



# Ruach Chronicles



Winter: (516) – 565-5640 x222

Week Ending: August 20, 2011

## *It was a GREAT summer at Ruach Day Camp!*

The wide variety of activities that we offer at Ruach is unsurpassed. Sports, nature, swim, arts & crafts, ceramics, chinuch, chocolate making, magic, movement, dance and music are just a few of the favorites at Ruach. What was the favorite trip this summer... it's hard to say - Hershey Park, Six Flags Great Adventure, Go-Karting, Splish Splash, Whitewater Rafting, Atlantis Marine World, Bouncers & Slydos, Cyclones Game, KZAM, Tiki Action Park, Ultimate Gaga? There were so many choices! In addition, each day hosted different events and themes that involved varied programs including our in-house Disney parade, Azamra DJ and our two on-site Carnivals with inflatables, cotton candy & sno-cones. We hope our campers had as much fun as we did. It was truly an extraordinary summer!



### COLOR WAR



It began with our *fabulous* talent show culminating into Color War breakout announcing that Color War was about to begin... The Generals appeared and the excitement was set in motion.



Our very talented and enthusiastic sports director, Michelle Rusgo planned an magnificent color war this year!

Our Color War theme focused on the midot of **Chessed** (abundant kindness) and **Emet** (pursuit of truth). Our entire lives are to be filled with Chessed, and Emet is the foundation of our lives.

All the campers participated in a variety of competitions including sports, swim relays, Torah Bowls, Chinuch Panopoly, and dance-offs. Every lunch period included a creative and challenging competition between the generals and their team. The staff game was definitely a highlight and was a close game through its entirety. The half time show featured each of the teams with amazing stomp routines. The culmination of Color War was the presentation of the beautiful artistic team banners, along with original Hebrew and English songs & cheers, and a very special game show event. What a fantastic conclusion to a great summer!

Our last day of camp was equally exciting. While the upper campus enjoyed the day at Sportime USA, our younger campers were involved in a very energetic lollipop hunt, enjoyable games at the pool and then danced the afternoon away to the music and games of Azamra DJ. It was the perfect ending to terrific summer. See you next year!



Thanks to all of our campers, friends and family for their generous donations to **Chai Lifeline**. If you have not sent in your donations yet, you may still do so and we will be sure to get the prizes to you. Call the camp office (516) 565-5640 ext. 222. Thank you again for sharing in this great mitzvah.



*Watch your mail for information on Early Bird registration.*



### RUACH DAY CAMP WEBSITE

Please visit our website:

[www.ruachdaycamp.org/uniondale/picts2011/](http://www.ruachdaycamp.org/uniondale/picts2011/)  
to view highlights of our summer's activities.



This week's celebrations



A very Happy Birthday to Ariel Gleitman, Dillon Rusgo, Tom Keenan, Yoni Lovy, Maya Betesh, Michali Betesh, Jonathan Welgrin, Suzana Ruben, Ziggy Bornstein, Mathew Gantz and Gabrielle Ruben.



## OUR WEEK OF TRIPS



*We ended with terrific trips for the campers. The B1s & B2s went to Pump it Up, the G2s went to KAZAM, the CIT & CAs went White Water Rafting down the Lehigh River and the entire upper campus went to Sportime USA.*

---



### From our CHINUCH staff



Once again, the summer months have come and gone. Here at Ruach Day Camp we were having fun—lots of it. Yet, the fun was not confined to the baseball field, basketball court, swimming pool or art room. The aura of enthusiasm and enjoyment permeated the Chinuch classrooms, revealing that learning is a fun-filled activity and just as exciting. With a new and expanded Chinuch staff, each camper was privileged to have Chinuch four times a week, including a weekly pre-Shabbat oneg. To keep the lessons fresh and engaging, each week featured new and varied Chinuch themes, such as Brachos, Eretz Yisrael and Shabbat. This summer's primary goal was to generate as much "hands-on" learning as possible. Creative art projects, chessed initiatives, kumzitz-style singing and interactive SmartBoard Torah trivia game shows were just a few of the ways we cultivated the fun through "hands-on Chinuch."

Special events enhanced the program throughout the summer. As part of our Shabbat weekly theme, the girls made their own Challah. For our Tisha B'Av program, each camper made their own brick for the "Ruach Day Camp Beit Hamikdash" — learning that each time we do a mitzvah, a brick for the Beit Hamikdash is created in Shamayim. During Kibbud Av V'Eim, we focused on appreciating the things our parents do for us each and every day.

In addition to our regular chinuch periods, all of our campers participated in daily, age appropriate tefilla and bentching. Our new Davening—Incentive Program and Ruach-Filled Bentching initiative featured two raffles each week, providing just a little extra motivation for each camper to push themselves a bit further to improve his/her davening and bentching.

May all of our campers and staff continue to grow spiritually throughout the coming school year and build on that which they have accomplished over the past two months. We would like to wish you a reflective and meaningful Chodesh Elul and a happy and healthy New Year. Enjoy the rest of your summer and may we join together for Ruach Day Camp again next year in Jerusalem!

*We want to express our gratitude to our entire staff for a terrific season. Your devotion to our campers is appreciated. As the season quickly comes to an end, we reflect upon our successful and innovative new programs and activities. Stay tuned for future mailings detailing the 2012 camp season.  
Have a healthy & happy new year.*

*See you all next summer.*

*Trudy Rubinstein  
Director*