

WELCOME TO CAMP WISE

PARENT - CAMPER HANDBOOK

2026



HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT CAMP? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

TOGETHER WE WILL CREATE AN AMAZING SUMMER

Welcome to Camp Wise! This handbook contains all the information you need for this summer's camp. Whether you're a newcomer or you attended camp yourself, please read carefully and feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. Here are four tips to ensure an INCREDIBLE summer – for you, our staff, and most importantly, your child.

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

To best serve our campers, we believe in collaboration. Camp Wise staff and parents work together for a successful summer. If you have any concerns or questions, reach out, and let's start a conversation – we'll do the same. No concern is too small, and we always appreciate a call to our office or a request to set up a meeting. Our commitment is to honesty, transparency and assuming the best intentions to serve our campers' interests. We look forward to getting to know each family and addressing any concerns as a team of staff and parents.

EMBRACE CHALLENGES

It's not just okay – it's fantastic for your child to face and overcome challenges at camp! Children encounter various healthy challenges at overnight camp, from physical activities like climbing the tower to emotional experiences like sharing living spaces and making new friends with different interests. Help your child prepare for camp by framing these

challenges positively. Often, in the context of healthy conflict with safe boundaries, children grow and feel successful. So, if you receive a letter saying, "Come and get me!" it might be a normal reaction to a new challenge. By the time you read the letter, chances are the struggle has been resolved, and your camper is having a great time.

SHARE EVERYTHING WE NEED TO KNOW... AND THEN SHARE SOME MORE!

You've known your child for years, but we're just meeting them (or haven't seen them in about a year!). Help us understand how best to support your child this summer. While we respect concerns about labeling, sharing information about learning differences, ADHD, neurodiversity, social differences or significant family/child life changes greatly helps us be attentive to your child's needs. All information is confidential, and our only goal is to better understand your child and enhance their Camp Wise experience.

HOMESICKNESS IS NORMAL FOR CAMPERS, AND PARENTS MISS THEIR KIDS – IT'S OKAY!

Preparing for overnight camp is a transition for both parents and children. Your child's attitude and comfort with leaving home often mirrors yours. Project confidence and excitement to your child

OUR MISSION

To spark happiness, build confidence and nurture Jewish identity through community and kindness.

For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

as they prepare for camp! While camp is usually amazing for kids, some may not feel that way at first. Missing home is healthy and normal, and our counselors are trained to openly talk with kids and help them navigate their feelings. Encourage your child with honest words of support and excitement instead of offering an easy way out. Your support and partnership are crucial this summer as we work together as a community of parents, campers and staff. We're honored to be responsible for your children and excited to ensure their success and growth at camp.

Your endorsement of all camp policies in this handbook is essential. As you read through and discuss it with your camper, help them understand that camp rules and boundaries exist to create a safe, fun and supportive environment for everyone. We look forward to another amazing summer at Camp Wise!

– The Camp Wise Team

Helpful Resources from our Camper Care Team

“Getting Ready for Camp”



“Letter Writing Tips”



“Helping with Missing Home”



“After Camp”



IMPORTANT DATES

March 15	Town Hall • 7 pm • Virtual
April 12	Town Hall • 7 pm • Virtual
April 21	New Family Orientation • 6 pm In Person • Mandel JCC
April 15	ALL FORMS DUE
April 26	New Family Orientation • 7 pm • Virtual
May 3	Impact Day • 12:30-4 pm
May 17	New Family Tours • noon - 4 pm • Camp Wise
June 9	SITs arrive at Camp
June 14- July 9	Session I
June 14-June 21	Week of Wise I
June 14-June 26	Rishon Aleph
June 14-July 14	ILS – 11th grade
June 28-July 9	Rishon Bet
July 12-Aug 6	Session II
July 12-July 19	Week of Wise II
July 12-July 24	Rishon Gimel
July 25-Aug 6	Rishon Dalet
Aug 14-Aug 16	Family Camp
August 16	Family Fun Day
Aug 21-Aug 23	Women's Weekend
Aug 28-Aug 30	Alumni Weekend
August 2026	Registration for Summer 2027 begins!

We are fully committed to providing a safe, supportive and fun environment for everyone this summer.

Visit www.campwise.org/current-families to learn more about the 2026 experience.

ACCREDITATION

Camp Wise has earned "Accredited Camp" status from the American Camp Association (ACA). The ACA requires a close review of every facet of camp operation including staffing, facility, program, medical, emergency, food service and other standards. A full on-site inspection is conducted every five years.



For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

WHEN TO VISIT

VISITING CAMP

Camp Wise warmly welcomes all parents, family, alumni and friends to our Impact Day on Sunday, May 3, 2026 from 12:30-4 pm. New families are also invited to attend our New Family Tours Sunday, May 17, noon-4 pm.

When camp is in session, **visitors are not permitted into camp**. Please share this policy with friends and family. An overnight camp is a very special place, and it is important for your child's sense of independence and self-reliance that they do not have parents "dropping by," including "just to drop something off." A visit from a parent can initiate homesickness in other campers, and it can create friction within a cabin group.

Please respect our community and our campers by allowing our program to run uninterrupted by visitors. Thank you!

COMING AND GOING

We do not allow campers to come and go from camp on dates other than the designated start and end dates of sessions. When campers ask to leave for events and activities it compromises our ability to build and foster a sense of community. All of our programs are based on a group-centered philosophy and community building begins as soon as campers board the bus on the first day of camp.

If you have an extenuating circumstance, contact the camp office in writing prior to the camp season.

CAMP LIFE

JEWISH LIFE AT CAMP WISE

Camp Wise has the following core values that are intertwined into our program:

- 1. Kehillah:** Community
- 2. Ahavat Yisrael:** Love for Israel
- 3. B'Tzelem Elohim:** Acceptance and Respect
- 4. Tikkun Olam:** Repairing the World

Camp Wise offers campers the opportunity to experience the warmth and joy of living as part of a vibrant Jewish community regardless of knowledge or experience.

It is our goal to integrate our core values, as well as our four additional educational values, into the camper experience, to provide a holistic camp experience. This is accomplished through intentional programming where campers gain a sense of ownership for their own Jewish exploration and identity that carries with them beyond camp. Many campers connect to these values through

art, prayer, music, theater, Torah, dance, Israeli culture, sports and more.

Shabbat is a beautiful and magical experience at camp. Each village of campers has the opportunity to lead a Shabbat for the entire camp and all campers play an active role.

CABINS AND BUNK REQUESTS

Cabin assignments are announced once campers arrive at camp. Cabins are assigned based on a camper's grade. In alignment with our inclusion policy, campers will be housed with the gender that most closely aligns with their gender identification. Campers can request one cabinmate. Cabins are assigned based on the best interests of the group and individual campers. **We do our best to place each camper with one requested friend, and mutual requests are given priority.** If you have a concern regarding your camper's bunk request, please call the camp office.

ACTIVITIES

Each day at Camp Wise campers have a balance of *chugim* (electives) – activities they've individually selected and cabin activities – a pre-assigned rotation of each activity in camp. This offers campers flexibility to specialize in areas of their interest while also trying everything at least once. Campers have the opportunity to choose new *chugim* several times every session. During our

Rishon programs, campers get a “best of camp” sampling of some of our most popular activities.

SWIMMING

All Chalutzim, Rishon and Week of Wise campers (Graders 2-5) participate in swim activities that strengthen their swimming skills. Each afternoon, every village also has time at the pool for free swim.

SPORTS

- Archery
- Horseback Riding
- Mountain Biking
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Fitness
- Basketball
- Yoga
- Kickball
- Ga-Ga
- Pickleball
- Flag Football
- Lacrosse

WATER SPORTS

- Swimming
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Aqua Jump
- Jet Skiing
- Water Skiing
- Wakeboarding
- Tubing
- Stand-up Paddle Boards

ARTS & CULTURE

- Theater
- Arts & Crafts
- Pottery
- Jewelry-making
- Guitar
- Dance
- Photography
- Video
- Israeli Culture
- Live Wise
- Set Design
- Songleading
- Music Production
- Graphic Design
- STEM

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

- Teva (nature)
- Low Ropes
- High Ropes Adventure Course
- Climbing Tower
- Vertical Playground
- Giant Swing
- Overnights
- Hiking
- Gardening
- Outdoor Cooking
- Zip Line



For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

KEHILLA KEDOSHA: CREATING A SAFE, WELCOMING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

At Camp Wise, we strongly believe that when every member of our community feels a sense of belonging, they are able to explore who they are and who they want to be, try new things and venture outside their comfort zone.

In our camp environment we aspire to create sacred spaces grounded in Chesed (compassion) and Gemilut Chasadim (loving-kindness) so that each individual in camp has an opportunity to develop self-respect, self-confidence and a strong sense of self.

Our goal is for campers and staff alike to be proud of who they are and feel supported in celebrating their unique identity and experiences. At Camp Wise, we welcome all who wish to participate in our camp experience regardless of sex, gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, family composition or accessibility.



STATEMENT ON GENDER & SEXUALITY

In alignment with our values and mission, Camp Wise welcomes everyone regardless of their sex, sexual orientation or gender identity. Camp Wise is committed to making our community a welcoming and comfortable environment for campers, families and staff.

Every member of the Camp Wise community has the right to be addressed by their preferred name and pronoun. Campers will be housed with the gender that they feel most closely aligns with their gender identification. Discrimination, bullying and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or family composition is prohibited. It is the responsibility of Camp Wise and its staff to ensure that all campers, including transgender and gender nonconforming campers, feel safe and supported in our camp community.

The scope of this responsibility includes ensuring that any incident of discrimination, harassment, hostility or bullying is given immediate attention, including investigating the incident, taking appropriate corrective action and providing campers and staff with appropriate resources.

WHAT TO PACK

LUGGAGE

Please pack in duffel bags only using a maximum of two duffel bags per camper. Make sure all bags are securely closed and labeled.

Two baggage tags are enclosed in the spring mailing. If you should require additional tags, please contact our office. For security purposes, only luggage with our Camp Wise tags will be permitted on the luggage trucks. Labels are color-coded by village. **Please put your camper's name and city on each tag.**

Grades 2-5: Red (Chalutzim/
Rishon/Week of Wise)

Grades 6-7: Green (Ohalim)

Grades 8-9: Blue (Noar)

Grade 10: Yellow (Solel)

Grade 11: CW Luggage Tag (ILS)

Staff will assist campers with getting their luggage to their cabin.

CAMP GEAR

Each camper will receive a Camp Wise T-shirt. Typically, campers like to tie-dye this T-shirt at arts & crafts. Additional camp gear is available online by going to campwise.org and clicking the "Camp Store" link under the "About Camp" tab.

SHABBAT

Shabbat is a very special time at camp. In keeping with Camp Wise tradition, campers dress up on Friday evenings marking Shabbat as a unique time. Campers wear nicer clothing such as skirts, sun dresses, pants and collared shirts. High heels, fancy or revealing clothing and valuable jewelry are not appropriate for Shabbat at camp.

Campers are welcome to bring religious items such as kippot (head coverings) and tallitot (prayer shawls) if it is their practice to wear these items during Shabbat prayers. Camp provides kippot for campers should they wish to wear them during prayers.

LABELING ITEMS / LOST AND FOUND

Camp Wise does not assume responsibility for lost or damaged items. While packing, explain to your camper the importance of keeping track of their belongings while at camp. We display lost and found items for the campers several times throughout each session, yet still many items go unclaimed. Clearly labeled lost items will be kept 2 weeks past the end of each session at the Mandel JCC and will then be donated to a charitable organization. We do not keep lost underwear, socks or towels even if they are labeled.



LAUNDRY

Professional laundry service is included in the cost of camp and is provided twice for Session I and Session II campers and once for Rishon campers. Laundry will not be available for the Week of Wise programs. Each camper's laundry will be individually laundered and returned folded in their laundry bag. In collecting, laundering and returning laundry for hundreds of people, occasionally items are misplaced.

Continuing in 2026, camp will be providing each camper (excluding ILS) a laundry bag with their name on it. Campers are encouraged to only bring one laundry bag for when their camp issued laundry bag is out with the laundry.

PLEASE LEAVE AT HOME

- Technology. Camp is an opportunity for campers to disconnect and enjoy nature and friends. When a camper brings technology to camp, it removes them from our sacred space and can have a negative impact on their experience and the experience of those around them. We ask that you please leave the following items at home.
 - Cell phones
 - Portable gaming devices
 - Tablets/computers
 - Walkie Talkies
 - Smart Watches
 - Devices with touch screens (Nintendo Switch, iPod Touch, Kindle Fire)
- Any other handheld device that has games, internet access or movies
- If your child is found with a device that is not approved we will keep it secure until the end of the session.
- Weapons, knives, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, pornography, lighters/matches and fireworks are prohibited on camp grounds.

- Outside food should not be brought or sent to camp. Any food brought into camp will be confiscated and thrown away. Food in cabins is a safety concern, attracts raccoons and mice in our cabins, and compromises our Kashrut and dietary/allergy policies. Snacks are available throughout the day and food will always be made available if a child is hungry.

TIPS FOR PACKING

1. LABEL EVERYTHING!
2. The packing list is based on a 14-day supply.
3. Make sure you supervise your camper packing (regardless of their age).
4. Each camper has the same amount of space in the cabin for belongings (Don't over-pack!).
5. Campers and staff dress informally at camp – pack comfortable and practical clothing and shoes.
6. Know that items will get dirty at camp – that's okay! It's part of the fun!
7. LABEL, LABEL, LABEL!
8. Leave expensive or irreplaceable items at home.
9. If your camper is missing a toothbrush or other hygiene items, know that we have extras of those things and will make sure they get what they need.
10. Did we mention to LABEL EVERYTHING?!

CREATING SHALOM TOGETHER

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

At Camp Wise, we are committed to working closely, respectfully and responsively with our camp parents. We take great pride in developing positive relationships with our families and value the supportive relationships during camp and throughout the year. However, in the rare event that we determine we have reached an impasse with a parent – such that it undermines our ability to work effectively with the family – we reserve the right to ask them to pick up their child from camp without a refund.

CAMPER CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents, please read this section with your child.

We encourage campers and staff to respect themselves, others, our camp and facilities, and our Earth and environment. Camp Wise is committed to providing a safe camp environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, respect and fair treatment. **Any behavior in violation of the following policies or practices will be discussed with the camper and parents, and may result in the camper having to leave camp.**

Bullying

The Camp Wise definition of bullying is unwanted and/or aggressive behavior among campers that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time and results in a person feeling unsafe, threatened, or unvalued. Campers must not bully or threaten other campers or staff. This behavior is not tolerated.

Appropriate Behavior

- To demonstrate respect for others and ourselves, only appropriate language is acceptable.
- Graffiti is only permitted in certain locations designated by the director. If campers write on or deface camp property in undesignated areas such as cabins, parents will be billed at a rate of \$25 per “graffiti” to cover the cost of cleaning.
- Campers are expected to dress appropriately at camp at all times. This includes wearing the proper attire at activity areas. Clothing with lewd or suggestive language, references to alcohol, drugs or offensive messages is prohibited. Valuable clothing should be left at home.
- Campers must not threaten or use physical violence with other campers or staff members

Safety

- Campers may not possess or use any kind of tobacco products, matches, lighters, fireworks or open flames for any purpose at camp.
- Weapons are not permitted at camp or off-site programs. In addition to all assumed weapons (knives of any kind, etc.) a weapon also includes any items, body parts or words used in an inappropriate way, which may cause threat, harm or intimidation to others or yourself. If there is any suspicion that a camper is harming themselves in any way, the director reserves the right to send the camper home for their own safety.

- Possession, consumption and use of alcohol, illegal drugs or the illegal use of legal drugs are prohibited at camp.
- Campers must stay with their assigned group with appropriate supervision.
- Campers may only leave the camp grounds on supervised trips.
- Campers must attend all scheduled activities, meals and programs unless excused by a staff member, and then only if supervised.
- Campers must follow set curfew hours and may not “sneak out” of their cabin.
- Campers are only allowed in their own cabin and gender-appropriate bathroom facilities.
- You must not use obscenities, profanity or vulgar language.
- You must not use the internet to criticize Camp Wise, campers or employees of Camp Wise.
- You must not use the internet to harass, bully or intimidate other campers or employees of Camp Wise. Behaviors that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to, comments that are derogatory with respect to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, color or disability; sexually suggestive, humiliating or demeaning comments; and threats to stalk, haze or physically injure another person.
- You must not use the internet to discuss or engage in conduct that is prohibited by camp policies, including, but not limited to, the use of alcohol and drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment and bullying.

Year-Round Online Communication Policy

We support opportunities to connect with your camp friends online, but we want you to do so in a safe and respectful way. If you reference Camp Wise online, another camper or a future camp parent is just as likely to find your content as they are to find the official camp website. In light of this, we require that all campers and parents observe the following guidelines when referring to Camp Wise, its programs or activities, or its campers and/or staff members online:

- You must be respectful in all online communications related to or referencing Camp Wise or members of the Camp Wise community.

If we discover rules that are broken, we will contact the camper or family immediately. A camper or parent who does not follow this policy may be asked to leave and/or may not be invited back to Camp Wise.

Parents, after you have read this Code of Conduct with your child, please confirm you have done so by signing the form in your CampIn Touch account or on the Campanion app.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

While we expect most campers will stay healthy throughout the summer, occasionally campers become ill or injured at camp. We have a professionally staffed Health Center at camp.

ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY

Treatment at the Health Center will be based on our Camp Wise Standing Orders (detailed approved treatment for ailments, injuries and illnesses), which are reviewed and approved by a physician. This results in quality and consistency of medical care.

You will be notified if... your child needs to spend the night in the Health Center, needs to be taken to an out-of-camp doctor, emergency room or clinic, or has been prescribed any type of medication.

You will NOT be notified if... Your child spends less than 24 hours in the Health Center or your child has a headache, minor cuts or bruises, insect bites, sore throat or upset stomach.

In some situations we may ask that you pick up your child so they can recover more comfortably at home. In that situation it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to pick up the child from camp.

PHYSICIAN EXAM AND IMMUNIZATION FORMS

We have included a copy of the Physician Exam and Immunization Forms in the parent spring mailing. They are also available to print from your CampIn Touch account or Companion app. Once completed, please scan and upload to your CampIn Touch account or the Companion app by April 15, 2026. **These forms must be completed and signed by a licensed medical professional within 12 months of arrival at camp.**



For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

HEALTH HISTORY

The Health History Form is located in your CampIn Touch account. Parents must fill out/update all required health information online.

If your child is not current on vaccinations, please contact the camp office to speak with the director.

MEDICATIONS AND PACK MY RX

To ensure safe and efficient care in our Health Center, all campers who take daily and “as needed” medications or supplements – including prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and melatonin – must enroll in Pack My Rx through the Pack My Rx website. This company is our new prescription and over the counter medication partner.

Pack My Rx packages medications into clearly labeled, single-dose pouches with your child’s name, medication, date, and time. This American Camp Association-endorsed system reduces errors, shortens wait times, and improves overall care.

Pack My Rx will be able to support all prescription and “as needed” medications. Pack My Rx is unable to provide rescue medications such as epi pens and inhalers.

As this new process rolls out, camper families will receive details on how to register with Pack My Rx in future emails as the summer approaches. The process will begin online, and details will be provided to families so that physicians can provide necessary prescriptions.

Fees (excluding medication costs):

- \$50 registration fee per child
- \$100 medication deposit (refunded after summer)
- \$85 late fee per medication if requirements are not received 30 days before camp or if changes occur within 30 days

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AT CAMP

If your child participates in talk or another supportive therapy during the year, we feel it can be beneficial for them to continue that while at camp. We can support these over the phone and by Zoom. Please provide us with your child’s therapy session schedule and provider information.

SUMMER MEDICATION CHANGES

Occasionally, parents choose to discontinue medications for their child while they are at camp. Please remember our camp days are longer than school days. While many children with behavioral challenges or attention difficulties are highly successful at camp, campers need skills like impulse control and focus, just like at school. Consult your child’s physician prior to any medication changes for the summer. If there has been a recent change in medication, please make us aware of that change prior to your child’s arrival so your child can have a successful experience at camp.

In the case of illness in the days leading up to camp, please contact the camp office immediately for guidance. A camper needs to be fever free (below 100 degrees without medication) and symptom free for 24-hours prior to beginning any overnight camp session.

SEVERE FOOD ALLERGIES AND DIETARY NEEDS

We make every attempt to accommodate campers with various food allergies. We are a nut-aware facility and we do not cook with nuts or nut products. We will never serve food that is processed in a facility that uses nuts or that contains nuts such as cookies, candy bars, etc. If your child is coming to camp with a life-threatening allergy, we require that they come to camp with two epi-pens: one for the counselor and one for the Health Center.

EYE CARE

If your child wears glasses, please send them with a second pair, as glasses are sometimes broken or misplaced at camp. If your child wears contact lenses, please send them with extra lenses and cleaning solution.

ORTHODONTICS

We are equipped at camp to handle minor repair to braces. Should emergency attention be needed, we will bring your child to a local orthodontist unless we are instructed otherwise on your child's medical form. Should your child be taken out of camp, you will receive a phone call.

LICE

Lice checks are performed on all campers and staff upon arrival at camp or arrival at bus pickup. Should lice or nits be detected, treatment will be required, with Camp Wise medical director approval, prior to being approved to enter the camp program.

INSURANCE

For accidents, injuries or illnesses that require off-site medical attention, charges for physician's services, emergency room fees and all medications billing will be sent directly to the camper's parents or their health insurance carrier as named on the Health History Form. Camp Wise does not provide accident or health insurance for campers. Please complete the insurance section of our online Health History Form. If your insurance requires the use of designated facilities, you must make the appropriate arrangements with the local hospital or clinic and your insurance carrier prior to the summer. Make sure we have this information in writing so we do not take your child to a place not covered by your insurance.



For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

AT CAMP WISE, THE FUN NEVER STOPS!



FAMILY CAMP

FRI, AUGUST 14 – SUN, AUGUST 16

Whether you're thinking about camp for a future camper, want to relive your camp days, or want a weekend of fun, Family Camp is for you! Enjoy swimming, tubing, tennis, archery, basketball, campfires, arts & crafts, climbing tower and zipline, and a magical camp Shabbat and Havdalah.



WOMEN'S WEEKEND

FRI, AUGUST 21 - SUN, AUGUST 23

Relax, unwind, and refresh with a weekend at Camp Wise. Relive your camp days or experience your camper's summer with our pool, arts and crafts, lake activities, ropes course and much more! Join us for gourmet meals, Shabbat experiences and time with life coach Natalie Goldfein. Come on your own or with friends for a time to remember!



ALUMNI WEEKEND

FRI, AUGUST 28 – SUN, AUGUST 30

This weekend is open to CW alum 21 years and older and their partners. Relive the magic of CW canoeing and relaxing at the lake, crafting in the art shack, reconnecting with fellow alumni, taking a hike in the woods, and most importantly, relaxing, disconnecting, and having fun.

COMMUNICATION

HOW TO REACH US

Phone 216-593-6250
E-Mail: wisekids@mandeljcc.org
Fax 216-831-7796
Website: www.campwise.org
Emergency-Only Number
216-309-1907

OFFICE HOURS JUNE 14-AUG 6

(during Camp)

8:30 am - 5 pm (Sunday – Friday)

During Shabbat (Saturday) and after hours phone messages are checked sporadically, but emergency messages should not be left on the main number.

Camp Wise – Summer Address

May 1 - August 31

13164 Taylor Wells Road
Chardon, OH 44024

Beachwood Office – Winter Address

September 1 - April 30

The Mandel JCC of Cleveland
26001 S. Woodland Road,
Beachwood, OH 44122

CAMPIN TOUCH/CAMPANION APP

To send emails, look at photos and fill out forms you must log into your CampIn Touch account or use the Campanion app.

1. Each parent is able to have their own login account. Your login is simply your email address.
2. Go to CampWise.org and click on "CampIn Touch"
3. Log into your CampIn Touch account by entering your email address and password.
4. If you cannot remember your password click on "Retrieve/Set Password" on the bottom right hand side of the login box and follow the on-screen instructions.

MAIL

Incoming Please write your child often! It means so much to campers to hear from home frequently. For first-time campers especially, send mail before they even leave for camp so it is waiting for them the first day. Mail is distributed every day after lunch except Saturdays. Please send mail to your child at:

Your child's name, Camp Wise
13164 Taylor Wells Road
Chardon, OH 44024

Outgoing Even though campers are required to write home twice a week, please keep in mind the old saying, "no news is good news." We encourage our campers to write often and they look forward to hearing from home, too!

Tips Help us make letter writing easy for your camper! **We encourage you to pack pre-addressed envelopes or print labels for your campers.** You can have one sheet of labels with the camp return address and another sheet with multiple labels for family and friends. These can be kept in a folder with stamps. Parents may also want to provide fill-in-the-blank letters that are quick and easy to write, especially for younger campers.

Postcards Your child will fill out a postcard on the first day of camp to let you know their village, cabin and counselors. You will also receive a mid-session postcard from your child's cabin counselors that highlights their time at camp. Throughout the year campers will receive postcards about registration, off-season programs and a birthday postcard!

EMAIL

Incoming To email your camper please follow the instructions below. Emails are distributed with mail after lunch. We print emails every day at 10:30 am except Saturdays.

For more details visit www.campwise.org/current-families

To Send An Email to a Camper

- Log into your Campln Touch account or the Campanian app.
- Choose "Email" from the Menu (under the "Online Community" heading)
- All emails are limited to 50 lines
- Camp is providing this service at no cost

Outgoing Email is the primary way we communicate IMPORTANT and TIMELY information with families. While campers are not permitted to use email during the summer, you can expect to hear from us several times in the weeks leading up to and throughout the summer.

NEW THIS YEAR: Campers' replies can be scanned via email, click the box saying "I would like a handwritten eletter reply" at the end of your email to your camper. Email replies will be sent twice per week on letter writing days.

TEXTING (FROM CAMP WISE)

Periodically we will send texts to parents to share updates and information. Be sure to complete the Text Opt-In form in your Campln Touch account or on the Campanian app.

PACKAGES

For safety and security reasons, we will no longer allow campers to receive packages at camp! (The one exception, of course, is birthday packages.) This includes Amazon, UPS, FedEx, USPS and even dropping off items at the Mandel JCC. Any camper package received will be returned to the sender. Please share this information with family or friends who may want to reach out to your camper. Please encourage lots of letters instead!

To send a birthday package, please contact the camp office. If your child requires any hygiene item or has forgotten something at home, please contact the camp office. Camp Wise keeps a stock of basic hygiene items for your camper. We appreciate your help with this policy.

PHONES

We are always happy to answer any question you may have throughout the summer. Your concerns about your child's welfare are important to us. When you call camp we will take a message and the appropriate person will call you back within 24 hours. That might be a member of our senior staff or camper care team, depending on the nature of the call.

Campers are not able to use the phone except for emergency situations and on their birthdays. Please explain to your child that they won't be talking to you on the phone and that there are a lot of caring counselors and staff for them to talk to at camp. We find frequent upbeat letters to be a much better way of letting your child know you are thinking of them and love them.

SHABBAT COMMUNICATION

The Camp Wise Blog is updated on our website each Friday evening when camp is in session. The blog highlights a week-in-the-life of Camp Wise.

SOCIAL MEDIA

While email is how we communicate important information, our social media accounts allow us an opportunity to share with camp families and alumni throughout the year. Follow us for fun games, photos or random wacky things throughout the summer.

Facebook @Campwise

Instagram @CampWise13164

PHOTOS

You will be able to view photos throughout the summer on your Campln Touch account or the Campanian app. Photos are uploaded at the end of each day. Remember - we specialize in taking care of kids, not taking pictures! You may not see your child in photos every day but we do our best to highlight all campers and activity areas.

TRANSPORTATION

The camping experience begins with the bus ride, and whenever possible all campers ride the buses to and from the city closest to their home. We require a completed transportation form from every camper attending camp.

ARRIVAL DAY

SESSION – DATE	LOCATIONS	TIME
Session 1 • June 14	Chardon, OH Location TBD	Drop Off Between noon-3 pm (<i>assigned times</i>)
Rishon Aleph • June 14	Columbus JCC of Greater Columbus 1125 College Ave.	Drop Off 11 am (<i>send camper with a packed nut-free lunch</i>)
Week of Wise I • June 14		
ILS • June 14		
Rishon Bet • June 28	Chardon, OH Location TBD	Drop Off at 10 am
Session 2 • July 12	Chardon, OH Location TBD	Drop Off Between noon-3 pm (<i>assigned times</i>)
Rishon Gimel • July 12	Columbus JCC of Greater Columbus 1125 College Ave.	Drop Off 11 am (<i>send camper with a packed nut-free lunch</i>)
Week of Wise II • July 12		
	Toledo Toledo JCC 6465 W. Sylvania Ave	Drop Off 11 am (<i>send camper with a packed nut-free lunch</i>)
Rishon Dalet • July 26	Chardon, OH Location TBD	Drop Off at 10 am

FLORIDA

We are pleased to offer a chaperoned flight to and from the south Florida area for our Florida campers. We will need a minimum of five campers to offer a chaperoned flight. You will be notified by April 1 if the flight is running.

DEPARTURE DAY

Please be sure to arrive at the bus location 15 minutes prior to approximate bus arrival time.

Week of Wise I • June 21	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Rishon Aleph • June 26	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Session 1 • July 9	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Rishon Bet • July 9	Columbus JCC of Greater Columbus 1125 College Ave	11:15 am
ILS • July 14	Camp Wise 13164 Taylor Wells Road Chardon, OH 44024	8:00 pm
Week of Wise II • July 19	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Rishon Gimel • July 24	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Session 2 • August 6	B'nai Jeshurun/ Gross Schechter Day School 27501 Fairmount Blvd Pepper Pike, OH 44124	10:15 am
Rishon Dalet • August 6	Columbus JCC of Greater Columbus 1125 College Ave	11:15 am
	Toledo Toledo JCC 6465 W. Sylvania Ave	11:15 am

**** Camp is working to confirm a bus service from Toledo and Columbus to Chardon for Session 1 and 2 as well as at the end of those sessions based on the number of campers. We will let you know if these buses are running after April 1. If we are able to provide busing, each camper traveling from those cities will incur a \$50 charge, placed on your account in May.**

CHECK LIST

This mailing contains important information about camp policies and procedures. It is essential that you and your child familiarize yourself with the camper Code of Conduct and then sign the Code of Conduct confirmation.

All camper forms will be available on your CampIn Touch or the Campanion app account and must be completed by April 15, 2026. Bunk requests will not be considered until all forms are received. (If your child has a doctor's appointment after April 15, please contact the camp office.)

- Health History (*typically completed when physician form is turned in*)
- Physician Exam Form (*to be completed and signed by a licensed medical professional*)
- Immunization Form
- Confidential Parent Questionnaire
- Camper "About Me" Form
- Parent Summer Travel Form
- Bunk Request Form (*will be prioritized for campers whose forms are completed by April 15*)
- Camper Code of Conduct
- Teen Agreement
- Camper Internet Policy
- Transportation Form
- Camper Photo (**a good idea to update each year**)
- Food Service Dietary/Allergy Questionnaire
- Text Message Opt-In
- Register with Pack My Rx (if camper has medications)

NEW FAMILY ORIENTATIONS

Parents and campers are encouraged to come meet our year-round leadership team, have any questions answered, hear tips and schmooze with other new camp families.

IN PERSON: Tuesday, April 21 • 6 pm

VIRTUAL: Sunday, April 26 • 7 pm

Scan the QR code to register

REGISTER FOR
IN PERSON



REGISTER
FOR VIRTUAL



NEW FAMILY TOURS

Sunday, May 17 • noon – 4 pm

Take a tour of camp before the summer starts!

Scan the QR code to register

REGISTER



campwise.org • 216-593-6250 • wisekids@mandeljcc.org