



Summer 2026, Week 8

ROCKS RUNDOWN



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

And just like that ... here we are.

39 days ago, we opened the campsite to the excitement, nerves, energy, and endless possibility of a brand-new summer. More than 900 campers arrived ready for fun, adventure, independence, and friendship; and 325 staff members showed up ready to lead, love, teach, cheer, problem-solve, dance, sweat, laugh—and somehow find just a little more energy when they thought they had nothing left. And then, little by little, something happened. A summer became our summer.

There were bus rides and belly laughs. New friendships and old ones. Adventures and trips, pool days and rainy days, Maccabiah and Rockin' Shabbat. There were silly cheers, proud accomplishments, inside jokes, and moments of pure, unexplainable joy. There were big moments we will remember forever. But maybe even more importantly, there were thousands of little moments that, on their own, may seem ordinary—but together, they are what made this summer magical. A counselor kneeling down to help a nervous camper. A friend saving someone a seat. A camper trying something they didn't think they could do. A staff member choosing patience. A group erupting into cheers. A child finding their people. Someone realizing, maybe for the very first time, I belong here.

That is camp. And that is Yachad.

Because when we talk about building community and sparking connection, it isn't just something we say. It happens in these moments—in the way we learn to live together, look out for one another, show kindness, find strength, create opportunity, build community, and do it all with ruach. And perhaps that's what makes the end of camp so emotional. As that last bus pulls away, we aren't just saying goodbye to eight weeks on a calendar. We're saying goodbye to a version of life that only exists here. For eight magical weeks, Camp Yachad became its own little world. A world where friendships can form in a single afternoon. Where one song can bring hundreds of people together. Where being silly is celebrated and trying matters. Where people know your name. Where every day brings the possibility of something unexpected. And while summer ends, what happened here doesn't. The confidence comes home. The friendships continue. The lessons stay with us. The memories get retold. The songs get sung. And that feeling—the feeling of being part of something bigger than yourself—finds a way to stay.

To our campers: thank you for bringing us your joy, your energy, your personalities, and your whole selves. You are the reason this place is magic.

To our families: thank you for trusting us with the people you love most in the world. We never take that trust for granted.

To our staff: thank you for giving this summer everything you had—and then somehow finding more to give. The magic our campers experience doesn't happen by accident. You created it, protected it, and brought it to life every single day.

Camp isn't simply a place we go. It's a place we become.

And for 39 incredible days, we became something together. So here's to Summer 2026. To every challenge and every triumph. Every song, every friendship, every adventure, every muddy sneaker, every exhausted Friday afternoon, and every memory we didn't even realize we were making at the time.

What a summer. What a community. What a gift.

And as we get ready to turn the page on another chapter in this beautiful story, there is only one thing left to say: Thanks for the magic. Thanks for the moments. Thanks for the memories.

Thanks for it all, Camp Yachad.



CAMP YACHAD C.O.W.S

Shout Out to our MOOvelous Week 8 COWS
(counselors-of-the-week!)

- Nichole Cruz (34B2)
- Sophie Kagan (M2G)
- Jonah Teicher (Asst. Specialist)
- Jasmine Jean (T1G)
- Ava Weckstein (M2G)
- AJ Jefferson (S2B)
- David Cooper (T2B)



RELIVE THAT YACHAD MAGIC!

As we put the finishing touches on our Summer 2026 Highlights Video -
Here are some great Yachad moments to watch & relive your favorite camp moments!

- Chaverim Photo Montage
- Onsite Photo Montage
- Travel Photo Montage
- 2nd Session JPAC Showcase
- Sabra Elective Camper Production Video: *Who Stole Dunk The Whale?*



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