



High Meadows Happenings

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This week's News:

2021 SUMMER REMIX EDITION

- Tradition Highlight: KNIGHTHOOD.** In a typical summer, the Knighthood Program allows Senior Quest and Legend campers the opportunity to challenge themselves individually in attempts to hone their skills in our program activities. While the last two summers have been anything but typical, this year we have been able to have Blue and Purple group campers participate in a modified version of the program. "Requirements", as we call them, are set in place as guidelines for marking improvement and attainment of skills, techniques, and talents. In each camp activity, campers have the choice to progressively achieve levels of Page, Squire, Sentry and Knight. The last and final overall level, **Knight**, is an achievement that few have reached in the history of High Meadows Camp, typically, only one or two per summer. This level requires many years of work and demonstrated mastery in seven different activities. The requirements for the level of Knight are often very difficult, even unattainable by some. When this overall knighthood is achieved, recognition is given at an award ceremony where, following a reading of the Arthurian legend, the camper is given the opportunity to pull the sword Excalibur from stones in the center of Stonehenge and his/her name is added to a permanent sign hanging there. In a 2018 interview, Mark Warren, the creator of the Knighthood program, reflected on its legacy, saying, "It is up to each individual camper to decide to engage in challenging themselves in particular classes and/or overall through the Knighthood program. Counselors teach and assess the skills for knighthood requirements but do not force the campers to participate if they choose not to do so. When I first mapped out the Knighthood program at High Meadows, I liked the feeling of our camp being connected to something so old and full of historical romance. Ours was an arcane theme, but it seemed to ground us in a world as old as the forest. The fact that it has lasted long enough to be considered a true camp tradition is very gratifying to me, but perhaps it also says a lot about the timbre of camp staff through the years. The great legends of knighthood from old England thrive off the idea of honor. I believe that human trait was the golden thread that wove through our staff in those days. It was a remarkable gathering of counselors. All were honorable. Though I seldom get to the camp these days, I am willing to bet that this same virtue is alive and well among the present staff . . . , which, perhaps, is why the program still appeals. And best of all, if I am right about this, that sense of honor continues to trickle down through the next generation of campers, which is what this world needs.

High Meadows is very proud to salute Anna, the first camper to achieve the level of Knight since 2019 and the 82nd in camp history!



- Don't forget to "like" High Meadows Camp on Facebook, and "follow" us on Instagram @highmeadowscamp in order to keep up with the latest announcements and camp news.



Help us make camp even better! Please follow this link to our survey and share your impressions with us:

<https://form.jotform.com/211637933254962>

~ RED: Anna and India

- The Red groups had an amazing last week of camp! We got to ride ponies and meet our new baby goats Kylo and Ren while at the barn. Down at archery, we had a blast with our tournament and some even won a silver arrow! We made a big splash as we slipped our way down the water slide. The last week went by so quickly and it is a summer we will never forget!



~ ORANGE: Grace

-Orange group had such a great last week of camp! We played camphunt in the woods and Ga-Ga in the pit, and we got to meet our sheep and bunnies. In addition to celebrating Facial Hair Day as our Unit Choice on Wednesday, we managed to beat the heat by playing lots of water games like water weasel and “drip drip drop”- and we can’t forget the water slide! We had so much fun this summer and can’t wait for next summer!



~YELLOW: Richard

-Yellow groups had an amazing final week of camp. Between learning new skills, making new friends, and having fun dressing up for Superhero Day on Wednesday, it was a blast. Can’t believe it’s the end! See you next summer!



~ GREEN: Jennifer

-Green groups had a grand finale playing “water weasel” on the meadow, “camouflage” along Shadowfox Trail, and flying down the waterslide. We tie-dyed our t-shirts, made paper, created “cat’s eyes” for our art projects, and dressed up for Decade Day/ Western Wednesday on Unit Choice day. We had some hilarious moments working on our crazy Livestock skits in the Barn Theater to be performed in front of the whole camp on Friday. We visited the Barnyard and learned about the rabbits, ran the pig race with Boo and Hamilton, and watched Sir Bentley, the pony, paint some lovely abstract pictures. Such a great way to end the summer!



~ BLUE: Eddie

-Blue groups ended the summer with a hot few days! They played water games, finished woodworking and art projects, and wound down the session by recognizing one another's accomplishments in an award ceremony and playing greasy watermelon.



~ PURPLE: Travis

- It's been a hot week for purple groups. We had some laughs singing camp songs in the shade while watching clouds. We played "acid river" as a team building activity, knocked out some knighthood requirements, painted some clay, built some fires, and even had time for "Random-stock". We also celebrated Celebrity Day as our Unit Choice on Wednesday. It's been a nice fun end to an eventful summer, capped off by the knighting of one our campers.



~ CITs: Rey, Armani, and Travis

- The CITs capped off their summer with a bang! We had 5 second-year CITs present their reflection projects where they talked about all the personal growth they've experienced over their years at camp. We've also used our CIT class time to discuss working with the camper groups, sharing good memories and learning experiences as well. We also got to lead the final Livestock celebration of the summer, celebrating our talents as well as the talents of the campers.



Still considering school options for the Fall? Since 1973, High Meadows School has inspired children age 3 through 8th grade to think critically, learn creatively, act globally, and live compassionately. Contact Director of Admission Laura Nicholson to hear more about enrollment opportunities: lnicholson@highmeadows.org.



