

CAMP DANBEE THE BEELINE

A Letter from the Directors

Dear Danbee Families,

Cold fingers and toes are all too common in our neck of the woods these days, with snow still on the ground, we are certainly looking forward to the warmer temperatures and more sunshine. It's been a wonderful few months in our winter office! We are busy hiring incredible staff, making updates to our facility, planning our summer calendar, and talking with new and returning camp families! One of our favorite things to do in the "off season" is hear directly from our campers. We are always struck by stories of Danbee girls taking the lessons that they learn at camp home with them. We love to hear tales of community service projects, overcoming challenges at school, trying out for a new sports team, and making new friends. It's heartwarming to hear about the resilience and grit that Danbee girls show even when we're not all together at camp.

We are excited to share some updates for 2019. Please join us in welcoming **Stephanie Cotter** as our new Head of Acres! Though you haven't met her before "Cotter" isn't new to Danbee, she first came to the Berkshires in 2006 and was an Acres counselor for four summers. Graduate school took her away from camp, but she has been wanting to get back to 01235 ever since. Cotter, an elementary school teacher from Indianapolis, is very much looking forward to introducing her daughter, Bella (a bumble bee!) to the Danbee family. Cotter joins Courtney (Staffing Director and Head of Campus) and **Claire Duncan** (Head of Wel-B-Yon) to round out our Head Counselor Team! Be sure to check out our "Meet Your 2019 Group Leaders" article later in this newsletter and get to know our incredible team of Group Leaders, who work alongside our Head Counselors to ensure that Danbee 2019 is the best yet!

As you prepare for camp, please feel free to reach out with any questions at all. Enjoy the last few weeks of winter, and start thinking summer!

See you soon,

Jay Mack Jackie Lauren Courtney



IMPORTANT CAMP DATES SUMMER 2019

WBY Sleepover

Saturday, May 4

New Camper Luncheon

Sunday, May 5

Opening Day

Saturday, June 22

(please note change in day of the week)

Little Sister Sleepover

Saturday, July 13

Visiting Day

Sunday, July 14

Danbee in 4 Departs

Saturday, July 20

Danbee in 3 Arrives

Sunday, July 21

Discovery Weekend

Friday, July 26 - Sunday, July 28

Closing Day

Saturday, August 10

(please note change in day of the week)

WINTER PROGRAM FOCUS

Danbee Soccer Program led by Jason Swann

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We took some time to catch up with Jason Swann, Danbee's Head of Soccer all the way from England. We enjoyed learning more about how he found himself playing soccer, his coaching experience, and why he chooses to spend his summers at Danbee!



You have quite a bit of history with Danbee... How many years have you worked at camp?

I first came to camp in the summer of 2001 and stayed for 3 years before starting my own family. After that, my new job made it impossible to continue leaving the UK in the summer. After a fourteen year hiatus, returning in 2018 was as exciting as it was all those years ago! So whilst I've only physically spent 4 summers in 01235 my love affair for Danbee is now entering its 18th year.

Tell us a little bit about your soccer career. How long have you been playing soccer and what positions did you play?

Football, to give it its official title, has been a part of my life since the age of 6. In my early childhood days, I played locally, and I was fortunate enough to progress and play professionally for 5 years here in the UK before having to retire from the professional game due to injury at the age of 23. I still have a metal plate in my left leg having shattered my Tibia in 13 places! In the early days I was goal scorer so always played in attacking positions, I didn't have many tricks but I was quick. In the later days after my injury I



played in midfield which gave me a much deeper understanding of the game.

I began my coaching pathway during my rehabilitation from injury and have continued developing my awareness of the game and players over the past 25 years. I've been fortunate enough to own my own coaching company, as well as work at a number of premiership professional clubs. Having experience of coaching from grass roots to professional levels allows for a greater understanding of player development. I'm proud to hold a UEFA 'A' Coaching license.

What do you love most about coaching?

Coaching soccer, whilst offering a different experience than playing, provides so much more satisfaction. Seeing players achieve and improve in their own ability is my motivation. Coaches don't have magic wands, it's the children that hold all the answers, as coaches all we do is present the player with good instruction and information, the rest is up to player! Children are smart and clever, they learn quickly, the task is to "feed" them the right amount of instruction at a level they recognize and understand.

Is it good to take players outside of their comfort zone? YES, most definitely – as long as you, as a

Continued on next page...

coach, can support them to reach the objective. For me, too many coaches I come across adopt a one size fits all mentality “do it this way, do it that way”, trying to mold players into their ideas. This approach stifles creativity in players, becomes restrictive and boring, and won’t be seen on any soccer field I’m in charge of!

I enjoy watching players succeed.....but I constantly ask myself, what determines success? Winning? Being the most valuable player? Scoring all the goals? Not for me, success in delivering soccer to children is measured by how much fun they have? What did they learn? And do they want to come back tomorrow?

What is your philosophy on teaching sports to children?

I deeply believe that every child has something to offer, regardless of natural ability, and can improve their skills, but more importantly can have fun and enjoy themselves. If you present a session that engages the player, is flexible in its approach, and meets the needs of the individual by presenting reachable objectives, progress will be made. For me the most important aspect of coaching/teaching is building a positive relationship and understanding with every player. A coach needs to spend time getting to

know their players, not just in their ability but in life, what do they enjoy? how do they learn? what makes them “tick”?

A good coach needs to create a safe nurturing environment, safe for players to try new things without criticism, safe from excessive pressure, and safe in the knowledge that they can trust what you are asking of them.

What message do you want a Danbee girl to get from participating in your program?

I want all Danbee girls to know that when they come up to soccer, I want them to do three things. Have fun. Try something new. Play with a smile on your face.

Thanks for taking the time to talk with us, Jason! We are so lucky to have you as part of our Danbee family. Any last fun facts about yourself you want to share with your Danbee family?

Apart from being Danbee’s very own in house Mess Hall dish and spoon musician I will have completed my first Skydive in Dubai by the time I reach camp in June! I can’t wait to see everyone back on the Soccer fields.

DANBEE FORMS REMINDER

All forms are due in our winter office by April 1st.

Please login to your *myDanbee* account to complete your daughter’s forms. If you have any questions or need guidance completing the forms – please reach out to us!



Meet the 2019 Group Leaders

We are thrilled to introduce you to our Group Leaders for Summer 2019!

CAMPUS

HONEY BUMBLES (entering 2nd and 3rd grade)

Piper Heaman hails from Victoria, British Columbia and is counting down the days until her second summer with the Honey Bumbles! Piper studies Anthropology and Psychology at the University of British Columbia, as a prelude to a degree in Elementary Education. As the Honey Bumble Group Leader, Piper makes a special effort to help our youngest campers adjust to camp and happily settle in to camp life. We asked Piper what was so special about working with the Honey Bumbles. She said "It's such an honor to watch fearless young girls get outside their comfort zone, make new friends, try new things and whole heartedly embrace the Danbee spirit. I cannot wait to meet them." One of Piper's favorite Danbee traditions is the Honey Bumble Tree Planting ceremony at the end of the summer. Piper loved Danbee so much, she's bringing her little sister, Ella, along to be a first year counselor – another set of Danbee sisters!



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YELLOW JACKETS (entering 4th grade)

Back at Danbee for her second summer, **Becky Price** is thrilled to be the Yellow Jacket Group Leader! Traveling all the way from North Berwick, Scotland (a small town outside of Edinburgh) Becky is studying Applied Sport Science at the University of Edinburgh and plays both Tennis and Field Hockey for her university. She taught tennis at Danbee in 2018 and loved every minute of her time with the YJs! Their enthusiasm and excitement for all things camp was the perfect match for Becky's upbeat and energetic personality. If you want to make fast friends with Becky, offer her a piece of your French Toast. It's her favorite thing to eat in the Mess Hall! A few of the things that Becky loves most about Danbee are: being able to help young girls become more resilient, confident and kind, dancing and singing in the Mess Hall, and of course - campfires and s'mores!



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HORNETS (entering 5th grade)

Charlotte Jones' love for Danbee runs deep. As a former America's Camp camper, Sea Stars North counselor, and veteran Danbee staff member – the start of summer 2019 can't come soon enough for her. A graduate of Scripps College with a degree in Art History and Sociology, Charlotte is spending her off season doing an internship at an art gallery and teaching metalworking classes at the 92nd Street Y in Manhattan. When we asked Charlotte why she was looking forward to being the Hornet Group Leader this summer, she quickly replied "I fell in love with each and every one of the girls in my age group last summer and can't wait to see them again! They are the goofiest, craziest, and most loving group of girls who never fail to make me laugh. I feel so lucky to call the Hornets my age group and am counting down the days to another incredible summer! And can't wait to meet and welcome all the new campers!"



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QUEEN BEES (entering 6th grade)

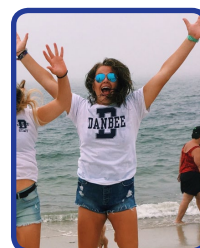
Kaelin Page is a senior at UMASS Lowell studying Criminal Justice and Business. 2019 marks her 3rd Danbee Staff summer – though she spent 3 years as an America's Camp camper as a teenager and two summers as a counselor for Sea Stars North! Kaelin is most looking forward to Leagues (especially Marathon and Songfest), Pizza Mondays, and being reunited with the Queen Bees, and meeting all of the new Queen Bees joining us this summer. When she's not at Danbee, you can find Kaelin coaching gymnastics or competing alongside her teammates on UML's Cheerleading team. Kaelin's giant smile and positive attitude make campus a bright and happy place to be!



ACRES

7th GRADE

Carly Gordenstein describes Danbee as her second home, the place where she has happily created her most cherished memories! A Georgetown University Junior, Carly is studying Politics and Arabic and plays on the Georgetown Club Field Hockey Team. Getting ready for her 3rd summer on staff at Danbee (after several years as a camper at America's Camp and a counselor at Sea Stars North), she is thrilled to be heading up the hill with her girls to Acres as the 7th grade Group Leader! She is looking forward to celebrating her favorite holiday – July 4th – at Danbee once again. Carly is known for her quick wit, outrageous costumes, and ability to recall facts and figures of any kind.



8th GRADE

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Senior **Allie VanSant** is counting down the days until she puts down the Biology and Chemistry books and trades Carolina Blue for Danbee Blue! Allie joined the Danbee family in 2018 and definitely has been bitten by the camp bug. When we asked Allie why Danbee was special to her, she said "whether it is skiing on the lake, volunteering with acres club, or simply dancing in the mess hall, the campers are so excited and spirited in all that they do. This excitement is truly contagious and completely makes the experience for everyone around them!" She is looking forward to moving down to Acres and spending the summer with 8th grade.



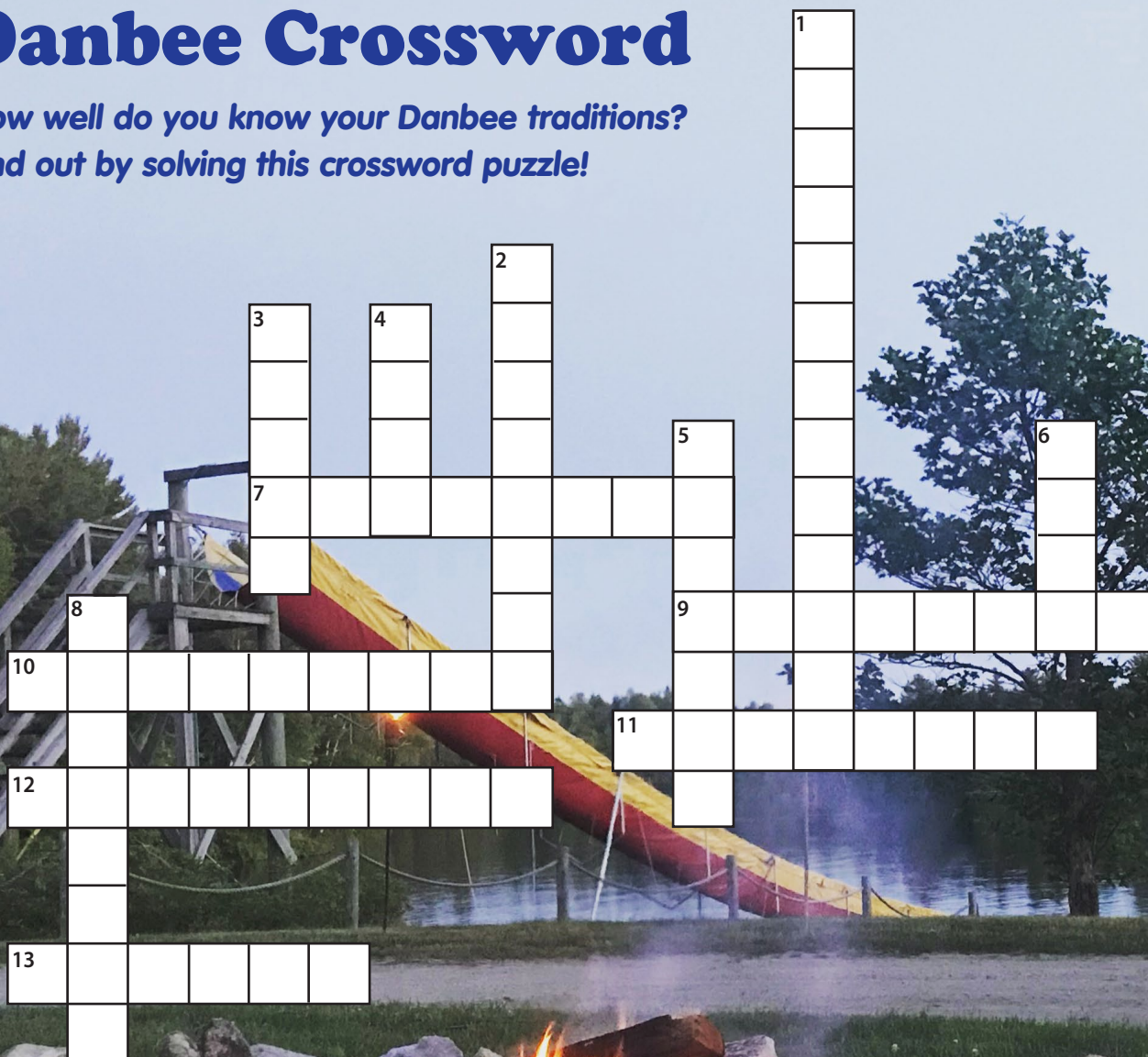
9th GRADE

Marissa Silverman, better known at Danbee as "Riss" is gearing up for her 5th summer at Danbee! Being the 9th Grade Group Leader feels like a dream come true for Riss, who says affectionately about her girls, "I have had the privilege of working with the same group of girls since they were Hornets. Over the years I have watched them grow into mature, strong willed and confident young women. I guess you could say that we have grown together over the past five years. I can't imagine spending a summer without them!" Riss is most looking forward to her division winning Camp Sing, Pizza Rolls, and afternoons on Lake Ashmere. Until then, you can find Riss in Brooklyn, NY teaching 11th and 12th grade English, working out at her CrossFit gym, and hanging out with her adorable cat, Lux!



Danbee Crossword

How well do you know your Danbee traditions?
Find out by solving this crossword puzzle!



ACROSS

7. We have a _____ on the first night of camp.
9. An all camp activity to collect silver and gold is called what?
10. An evening activity that showcases Danbee Dance.
11. Every meal starts with a cheer from...!!!
12. A spooktacular night at camp is...
13. The best view on camp can be seen from....

DOWN

1. To join this club you need to take an early morning swim in the lake!
2. The last night of leagues ends after what event?
3. Something we do in the mess hall at every meal.
4. What is the theme for 2019 Banquet?
5. What does it mean when you hear "Eye of the Tiger"?
6. What is another name for overnight trips?
8. What is the FASTEST event of the summer?

Crossword Answers:

Across: 7) Campfire 9) Goldrush 10) Dancefest 11) WelByon 12) Halloween 13) Jacobe
Down: 1) Polarbearclub 2) Songfest 3) Dance 4) Farm 5) Leagues 6) VAGs 8) Marathon

★ SPECIAL EVENTS AT DANBEE! ★

Some of our best memories are made during Danbee Special Events . The list below will let you know what session they fall under and what non Danbee attire (if any) your camper can bring. For more details on our special events, check out your myDanbee account. As always, call us with any questions!

Din4 = First 4 weeks only

Din3 = Last 3 weeks only

COUNSELOR SHOW

(1st night of camp)

No special clothing is needed for this event.

Din4

WORLD RECORDS

(2nd night of camp)

No special clothing is needed for this event.

Din4

July 4th

(All day event).

Girls may wear non-Danbee red, white and blue clothing! Examples of items that girls wear are tank tops, knee socks, bandanas, sunglasses or tutus.

Din4

CARNIVAL

(Afternoon event)

No special clothing is needed for this event.

Din4

GOLD RUSH

(Evening activity only)

Girls may wear non Danbee clothing. Examples of items that girls wear are denim shorts, plaid shirts, cowboy hats. Think western theme!

Din4

CAMP SING

(All camp evening activity)

No special clothing is needed for this event.

Din4

CASINO NIGHT

(Evening activity only)

Girls may wear non Danbee clothing. Examples of items that girls wear are boa's, fedoras or anything sequin. Think glam! Din3

HALLOWEEN

(Evening activity only)

Girls may bring a Halloween costume from home to wear. Pre-planned group costumes are not permitted. Din3

LEAGUES

(Every MONDAY for the entire summer)

There are two teams, Americans (red, bears) and Nationals (green, lions). We provide all campers with a leagues shirt for their designated team. We do not let you know your daughter's team ahead of time. Easy items to pack that show off spirit are tube socks, tutus, bandanas, face paint, 1-2 tank tops or tee shirts you currently own in red or green!

SONGFEST

(Evening activity during the last week of camp)

All campers must wear a pair of blue jeans and Danbee Polo shirt. Din3

COUNSELOR SERVICE

(Evening activity during the last week of camp)

No special clothing is needed for this event. Din3

BANQUET

(Last night of camp)

All Banquet attendees wear a white shirt. A non Danbee top can be worn for this occasion. Din3





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POLAR BEAR CLUB



Calling all Danbee girls ... it's time for our annual Polar Bear T-Shirt contest.

Every summer we invite our campers to take an early morning swim once a week in Lake Ashmere. These weekly swims are a tradition at Danbee and are a great bonding experience between our girls and staff members. We sing, we laugh, and then we jump in! At the end of the summer (or session) the girls that choose to participate in the Polar Bear Club will receive the annual Polar Bear T-Shirt! The Polar Bear shirt is designed every year by one of our campers. We invite all of our campers new and old to submit a drawing for a chance to have their design on the 2019 shirt. The only requirement for this shirt is that it must feature a polar bear.

Entries must be received no later than April 15th. Art can be submitted via email to lauren@campdanbee.com or regular mail at 24 Woodshire Terrace, Towaco, NJ 07082 .

