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## Virtue of the Week:

### **EFFORT**

We celebrate the amazing talents, accomplishments and efforts of our campers. There are multiple awards and opportunities for recognition. We always explain the "WHY" so that campers appreciate and understand what each award represents.



WEEK IN REVIEW

# LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear ESF Riverdale Families,

It was another amazing week in the books here at ESF Riverdale. This week we were lucky enough to have two special guests join us. The first guest was nationally recognized Master Coach Rick Jacobs. Coach Rick sat down with Tennis Camp and Sports Camp to discuss the importance of character. He explained that character is what sets you apart from someone else. As always Coach Rick encouraged, "Be authentic, be the real you." The second guest was the very talented Zia Victoria who graced the stage with her phenomenal musical presence. Day campers, Senior campers and staff gathered to enjoy her performance. Zia is only twelve years old and has written her own songs that showcase ESF's character virtues, including effort, gratitude, resiliency, trustworthiness, community, respect and positivity! Thank you to Zia and Coach Rick for being great additions to our Wacky Wednesday!

On Wacky Wednesday staff members received a special visit from the M&M fairy who wanted us to participate in the theme of "Masquerade Day" too.



POOF! Just like that we were ready to join in on the fun!



This week's virtue of the week is "effort." Across the board at all camps we have seen tremendous effort in participation, activities and performances. Campers have used the word "effort" in their daily practice and are training their muscles of character to grow and learn in the effort they put forth physically and mentally. It is hard but they push on and continue to build their endurance! We have seen such progress in how campers use the 8 ESF virtues in their daily practice. GO BIG!

Sincerely,

Melissa Williams  
ESF Riverdale Site Director



WEEK IN REVIEW

# WEEKLY RECAP FOR OUR CAMP PROGRAMS



## DAY CAMP

It was a howling week of fun here at ESF, filled with thrills, chills and masquerade madness! Day campers' science experiments popped, fizzed and bubbled in Project Discovery this week. Wednesday was both spooky and wacky as campers came dressed in a Halloween costume to camp! This week was filled up ghostly scavengers and trick or treating. To close this awesome week, Day Campers enjoyed popsicles during their Dance Party and Pow Wow on Friday.



## SENIOR CAMP

The Adventurers, Voyagers, Pathfinders and Mountaineers were so excited to start Week 7 and came in ready for their new True Life Adventure theme of the week. TLA this week was Elements of Filmmaking: Broadcast Media.

Campers wrote scripts, created characters, selected costumes, filmed, added effects and edited. A special guest, Zia, arrived on Wednesday to perform for Senior Camp. On Thursday, Senior campers jumped into the pool for The Great Boat Regatta. They built boats out of recycled materials and set sail! To celebrate the premiere of their new films, Senior campers had a Film Festival to close the week!



## SPECIALTY MAJOR CAMP

Mess Fest: Radical Reactions and Extreme Experiments, Space & Rocketry and Jr. Art Studio were very busy with their specialized activities! In Mess Fest, campers learned about oil spills and saw how they are cleaned up. They also performed chemical reactions, squid dissections, explosions and watermelon implosions. Meanwhile in Space and Rocketry, campers learned about angles, aerodynamics and all things rocketry. Campers also built and presented bottle rockets and fuel rockets that can go as high as 400 feet. In Jr. Art Studio, campers made papier mache masks, paintings on canvas and stained glass masterpieces. They also drew sketches and painted a picture from an ant's perspective.



## SPORTS CAMP

Sports campers had an action-packed week! They participated in skills, games and activities in preparation for their weekly Tournament Day at the end of the week. Sports this week included frisbee, soccer, lacrosse, basketball, handball and flag football. On Wednesday, special guests Rick Jacobs visited camp to discuss important character values and how to incorporate them into playing sports. For Tournament Day on Friday, campers came dressed in their favorite soccer team's gear and colors for World Cup Day.



## TECH CAMP

Campers in Junior Robotics; Level 1, Minecraft Missions 2017 and Junior LEGO Master Builders: Star Wars Adventures were back in the tech world for week 7! In Jr. Robotics, campers followed special steps to build a robotic object of their choice. Once their object was built they programmed it on the computer to bring it to life! By the end of the week, they began creating their own objects and their own code without steps. Over in Minecraft Missions, campers learned basic design principals and together made a group server to build their own virtual city. While in Junior LEGO, campers built rebel starships and bases from engineering and Star Wars kits. By using LEGOS, campers were able to see just how machines work.



## TENNIS CAMP

Tennis Camp jumped back into the action for Week 7! Throughout the week, campers assessed and practiced their skills through relays, stations and drills. This week they also focused on footwork drills and maintaining consistency when hitting. In addition, Tennis campers practiced focus drills before their competitions and tournaments at the end of the week began. Tennis games like "Jail," "Defender" and "Bobsled" were played to focus on practicing ground strokes, serves, footwork, consistency and volleys.



WEEK IN REVIEW

# SPOTLIGHTS INSIDER STORIES FROM CAMP



## Jackie: Day Camp: Activity Specialist Director

Jackie has been with ESF for eight years. She has been with ESF Riverdale for five years, making her one of our founding members!

When she is not here, Jackie is a sixth grade Social Studies and English Language Arts teacher. Jackie has taught every age group from kindergarteners to college students.

She absolutely loves the energy that she feels at camp from both campers and staff. That is what keeps her coming back each year!

### Fun Fact:

- o She has traveled to over 30 countries and counting!

## Marissa: Project Discovery Specialist & Day Camp Counselor

Marissa is very happy to be spending her second summer at ESF!

When camp is not in session, Marissa attends Brooklyn College. She is working towards receiving her degree in education. One day she hopes to be a first-grade teacher!

In her spare time, she loves reading and volunteering with the youth group at her church.

Her favorite part about camp is seeing the progression of the campers from the beginning of the summer until the end.



### Fun Fact:

- o She loves the rain!



WEEK IN REVIEW

# SPOTLIGHTS INSIDER STORIES FROM CAMP



## Carlos: OT Coordinator, Major Camp Specialist & Project Discovery Specialist

Carlos is ecstatic to be spending his second summer here. He wears many hats at ESF from being an OT Coordinator to a specialist!

When he is not at camp, Carlos is a ninth grade Biology teacher. He also enjoys acting and theater in his spare time! Carlos has always loved camp, he even went to a zoo camp when he was younger.

His favorite parts about ESF are the enthusiastic campers and the supportive leadership team that are always willing to help.

### Fun Fact:

- He is from Miami, Florida!
- He was born without tonsils.

## Damien: Sports Camp Support Specialist

This is Damien's second summer with us! Last year Damien was an Aquatics Support Specialist.

Originally from Manchester, England, Damien now calls North Carolina home. In the fall, Damien will continue working on his degree in exercise science. He also enjoys coaching soccer and working in athletic facilities.

His favorite part about ESF Riverdale are the people that work here. "These people are not just my friends or colleagues, they are my family," Damien said.



### Fun Fact:

- He has visited 47 countries!
- His wife, Paula, is the Senior Camp Director!



WEEK IN REVIEW

# WEEKLY THEME GALLERY





WEEK IN REVIEW

# NEXT WEEK WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR!

WEEK 8

AUGUST 7 - AUGUST 11

Don't let your summer fun come to an end so soon! Explore all of our camp programs [here](#).

Next week we will have **Jr. Inventors Club: An ESF Dream Factory and Super Cool Science**. We will also have **Extreme Minecraft and Digital Photography & Graphic Design**. Explore all of our [Specialty Major](#) & [Tech programs](#).

Add additional weeks of camp through your [Online Account](#)!

## SNEAK A PEEK AT WHAT'S IN STORE!

LOOK OUT for an email from **Camper Patrol**, *your camper's bus schedule might be changing!*

Senior Camp's True Life Adventure is **Colorsplash: Tie Dye!**  
"Super Star" Silly Sunglasses Day is Tuesday for Senior Camp and Wednesday for Day Camp.

Day Camp Special Event: **Talent Show** for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade tribes.  
Senior Camp Special Event: **Oracle Games**, don't forget to wear white!  
**Wacky Water Sports Challenges** on Wednesday for Sports Camp!

### Stay Informed!

[Read our blog](#) to learn more about what's happening at camp!  
[Access your camp handbook, lunch menu, camp calendars, online account](#) and more!

[Weekly bus schedules](#) can be found here!  
Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!



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