician, medication should not be sent to camp. If the medication must be administered at camp, or if an asthma inhaler or EPIPEN must be kept at camp for emergency purposes, please follow these guidelines.

- Fill out and have your doctor sign the MEDICATION FORM.
- Bring the medication in a sealed, labeled container with your camper to the Open House or on the first day of camp, or on the day medication is needed.

- ❑ Alert the camp administrative staff that the medication is coming.
- ❑ Any camper taking prescription or over the counter medication at camp **MUST** have the **MEDICATION FORM**, signed by both the parent and the doctor, on file at camp.
- ❑ **Verbal permission from parents is not sufficient.**
- ❑ To protect all campers, no camper will be allowed to keep medication in their possession.

Camper Intake Form

The purpose of the **Camper Intake Form** is to provide our staff with as much information as possible about your child in order for us to meet his or her individual needs. This form needs to be updated annually as things change in the lives of our campers. *If your child was enrolled in our fall 2015-16 school year program, you do not need to submit a new intake form and emergency contact form, as long as the one we have on file is up to date.*

MEDICAL

Your Camper's Health

Exposure to communicable diseases is of concern to us in camp. If your child does contract a contagious disease during the season, we would appreciate hearing from you so we may notify the parents of other campers who may be affected. Your family will have anonymity.

Health Policies

Our administrative staff will attend to minor scratches, cuts and bruises. In the case of illness or injury, we will make your child comfortable and call you to arrange for you to pick up your camper. There are three considerations when deciding if a mildly ill child should remain at care or be excluded:

- **The condition prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities.**
- **The condition results in need for care that is greater than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.**
- **The condition poses a risk of spread of harmful diseases to others.**

FOOD

Breakfast, Lunch and Snack Menus are posted on our website under Northwest Family Center's "Parent Corner".

Lunch

We are happy to be able to offer your children lunch on a daily basis. Our lunches are catered by Nutrition First from Quality Catering. If your child has food allergies or your family keeps Kosher please let us know. We will make the appropriate accommodations for your child.

Sack lunches will be packed and provided for North Star Campers after swimming. Wednesday is pizza day for our North Star Campers as well, after swimming at "The Lil."

Snacks

Mid-morning and Mid-afternoon we will serve the campers a nutritious snack. We are a nut-free facility and will not serve any snack containing nuts or nut bi-products.

COMMUNICATION

Horner Grove Newsletters

We will send home notes about events before they happen through emails. Contact any of the directors at:

hornergrovedaycamp@jcvs.org

At the end of each week we will send home a Horner Grove News via email as well, which will recap the highlights of the week such as field trips, special programs, and general news about the program along with pictures of activities on site.

There will be a separate newsletter for the North Stars (Written by Liz Kazarian and Lisa Peilet) and the Little Dippers (Written by Alexis Tobolik). It will also remind you to be on the lookout for upcoming events such as picture day, all camp events, or field trips.

DRESS FOR MESS

- **Label Everything!**
- Dress your child in comfortable clothing that can get dirty.
- Campers should wear their bathing suits to camp daily (underneath their clothing).
- We *require* all campers to wear gym shoes daily. They're safe for running and the variety of camp activities we enjoy. **Please keep flip flops or sandals at home.** Water

shoes are helpful on the playground for water play and protect feet from woodchips.

- Please send a camp bag/backpack daily clearly marked with a first and last name. The bag should contain underwear to change into after swimming, a towel, hat, sunscreen and a water bottle. Again, label all items.
- We recommend waterproof sunscreen SPF of 30 or greater.

Dress appropriate for the weather (e.g. windbreaker, sweater, sweatshirts for cold, windy days – packed if not worn; and a raincoat for rainy days – we have indoor facilities, but we move about camp).

There is a “Lost and Found” cabinet located by the front desk and we encourage parents to look through the cabinet when an item is lost as well as informing their counselor.

DURING THE DAY

Drop Off At Camp

Full Day campers can be dropped off in their classroom any time after 6:45.

Half Day campers arrive between 8:55 a.m. and 9:05 a.m. so we can start the day together! We offer curbside drop-off where staff will help your children safely exit your car. Younger campers (Lil Dippers) can be dropped off at our front door, while the North Star campers should be dropped off at our east gate location on the side of the building nearest the playground.

You will be asked to sign in your child upon arrival and counselors will welcome campers at the door or designated group locations.

Little Dipper campers should bring a box for extra clothing and a cloth bag for nap to place inside their camper's cubby. North Star Campers should wear a backpack with extra clothing, a towel, a water bottle and sunscreen.

We encourage all of our campers to attend Meet and Greet or Open House in June. This is a wonderful way to help a child build a relationship and trust with their camp counselors as well as develop a comfort level with their environment. In addition, there will be a newsletter sent out to North Star Families and Little Dipper Families with a photo and short blurb of their counselors before camp starts on the 13th of June.

The Horner Grove Swim Program

At Horner Grove we follow the American Red Cross Learn to Swim Program. A list of the levels and expectations will go home during the first week of each session. Every two weeks you will receive a progress report that will let you know which skills your camper is working on or has mastered. We encourage all campers to participate in **lessons** on a daily basis unless the aquatic staff determines that the weather is prohibitive. We understand that some children (and their parents) might be nervous about swimming. Our staff's responsibility is to make all the children feel safe in the water. We will work with each child based on his/her level of confidence in the water. A ratio of adults to campers is 1:5 for swimming instruction.

Jori Rosenblatt is the Director of The Lil and will be available to answer questions at the Meet and Greet on June 9th. You can also contact her directly at: jrosenblatt@jcys.org or (847) 433-6001, ext 102.

Rainbow Sprinkler & Field Play

Little Dipper Campers are always excited to go underneath the Rainbow Sprinkler on our playground. The camp also provides brushes, sponges, and texture tubs for the campers to participate in water play at their own pace.

Horner Grove is also very fortunate to have a large field behind their playground space. The counselors lead traditional camp games as well as special thematic events.

Field Trips

The North Star campers will have the exciting experience of going on occasional field trips. Most camp trips will be listed on the calendar. Field trips are part of our regular camp program and campers will need to wear their camp shirt on those designated days.

Occasionally the Little Dipper camp groups will take a walk around the block but they will not board buses or venture far from the premises.

“In house” field trips will be scheduled weekly and all campers will experience these on our site.

Items from Home

Parents are asked to keep books, toys, CD players, other electronics or money at home unless specifically requested to do so for a special event. We cannot be responsible for any lost jewelry, clothing, money or other personal articles.

Rest & Nap Times

North Star campers will have a ‘Rest Time’ after they return from the pool. Rest Times will consist of quiet, indoor activities and story time.

Little Dipper Campers will have a “Nap Time” which will be posted as part of their daily schedule on the Parent Board. Nap Time bags are recommended for campers to keep a blanket, a travel size pillow, and a lovie (stuffed animal). These bags can be kept in their cubby during other times of the day. Please remember to label the bag as well as all the items inside.

Pick Up After Camp

In accordance with licensing regulations, it is necessary for the parent or designated person leaving with your child to sign out daily with a complete signature and time of day on the sign in/out sheets near the main entrance or with your teacher.

Rest assured we will never release your child to anyone who is not authorized on your Emergency Form or for whom you haven't written a note, so it is imperative that you keep this form up-to-date.

Please stop by our receptionist, Jamie, with any changes or email us. Please have any alternative person bring identification. We will not release your child unless we are certain of who it is and that they are authorized. Sometimes, upon departure, children will run ahead of their parents and exit the building unattended. For the safety and well-being of all, we ask you to remind your child to exit with you!

TRANSPORTATION

A professional school bus company will be used to transport our North Star campers to swimming to “the Lil” in Highland Park and on most fieldtrips. We will use buses with seat belts as we travel to our destinations. Please feel free to call us if you have any transportation concerns.





“Jewish Council for Youth Services (JCYS) is dedicated to serving the developmental needs of Jewish Children, their families and the greater community through personal growth and an appreciation of Jewish values and culture. JCYS is also committed to developing young leaders for a lifetime of community service.”