

Chots' Shot

Hello J Day Camps Families,

From Monday morning's sleepy carpool to Friday afternoon's icy pops there is never a dull moment at the J Day Camps! In our second week of camp, the rhythm and rhyme of summer is taking shape. As smiles get bigger and the laughter grows louder, everything falls into place when it's camp time.

I cannot remember another week when we did not break 90 degrees – this is St. Louis after all. The cool weather brought a cool vibe to camp. I wish I could bottle it up – we all know 85 degrees will not last long. Even with the cool weather, camp staff is still making sure to remind everyone to stay hydrated and sun screened.

I would like to take a moment and say a huge THANK YOU to J Day Camps' Assistant Director Justin Haddad for helping make the last couple of summers great at camp! Next week is Justin's last week at the J, and then he is off to Oregon to start law school. We will miss Justin's high energy, positive attitude and all the support he provides campers and counselors. Personally, I will miss my partner in camping. Good Luck, Justin!

I hope everyone has a fun and restful weekend. See you next week in the carpool line!

Happy Camping,

Chots

P.S. One thing I have noticed about J Day Camps in 2021 is that we are producing a lot of lost and found items. Please make sure everything you send to camp has your camper's name on it. Lost and found is much easier to return to campers when it is labeled.

Chip Shot from Dorito Specialist Extraordinaire; Nature Specialist; Flag Pole MC



What a long, strange year it has been. After being cooped up inside for so much of the school year, it is great to be back at camp! Back in the fresh air. Back outside. Back in the heat and humidity (although this week has been remarkably mild).

For the most part camp is back to normal this summer. However, returning to normal hasn't come without its challenges. For instance, we kind of forgot how to do carpool the "old" way (thank you all for your patience). This week, I am happy to say, things have been going even more smoothly.

That brings me to the biggest difference between last year and this year. Last year we never got to come together as a camp. It was a necessary change, but it made camp feel somewhat incomplete. There are two times every day they the entire camp comes together. One is carpool, which puts a lively bow on the end of each day. The other is flagpole every morning.

Flagpole sets the tone for the day. It energizes the campers and counselors and marks the official start to the camp day. It makes the campers feel a part of something bigger than just their group. It's a community.

Most of our worlds got smaller last year. Virtual schooling, quarantine and shutdowns had most of us isolated much more than usual. Flagpole is a microcosm of the world opening back up. Coming back together as a community.

Camp is my favorite time of the year. And while I'm always happy to have help finding Captain Green Jeans treasure, I'm even happier for that sense of community to return.

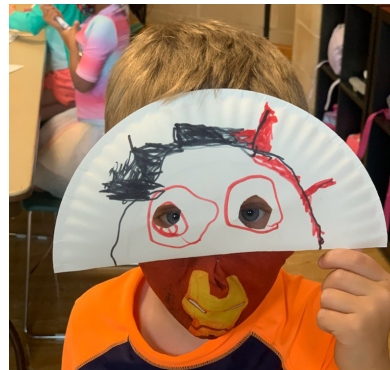


Another Great Week at the Marilyn Fox Building in Chesterfield

This week in Chesterfield, our campers had a great time making new lifelong connections with their fellow campers. In team building, we did a bunch of different activities so the campers could get to know each other better and work as a group. More updates from our week:

- We all dressed up in our best sports attire for Wacky Wednesday.
- Our art projects included saltwater color painting, painted rocks, made masks using paper plates and more.
- For cooking this week, we made pizza bagels which were a huge hit and super cheesy!
- On Wednesday, we did a campus-wide scavenger hunt, and afterwards, we came together and watched all the submissions. Highlights included salsa dancing, group selfies and track stars!
- In Israel Alive, we had a great time with Roni doing IDF training and even got our faces painted.
- The campers are loving their swim lessons and especially love free swim days.

Thanks for a great week!



Introducing Cooper, SFC Specialist

Hello parents! My name is Cooper, and I am the Climbing Wall and Archery Specialist here in Creve Coeur. This is my first year here at J Day Camps, and I am so excited to be working with your kids and giving them a great camp experience. I love seeing your kids improve and face their fears and continue to grow!





Staenberg Family Complex
2 Millstone Campus Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146

Marilyn Fox Building
16801 Baxter Road
Chesterfield, MO 63005

314.442.3110
jccstl.org