



FOUR WINDS * WESTWARD HO

VISITING the CAMP



PO Box 140, Deer Harbor WA 98243 (360) 376-2277

Welcome to Four Winds * Westward Ho!

Ours is a community of campers, parents, alumni, staff and families that span generations. Every one of you is vital to our collective history and our continuation as a summer camp for young people.

Visiting can be a wonderful way to get a taste of what your child is experiencing at camp. It is also a great way for your child to show-off their "other home" to you. As a note, however, it can also cause some problems for children who are struggling with homesickness. We encourage you to call us if you suspect that your child may be suffering from homesickness, because a visit just when they are getting their "sea legs" can upset them for the rest of the session. Also, too many visits can disrupt their growing independence and camp experience. We have found that if children who are homesick get through that first summer successfully, camp can be amazingly life changing.

If you choose to visit we ask that follow these guidelines:

- We allow only a one-day visit during the session. It is important to note that when you take your child out of camp or visit too often, it can make the other cabin/tent mates feel left out and can lead to hurt feelings and homesickness.
- Please plan your visit for the middle two weeks of the session so as not to disrupt the nesting or closure period of camp. The **2019 Visiting Window** is: **June 29 - July 12** for **Session 1**; **July 28 - August 10** for **Session 2**.
- Contact the office in advance of your visit to be sure your child is in camp and not out on a trip. Trips for Junior and Intermediate campers are not planned until after they arrive, but Senior (rising 9th & 10th grade) campers are scheduled to be out of camp for 6 days during the second or third week of camp. The **Senior Trips for 2019** will be: **July 9 - 14** for **Session 1**; **August 9 - 14** for **Session 2**.
- Sign in at the office when you arrive to obtain a nametag and visitor's tie. If you are not wearing either, you will be asked to go back to the office to sign in.
- In keeping with the simplicity of camp please leave all electronics (cell phones, iPhones, iPods, etc.) in your car or check them at the office.
- We encourage you to stay with your child during camp activities, let them give you a tour of camp, meet staff and — if you are here on Sunday — join us for our Evening Fire.
- Campers are welcome to leave the property, but only with a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian. Please visit the camp office to sign your child out when leaving, and in again when returning to camp.
- Return your child to camp by the start of evening activity which starts at 8:15 PM during Session 1 and 7:15 PM during Session 2.
- Campers may not bring food or candy back into camp with them. These items can attract unwanted animals (such as raccoons) to cabins and tents and could pose danger to other campers with food allergies or sensitivity.
- If you are visiting a staff member it must be during their time off.
- We are unable to provide lodging at camp during visits. Some names of places to stay are listed in the back of your handbook. You can also visit www.deerharbor.org or www.orcasislandchamber.com for more information. We suggest you to make reservations in advance, as Orcas Island is a popular vacation destination during the summer months.
- If you are arriving by boat, you are welcome to come for the day and tie up at our guest float, but we cannot accommodate you overnight. For marina information in Deer Harbor go to: www.deerharbormarina.com.

Note: Because Junior Session is only a week, we do not allow visitors. If you are curious about camp and want to meet the counselors and see the property, we suggest you drop your child off at the beginning or pick your child up at the end of camp.

February 2019