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Pierce Country Day Camp- 516.621.2211



Hello Summer 2021!!!

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WOW... What a year this has been!

We are so glad that you made the decision to join us for some *FUN* in the sun this summer here at Pierce.

Together we have returned to a much improved level of normalcy! **Hooray for that!**

What a joy it has been to see and hear all of our campers laughing, running, swimming, dancing, playing ball and having a blast with their camp buddies!

If this isn't the antidote to the past 14 months they have all been put through, we don't know what is!?

Our fields, courts, pools and play-spaces have erupted with the sights and sounds of children being children once again!

Pure positive energy and happiness everywhere you turn...

What a joy it is!!!

We have always viewed ourselves as child development specialists and advocates for children. It was clearly evident that the need to offer our campers the opportunity to get back to the business of being kids was a really important one. We are so grateful to our wonderful parent community for their trust and confidence in us, and our fine staff who have answered the bell and showed up every day with such enthusiasm and commitment to our wonderful kids. **Thank you!**



Directors Will & Courtney

PIERCE Emphasis on Personal Growth, Friendship and FUN!



PIERCE... We Teach Success...



Pierce Camp Birchmont



















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We're All Here, And Ready to Roll! ~ Laura Pierce

We have begun, and we have begun well!

So much great stuff is going on...campers are passing their swim laps, horses are jumping, potters wheels are spinning, our tennis courts and ball fields are full, friendships are being formed, memories are being made as campers begin to think not so much about parents and pets left at home, but are allowing themselves to open up and enjoy this new experience that is camp summer 2021!

Our Pioneer groups have been tubing at sunset, our upper and lower camps have begun their *Club Nights,* and we hosted our first DJ Social last night. We had our opening *Firelight* ceremonies, boys in the *Orchard Overlook* and Girls at *Notches* candlelight areas. We established goals for the summer, and welcomed everybody, new and old, as we sat around our roaring campfires. The girls' firelight broke out into an impromptu dance party under the stars as we promised to hold each other in high regard, no matter where we came from before this first night of camp. For now we are all part of a big Birchmont family, with lots of FUN in front of us.

At *Quiet Hour* this morning, Greg talked a bit about not being afraid to fail at camp. How simple and empowering it really is to change the mind set of "I Can't" to "I Could if I..."

His examples seemed to resonate as campers began to realize that it's true, "I Could if I" is a powerful little key to unlock the door of self-doubt so many children let get in their way of trying new things, or mastering new skills. Attitude is a young learner's most precious resource.

It's true that much has felt out of our control in this strange year; we cant control the uncontrollable...but we can control our attitude. We share with our campers that *YOU* choose your attitude every day. You can control that!

Try waterskiing, paddle boarding, toss the ball high on your tennis serve, unfurl a sail, catch that fly ball, ride a horse, shoot an arrow, hang from a harness and fly through the trees... Everything is here waiting for our campers to try. Tonight we will have our 4th of July festivities with races, make your own sundaes, tug of war, and next week we look forward to our full day of spirited camp wide competition for *Blue and White Day*, our tented overnights and cookout breakfast for the Explorers, Rail Trail hikes and more. Make no mistake, although we are organized, and we have to be to ensure smooth sailing for so many people, we will prioritize joy over efficiency, because especially this summer, we need to maximize joy, and connectedness.

Charles Eliot, the past President of Harvard had put it another way; he said back in 1869, *"The organized summer camp is the most important step in education that America has given the world."*

We couldn't agree more, and we're so happy to be learning and loving our summer amidst the majestic mountains, lake, fields and forests that are **Camp Birchmont** in beautiful New Hampshire.