



Parent Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents,

We are excited to welcome you to Lake Owego's 57th summer!

We are counting down the days until we welcome your children to camp for a summer of fun, friends and adventure. It's an honor to have this opportunity to provide your child with an outstanding camp experience. We realize the level of faith you have placed in us to provide a safe, nurturing, and accepting environment for your son. In order to create this truly special camp experience, we are committed to working very closely with each family before, during, and after the summer, so please keep in touch! This newsletter is filled with valuable information that we think will set your son up for success at camp. Please read it carefully and pay close attention to our electronics policy!

Kyle, Jeff and Johnny

Visiting Day is July 23rd

For full-session & extended half session campers
11:30 am - 3:00 pm

Parents, grandparents... The whole family is invited.
(No pets please!)

Don't overdo the food from home, a bountiful camp lunch is provided and campers can only keep treats from home for one day. Please do not bring any food items containing nuts.

Please no "bunk gifts," it leaves some campers and parents feeling left out and is really not necessary. Your presence is the best gift.

Gratuities are not permitted.

Explorers' Weekend & Play Days

Overnights: July 8-9, July 29-30

Play Days: July 15, August 5

If your child is entering 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th grade and is not yet ready for camp we encourage you to visit while camp is in session and try our one-night, two-day [Explorer Camp](#). We also offer [Play Days](#)! Please feel free to call us at 267-639-2488 or e-mail us at info@lakeowego.com if you have any questions.



Important Information

Saturday, June 24 Camp Begins
Wednesday, July 5 2nd Ext. Half Begins
Tuesday, July 18 1st Session Ends
Wednesday, July 19 2nd Session Begins
Tuesday, August 1 1st Ext. Half Ends
Saturday, August 12 Camp Ends
Sunday, July 23 Visiting Day

Summer: 1687 Route 6
Greeley, PA 18425
(570) 226-3636

Winter: 123 S. Broad Street, Suite 1200
Philadelphia PA 19109
(267) 639-2488

www.lakeowego.com
info@lakeowego.com

@lakeowego





Getting Ready

- Leave one camp shirt out of the trunk and have your camper wear his "Camp Official" on the plane or bus. Camp Officials can be purchased on www.bunkline.com.
- Write a letter to your child before camp starts so it is there for the first mail call.
- Only a small, carry-on bag is allowed on the bus. Duffles, and suitcases should be shipped to and from camp.
- Remember to pack bug spray, a flashlight, a water bottle and sunscreen.
- Pre-addressed, stamped envelopes are helpful to young campers.
- Bunk placement information will not be given out before camp.
- Laundry goes out once a week, so make sure your child has enough socks and underwear for a week.

Medication Procedures

To ensure the safe dispensing of medication, all of your camper's medication must go through PersonalRX (formerly CampRX). This includes prescribed medication, vitamins, allergy medication, melatonin, probiotics, daily inhalers, eye drops, nasal sprays, etc. Please complete all registration information for PersonalRX to avoid any delays in the administration of medication. A doctor's prescription is required for ALL medications, over the counter and doctor prescribed (including the list above), that will be dispensed in the health center on a regular basis. Camp will not dispense any medication that isn't registered through PersonalRX; if medication comes to camp in bags or buses or with parents dropping off campers, it will be sent home, and PersonalRX will charge a late fee and overnight charge to fill the medication.

We have a fully stocked, beautiful Health Center which can dispense non-prescription medicine for health concerns that come up during the summer. Campers are not allowed to keep ANY medication in their cabins.



Letters

We encourage good, old-fashioned letter-writing. At mail-call each day, there is no better feeling for a camper than receiving a real, hand-stamped, hand-written letter or card. Some are treasures that are kept through adulthood. Camp is a low-tech place for children (and adults) to take a break from the hustle-bustle of daily life during the rest of the year. No TVs, no Blackberries, no iPhones, no running to check e-mail. In their place - friends, campfires, teamwork, and, hopefully, personal growth, independence, and self-esteem.

Parents may also send e-mails through the "CampMinder" system (see back page), but letters are better.



"Humor is mankind's greatest blessing." – Mark Twain



“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

– C.S Lewis

Packages

Except for necessities from home that were inadvertently left behind, like a book for school, goggles, shin guards, etc. there is really no reason to send things to camp. Gifts from home like toys or games breed competition between bunkmates and leave some campers feeling left out. Birthday packages are, of course, permitted and encouraged, but no food, please.

Remember all packages are opened in the presence of staff.

The Lake Owego Team – The Directors!



Kyle Silver

Kyle has been working at Lake Owego Camp for over twenty years. Kyle is a dean and educator at Fieldston Middle School. Kyle’s background includes coaching both high school basketball and soccer. Kyle formed and leads the Pike County Athletic Association which conducts a wide variety of athletic tournaments throughout the summer for a number of camps in the area.



Jeff “Fredo” Freedman

Jeff started as a camper at Lake Owego Camp in the 1970’s and since then, has gained over twenty years of experience as an independent boys camp director. Prior to entering the camp world, Jeff was a lawyer for the NCAA. He was also a competitive tennis and basketball student-athlete in college and received All-American accolades. He has a passion for youth and what camp can provide for them and feels that camp is the best place in the world for a boy to spend his summer.



Johnny & Rachel Waszczak

Johnny and Rachel Waszczak have been year-round camp directors for over thirteen years, and bring invaluable experience in the outdoors, wilderness trips, rock climbing, ropes course instruction, group facilitation, lifeguarding, and health care. Johnny is an American Camp Association committee member and prepares for the summer all winter-long. Rachel is a nurse and serves as our camp healthcare coordinator. Johnny, Rachel, and their children live in Greeley, PA all year!



Shelly Silver, Director Emeritus

Shelly was the director of Lake Owego Camp for over twenty-five years and an educator for over forty years. He continues in a supportive role, as a resource for Lake Owego and as an inspiration to campers and counselors.

Electronics

We do not allow iPod Touches, Kindles, or any device capable of a wifi connection, hand-held games, portable DVD’s, laptops, or cell phones. Even if the wifi connection can be disabled, we do not allow that device in camp.

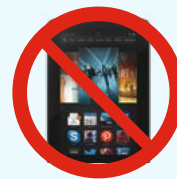
If they arrive at camp, phones and electronics will be collected, and returned at the end of the summer. First of all, there’s no time to use them, second, they break or are “borrowed” and lost. And lastly, this is CAMP; the perfect time and place to take a break from the onslaught of technology. The whole point of camp life is to live our lives a little differently, a little simpler than we do the rest of the year. Campers can only gain independence if they are truly independent from you and the outside world.

And what about music-only iPods, you may ask? We discourage campers from bringing these for the same reasons listed above. But if your camper can’t leave home without it, their personal music-only device will be restricted - not outside the bunk and only after letter-writing at rest period or before bed, after bunk meeting time. Remember, no wifi connected devices. We suggest basic mp3 players such as Apple shuffles or old-fashioned iPods.

Don't BRING



iPod Touch



Kindle



Cell Phones



Laptop

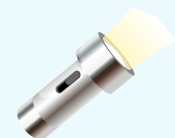
Do BRING



MP3 Player (without wifi)



A novel or two



An open mind



A sense of adventure



CampMinder

Connect on-line for photos and more!

Every parent will be able to email their child, check out news from camp, and see up to date photos and videos from the summer using the same login they use to fill out forms.

Among many other things, you will have the ability to email photos to your friends and family.

Just go to **"My LOC"** on the top right side of the website and you will be directed to the many options available. You can also create guest accounts so that the whole family can connect to the online camp community. Enjoy, and if needed, call us for help!

New Camper Weekend June 3-4

Calling all new campers! Come up to camp with your family for the day or stay overnight. Meet future bunkmates, participate in camp activities and sing at a campfire! Call the office to RSVP.

Phone Calls

It's not easy, but part of sending children off to camp is "letting go." Although phone calls are not necessary, one phone call may be scheduled for first-session campers after July 3rd and for second-session campers after July 28th. The office will schedule as many calls as possible, before or after dinner, until evening activity begins. Please be reassured that there is always a counselor at the telephone. Hearing your parents' voice for the first time can be upsetting and we will be there to comfort your son. Tears only last milli-seconds after the call – until the first friend walks by, a basketball is dribbled, or a frisbee whizzes by. Don't worry, but if you have a real concern – call us.

*"The only way to have a friend is to be one."
– Henry David Thoreau*

Important Contact Information

Camp Phone (267) 639-2488
After June 19 (570) 226-3636

Mountain Baggage (570) 775-0556
email: mountainbaggage@aol.com
website: www.mountainbaggage.com

R&B Baggage (603) 536-2197
(baggage for Florida families)
website: www.rbcampbaggage.com

PersonalRx (877) 302-3881
website: www.personalrx.com

