



## **Parent/Guardian Session Letter – Mini Pidaca – Mini Under the Sea!**

### **Week 3: July 14, 2025 – July 18, 2025**

Welcome to Week 3 of Mini Pidaca- Mini Under the Sea! 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 – Through the Main entrance, on the right hand side (Signage will be posted in the area for guidance)

### **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 4th 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 PM.

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.

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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 me at [strasathurai@pickering.ca](mailto:strasathurai@pickering.ca) or [camps@pickering.ca](mailto: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/guardians.

### **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

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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.

### **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.

### **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. If your camper does not want to participate in water day, there will be a variety of different activities for them to engage in!

### **Special Guest Information**

On Thursday, July 17, 2025, we're thrilled to welcome Hands on Exotic, the wildest, most exciting guest you could imagine! They'll be bringing a whole zoo of incredible animals to camp, from slithering snakes to majestic birds, and maybe even a furry friend or two. But it's not just about meeting these amazing creatures—it's all about learning! The experts from Hands on Exotic will be sharing fun facts, stories, and fascinating insights about the animals, their habitats, and what makes them so special. So, get ready to get up close and personal with the wonders of the animal kingdom while unleashing your creativity!

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The following is a list of the special theme days at Mini Pidaca Camp: Mini Under the Sea

<b>Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Orientation Day!</b>  Welcome to Camp!	<b>Terrific Tuesday!</b> Get ready for a fun day filled with under the sea themed adventures!	<b>Wander the Sea Wednesday!</b> Mini's will be partaking in a hunt for lost treasure!	<b>Theme Day!</b> Under the Sea themed costume Or wear Blue!	<b>Pajama Friday!</b> 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](mailto:camps@pickering.ca)

Looking forward to enjoying a fantastic week together!

Meha Rasathurai, Mini Pidaca Camp Director

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