West Haven Parks and Recreation

Painter Park Summer Day Camp

Dear Parents,

 Welcome to Painter Park Summer Day Camp! The program runs from 9am – 4pm at Painter Park at 190 Kelsey Avenue.

 **We ask that you bring or pack the following items for your child:**

* Bathing suit and towel
* Sunscreen and/or hat
* Sneakers
* Lunch, snacks, and beverage (no glass containers please).
* Water bottle(frozen or with ice)

The camp will comprised of both small and large group activities. The campers are grouped by age with one counselor and one CIT, and given a group number. We will have arts and crafts, games, and swimming (at WHHS pool) every day. We will take a field trip to the beach as well. We are happy to announce that our camp director, Chuck Asarisi, will be returning to Painter Park, along with Olivia Quagliani, our Jr CIT director. We also plan a few special events over the 2 weeks they’re with us. We will send out notice and/or permission slips as necessary.

**What we ask of you:**

* Label all clothing and belongings.
* Do your best to drop off and pick up on time.
* Keep our office number handy if you are running late 203-937-3651.
* Inform the director if anyone else is picking up your child (or if anyone should **NOT** be picking up your child).
* Come meet the staff at parent orientation, **Wednesday, June 14th,** at **6:00pm** in the **lower pavilion at Painter Park.**
* Please be sure we are marked as a safe sender on your email.
* Have campers **leave ALL electronic devices at home**.

On **rainy days**, we will be using the MACKRILLE SCHOOL 806 JONES HILL RD. gymnasium at this time. The location may change due to work being done at the school. We will inform you of any changes. If inclement weather is impending and your child is *not* bussed to camp, you may call 937- 3651 after 8:00 am. We may also send text messages and update our website for more information on where your child should be dropped. \*Note: If the weather improves, we will return to Painter Park for pick-up unless it is still raining at that time.

\*\*\*We send out e-mail or text messages and post notices on our website www.whparkrec.com letting you know of any changes. Cell phone numbers are preferred for all emergency contacts.

**EARLY DROPOFF/LATE PICKUP** pay an extra fee for our early morning drop off at **8:00 am**. If you are **not** part of this program your child should **not** be dropped off before 8:45am. The staff uses this time to set-up activities and prepare for the day, so early arrivals cannot be properly supervised. We use limited staff for our extended program. Our late pickup is **5:00 pm.** While we do understand that sometimes traffic coming home is bad or other things popup that may delay you picking up your child, parents that are continually late picking up will be charge a $10.00 late fee for every 15 minutes you are late. **Please call the office** if you are having a problem getting here on time.

 **BUS SERVICE:** Any camper who is taking the bus will be notified of pick-up and drop-off times by mail a few days before each session they attend. The bus company sets bus routes and pick-up/drop-off sites and times for each session. These are subject to change from session to session and are not modified by our department in any way, shape, or form. The bus company makes a concerted effort to keep the routes as short as possible. The bus stops will be as close to your house as is feasible, usually at the nearest corner. Purchasing the bus service does *not* mean your child will be picked-up and dropped-off at your front door. Also, parents of campers that are using our bus service please remind your child that taking the bus is a privilege and not a right. Any child causing problems on the bus will be removed. You will have to find alternate transportation and no refund will be issued.

The **Day Camp office** is located in the Field House (side door next to tennis courts). The Day Camp phone number is 937-3651 ex.5259. Before the first day you may call the Recreation Department at 937-3651 with any questions or concerns you may have regarding camp.

**DROP OFF and PICKUP**: When dropping off your child in the morning please use the Wooden Playground entrance. Drop your child off at field house located on your right as you come up the hill. Please do not obstruct the traffic flow. If you wish to accompany your child or need to speak to someone please find a parking space. Please follow the same procedure when picking up your child. For the safety of all the campers, we close all camp entrances during the day. Gates are closed at 9:30am reopened at 3:30p.m. Please be patient while waiting for the gate to open. You may use the main entrance which is located between the soccer and baseball fields between the hours of 9:30am and 3:00pm.

**LUNCH:** Each day your child must **bring** a lunch in a paper or nylon lunch bag or lunch box (clearly marked with their names) with a drink and a snack. Please pack a drink for your child and/or send a water bottle (frozen or with ice is preferred). Pack a snack separately they will be kept with the child rather than put in the cooler with the lunches. The day is very long for the children and most children like a *snack both in the morning and the afternoon*. Do not send glass containers to camp. We do our best to maintain a peanut free program we would appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

**POOL TIME**: Many campers should keep a sweatshirt in their backpacks for overcast, damp, or windy days, especially after swim periods. The children have supervised swimming periods at the High School pool each day. We test each child on their ability to swim. Children that do not pass our test will be given a life jacket to wear. Please make sure your child brings a bathing suit and towel each day for these activities. (Tip: Put your family name on towels tag.) We will also utilize plenty of water activities to keep the campers cool during the hottest weather.

**CAMPERS RESPONSIBILITY**: Be sure your child wears sneakers (no sandals or crocs) and brings sunscreen (may need to reapply). It is important that all belongings are **labeled** with first and last names. There is a lost and found table in the Day Camp Office. We are not responsible for lost or misplaced belongings. Do not allow your child to bring valuables to camp. We have a comprehensive camp program with activity filled days. Campers do not need and have no time to use any electronics. Baseball and all other “Trading” cards including pokemon should also be left home. Campers only need to bring money for special field trips or other activities that you will be notified of through permission slips. WE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST VALUABLES

 **Additional Information**: We employ a Camp First Aid Person on the grounds at all times. We have counselors working in their area of specialty as Arts & Crafts and Special Events Coordinators. Campers having special needs are interacted into mainstream groups. You will be given a permission slip prior to any field trips. If your child does not wish to participate in any off-grounds activities, he/she will be placed in another group for the day as long as it is not the whole camp that is participating. If you need to pick up your child during the day please send them with a note or notify their counselor. Parents or visitors must report to the Day Camp Office Our Day Camp program has about 150 campers each session. For you conveniences we offer a drive up pick up system. We ask that if possible the same person picks up your child each day. If you need to have someone else pick them up or they are going home with another camper please send us a note or call and leave a message at the Day Camp office. We also ask that you know your child’s counselors name and group number. Each pick up person (2) will be given a name tag with your child’s name. If someone without you’re the name tag is picking up please let us know. If there is someone that you don’t want picking up your child please make us aware of this situation We will be conducting a parent orientation night if you and your child would like to meet our staff and address any concerns you may have. The date will be Wednesday June 14th at 6:00pm in the lower pavilion at Painter Park. We hope that your child’s stay with us is an enjoyable one. Any questions I can be reached at 203 937-3651 Park Rec Staff West Haven Parks & Recreation