Summer camp info

Permission Slip
A permission slip will be uploaded to the forms section in the next few weeks. Please be sure to download one or two copies, fill them out and have your son return them to the scribe at a troop meeting. You must have a permission slip filled out to attend summer camp.

Medicals
All scouts must have signed Class 1 and Class 2 medical form completed before leaving for summer camp. The form must be signed by a doctor, so I encourage to make your appointments now. You must have a class 1 / Class 2 medical form filled out to attend summer camp.

Medication
All medication that your son needs at camp must be in it's original container as dispensed by the pharmacy. This allows the nurse at camp to have the medication name, dosage, doctor name and telephone number in the event it is needed. The only exception to this is Epi-Pens, inhalers and heart medications. You can not simply place a weeks worth of medication into a seven day medication organizer. You can just place a seven day supply into the original container. Your son's medication need to be placed in a zip lock bag with their name and complete instructions written on a label on the outside. One of the leaders will serve as the medical rep. For the troop and will check with your son and the nurse to see that all medications are being received.
Keys / Combination Locks
One of the leaders will collect extra keys and lock combinations. Place the combo or extra key in an envelope and write your sons name on the envelope. This will be used when they loose or forget their key or combo.

Money
Everything they need to survive is provided. The Sugar Shack / Trading Post has candy, ice cream, patches, knives, whittling kits and just about every other thing a scout would want. 3.00 to 5.00 a day for a soda, candy bar, a patch, another soda, is about right. They also may want to do some wood burning and the wood plaques run from .50 cents to about 10.00 depending on size, look, etc.

If they have 50.00 on Sunday it may be gone Monday night. In an effort to teach (or is that force) them to be Thrifty. <u>One of the leaders is designated as "The Banker" and participation is purely optional – your call.</u>

As an example, the bank operates like this:
Your son has 10.00 on Sunday – a few bucks to get him going.
You provide the bank with X number of envelopes, with your son's name on them, with X dollars in it. Just write, (your sons name) – Tuesday, (your sons name) – Thursday, John Ersing – Fridayor whatever days you want., and put money in each envelope. On that day, your son will be given that envelope at mail call.

Allergies
If you son has an allergy, no matter how minor, please make a note of it on the Class 1 / Class 2 medical. Form. If you son has a severe allergy, including food allergy, we need to know. Please provide a list of ingredients, foods or other that your son is sensitive to.

Visiting
There is no visiting during the week. This is for the protection of your son and the other scouts at camp. Only registered and trained leaders, who are on the roster, can be at camp. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Cell Phones
The more the boys talk to home, the more they seem to miss home, and that makes it that much rougher for the leaders when 3 or 4 or 5 kids are really homesick. When you are speaking to your son, it helps them to keep the conversation focused on their activities at camp and keep it focused on your son, not on what's happening at home. That way they do not know what they are "missing" and are less prone to homesickness. The shorter the call, the better.

Ockanickon has poor cell tower coverage. Odds are your son's phone will discharge looking for a signal within one day and there is no place for them to charge it. They do not need a phone for emergencie's as they are never alone given the buddy system and the fact that there are 500 scouts at camp. If you need to reach them, Cathy Goerke is the person you need to call. She has direct access to the camp and the camp will get me and I will get your son should that be necessary. In my opinion, it is best to just leave them at home, but ultimately that's your call.

Troop Picture
On Sunday we will have our troop picture taken. The cost for a print will be $8.00 each These pictures will be handed out at the end of the week.

Uniforms
We wear Class A uniforms to camp. We also eat dinner everyday in Class A uniforms – all week. <u>You must have your class A shirt</u>. Scout shirts - class B or other scouting shirts should be worn during the day as well as scout shorts – or at least scout green colored shorts. No jean cut off's, no "muscle shirts" "beaters" no shirts with marijuana leaves on it, alcohol slogans, etc.

Footlocker
You need to have a footlocker that locks. These can be purchased at Walmart, Target, Kmart, etc. Be sure that is lockable and not extremely high. Your footlocker will need to fit under your cot.

Items Discouraged
Cell phone, I-Pods, and other electronic's. Neither the leaders, the scouts nor camp staff will put out an all points bulletin nor organize a search party for lost cell phones, I-Pods, etc. If you lose it, you lose it. The best advice I can give you is to leave it all home.

Items not permitted
Fireworks, firearms, drugs, bicycles, alcohol, in-line skates, skateboards, dry ice, pets, unapproved liquids and fuels.

Daily Life
Sunday – We check in, SPL gets the camp organized, SPL assigns work details and the boys fill out their merit badge cards. They need one card for each Merit Badge they will be working on. I'll provide these at camp.

Monday to Friday
6:45 ish – Polar Bear swim
7:30 to 8:45 – Breakfast – depending on which one we have
9 to 12 - classes, one hour each - – or swim, canoe, kayak, whatever
12 to 2 – lunch and a siesta period
2 to 5 – classes, one hour each – or swim, canoe, kayak, whatever
5 to 7 – dinner and down time
7 to 10 – evening activities

There are a wide variety of activities and merit badge classes available. The boys may or may not load up with all merit badge classes but they should attempt to complete a few. I would guess most scouts, on average complete three or four badges at summer camp, a random few do none and others do seven or eight. It is important to remember that I do not want the boys thinking that summer camp is school. For you son to realize the full benefit of summer camp, he should experience a combination of learning and good times alongside a week of "independent living".

Mr. Ersing