

BOOKMARK THIS EMAIL FOR...

- **Message from our Camp Director**
- **Programmatic Highlights for 2026**
- **New Family Orientation RSVP**
- **Passover Fun Day**
- **Camp Handbook**
- **Camper Readiness Tips**
- **Packing List**
- **Meet our 2026 Hanhallah**
- **Who's Who this Summer**
- **Israel Ikarim**
- **and more!**

Dear Ramah Families,

We can't wait to see your *chanichim* (campers) stepping off the buses in Ojai in just a few short months. **This is the first in a series of emails called Hachasak L'Kayitz - "Preparing for Summer" - designed to help you and your children get ready and excited for camp.** These emails will include both technical information and helpful tips to prepare campers for being away from home, along with insight into why we do what we do.

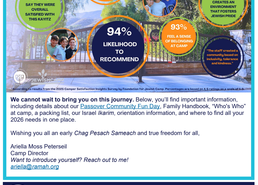
Preparing for camp is not just for your campers; it is also for you! This is a holy partnership. We are excited to share it with you.

As we enter our 70th anniversary at Camp Ramah in California, this is a meaningful moment for us to reflect with pride on all that we have built, while also looking ahead - thinking about who we want to be and what is needed from us to meet this moment.

Our world has changed in so many ways in recent years. Ramah has become both a sanctuary and an antidote to so much of what we see around us. **It is a place where we disconnect from screens and technology, where campers can feel comfortable and proud to be Jewish**, with a strong relationship to Israel, where they play outdoors, build real friendships, and learn to navigate challenges, both big and small.

At Ramah, campers grow in independence while living alongside peers from different backgrounds and perspectives. They build meaningful connections with Israeli campers, sharing their worlds and learning from one another. They connect with lifelong role models and leaders who help shape who they are becoming.

We are incredibly proud to see how Ramah continues to live up to our highest aspirations and mission-driven values while meeting the needs of today's world - **fostering belonging, connection, Jewish identity, and community, all within our "giant Jewish playground."** These values that came to life so vividly last summer are reflected in the feedback we received from campers, parents, and staff.



We cannot wait to bring you on this journey. Below, you'll find important information, including details about our Passover Community Fun Day, Family Handbook, "Who's Who" at camp, a packing list, our Israel *Ikarim*, orientation information, and where to find all your 2026 needs in one place.

Wishing you all an early *Chag Pesach Sameach* and true freedom for all,

Ariella Moss Peterseil
Camp Director
Want to introduce yourself? Reach out to me!
ariella@ramah.org





Our *Chugim* (Electives) for 2026

We are excited to bring back some of our favorite activities our *chanichim* (campers) know and love - *bishul* (cooking), *omanut* (art), mountain biking, woodworking, and circus. These programs feel familiar, joyful, and confidence-building. At the same time, we are intentionally introducing new opportunities - diablo, ultimate frisbee, baking, book folding, crochet, and capoeira. These new experiences invite *chanichim* to stretch themselves, to try something unfamiliar, and discover abilities they may not yet know that they have.

Campers will sign up for their preferred *chugim* when they get to camp on the first day.

- Baking/pastry
- *Bishul* (cooking)
- Book folding
- Capoeira
- Circus
- Crochet/Macrame
- Diablo
- Drama/Improv
- Fencing
- Fitness/Triathlon training
- Gymnastics
- Hiking/Outdoor Adventure
- Jewelry
- Krav Maga
- Mad Science/STEM
- Mountain biking (7th grade and up)
- *Omanut* (Art)
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Woodworking
- Zumba

Tips for Camper Readiness

PREPARE NOW FOR AN AWESOME FIRST SUMMER AT CAMP RAMAH!

Sleepover Success

Plan a few overnights with friends or grandparents this spring to build comfort sleeping away from home.

Self Care Superpowers

Help your child identify and practice ways to calm themselves—reading, drawing, deep breathing, taking a walk, or playing catch—so they can reset when needed.

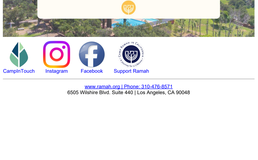
Meals @ Camp

Meals are family-style by bunk. Practice trying new foods, serving themselves, and asking for help when needed.

Click to read more tips!







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