

Dear Parent

RE: YEAR 8 CAMP

Sunday 22 June to Thursday 26 June 2008

We write to you to inform you of general details of the 2008 Year 8 Outdoor Education camp. The Year 8 Camp is an essential component of the Knox Grammar School curriculum. It should be noted at the beginning that all school rules and expectations apply. This year the Year 8 is following a new program. At the end of Term 2 the boys and staff will experience an expedition style camp based in the Murrumbidgee National Park, south of Sydney.

Titled "A Coastal Journey" the program has been designed by Land's Edge and Knox to provide Year 8 students with a true coastal and bush adventure.

The program will operate from Sunday 22 to Thursday 26 June. The Year group will be divided into 8–10 groups with approximately 25 students in each group. Each group is guided by Land's Edge and Knox Staff.

Program Outline

The program will build on the foundation skills students learnt on their Year 7 Camp and will allow them to develop further outdoor and personal proficiencies in a coastal setting.

Activities and experiences students will participate in include:

- A 5 day journey along the beautiful southern coast line of NSW
- Canoe journey leg and bush camp
- Surfing lesson
- Camp skills and navigation

Students will move short distances each day from one night location to another and on the way, stop to take part in their day's activity. They will be accommodated in cabin style bunkrooms for 1 night and bush camp sites for 3 nights. On 2 of the camping nights, toilets and showers will be available. The boys will need to bring a \$1 coin and two 20c coins should they wish to have hot water. Whilst on the expedition there will be little or no contact between groups.

Program Outcomes

Students will have the opportunity to develop the following skills or themes.

- Small group living
- Personal and group responsibility
- Action and Consequence
- Navigation, route planning and route finding
- Food preparation and camp cooking
- General bush skills

To assist with the preparation for the camp, a Parent Information Evening will be held at the school on Thursday 1 May at 7.30pm in the Paterson Centre Auditorium.

The first part of the evening will provide details of the expedition including the nature of the camp and activities at the camp. At Knox, we have developed a basic standard for certain items of equipment. This is to ensure boys are safe and comfortable on these trips. The second part of the evening will include a presentation from “Kelly’s Base camp” which will focus on informing parents regarding the appropriate equipment for Outdoor Education expeditions. Knox has worked with Kelly’s to organise the opportunity to order any items of equipment you will need and do not have access to for this camp. Mr Trollope found Kelly’s to be the best option following a thorough search last year. You will be able to order gear at a discount rate. This is offered only as an opportunity as it is hoped many families will already have the basic level of equipment required.

A list of the basic equipment needs have been included on the webpage so you will have the chance to do an audit before the Parent Information evening. It is our normal standard of procedures to have the boys gear checked well before the camp so that we are ensured it is at the standard for such venture.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Mark Trollope on the contact details listed below.

We look forward to catching up with you on 1 May at 7.30pm.

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