



# OVERNIGHT CAMP

## PARENT HANDBOOK

SO MUCH MORE THAN SUMMER CAMP!

Welcome!

We are so excited that you have chosen to spend part of your summer with us. We are committed to providing a safe, fun, and memorable experience for each and every camper. This Parent Handbook is an important resource in preparing your camper and the entire family for the Camp experience, so please review it and save it for future reference. If you have additional questions that are not answered in this handbook, please feel free to contact the Admin Office. We are happy to help and here to serve you and your family!

**Katie Phillips**

Camp Director

[katie@sanpedrocenter.org](mailto:katie@sanpedrocenter.org)

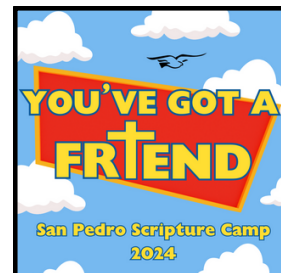
(407) 671-6322 ext. 107

**Drew Beracierto**

Assistant Camp Director

[drewspsc@sanpedrocenter.org](mailto:drewspsc@sanpedrocenter.org)

(407) 920-1298



# ABOUT THE CAMP SESSION

## Character Counts

On the first day of camp, rules and behavior expectations are shared with all campers. Our behavior expectations focus on values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. Incorporating these values, campers will learn how to ensure their own safety and practice ways to make other campers and counselors feel comfortable and valued.

Our camp staff use positive reinforcement techniques when working with campers. Camp counselors are also trained in working through behavior challenges. While coaching a camper with their behavior can be a normal and healthy part of a camper's development, camp will not tolerate ongoing disrespect or violence. This includes emotional, social, verbal, and physical bullying, as well as inappropriate actions that violate our camp rules.

If a camper chooses not to correct inappropriate and/or dangerous behaviors, San Pedro Scripture Camp reserves the right to remove the camper from the program. The camper's parents/guardians will be responsible for picking up their camper from the camp site and no refund will be given. Please take time to discuss appropriate behaviors with your child prior to their camp visit to help us ensure a safe and fun experience for all participants.

## What We Do

We believe that every child is unique, and our schedule is designed to meet the individual needs and interests of each camper. From canoeing on the lake, swimming in the pool, playing sports and games, making crafts, archery, singing songs passed down from generations, boys dorm and girls dorm pranks, low ropes course, skits, indoor activities, to Sacraments, teachings, prayer, and more, your camper will walk away with positive memories for a lifetime! All are welcome so don't worry if your camper is unfamiliar with the Catholic faith-time with God is woven into the fun so seamlessly at SPSC!

Please note: We do not give a full schedule to our campers and parents because our campers are encouraged to be present during each activity and our schedule may be subject to change due to weather conditions. However we have provided a sample schedule for your viewing.

## Cancellation & Switching Sessions

We can always try to switch your camper to a different session if a conflict arises -just contact us about availability. If you need to cancel entirely, a two-week notice is required to receive a full refund. If you need to cancel within the two-weeks of your camp week, you will receive your camp fees back minus the \$50 deposit.

If appropriate notice is provided (listed below) within the two weeks of your camp week, you will receive a full refund.

- 1.A medical condition prevents the camper from participating. A written note from the camper's physician must be mailed or emailed to the Camp Office.
- 2.SPSC cancels the program.

Departure from the camp program due to homesickness, illness, or dismissal for behavior problems is non-refundable.

## Fee Balances

All camp fees must be paid two weeks before the camp is scheduled to begin.

## Trouble with CampDoc

If you are having trouble with your CampDoc account, please visit their help page: <https://support.docnetwork.org/hc/en-us/categories/115000363510-Participants>

## Lost and Found

Lost and found items are held at camp for the duration of the summer season. We will do our best to locate and return lost items; however, San Pedro Scripture Camp cannot be held responsible for personal property. Please label your camper's items. All unclaimed lost & found will be donated to local charities by August 1.

## Sample Schedule

7:30: Morning Prayer  
7:45: Breakfast  
9:00: Morning Stations  
• Archery  
• Canoeing  
• Front Field Games  
• Arts & Crafts  
• Pool  
12PM: Lunch  
1:00: Siesta/Low Ropes  
2:00: Teaching  
3:00: Camp Wide Game  
5:00: Witness/Mass  
5:30: Dinner  
6:30: Evening Activities  
8:45 Night Prayer  
9:00 Dorm Activities  
9:30 Lights Out



# BEFORE ARRIVAL: PREPPING & PACKING

## PACKING LIST

Please pack according to your child's needs, remember it's better to overpack than to not pack enough! Mark all items with your child's name so that they may be easily claimed in the event that they are misplaced. San Pedro Scripture Camp is not responsible for personal possessions.

### Bedding (Twin).

- Sleeping bag or bed sheets & comforter
- Pillow

### Clothing (Two pairs per day).

- Tee shirts
- Shorts and Pants
- Sweatshirts or Light Jackets
- Pajamas/Sleepwear
- Swimwear\*
- Pair of Messy Day Clothing\*\*
- Athletic Shoes
- Sandals/Crocs/Chacos
- Underwear and Socks
- Hat/Sunglasses

### Miscellaneous

- Bible
- Reusable Water Bottle
- \*\*\*Medication

### Toiletries

- Towels (2)
- Soap and shampoo
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sunscreen/Bug Spray
- Deodorant

### Optional

- Journal
- Camera
- Books
- Pictures/Stuffed Animal from home
- Specialty Equipment (contact us with questions beforehand)

\*We highly encourage one-piece or modest swimsuits

\*\*For messy day, your camper and the clothes and shoes they are wearing will be getting messy. We recommend this be a set of old clothes and shoes/crocs/sandals you don't mind getting mucky.

\*\*\*Prescription labels must match the intended dosage administered. We cannot vary from the prescribed amount on the medication label. Please bring any medication for your camper in the original containers.

## What NOT to Pack

One of the things that makes the camp environment special is the opportunity to create meaningful, personal connections with others. For this reason, electronic devices are discouraged at camp because they distract us from the natural environment and the people around us. Camp staff will take pictures around camp every day and will create a camp video for you to view at Family Mass and download from home, and we will always call you if we feel it's necessary. Please supervise your camper's packing and join us in encouraging them to "unplug" for this short time.

Do not pack:

- Candy, gum, snacks (they attract unwanted critters into the dorms, however, if you would like to replace meal items you may. We will place these food items in the the dining hall)
- Video game devices (they distract from the camp experience)
- Pocket Knives/weapons
- Tobacco/alcohol/drugs/vapes/inappropriate books or music

These prohibited items will be confiscated by camp staff and secured in the Camp Office until the camper's departure.

## Homesickness Prevention

Homesickness is a very normal, and often temporary, response for some campers. With proper handling by parents and staff, a case of homesickness can be prevented or easily overcome while the camper gains independence and feelings of success. The camp staff are extensively trained to handle homesickness in a sensitive and compassionate way so that your camper has a great week!

- Reassure your camper that you want them to have a wonderful time, and avoid giving them an "out" to come home or call if they miss you.
- Pack a familiar object from home, such as a favorite stuffed animal.
- When sending your camper a letter from home (explained further below), let them know how excited you are to hear about all of their adventures!



# HEALTH, MEDICATIONS, AND SAFETY

Your camper's physical and emotional safety is of utmost importance to us. We have taken great care to ensure that our procedures are thorough and effective, considering all precautions, implementing safety protocols to protect the well-being of your child. Please take a moment to review your involvement with your campers health form. We hope you find the information helpful. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us. Thank you.

## Health and Authorization Form

Please complete the Health and Authorization Form in CampDoc.

## Health Care

A nurse is on-site throughout the week for health needs and medication distribution. Camp will be in immediate contact with the camper's family in the case of a serious medical concern, illness, or incident. All camp staff are first aid and CPR certified and equipped to handle routine first aid needs. San Pedro Scripture Camp does not carry medical insurance for camp participants.

## Medications

Please note your camper's medications within the health form online. Prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal medications must be turned into the Camp medical staff upon arrival. With the exception of rescue inhalers and epipens, campers are not allowed to have medications on their person or in their belongings while they are at camp. Medications **MUST** be in their original containers and must not be expired. Prescription medications must also be clearly labeled with the physician's name and dosage instructions as we cannot vary from the prescribed amount on the medication label.

## Food Allergies/Restrictions

If your camper has specific dietary requirements or severe food allergies, please fill the information in CampDoc so we can be fully prepared for your camper's stay. All of our camp staff will be prepared for and aware of your campers allergies &/medical conditions.

## Zero Tolerance Policy

- Campers with a fever (temperature of 100.4F or higher ) will not be allowed to attend camp until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Campers found to have lice during the camp will not be allowed to attend camp until they are lice-free. Parents or guardians will be responsible for treatment before the camper can return.

## OUR STAFF

At San Pedro, we're proud to have a team of counselors who are both experienced and passionate about our mission. Many of our counselors were once campers themselves, so they truly understand what it's like to be in your camper's shoes. We carefully maintain a staff-to-camper ratio (2:8) that guarantees every camper receives individual attention and support. Our staff assume a variety of roles, all of which are united by a common mission of serving your camper. We invite you to visit our staff page to learn more about the different positions on our team and how we care for your camper during their week-long stay.



# OPENING DAY

We know that opening day can be a lot to prepare for so we have listed information for upon your arrival. If you have questions or concerns after looking over the information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Please arrive at 6:00 PM on Sunday afternoon. Please do not plan to arrive prior to or later than that time. Follow the signs to enter our grass parking lot. After you park, you may line up in front of St. Anthony Hall with your camper and their belongings. The camp doors will open promptly at 6:00 PM where you will begin the check-in process and meet our staff! Below are our steps for check-in.

## IMPORTANT

- Please be sure your camper eats dinner before arrival. We won't be serving dinner however we will be providing a filling snack in the evening.
- You or a legal guardian must accompany your camper during the check-in process.
- Remember we are here to serve you and your family! Ask any questions you may have during this time or contact us any time after your departure.

## Step 1: Check-In with our Camp Directors

Our Director and Assistant Director will check you in and verify that your camper's registration and payment information is current. We will also collect the letters for your camper at this time (explained further below), and ensure your camper has everything on the packing list. We are happy to answer any questions you have-We are here for you and your family!

## Step 2: Camp Nurse

Our Camp Nurse will collect medications and discuss any health-related questions with you. Please bring any medication for your camper in the original container with instructions clearly printed.

## Step 3: Camp Store

Here you will be greeted by a head counselor whom you may ask further questions, and you are welcome to buy anything from our camp store! You may purchase one of our awesome merchandise products or put money towards soda/candy throughout the camp week. We take all payment options!

Sticker: \$1	Sunglasses: \$5	Bible*: \$5	Hat: \$10
Bag Tag: \$3	Pop-Socket: \$5	Water Bottle*: \$5	Soda**: \$5
Lanyard: \$3	Drawstring Bag: \$5	Towel*: \$5	Candy**: \$5

\*These items are part of the packing list and are required for your camper to have. If you do not pack these items we ask that you purchase them with our camp store OR drop any of these items to our administration office.

**\*\*Soda and Candy will be offered during camp-lunch for purchase. Each item is \$1. If you purchase \$10 of candy/sods for your camper they will be able to "purchase" 10 candy items or sodas throughout the week.**



## Step 4: Move-In

After going through the check-in process in St. Anthony Hall, a head counselor from the camp store will pair you and your camper with one of our counselors and you will walk together to the dorms to then move your camper in for the week! This is a great opportunity to get to know some of our staff who will be working with your camper. We encourage you to talk with the staff, ask questions, and get to know them. After we've selected the best staff and backed them up with our training I assure you that you're going to feel confident about leaving your camper with our professional role models and if you don't, please contact us right away.

## Step 5: Parent Departure/Review the Parent Handbook

After you've moved your camper in, it is time for you to depart! We are always here for you so if you need anything, please feel free to contact us. By this time we assume you have reviewed the Parent Handbook a few times, however, we ask you to review our camp policies and your involvement throughout the week once again.

# STAYING CONNECTED WITH YOUR CAMPER

## COMMUNICATION

At SPSC we prioritize open and clear communication, especially with parents and guardians. During camp we limit camper phone use to avoid distracting your camper from the camp experience. However, you are able to get in contact with our Assistant Director at any time during your campers camp week. Our Assistant Director will respond promptly, and guarantees a response within the half-hour. Our communication policy also guarantees that we will contact you if your camper: visits the nurse for a serious medical concern, illness, or incident; chooses not to correct inappropriate and/or dangerous behaviors; or in any situation that deserves your notification. We will also be sending updates and reminders of your involvement during your camper's week through email. Below are our two communication channels. We would like to also add that we do not allow any visitors on campus during your campers camp week.

### Camp Week Communication Channel

(Communication during your campers camp week)

Katie Phillips Camp Director katie@sanpedrocenter.org	Drew Beracierto Assistant Camp Director (407) 920-1298
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### Administration Communication Channel

(Communication outside of your campers camp week)

Katie Phillips Camp Director katie@sanpedrocenter.org (407) 671-6322 ext 107	Drew Beracierto Assistant Camp Director drewspsc@sanpedrocenter.org
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### Mail Call!

One day of the camp-week we distribute letters from home to campers. You as a parent/guardian are required to participate in this. This will be a surprise if this is your child's first time attending camp, so please do not mention it. These letters are an opportunity to remind your child of your constant love and support, especially on their journey of faith. Feel free to ask your camper's friends and family to also write letters. Please do not include candy or food in your letter or packages. When sending letters, be sure to include your child's first and last name along with which session of camp they are attending. Letters can be sent in the following ways:

- Mail/Drop Off: 95 Bishop Grady Lane, Winter Park, FL 32792
- Handed in at Camp Check in
- Email: [campleters@sanpedrocenter.org](mailto:campleters@sanpedrocenter.org)

**\*These letters must be emailed/mailed by Tuesday night of your camper's camp week.**



## THE END OF A GREAT WEEK

### Family Mass

Friday Family Mass! The parents, relatives, and friends of all campers are invited to join us for Family Mass in St. Anthony Hall (Main Hall) at 4:00 pm on the last day of camp. This is when and where you will be picking your camper up from the camp week after participating in Mass, Camp Video Showing, camper good-byes, and check-out.

### Authorized Adult Pickup

Individuals picking up campers at camp must be named on the camper's information form online. An authorized adult and will be required to show photo identification at the time of pickup. While we realize that families want to pack up and depart quickly, we appreciate your patience as we make each camper's safety our priority. No camper will be released to an unauthorized adult. You may add authorized adults to CampDoc at anytime.

### Anything else you'd like to know?

Contact us. We're happy to help you with your child's camp journey!