



Suryoyo Summer Camp

Business Office: 260 Elm Avenue Teaneck, NJ 07666

Director: Philip Eliya (201.759.5460)

Coordinator: Ninweh Samuel (551.486.7509)

Camp Location: Hovnanian Armenian School 817 River Road New Milford, NJ 07646

Phone: 201.967.5940

Dear Parents,

We are delighted that you will be part of the Archdiocese's Suryoyo Camp this summer! We are completely dedicated to making this summer a most special and memorable one. We are always interested in your input, so do not hesitate at any time to call us before, during, or after the summer with any comments or concerns. The contents of this booklet should be read carefully and kept by you as a point of reference. It provides helpful information concerning life at our Suryoyo Summer Camp.

We look forward to seeing you and most of all to spending the summer with your children.

Fush B'Shlomo,

Philip Eliya

Director

OUR MISSION

To provide a safe, summer day camp experience to Suryoyo children of various ages and interests. Our summer camp will feature sports, games, folklore, arts and crafts, field trips, and Syriac and Bible studies in a culture-rich setting. Suryoyo Summer Camp will enhance and build our campers' confidence. Our camp community is supportive and welcoming – children thrive and grow stronger in many important ways. All our boys and girls are exposed to and try new things. We will help campers develop lasting friendships, collaborate in groups, and work toward attainable goals. At summer's end children are more prepared to take on the challenges of a new school year.

TRANSPORTATION

Parents are expected to drop off their children at 8:30 until 9:00 am in the school's gymnasium. There will be counselors to escort your child to his or her designated area. Please be aware that the parking lot is monitored periodically for compliance by the New Milford Police who are prepared to issue summons for violations. These regulations are to ensure the safety of our campers, counselors, and parents. They have been prepared under the guidelines of the New Jersey Safety Manual for private and public schools. Please read them thoroughly. It is your responsibility to follow the parking lot safety regulations as outlined in this handbook.

Direction of Parking Lot:

- The flow of traffic in the parking lot is always either south to north on River Road or east to west from Linden St.
- There is no left turn into the parking lot coming from the Linden St. entrance.
- There is no left turn coming out of the parking lot onto River Road.
- There is no left turn into the parking going south on River Road.
- There is no parking on the fire lane coming in from Linden St. entrance.

Children are to be dropped off exiting the car from the right. The drop-off line should be aligned to the right on the parking lot, closest to the building in a single file. Pull up as much as you can to avoid a line going out into River Road. Parents are not to park at this location.

ARRIVAL

Arrival time is between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Children who arrive before 8:30 a.m. must report directly to the gymnasium. Please be sure to drop off your children no later than 9:00 am.

Campers are expected to arrive on time.

DISMISSAL

Parents are to arrive promptly between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. to pick up his or her child.

- Cars are to be aligned to the right, closest to the building. There must be enough room on the left for a fire truck to pass at all times.
- All parents must stay in the car. You are welcome to come into the building for any reason. However, you must be parked in a parking space.
- The counselors will escort campers to the cars.
- Cars that enter from the Linden Street entrance are to line up on the left side, closest to the building. No parking on the right side. If you are parking in the back lot, make sure you park in a parking space parallel to the lines.

VISITORS

All parents are encouraged to have a close relationship with their child's counselors and the camp's staff. However, during camp hours all visitors must report to the administrative office first to sign in and then out when exiting.

Only people who are listed on the Emergency/Pick Up form (attached) will be allowed to pick up a particular student. If someone other than the people listed is to pick up your child in an emergency situation, please make sure you call the school coordinator or your child's counselor before dismissal to inform us. You are responsible to inform the person(s) allowed to pick up your child of the regulations of the parking lot. Please remember that there are small children that are present in the parking lot during arrival and dismissal times. Therefore, always double check behind you when backing up and drive slowly when you are in the parking lot. The first few days of camp are difficult and it will take time for the procedures to adjust. Be patient and thank you for your cooperation.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

There are numerous people on staff who have received CPR training prior to the start of camp.

Each camper must have a health/medical form filled out prior to the first day of camp (attached). In the event that a child is injured or becomes ill at camp, the parent will be notified immediately.

DO NOT SEND ANY MEDICATION TO CAMP WITH A CHILD. PLEASE BE SURE TO HAND IT OFF TO YOUR COUNSELOR.

1. The medication must be prescribed in the child's name.
2. The original medicine container, including the patient's name, name of drug, and dosage must be sent to the child's counselor. We recommend RX be filled in 2 vials, one for home and one for camp.
3. A note should be sent to your child's counselor explaining in detail the nature of the child's illness and the recommended schedule of administration of medicine.

4. Medication requiring a prescription should be accompanied by a prescription from the doctor. All over the counter medication will be distributed only if accompanied by a note from the parent.

LUNCHES AND SNACKS

We are committed to the health and well-being of our children. Therefore, lunch will be provided for our campers five days a week, Monday – Friday (see attached lunch menu). You also have the option to send your child to camp with his or her own lunch. If you prefer to send in lunch with your child, please bring in a paper bag that is clearly marked with your child's name. Consider packing some form of protein and some carbs, and also fruit and some vegetables. If there are dietary restrictions of any kind, please let us know in writing so that we can make appropriate alternative arrangements.

WHAT TO WEAR – WHAT TO BRING

Each camper will receive t-shirts designating his or her color group. We recommend children come to camp wearing their designated color t-shirts and shorts. All campers must wear sneakers and socks. Campers should have sunscreen applied at home and we will reapply it at camp as needed.

Each camper should bring a backpack that contains an extra camp t-shirt, underwear, socks, a large plastic bag, a reusable water bottle, and additional sunscreen in a Ziploc bag. In addition, parents are welcome to send in snacks at their own discretion.

Rainy Days: Campers sometimes leave to attend field trips on rainy days but all campers do not always leave the camp on rainy days. Please do not send in money with your child. The camp will not be held responsible for lost money. Bring additional clothing if it is a rainy day and be certain to clearly label the rain jacket or sweatshirt with the camper's name. We recommend that **everything be marked with the camper's full name in permanent marker!**

****DO NOT** bring to camp anything expensive, anything breakable, or anything you hold dear! Campers should not have electronic devices including hand-held games, cell phones, I-pods, or trading cards.

LOST AND FOUND

All items coming to camp should have the name of the camper on them, either by name tape or laundry pen. In the event you use a laundry pen, check after each washing that the name is still readable. Staff can return items that are lost by campers only when their names appear on the item. We are not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged property.

ABSENCES

In the event a child will not be attending camp, the camp counselor should be notified the night before or before 8:00 A.M. of that morning. The camp would like to know if a child is not coming to camp and why. A call communicating that information would be helpful.

VISITING THE CAMP

During the camp season there are several opportunities for parents to attend special events. We will notify you of the performances in advance. Your attendance is greatly recommended as it is a marker of support for your child. In addition, parents are also welcome to come and visit during the camp day if it is not raining or not a day when a special event is scheduled. Simply call the summer camp a day or two before you want to come so we can have your child's schedule ready for you. We ask that you limit your visit to 1 hour.

EXPECTATIONS

We believe that Suryoyo Camp will offer a tremendous variety of activities to interest our campers. We believe that if any camper doesn't wish to participate in an activity, staff and camper can talk together to discover a palatable solution and options. We require only that campers try all activities with a positive and cooperative attitude.

The more we know about any child with special needs, the better we are able to evaluate whether the program we offer at camp is suitable for the child. It is our expectation that parents will inform us concerning any special needs or issues. In the rare instance that we feel we cannot provide a camper with a positive and safe camping experience, the director reserves the right to have the parent withdraw the camper from the program. We delight in sharing the wonderful world of the camp experience with our campers.

Indeed, we can think of no better way for a child to spend his or her summer than in the company of other Suryoye children who will become lifelong friends, of supportive and nurturing adult role models, in an environment rich in opportunities for spiritual and cultural growth.