

# PINGRY BIG BLUE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

June 29, 2018 - Week #2

## GROWING HEROES LESSONS ON OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Bristol Gymnasium at Pingry's Basking Ridge Campus was buzzing with excitement on Monday morning, as we were about to kick-off Week #2, "Heroes Week," at Big Blue Summer Day Camp! With more schools officially out for summer vacation, BBSDC experienced significant growth in the amount of campers we were hosting —

which was very fitting for our keyword of the week, "Growth." Our counselors engaged their campers in a variety of exercises and activities that aligned with the lesson that real heroes don't view failure as their kryptonite, but rather as a valuable tool for personal growth.

Of course, we also played Gaga, went swimming, made lots of silly faces, worked on art projects, and explored nature... but that's just an average day at Big Blue Summer Day Camp!

Below are some highlights from Big Blue Summer Day Camp Week #2: "Heroes Week," with the keyword: "Growth."

### THE INFLATABLES!



On Thursday, the morning rain showers were soon forgotten as campers entered the Bugliari '52 Athletic Center and laid their eyes on these towering inflatable obstacle courses! The giant bouncy play structures provided a fun challenge for our campers, who felt like superheroes as they darted up walls and zoomed down slides!



BBSDC  
WEEK 2 THEME:  
HEROES



FASTER THAN A SPEEDING TUTU!

### 2nd Annual Hero Dash

An annual favorite among campers and counselors, this Ninja Warrior-inspired race involves campers creating a persona for their "Hero Counselor/Competitor," complete with a superhero name, outfit, and history of adversity that has been

overcome! This year's champion was Counselor Dan, aka "Super Tutu Dan" with a winning time of 26 seconds. To drive home the theme of "Growth," each cabin identified which obstacle their Hero struggled with the most, so that they can practice and improve their race times.

## The Egg Drop Challenge

Campers were given a small box and a few materials such as a piece of bubble wrap, a plastic bag, and masking tape to construct a container that would keep an egg intact when dropped from the top of the Parsons Field grandstand! But... this was only a test run, as campers were challenged to regroup and revise their egg container to withstand an even larger drop - from the upstairs library all the way down to the Lower Commons! The second time around, things got a little bit more messy, but lessons were learned and all campers did an *eggscellent* job!



## Real Life SuperHeroes!

We all love watching superheroes like Wonder Woman, Black Panther, and Iron Man save the day in epic movies while we chomp away at popcorn and sip on soda (oops... I mean water!). That's why it was extra special when two REAL LIFE superheroes — members of the New Jersey State Police S.W.A.T. Team — our campus and gave a presentation about what it takes to be heroic. The Special Officers emphasized the importance of training and preparation when aiming to achieve excellence, and that failure is an essential part of that training. Campers were then invited to board the S.W.A.T. team vehicle for a quick tour! ☀️



## CURIOS

Campers asked this week's visiting S.W.A.T. Officers dozens of questions about being a hero.



## OPEN

Many campers tried archery for the first time this week and their willingness to learn was right on target!



## DEDICATED

Campers who selected drama as their club time wrote a show and performed in front of camp!

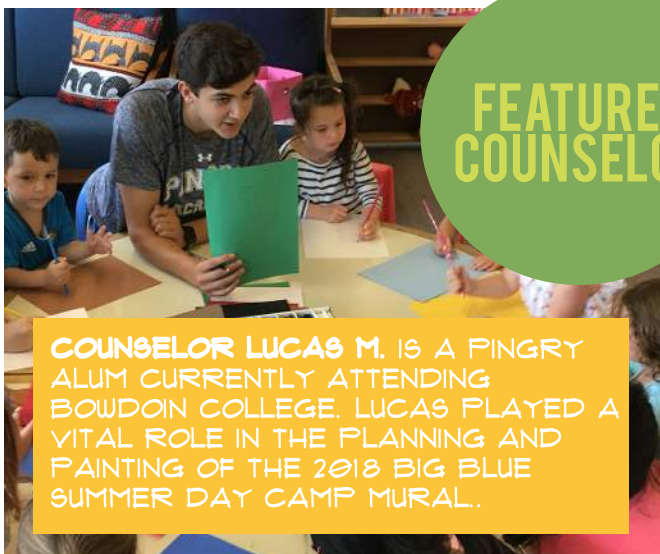


## ENTHUSIASTIC

The entire camp lined the side of The Hero Race Ninja Warrior course and passionately cheered on their Super Counselors!



**Thanks for a great Week #2 of Big Blue Summer Day Camp! Check out our weekly recap video, produced by Coach Mary Drabich and Frankie Dillon '17!**



**FEATURED COUNSELOR**

**COUNSELOR LUCAS M. IS A PINGRY ALUM CURRENTLY ATTENDING BOWDOIN COLLEGE. LUCAS PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN THE PLANNING AND PAINTING OF THE 2018 BIG BLUE SUMMER DAY CAMP MURAL.**

