

GENERAL INFORMATION & CAMP POLICIES

BIRTHDAYS

Camp celebrates birthdays in a special way! Campers who celebrate their birthday at camp can look forward to a special treat for their cabin and being honored at a meal with our special camp birthday song. They'll also receive a special gift from Camp Newman! **Please do not send food of any kind for your child's birthday!**

B'NAI MITZVAH TUTORING

B'nai mitzvah tutoring is only available to campers with a bar or bat mitzvah within 6 months of their camp session. To those who request it, here are some things to note:

- **How often & with whom?** We provide tutoring at no extra fee for 2-3 times a week for ~30 minutes, depending on the session schedule, with one of our faculty rabbis, educators, or cantors.
- **What happens?** The purpose of b'nai mitzvah tutoring at camp is to maintain your camper's progress. It is your camper's responsibility to study materials during their free time at camp.
- **What doesn't happen?** We are unable to help campers learn new pieces of their Torah or haftorah, or prayers for their simcha.
- **What should my camper bring?** Make sure your child packs all the paper materials they need to study such as Torah portions, trope symbols/worksheets, and prayers. If your child requires audio to study, you must send an MP3 or personal CD player to camp. Camp does not assume any responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or broken while at camp. Affordable MP3 players and personal CD players can be purchased online for less than \$30. Please do not send iPods or MP3 players with Wi-Fi.

CAMP MERCHANDISE & MISCELLANEOUS

The camp fee includes a camp t-shirt (distributed on the last day of the session), a shirt that your camper will tie dye, and daily snacks. **You can buy Camp Newman merchandise prior to camp at our online pop-up stores in spring and fall.** Follow our eblasts & Facebook page for info! Select camp and sundry items will also be available at the Cal Maritime bookstore on opening day of each session for parents to purchase.

CAMP SECURITY

We view the health, safety, and security of our community as our utmost priority. To provide your children with a safe, enriching and enjoyable Jewish summer camp experience, be informed that:

- A security survey of all URJ Camps has been conducted by a respected Israeli safety and security firm engaged by the Union for Reform Judaism.
- California State University Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) has campus police that guard the property, and provide on-site security 24/7. Camp has worked extensively with them to meet our specific needs.

CAMP VISITORS

Other than specialty session events, we strongly urge parents/visitors NOT to visit their camper during Shabbatot, even if you are visiting the area. We do not allow on-site visitors during the week. Parents can request a tour of camp on arrival and departure days of each session (only). In our experience, we've seen first-hand how parents/visitors can exacerbate homesickness not just for your camper, but for others who see parents at camp, becoming a disruption to camper activities in process. During specific Shabbatot, when we welcome special visitors by invitation only, visitors are never allowed in camper housing and are not allowed to bring outside food or beverages onto campus due to allergies, cleanliness, and fairness to other campers. We appreciate your help and partnership to create a safe and holy community for your child!

LAUNDRY

- Laundry service ***IS NOT PROVIDED*** for sessions that are **less than 23 days**. These campers should pack enough clothing to last the length of their entire session.
- Laundry service ***IS PROVIDED*** every 2 weeks for sessions that are **23 days or longer** ONLY.
- Please send a non-mesh, cotton or nylon laundry bag with your camper, clearly labeled with your camper's name.

LICE – OUR HEAD LICE POLICY

Because of the continued prevalence of head lice in schools, URJ Camp Newman implements the following policy to avoid head lice infestations at camp.

1. **All campers** and staff will be checked for head lice when they arrive at camp.
2. Anyone found with head lice will be isolated until a parent or guardian is contacted. Out of respect for our entire camp family, **check your children before they leave for camp** for head lice and any other potential health problems!

LOST & FOUND

- **Label all items with camper's first and last name to increase the chance that lost items will be reunited with you!** All found items are brought to the camp Lost & Found, displayed daily, and stored for several weeks. Items unclaimed within 14 days after camper's session ends will be donated.
- **PLEASE NOTE: Camp does not assume any responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or broken while at camp.** You may purchase additional insurance through your home owner's policy or other insurance vendor to cover your child's belongings while at camp.

SUNDRY AND FORGOTTEN ITEMS

To ensure that your child has everything they need while at camp:

- **Any forgotten items** such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., will be supplied by camp. If your child runs out of one of these items, we'll give them enough to last their session.
- **If your child loses an item or something breaks**, such as a hairdryer or a bathing suit, we will get in touch with you directly so you can send a replacement to camp.
- **If your child forgot or needs an essential item** such as a security blanket, shoes, jacket, or a retainer, **please email newmanpackages@gmail.com BEFORE sending any package to camp and await a reply before sending the package.** Note that this will be done on an exception-only basis. Unless we know a package is coming, we will refuse to accept it at camp.
- **Full-summer campers (Avodah & CIT)** will have specific guidelines sent to them separately.

For our complete Package Policy, see page 10.

WHAT TO BRING

Please consult the **2019 Packing List** and adapt the list to fit your camper's needs. More helpful tips:

1. **"Soft" Luggage:** Pack your camper's things in soft luggage, preferably with wheels – they're lighter and easier to carry. DO NOT BRING TRUNKS (too heavy, hard to transport, take too much space)
2. **Zip-lock bags:** Handy (especially for young campers) for organizing toiletries and other items.
3. **Do not tie bags together.** Label each bag clearly.
4. **Loose items:** Like pillows, stuffed animals, etc., must be in a labeled bag – or they get lost!
5. **Footwear:** For your child's safety, all shoes **must** have a closed toe or closed back. Flip-flops are only allowed for shower-use, and high heel shoes **are not permitted**.
6. **Name-labeled musical instruments & disposable cameras:** We encourage you to bring both – just nothing expensive, please. Your camper is responsible for the safe keeping of their items, so if you're concerned, we recommend purchasing insurance to cover any item you wish to protect.

WHAT NOT TO BRING!

Follow this rule – *if you don't want to lose it, don't pack it!* **DO NOT** bring the following items:

- Cash
- Mobile/cell phones**
- iPods/mp3 players**
- Kindles/Nooks**
- iPads/tablets**
- Laptops** (except Avodah & CIT for homework)
- Hand-held Games**
- Sports Equipment
- Scooters or skateboards
- Grills or cooking appliances
- Mini refrigerators
- Electronic Devices
- Jewelry
- New/expensive items!

**For our complete Electronics Policy at camp, please see next section.