



799 Havana Dr.  
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## A Taste Of The Season

Here is Dustin & Jax's delicious pumpkin twist on the classic chocolate chip cookie.

- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup unsalted butter (softened, not melted)
- 3/4 cup brown sugar (packed)
- 3/4 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips



1. Pre-heat oven to 375°.
2. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, pumpkin pie spice, and salt.
4. In a large mixing bowl, using a hand mixer, cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat pumpkin, egg, and vanilla extract until combined, then add flour mixture. Beat on low until no raw flour appears, then fold in chocolate chips.
5. Refrigerate dough for 30 minutes.
6. Scoop 1-inch balls onto prepared baking sheets, 2 inches apart, and bake until puffed up and golden around the edges, about 12 minutes.
7. Once baked, transfer to a cooling rack, and allow to cool before serving.
8. Turn on a great movie, pour a glass of milk, and ENJOY!



Fall 2021

# The Island Lake Lowdown





# Greetings from Odie & Monica

As you know, the past 10 months for our family have been quite the journey. It has been filled with so much excitement, energy, stress (from time to time), trust, exploration and putting our best foot forward in everything that we do. Operating during Covid was no easy task for most camps, but us coming on as new owners only added to the challenge. I can say that we are so proud of everything that has been accomplished this past year and are beyond excited for what is to come. The truly exciting part about it is that we have so many great campers, staff, and year-round team members to really enjoy the ride with. In life I think that it is important to surround yourself with great people. Coming into this we really didn't know what we were going to get into both from a camper and a staffing perspective. We couldn't be happier with both. Camp is about being part of something, your home away from home, your family for when you're not with your family, and a place where you can just be yourself. We have all of that here at ILC and will continue to grow them. We are already back to our planning for '22 and can't wait to see all of you next summer! We will stay in touch throughout the winter! Stay warm and think camp.



# Can You Guess Who Decorated These?



# Welcome to The Team, Stacey

We are super excited to announce our newest year-round team member at Island lake, Stacey Rubinstein! We have known Stacey for many years as both a camp parent and a camp professional. Stacey spent 11 amazing summers as a camper and waterfront counselor at a sleepaway camp in New Hampshire and 3 years as an Assistant Director at a camp in the Poconos. Her kindness and warmth helps parents and campers feel comfortable and excited about camp. She loves art and hiking and is absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to spend her summer days at camp and her non-summer days talking about camp. With a 20 year career in nonprofit management, she has worked for the Girl Scouts, YAI/National Institute for People with Disabilities, and as a management consultant for nonprofits. She is a lifelong volunteer, a Girl Scout leader, and president/co-founder of a local service organization which operates a food pantry and an emergency assistance fund. She also worked with a local day camp to facilitate its operations. She has a degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University and a Masters in Public Administration from NYU. Stacey lives in New Jersey with her husband Daryl, her twins Andrew and Alexis, and their dog Romeo. We can't wait for everyone to meet her!





# What Are We Thankful For

As a camp team we are all so thankful for our families, our home away from home and being able to spend our summers with all of our ILC campers and staff. But, we also have some fun and silly memories or things to be thankful for, and we thought we would all share a few of them with you!

Odie-I am so thankful for having the opportunity to spend the summers with our camp family. Where else can you wake up and your buggie is completely decorated by your sisters resembling some type of character from sesame street! Driving through camp and getting all of the smiles and laughter from the kids was hilarious!

Monica - I am thankful for our camp that has brought me endless amounts of amazing, fun memories like the crazy dance parties/mosh pits in the dining hall after meals, the whole camp learning and dancing along to level up, the fun nights in the bunk telling stories only to stop because we were so tired, staying up until midnight waiting for a friend's birthday so that we could sing the camp birthday song to her (shout out to G9!), having a complete blast tubing on the lake (shout out to G23!), and having the best summer with the best campers and staff I could ever ask for!

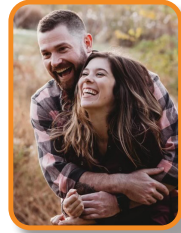
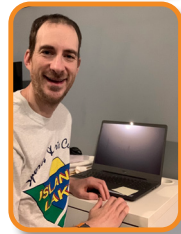
Stacey - I am thankful for friendship bracelets, all things tie dye and Netflix for post camp TV bingeing!

Craig - I am thankful for spending time out in the country away from the noise, summer heat, and general craziness of New York City and, of course, tater tot day at camp!

Dustin - I'm thankful for Blippi, Paw Patrol, and anything else that occupies my children long enough to allow me to shower.

Todd - I am thankful for all of the hardworking people we have at camp who come together to make summer possible. I am also thankful to be able to work outside winter, spring, summer and fall as sitting behind a desk is not my speed. Lastly, I am thankful for my son Garrett and my dogs Razy and Rascal who keep me company at camp when everyone heads home post summer!

Garrett - I am thankful for the Cowboys and some good football along with camp food in the summer and 4th of July fireworks. I am also thankful to work alongside my dad.



Answers to pumpkin challenge: A: Dustin, B: Odie & Monica, C: Stacey, D: Craig

# Construction Update

We are beyond excited with all of the progress we have made in what is one of the more ambitious remodeling projects a camp can take on. We knew that the day after camp ended, we wanted to start remodeling every bunk on camp that we were going to be using for summer '22. In the time leading up to the summer we put together a plan for everything that needed to be done. We first removed all of the overgrown shrubs and bushes and planted grass all around the bunks to give them a clean look. We could then truly see what needed to be done to the buildings. Our list was long and it included replacing the remaining roofs; putting new siding and trim up on outside of the bunks; replacing any porches that needed to be redone; replacing all of the doors; redoing the electric inside the bunks including adding more outlets for the campers and staff; finishing the bathroom remodel; new LED can lights throughout; and putting knotty pine up on the entire interior of the bunks. Paired up with all of the cubbies that we built last summer, the bunks are going to look amazing! We also have plans to change the color scheme of all of the buildings, but we will be focusing on the campuses first. Right now, the front runner is a "Navy Williamsburg Blue with White Trim". We are just about to wrap up all of the exterior work (before the winter hits) and start working on the bunk interiors. Our pre-camp counselors will be busy this year staining all of the bunks. It is going to be quite the transformation!

In addition to the bunks, we are also working on a number of activity areas. Last year we tackled the Media center, and this year the Rock Shop program and the area around those buildings is the first up. We are going to be renovating in a couple phases but we know we will have the first phase complete by the start of camp. We are going to be putting up new siding and trim around the buildings and replacing any damaged roofs. We also will be replacing the electrical inside, new LED can lights, and putting knotty pine up throughout the building. It is such a beautiful place on camp we can't wait to see it all come together! Once Rock Shop is done, we will plan to move onto the STEM activity areas and will focus on the interior of the building. We can't wait to welcome campers to ILC!



# Where Are They Now?

A huge shout-out to former circus counselor Kirby Howell-Baptiste who recently appeared on Jimmy Kimmel Live to promote her upcoming movie 'Queenpins' with Kristen Bell!

Fun Fact: Kirby's manager was also a former Island Lake camper and staff member.

You don't have to be a movie star to let us know what you've been up to! Email us at [info@islandlake.com](mailto:info@islandlake.com) to keep us updated.





