



Parent/Guardian Session Letter – Adventure Camp

Week 7: August 15 – August 19, 2022 “Pickering Safari”

Welcome to Week 7 “Pickering Safari”. My name is Dakota Sheehan-Alleyne, and I am the Director of Adventure Camp this summer. On behalf of all the staff members, we would like to welcome you to camp and let you know that we are really excited to offer your child a safe, fun and enjoyable session. We have planned many activities and special days aimed at ensuring that your child has a wonderful camp experience! Please read the attached information carefully. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Campers coming to Camp with a Parent/Guardian

Adventure Camp will be operating out of Pine Ridge Secondary School, Monday and Wednesday and Fridays; Tuesdays and Thursdays will always be trip days or at Pine Ridge if inclement weather. Monday, Wednesday and Friday you have the option to **drop off** your child at either Pine Ridge Secondary School (9:00 am, Gym) or Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex (8:50 am, Meeting Rm. #2). Tuesday and Thursday, **drop off** (8:50 am) will only be at the Rec. Complex due to special trips. **Pick up (3:15 pm) will always be at the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex (Meeting Rm. #2) due to swimming and special trips.** (see chart below)

For the safety of all campers, we ask that you walk your child into the camp drop off location when dropping them off in the morning. We ask that the same be done when picking them up in the afternoon. Please ensure that you check your child in and out with the designated Pick-up/ Drop-off Counsellor. If someone else is picking up your child, please inform the staff in the morning. **Anyone that you have designated as an alternate pick up contact will be required to show Photo ID to camp staff prior to your child being released into their care. Please ensure that they are aware of this protocol.**

If you have any questions or concerns about where to drop off or pick-up your child please email me at dsheehan-alleyne@pickering.ca.

Please see below for daily drop off / pick up locations for this week:

	Mon. August 15	Tues. August 16	Wed. August 17	Thurs. August 18	Fri. August 19
AM Drop Off 9:00 am	CHDRC Meeting Room #2 8:50 am or Pine Ridge (Gym) 9:00 am	CHDRC Meeting Room #2 8:50 am Trip to Whitevale Park	CHDRC Meeting Room #2 8:50 am or Pine Ridge (Gym) 9:00 am	CHDRC Meeting Room #2 8:50 am Trip to Whitevale Park	CHDRC Meeting Room #2 8:50 am or Pine Ridge (Gym) 9:00 am
PM Pick Up 3:15 pm	CHDRC (Meeting Rm. #2)	CHDRC (Meeting Rm. #2)	CHDRC (Meeting Rm. #2)	CHDRC (Meeting Rm. #2)	CHDRC (Meeting Rm. #2)

CHDRC= Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex

Campers taking the Bus to Camp

For campers taking the bus, they should board the bus at their designated pick up point every day. Please check the bus schedule on-line at pickering.ca/camps to confirm your pick up and drop off times. If there are any changes to these arrangements, please send a note with them in the morning or email me at dsheehan-alleyne@pickering.ca. Please be at your stop 15 minutes prior to your pick up / drop off time, and allow extra time for delays due to construction, traffic etc. Campers who are not met by parent/guardian at their bus stops after camp (as arranged) will be brought back to the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex. Parents will be called to pick up – please ensure you are at the stop to meet your child at the designated time.

Absenteeism / Safe Arrivals

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent from camp, please send a note stating the camper's name, and the day that they will be away, or you can email me at dsheehan-alleyne@pickering.ca. Attempts will be made to contact parents of campers who are absent without prior notification.

Special Trips

- On **Tuesday August 16 and Thursday August 18**, Adventure Camp will be taking special trips to **Whitevale Park**. Morning drop off will be at Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex (8:50 am, Meeting Rm. #2). Campers wishing to go Creek Walking must bring a second pair of old running shoes with them – please do not bring rubber boots or sandals; shoes must be closed toe and extra clothes. Campers wishing to go hiking are advised to bring a comfortable pair of running shoes. Also remember to send your child with lots of water, extra peanut-free snacks, a hat, bug spray and sunscreen as we will be outside for a large

portion of the day. Buses will be leaving Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex at 9:00 am, if you are late you will be required to drive your child to Whitevale Park. (In the event of rain we will be operating out of Pine Ridge Secondary School as usual).

Swimming / Wrist Bands (please keep on for the full week at camp)

Campers will be swimming from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex. Campers should bring a towel and bathing suit (in a separate bag) with them. Campers will be given the option to opt out of swimming and play games either outside or in Meeting Room #2 with other campers and one of our Counsellors.

Campers 7 years and under are given priority in the Turtle Pool. When the Turtle Pool is full, campers will wear a lifejacket and swim in the shallow end of the large pool with a staff member. All campers 7 years of age and under are accompanied by camp staff at a 2:1 ratio, regardless of swimming ability. All other campers are accompanied with a 4:1 ratio.

To swim in the deep end of the large pool (without a lifejacket) campers must demonstrate the ability to pass a swim test. Children who are 8 and 9 years of age are allowed to take the swim test. **No exceptions** and the Lifeguard's decision is final. If they do not pass the test they automatically will have to wear a life jacket for the rest of the week during swim time in the big pool. For the swim test: children must swim 10 meters, tread water for 30 seconds, and swim another 15 meters of the pool. However, even if they do have a note and pass the swim test, there still must be a counsellor available to swim with them, as we must adhere to a 4:1 ratio, therefore your child may not be able to swim in the deep end of the large pool at all times. If your child will not be swimming for the day/week please send a note to let us know.

Clothing

All campers are advised to wear comfortable clothing and are asked not to bring valuables to camp, as they will be responsible for their own belongings. Please label campers belongings i.e. lunch bag, extra clothing, coats etc. This helps to avoid confusion when campers misplace their belongings. Also, please send indoor shoes (running shoes would be great!).

Lunch / Snacks

Campers are required to bring their own **peanut free** lunch with them to camp every day. It is important to include ingredient labels with certain foods, such as muffins, cookies, granola bars, etc. in order to ensure that they are free from peanuts and that they are also made in a peanut free facility. Please do not pack lunches and snacks in **glass containers**. Since Adventure Camp is placing more awareness on the environment this summer, we encourage you to try and pack a 'waste free' lunch in order to be as environmentally friendly as possible. This means that there is very little garbage left behind when your camper is finished eating (any garbage will go home with campers). A great way to do this is by using plastic containers and re-useable cutlery. It

is recommended that you pack your camper with extra snacks and drinks, as we will be playing outside for most of our day.

Allergies – Important Notice!

Please be sensitive to any food allergies that may be brought to your attention (i.e. peanut allergies that can be life threatening). For this reason, **Please do not pack peanuts, peanut products, or any products containing traces of nuts in your child’s lunch for camp.** If staff are unsure of snacks (i.e. granola bars), campers will be asked not to eat them at camp. Fruit is always a healthy and allergy safe snack! Please feel free to send a copy of the ingredients of any items we may be unsure of (i.e. cookies). Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Information on Ticks

All staff know how to identify and remove an attached tick. We will also do our best this summer to check campers for ticks periodically throughout the day when at Whitevale Park. If you would like to know more about symptoms, treatment, and how to properly remove a tick visit the following two websites:

<http://health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/disease/lyme.aspx>

<https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/lyme.php>

Special Days

The following is a list of the special days at Adventure Camp “Pickering Safari” week:

Mon. August 15	Tues. August 16	Wed. August 17	Thurs. August 18	Fri. August 19
First Day of Camp	Lion King Day	Animal Day	Jungle Explorer Day	Jungle Book Day
Welcome! Orientation Day	Dress up as your favourite character from the movie OR Wear Orange	Dress up as your favourite animal OR Wear Red	Dress up in your safari attire (i.e., bucket hats, Hawaiian shirts, sunglasses) OR Wear Blue	Dress up like your favourite character from the movie OR Wear Green

*Note: Regarding dress up for the theme days above, please do not bring any weapons (fake or real) to camp.

Please complete and return the following attachments (applicable to your child) on the **second day** of camp:

1. 2022 Camp Medication Form.
2. City of Pickering, Photo/Model Release Form – allows staff to take pictures for City / Camp promotions

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me, Dakota Sheehan-Alleyne, at the Camp Office at 905.420.4660 ext. 3246 or email me at dsheehan-alleyne@pickering.ca.

Looking forward to a great summer!

Dakota Sheehan-Alleyne
Director, Adventure Camp