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parent MEETING

**Departure from First Killeen:**

Please **arrive** Monday, **June 6 @ 12:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We will load the buses and depart from First Killeen around 1:00. Bring a lunch to eat prior to getting on the bus or eat before you come.

**Arrival back to First Killeen:**

We will **return** to First Killeen on **Friday, June 10 @ approximately 12:00PM**.

**Contacting your Student during Camp:**

Riverbend Retreat Center

888-269-2363 Toll-Free - Office Hours: Breakfast through Dinner

254-897-4011 Office Hours: Breakfast through Dinner

254-898-0814 Camp Health Officer

817-319-9617 On-Call Staff for afterhours emergencies

If you are worried about your student, trust that no news is good news! Remember that students are *not* permitted to have cell phones at camp; this will help remove a significant distraction and help insure that your student has the maximum amount of interaction with both God and others. If your student needs to call home, we will make sure that they have access to a phone.

**Important Packing List:** (every student will be allowed ONE SUITCASE)

• Label all of your student’s things to make coming home easier for them

• Bible & Pen

• Towel, beach towel & swimsuit

• Bedding (twin bunks)

• Water Bottle

• Sunscreen

• Spending Money: there will be snacks, t-shirts, hats, sunglasses, water bottles, stickers, and other stuff to purchase while at camp

• More packing info further into the packet…

**Do Not Bring:**

Cell phones, energy drinks, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, e-cigs, firearms, knives, drugs, fireworks, electronic equipment (video games, game systems, iPods, laptops, iPads), balloons (or launchers), inappropriate clothing, “short” shorts, bikinis, super tight clothing, skimpy tanks, tube tops, halter tops, or any revealing clothing.

**RIVERBEND’S PARENT INFO**

A. Items Needed for Camp:

1) Bedding – All bunk beds have mattresses only and each camper will need to bring twin sheets and blanket or bedroll and a pillow.

2) Personal toiletries including wash cloth, towel, shower shoes, etc.

3) Bible, note paper, and pencil or pen

4) Flashlight, sun screen and bug spray – Please make sure your camper knows the how, when and why of their proper application.

5) Money for snack shop and gift shop, if desired.

6) Nose plugs and water shoes for waterfront activities are encouraged.

7) Swimsuit and cover-up. Cover-up must be worn to and from pool.

8) Medications – Student Medical Dosage Cards will be given out at Registration on Monday, June 11 and medications must be in original container(s).

B. Leaving Camp: Remember that the continuity of the camp experience is used by the Holy Spirit of God to touch campers’ hearts. Riverbend no longer allows students to leave the campus and return, outside of circumstances approved by the camp. The only approved exception to this rule is for a student leaving to attend their graduation or the graduation of an immediate family member.

1) Procedure for administrative release of a camper – Permission to leave the camp must be secured through the church leadership. A Camper Excused Release Form can be obtained from the First Arlington Youth Ministry Office or at www.fbca.org/timeaway.

2) The camper’s church leader/sponsor and parent/guardian must sign out upon departure and once a student leaves the encampment, they will not be able to return to camp.

C. COMMUNICATION

1) From Home to Camp:

888-269-2363 Toll-free - Office Hours: Breakfast through Dinner

254-897-4011 Office Hours: Breakfast through Dinner

**254-898-0814 Camp Health Officer**

817-319-9617 On-Call Staff for after hours’ emergencies

• **E-mail** your student through [**www.riverbendretreat.org**](http://www.riverbendretreat.org). Click on “Summer Camps,” then “Camper Email”

2) Watch our Facebook page to see pics and videos from camp:

**www.facebook.com/EncounterWeek**

**ENCOUNTER WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Monday**

12:00 Students arrive at First Killeen

1:00 Buses leave for Glen Rose

3:00 Arrive at Riverbend – claim your bunk

3:30 Family Leaders meet in Worship Center

4:00 Orientation – Worship Center

4:45 Meet your Family Group

5:15 Sponsor Meeting

5:45 Family Leader Meeting - Worship Center Conf. Room  
Response Counseling Meeting

6:15 Junior High Dinner

6:30 High School Dinner

7:00 Family Group Bible Study

8:15 Evening Service - Worship Center

10:00 Church Group Time – Students and adults will meet together by cabin

10:30 “Late Night” - Worship Center

11:30 In Your Dorms

11:45 Dorm Devotionals

12:00am Lights Out - GO TO SLEEP!

**Tuesday-Thursday**

8:30 Breakfast

9:15 Family Group Time

Time Alone with God

10:00 The Morning Show

10:45 Family Group Rotations

Recreation

12:30 Lunch – Junior High

12:45 Lunch – High School

1:30 Breakouts

2:30 Free Time (lake open)

4:00 Joe Myers Softball

5:45 Family Leader Meeting - Worship Center Conf. Room

6:15 Junior High Dinner

6:30 High School Dinner

7:15 Family Group Bible Study

8:15 Evening Service - Worship Center

10:00 Church Group Time – Students and adults will meet together by cabin

10:30 “Late Night” - Worship Center

11:30 In Your Dorms

11:45 Dorm Devotionals

12:00am Lights Out - GO TO SLEEP!

**Friday**

***CABINS MUST BE CLEANED AND ALL LUGGAGE IN THE MIDDLE ROOM BEFORE BREAKFAST!***

7:30am Breakfast

8:00 The Morning Show - Worship Center

9:00 Family Group Share Time

9:45 Load buses

10:15 Buses leave for Killeen

**Sunday, June 12**

11:00 Worship Service in Sanctuary (wear your camp shirt)

**LATE NIGHT ACTIVITIES**

**Monday – Game Day**

Show us your school spirit as we finish off the first night of camp with inflatables, tons of games, and a lot of fun at Rec Point and the Rec Fields.

**Tuesday – Luau Night**

Dust off that Hawaiian shirt and let’s party at the pool with our “King/Queen/Monarch of Pain Contest” (aka: belly flop contest), some great outdoor games.

**Wednesday – Silent Disco**

We’ll have glowsticks, blacklights, and Silent Disco so wear your best neon gear and be ready to party!

**Thursday – Illuminations & Street Party**

This is a longstanding tradition at First Arlington. On the last night at camp, our students gather

with their Family Group around a fire and share about what God has done in their lives during

the week. We follow that up with our Street Party which includes Arlington’s very own Mad

Mike’s Ice Cream.

**Crazy Socks**

Monday— Food Themed

Tuesday—Animal Themed

Wednesday— As Crazy As You Can Find

Thursday— Wearer’s Choice

**WHAT TO BRING**

* Bible & Pen
* Shoes/Sandals  
  *You’ll need close toed shoes for recreation*
* Clothes for 5 days
* Softball glove
* $ for snacks, drinks, shirts, etc.
* Toiletries
* Flashlight
* Towels
* Bedding (Twin Bed)
* Earplugs
* Swimsuit
* Insect repellent
* Great attitude
* Sunscreen

**WHAT *NOT* TO BRING**

* Cell phones
* Any prank stuff
* Energy drinks, drugs, alcohol, tobacco products & e-cigarettes
* Any type of weapon (firearms, guns or knives)
* Fireworks or anything explosive
* Electronics - cell phones\*, MP3’s, iPod’s, etc. (take a break)
* Bikinis or speedos
* Whiney, grumpy, complaining attitude
* Anything else that would take the focus off of what you are at camp for!

\*NOTE: **Please DO NOT bring a CELL PHONE with you**. Cell phones are a needless distraction.

Telephones are available at the camp, or from adult leadership, if you need to make a call home. Our goal is to help create an environment with as few distractions as possible for all of our students. If your student has a phone, we’ll hold on to it for them until we get back to the church on Friday. Riverbend has asked that we help them in protecting our campers by not allowing cell phones with internet availability on campus. The following is a statement from their insurance provider:

*The effort to protect a single camper from the reaction to a devastating text-message, or a photograph of an unsuspecting camper placed on the internet is reason enough to prohibit Internet availability of cell phones at camp. Parents who trust you and value your program will comply.*

**CAMP STORE**

This year we will be offering several items in the Encounter Week Store. These items will be available online prior to and during camp and will also be available at camp. We anticipate selling out of everything we will have available, so we recommend purchasing before you leave for camp, or at registration, to ensure your student is able to get the items they prefer.

We will turn the camp store webpage live the week prior to camp (www.fbca.org/campstore) and will have the following items for sale:

* Encounter Week Sunglasses
* Encounter Week Water Bottles
* Encounter Week Stickers
* Unseen Stickers
* Encounter Week T-Shirts
* Encounter Week Comfort Color Sweatshirts
* Encounter Week Comfort Color Tank Tops
* Encounter Week Trucker Hats
* Encounter Week Soft-style Hats

**ENCOUNTER WEEK RULES**

1. All Campers and Sponsors must keep a **good attitude**. Attitude is the key to everything else!
2. All Campers must **be ON TIME** and **participate in all** services, activities and meals (unless permission is given by a Dean or Camp Executive Staff).
3. If you aren’t sure where to go or what to do… **ask a sponsor**!
4. Campers must **remain in their dorms** from "lights out" until 6:00am (unless permission is given by a Dean or Camp Executive Staff).
5. **No girls in guys’ cabins/no guys in girls’ cabins**! No exceptions! Groups of guys and girls will only meet in the middle of each cabin during Family Group Time.
6. Students are expected to **read and follow the dress code**. Please respond quickly and cheerfully if a Dean or sponsor asks you to change clothes.
7. **Shoes should always be worn** outside the cabin.
8. **Stay off of the cliffs**! Climbing on the rocks can result in serious injury!
9. **No food** should be **taken from the Dining Hall**. Please do not eat in the dorms - it creates a mess and attracts insects.
10. You are responsible for keeping **all of your belongings ON or UNDER your bunk**. You will be expected to keep your dorm and bathroom clean. Take care of your stuff and respect other campers’ property.
11. **Campers are NEVER allowed in the river**. No exceptions!
12. There will be **no rough play** permitted in the cabins, cafeteria or worship center. Any property damage will be paid for by the student(s) responsible and his or her family.
13. A **Camp Nurse will be available 24-hours-a-day** for minor accidents and illnesses. If you feel sick or become injured, please tell a sponsor immediately.
14. Limit the use of shaving cream, toothpaste and toilet paper to the restroom area. Do not administer these items to anyone or anything other than yourself. **If you make a mess, clean it up**.
15. The following items are **not allowed at camp: cell phones**, tablets, computers, knives, fireworks, firearms, radios, personal stereo devices, video games, illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, e-cigarettes, energy drinks, water balloons, airsoft guns, or water guns. These will be confiscated upon detection. Leave the games, weapons and technology at home! **ONLY Adult Sponsors are allowed to have cell phones** at camp.
16. Campers should **not have any medicine in the cabins**. All medicine should be checked in at the Nurse's Station on Monday before we leave the church and will be given out by the Nurse.
17. Couples, please maintain a "hands off" policy and **avoid any PDA** (public display of affection). Save it until you get home - *if the relationship lasts that long*.
18. **Do not leave the camp grounds without the permission** of the Deans or Camp Executive Staff (this includes leaving with your parents). We must know if you are planning to be picked up early via the *Camper Excused Release Form*. Leaving the Riverbend campus without permission will result in the camper’s immediate dismissal from camp.
19. Please **do not tamper with the air conditioning** controls. You can cause a problem for everyone! Turning the thermostat too high or too low can result in the unit malfunctioning.
20. **Be modest** and **be respectful** of others and of others’ property. When changing clothes, going to or coming from showers, please use the changing area at each shower. Don’t use or wear other campers’ clothes, toiletries or mess with their “stuff” without their permission. Be considerate of those around you.

What Gets a Student Sent Home from Encounter Week?

* Being in possession of illegal drugs, prescription drugs with ill-intent, or alcohol.
* Leaving the Riverbend property without permission (the river is the most common problem).
* Putting yourself or others in a dangerous or sexually inappropriate situation.
* We reserve the right to search suitcases and belongings. We have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy – if a student is found to be in possession of drugs, our first call will be to the Somervell County Sheriff’s Dept. and then to the parent to have them take their child home or go to the Somervell County Jail.

**DRESS CODE**

Out of respect for Christ and each other, and because of fashion trends, we have established a dress code (similar to the AISD/MISD Dress Codes) at camp. Please keep the following guidelines in mind when shopping and/or packing for the week. The Deans of Women and Deans of Men will help make sure we are all following this agreement. Students who choose to violate these guidelines will have the choice of changing clothes or putting on something that is provided for them by the Camp Staff.

**The dress code can be summarized with several key points:**

* Dress appropriately for the occasion
* We ask that your tank tops, shirts, dresses, etc. have straps that are two fingers wide
* One-piece swimsuits or modest, appropriate two-piece
* If your clothing is distracting to others around you, you will be asked to change

**SHIRTS AND BLOUSES:**Please do not wear shirts that have questionable or potentially offensive pictures, logos or statements on them. It’s not the best way to draw attention to yourself.

Wear appropriate shirts for daytime activities. Tank tops may be worn during the day. A tank top is considered a sleeveless shirt with a strap width 2 fingers-wide or more.

*Changes to your team recreation shirt must stay within dress code. If you cut your sleeves out, do not cut down the side of the shirt or you will be asked to wear a shirt underneath.*

Shirts or blouses must have an appropriate neckline and cover the entire torso at all times, even in movement. No offense, but we don’t want to see your stomach or undergarments at any time.

**SHORTS, SKIRTS AND DRESSES:**   
Appropriate short length for daytime activities – no extremely short-shorts. No tight shorts; no “sagging” - we don’t want to see your underwear.

Please be sure that any shorts, skirts, or dresses are at least the length of fingertips when fully extended by your side. *\*If you have to ask, it’s probably too short.*

**SWIMSUITS**

Please wear an appropriate swimsuit that is secure and comfortable for water activities (diving, the Blob, etc.). Swimwear is only to be worn in the swimming pool area. Students must be fully clothed when traveling to and from the swimming pool or lakefront. If you have questions, please contact Chelsea Judkins (chelsea.judkins@fbca.org).

These guidelines are intended to help everyone have the best possible experience at Youth Camp. If you have any questions about the dress policy, please call the Youth Office. We appreciate your help with this!