

Camp Wewannago 2023

Dear Camp Parent(s),

Welcome to The Lan-Oak Park District Camp Wewannago – and thank you for choosing us for your child's 2023 summer camp experience.



We are proud of our camp and its emphasis on safety and camper enjoyment.

- Unlike other camps, Camp Wewannago safely employs a low counselor-to-camper ratio of one counselor to every eight campers. Additionally, all camp counselors are required to participate in a full week of staff training, submit and pass a criminal background check, and be CPR/First Aid certified.
- We care about health and fitness (and fun)!! Campers will participate in fun fitness activities every day!
- Campers will appreciate one time zone each day that allows them to independently choose the activity they wish.
- Camp will meet indoors two days per week and outdoors three days each week to allow a balance of comfort and activities.
- Camp Wewannago will enjoy a swim day each week in the Eisenhower Center indoor pool.
- Field trips will entail local walking trips and bus trips (one per camp session contingent upon bus availability)

Enclosed, you will find a camper information form, an emergency form, and a swim/water day permission form for each participant enrolled in Camp Wewannago. Please complete these forms and return them to the Eisenhower Center ***one week before the camper starts his/her session.*** **Campers will not be admitted to camp without these completed forms. Note: If you have enrolled more than one child for summer camp, we will need completed forms for each child.**

NEW THIS YEAR – The park district prioritizes communication with families and will provide an email address this year for campers and their parents. Please utilize this email address for last-minute pick-up instructions, questions, and/or concerns this year. camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org If you prefer to call, feel free to contact us at 708-474-8552.

We look forward to seeing you for an adventurously fun summer!

Important Camp



Camp Wewannago 2023 Sessions (Ages 6 to 12)

First Session: June 5 thru June 30

Days: Monday-Friday

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Second Session: July 3 thru July 28*

Days: Monday-Friday

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

* No camp on July 4th

Camp Location

The camp will meet (and parents will drop off and pick up) at the Arcadia Shelter in Lan-Oak Park on days that camp is scheduled to be outdoors. On days that camp is scheduled to be indoors, please drop off and pick up in the gym at the Eisenhower Center, 2550 178th Street (across the street from Lan-Oak Park). Consult with your weekly schedule for the location each day.

Inclement/Extreme Weather

In the event of inclement/extreme weather (including during heat advisories) Camp Wewannago participants will be moved into the Eisenhower Center, 2550 178th Street.

Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

Campers should arrive for Camp Wewannago *no earlier than 10 minutes prior to camp*. Campers must be picked up by 3:10pm each day. To ensure the safety of all day camp participants, **all campers must be signed in and out every day by an authorized individual**. If your child will be arriving/dismissing from camp via bike or walking, please send a signed and dated letter to the counselor for your child's file. If we do not have a letter on file your child will not be admitted to or dismissed from camp without an authorized signature. The sign in/sign out procedure is **NOT OPTIONAL**. The failure to follow this very important safety procedure **WILL result in removal from the camp program without a refund**.

Release of Campers

Campers will only be released to authorized individuals. Counselors must be informed, in advance and in writing, if someone else will be picking up your child. Please notify anyone picking up your child that counselors will require identification before your child is released. Children will not be released to unauthorized individuals without identification and prior written notification from parents. **Note: There is a section of the enrollment form that requires notation of**

individuals authorized to pick up your child and those that are not authorized. Please take this portion of the form into great consideration. If the form does not provide enough space for your authorized individual list, please add a piece of paper with names.

Late Pick-Up

Being on time to pick up your child is important as children are more secure knowing that a parent or caregiver will be there when camp ends. **After three late pick-ups the child will be removed from camp without a refund!! Be Prompt!**

Carpools

Carpools may be arranged among parents; however, counselors must be notified IN WRITING of carpool arrangements. It is the responsibility of the parent picking up the children to inform the other parents of any information distributed and/or announcements made.

Personal Property in Camp

Staff and volunteers are not responsible for money, valuables, or personal items sent to camp. There will be no handheld games/electronics, toys, cell phones, or game/electronic accessories allowed during camp hours. Once again, the staff and volunteers will NOT be responsible for campers' personal items. If you don't want to lose it – don't bring it.



Calendars

Weekly calendars will be distributed during each section. If you do not receive a calendar, you may obtain a copy from the site supervisor. Calendars will inform parents of any themes, daily activities, and special events. Any special announcements or program needs will be noted on the calendars. Please read your calendar regularly!

Camp Activities

To address the interests of all campers, camp will provide a variety of group games, athletics, races and relays, science, drama, and arts & crafts. After lunch each day, campers will enjoy some resting time with books, coloring, board games, and cards.

Outside Play

Camp participants will be outdoors on a regular basis. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather of the day. Children are expected to wear gym shoes to camp—sandals or dress shoes are not appropriate for our scheduled daily activities. Please apply sunscreen to your child each day before they arrive at camp. Children needing additional sunscreen applied while at camp will be expected to apply it by themselves.

Clothing

All articles of clothing must be labeled with your child's name. Please be sure to clearly label coats, lunch bags, towels, shirts, backpacks, etc. Campers will get messy! Please dress your child appropriately—“Sunday Best” and expensive clothing is not appropriate for camp. Camp shirts should be worn on Camp Wewannago field trip days.

Illness

Should a camper become ill at camp, parents will be notified immediately so that the camper may be picked up as soon as possible. If we cannot reach a parent, the emergency contact will be called. Parents whose children develop communicable diseases, i.e., chicken pox, head lice, measles, etc. are asked to please notify the park district at 708-474-8552 as soon as the child is diagnosed. The name of the affected child is not released, but camp parents are

notified of the occurrence of contagious illness. Daily absence should be reported to the park district prior to the start of the camp day at camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org or 708-474-8552

Absences

If your child is going to be away from camp for a length of time, please let the site supervisor know with a written note. Daily absence should be reported to the park district prior to the start of the camp day. 708-474-8552

Lunches/Snacks

Each child is responsible for bringing his/her own lunch to Camp Wewannago. Camp Wewannago does not provide lunch. Time will be allotted for campers to enjoy lunch. **Refrigeration will be available** for Camp Wewannago lunches. Refrigeration may also be used for medical purposes.

Children will NOT have access to vending machines while at camp.

It is recommended that campers bring their food in a paper sack for easy disposal. If you choose to use a reusable lunch bag, your child will be responsible for their lunch bag.



Swimming Days

Camp Wewannago will visit the Eisenhower Center indoor pool once per week. Please notify the site supervisor *in writing* if your child has any swimming difficulties. **Please send your child appropriate swimwear,**

towel and a pair of slip-on sandals or flip-flops; street shoes are not permitted in the pool area. All personal items should be properly labeled and sent in a bag for your child to carry (swimsuit, towel, flip-flops, etc.). All swim days are noted on the calendar.

About swimming... Permission slips must be completed and returned before your child is allowed to visit the Eisenhower Center indoor pool. The indoor pool is a shallow pool with a graduated depth, with a maximum depth of 4'6". Children unable to swim will be confined to the shallowest area of the pool and will wear life jackets provided by Camp Wewannago. Children not swimming during swim days will be provided cards and board games.

Movies

Campers love to relax with a movie on the big screen on occasion. Movies shown during camp will be rated G or PG only. Parents having a concern about movies should contact the camp email, camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org, or call 708-474-8552.

Field Trip Days

Camp Wewannago will enjoy a waling trip to Lan Oak Lanes for bowling and to Baskin-Robbins for a yummy treat. Contingent upon bus availability, campers will enjoy one bus field trip each session. Campers not participating in the bus field trip must stay home that day.

Birthdays

Camp participants that wish to celebrate their summer birthday by bringing a treat should package treats individually in Ziploc bags. Treats will be distributed at the end of the camp day. No refrigeration is available for birthday treats. Special lunches and midday treats provided by parents/guardians are not permitted.

Medication

If your child needs medication dispensed during camp hours, camp staff will be authorized to do so as long as the Permission to Dispense Medication Waiver and Release of All Claims and Medication Dispensing Information forms

have been fully completed. Please do not send your child any medication, including over-the-counter medications. If medication is required, please see the site supervisor or message through camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org to obtain the proper forms.

Behavior Management Policy



The Lan-Oak Park District has a Behavior Management Policy in place to ensure a safe and positive program experience for all participants. Individuals exhibiting inappropriate behavior or chronic inappropriate language may be dismissed from the program at the discretion of the Senior Superintendent. If a child is dismissed from camp due to inappropriate behavior or language a prorated fee will be reimbursed reflecting paid time remaining. Bullying will not be tolerated at any time.

The Behavior Management Policy extends to the behavior of parents, siblings, or any person authorized to pick up or drop off the camper. Inappropriate behavior by such person(s) may also result in the child's removal from camp.

Payment

Full payment for the camp is due upon registration. Please register participants in accordance with the registration deadlines for each section. Please direct all payment questions to the Eisenhower Center front desk staff.

Special Needs Inclusion

The Lan-Oak Park District is proud to welcome children with special needs to Camp Wewannago, when possible. Please be aware that your child's camp group may include a special needs camper. Representatives from South Suburban Special Recreation Association (SSSRA) will assess the child's needs, determine if Camp Wewannago is suitable for the child, and will provide a one-on-one aide if appropriate. Parents will not be charged an additional fee if an aide is provided.

Information Changes

All changes of address or phone numbers must be reported to the Lan-Oak Park District at camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org. Please also notify your counselor and the site supervisor of any changes of address, phone number (both home and office) and emergency contacts.

Communication

Your child will frequently come home with a note, weekly schedule and/or art project. Please check your child's backpack daily to remain informed about camp activities.

If you have any questions/concerns, please feel free to contact us at camps@lanoakparkdistrict.org. Please understand that drop-off and pick-up times are very busy. Be patient when approaching the site supervisor or counselors with questions or concerns. If you are rushed for time, you may submit your concerns through our camp website or by phone at 708-474-8552.

Thanks, again, for choosing Lan-Oak Park District for summer camp this year. Have fun!



Camp Checklist

Please LABEL and send the following items to camp with your child every day:

- **Sunscreen and hat**
Please apply sunscreen before camp. Campers will have opportunities to re-apply sunscreen by themselves throughout the day. Wearing a hat will shield your child's face and eyes from the sun.
- **Nutritious lunch**
Refrigeration is available for camper lunches, so pack lunches accordingly.
Please encourage your child to not share snacks/lunch to prevent exposing other children to food allergens.
Please do not send your child concession/vending money. If they need an additional snack, please pack one.
- **Water bottle**
The children will be spending much of their day outdoors. Water will be provided outside, but to ensure your child remains hydrated please send a disposable water bottle daily.
- **Swimming suit, towel, flip-flops**
Camp Wewannago campers will participate in recreational swimming at the Eisenhower Center and scheduled water days. Children may also participate in impromptu water games on hot days, so pack a swimsuit daily!
- **Gym shoes and socks, NO SANDALS PLEASE (except at pool)!**
We will be playing group games that involve running and jumping. Sneakers/gym shoes allow campers to participate in activities safely and fully.
- **Comfortable clothing**
Please remember that many camp activities will be "messy" and your child should dress accordingly.
- **Backpack**
Please ensure that your child's backpack does not contain any unnecessary items as the children will be carrying their backpacks throughout the day - the lighter, the better!



Whew!! We think you're ready – see you soon!!