



Parent/Guardian Session Letter – Mini Pidaca – Mini Space Explorers

Week 5: July 28, 2025 – August 1, 2025

Welcome to Mini Pidaca – Mini Space Explorers! We are thrilled to have your child join us for an exciting, active, and engaging camp experience. Whether it's their first time at camp or they're returning for another adventure, we are dedicated to providing a safe, inclusive, and memorable environment for all campers. Please read the attached information carefully and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Camp Details

The camp day runs from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (daily).

Location: Chestnut Hills Developments Recreation Complex, Creative Centre. (1867 Valley Farm Rd)

Meet Your Camp Director

Hi, my name is Meha and I am Mini Pidaca's Camp Director this Summer Break! I am currently completing my degree in Behavioural Science. I enjoy spending time with my friends, family and my dog. This will be my fourth year working for City of Pickering Camps and I am looking forward to spending it with your littles! Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns!

Camper Pick-Up/Drop-Off Procedures

Mini Pidaca takes place at the Creative Center inside the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex, running Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 am.

Pickup/Dropoff will take place at our outdoor entrance located at the south side of the CHD Recreation Complex (outdoor fenced area facing Diefenbaker Court) every day except for Monday morning. To help with the initial sign in process, drop-off on Monday mornings will be at our indoor entrance to the Creative Centre. In the event of inclement weather, pick-up and/or drop-off will also take place indoors.

Remember to check in and out with our designated Pick-up/Drop-off counselor each day and inform them if an alternate pick-up person will be arriving on a specific day.

For safety reasons, any alternate pick-up person you designate will be required to show photo ID to camp staff before your child is released into their care. Please make sure they are aware of this protocol and that your child is picked up on time.

Absenteeism / Safe Arrivals

If you know in advance that your child will be absent or late, please email us at strasathurai@pickering.ca or camps@pickering.ca. If you would rather leave a voicemail, please call 905.420.4660 ext. 3246.

If a camper is absent without prior notification, we will attempt to contact the parents.

What To Expect

This fun-filled camp offers a variety of activities designed to spark creativity and curiosity, including arts and crafts, dancing, outdoor adventures, and plenty of games. Little ones will have a blast socializing with their peers, developing new skills, and staying active in a safe and nurturing environment. From creative play to outdoor exploration, every day is packed with laughter, learning, and lots of fun!

What to Bring to Camp

- **Clothing:** Campers should wear comfortable clothes suitable for activities. Please do not send valuables, as campers are responsible for their own belongings. Remember to label all items (e.g., lunch bags, extra clothes, coats) to help prevent mix-ups. Indoor shoes (running shoes are recommended) are also required.
- Campers may be outside during the camp day so please pack appropriate clothing for outside play.
- **Lunch and Snacks:** Campers must bring a nut-free lunch each day. Please pack lunch in non-breakable containers (no glass). Campers will have two snack breaks and lunchtime, so extra snacks are encouraged.

Allergy Notice

Please be sensitive to any food allergies that may be brought to your attention (i.e. tree nut allergies that can be life threatening). For this reason, please do not pack tree nuts, tree nut 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.

- **Water Bottle:** Please pack a reusable water bottle. There are water fill stations available at camp to keep your child hydrated throughout the day, as they may be outside.

Water Day

We will aim to have a water day once per week on Wednesdays if the weather permits. On these days, please send your child to camp with their bathing suit and towel, as well as a plastic bag for their wet bathing suit. Also, please send a hat and apply sunscreen to your child. Campers who choose not to participate in water day, will have a variety of different activities to engage in.

Wristbands

On the first day of camp, each camper will receive a wristband in their camp's designated color. Please help ensure your camper wears their wristband throughout the week. If the wristband is lost or damaged, a replacement will be provided the following day at camp.

Special Guest Information

This week, on Tuesday, July 29, Mini Pidaca will be going to the Pickering Central Library located at One The Esplanade, Pickering, ON. Campers and staff members will be walking to and from this location. This trip will run from 10:00 am to 11:45 am. Please remember to pack regular water, lunch, and snacks for your child, as well as a change of clothes.

The following is a list of the special theme days at Mini Pidaca Camp: Mini Space Explorers!

Monday, July 28	Tuesday, July 29	Wednesday, July 30	Thursday, July 31	Friday, August 1
Orientation Day! Welcome to Camp!	Trip Tuesday Today campers will taking a trip to Pickering Central Library!	Water Day Please remember to pack a bathing suit, towel, and plastic bag! Please label all belongings.	Theme Day Please dress up in your best 'space' attire! OR wear silver!	Pajama Friday Campers can wear their favourite PJ's and bring a stuffed animal. We will also be enjoying a themed movie this afternoon!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us directly via email at

camps@pickering.ca

Looking forward to enjoying a fantastic week together!

Meha Rasathurai, Mini Pidaca Camp Director