Dear Year 8 Parents and Students,

As part of the St Philip’s College sequential Outdoor Education program, the Year 8 Camps will be held during Week 3 of Term 2. The Year 8 program focuses on an exciting range of activities in some of the most spectacular locations in the Western MacDonnell Ranges National Park. The camp also offers exposure to some of the skills and experiences offered on the nine day Year 9 Endeavour Camp. **This three day camp is compulsory for all Year 8 students.**

Each student will attend for **three** days with his or her class group. The dates for the camp are:

- **8ENGL1, 8ENGL2 and 8ENGC1 Camps** – Monday 29th April to Wednesday 1st May
- **8ENGL3, 8ENGI4 and 8ENGB1 Camps** – Wednesday 1st May to Friday 3rd May

(Students who have a **specific and critical** commitments on days that conflict with their class’s camp can request to change groups. Please supply a small note or email explaining the commitment).

**Classes will continue normally at the College for students while their class is not on camp.**

**PROGRAM** (one class will do the program in reverse, starting at Ellery Big Hole)

**Day 1** – Meet at front entrance/roundabout of College by 8.00am. Gear issue at the Outdoor Education Shed. Travel by bus to Ormiston Gorge. Walk to see the vista of Ormiston Pound. Late afternoon swim at Ormiston Gorge (if there is water!). Camp overnight at Ormiston Gorge.

**Day 2** – Rock climbing and abseiling on the spectacular cliffs south of Ormiston Gorge. Afternoon of canoeing and water activities on Ellery Big Hole. Canoe through to the north side of Ellery Big Hole and camp overnight.

**Day 3** – Canoeing and water activities on northern side of Ellery Big Hole. Travel by bus to College. Gear pickup and cleanup at Outdoor Education Shed. Dismissed by 3.00pm.

**MEDICAL REPORT AND CONSENT FORMS**

Each student needs to return a completed and signed medical and consent form to Student Access **by Thursday 21st March** for all **Year 8 students (Week 8 Term 1)** – however please submit as early as possible. Please complete carefully with as much detail as possible. Students should also sign the appropriate section.

In line with College policy, those students who have **asthma** or **allergies** should collect and return an Asthma and/or Allergy Management form from Student Access at their earliest convenience. Medical consent forms, Asthma and Allergy Management forms are available for download from [http://www.stphilips.nt.edu.au/special-programs/outdoor-activities/camp-forms](http://www.stphilips.nt.edu.au/special-programs/outdoor-activities/camp-forms)

The cost of the camp is $100. The camp cost includes: all camping equipment, including tents, sleeping bags, ground mats, canoes etc. transport, specialist staff and meals. All families were billed for the camp at the beginning of the year.
**EQUIPMENT**

**WEAR:** On the first day students should wear sturdy lace up footwear with long socks, long pants (not jeans), shirt, jumper and broad brimmed sun hat.

Students will need to bring the following items packed in a **small soft bag**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 x packed simple lunch for 1st day</td>
<td>2 x long thick socks (short unsuitable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x large strong garbage bags</td>
<td>Minimum toiletries including mosquito repellent and sunscreen. NO aerosols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x warm shirt</td>
<td>2 x underwear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woollen beanie</td>
<td>1 x torch (remove batteries for transport)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x warm jumper for night time</td>
<td>1 x torch (remove batteries for transport)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 x water bottles (min. 1lt each full of water = 3lt total) Check they do not leak</td>
<td>Knife, fork, spoon, bowl, plate mug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x small day pack/small backpack (if the student already owns one - ie. there is no need to purchase one especially for the camp)</td>
<td>1 x bathers (1 piece or board shorts)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Please note:**
1. iPods, handheld games and pocket knives are not permitted. Students may bring a camera – a waterproof camera is ideal.
2. All sleeping equipment (sleeping bags, groundsheets, shelter), and cooking equipment will be provided by the College.
3. Pillows and other large items are not required and should not be brought.
4. In the interests of fairness, hygiene, and environmental protection, and in line with standard practice for all camps, no additional food or snacks should be brought on camp, except for lunch on the first day.

**Departure and Return Times**
On their day of departure, students should meet at the front of the College (roundabout) by 8am. They will return on the third day and will be ready to be collected by 3.00pm.

If you have any questions regarding the camp, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the College on by phone or email.

Yours sincerely,

David Atkins
Head of Outdoor Education
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