Dear Year 8 Parent/Guardian and Student

As part of the St Philip’s College sequential Outdoor Education program, the Year 8 Camps will be held during Weeks 2 and 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:

- **Groups 1 and 2:** Monday, 18 April to Wednesday, 20 April
- **Groups 3 and 4:** Wednesday, 20 April to Friday, 22 April
- **Groups 5 and 6:** Monday, 25 April to Wednesday, 27 April
- **Groups 7 and 8:** Wednesday, 27 April to Friday, 29 April

Students who have a specific and critical commitment 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 8.30am. 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.

The cost of the camp is $195. The camp cost includes: all camping equipment, including tents, sleeping bags, ground mats, specialist equipment (such as canoes), transport, specialist staff and meals. All families were billed for the camp at the beginning of the year.

**MEDICAL REPORT AND CONSENT FORMS**

All Year 8 students need to return a completed and signed medical and consent form to Student Access by Thursday, 10 March (Week 7, 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 also available for download from the Outdoor Education section on the school website at [http://www.stphilips.nt.edu.au/special‐programs/outdoor‐activities/camp‐forms](http://www.stphilips.nt.edu.au/special‐programs/outdoor‐activities/camp‐forms)
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:

- 1 packed simple lunch for first day
- 2 long thick socks (short unsuitable)
- 1 long pants
- 5 large strong garbage bags
- 1 warm shirt
- 2 underwear
- 1 t-shirt
- 1 woolen beanie
- 1 pair of water shoes to be worn to protect feet in water activities (ideally an old pair of runners or Dunlop Volley’s, not thongs)
- 1 warm jumper for night
- 1 pair of shorts
- 1 raincoat with hood
- 1 bathers (1 piece or board shorts)
- 1 small day pack/small backpack (one you already own - there is no need to purchase one especially for camp)
- 3 water bottles (minimum 1L each full of water = 3L total) - check they do not leak prior to camp
- 1 torch
- knife, fork, spoon, bowl, plate, and mug
- minimum toiletries including mosquito repellent and sunscreen. No aerosols.

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.

Please feel free to contact me at the College by phone or email if you have any questions regarding the camp.

Yours sincerely

David Atkins
Head of Outdoor Education

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