



30 October 2020

Re: Year 9 Activities Week - Camp / Walk (17 - 19 November 2020)

Dear Parents,

This year has been a very interesting experience for us all. Our initial Activities Week had to be postponed and, as a result, we have had to look for new activities which will still allow our students the opportunity to experience a 'normal' school camp whilst being quite unique.

Monday 16 Nov	Tuesday 17 Nov	Wednesday 18 Nov	Thursday 19 Nov	Friday 20 Nov
Normal School Day	Group A Cockatoo Island Camp Out	Group A Cockatoo Island + Botanical Garden Walk	Group A Karlool Pools Walking Track	Student Free Day (Staff Spirituality Day)
	Group B Karlool Pools Walking Track	Group B Cockatoo Island Camp Out	Group B Cockatoo Island + Botanical Garden Walk	

Year 9 will be participating in three compulsory activities during this time; Cockatoo Island Camp Out, Botanical Garden Walk and the Karlool Pools Walking Track in the Royal National Park. These activities are an integral component of the Year 9 Pastoral Program and focuses on building student relationships and leadership skills. All students will participate in all activities. They will be placed into two groups in the coming weeks and will not be able to swap groups.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS - BEING COVID-SAFE

Staff and students will be making their own way to and from venues via public transport. We see this as being an important learning experience for students; helping them develop their skills in responsibility and independence. Please note that it is recommended that when travelling on public transport, students are COVID safe and wear face masks. While this is not compulsory, it is recommended. We have arranged the itineraires so that students are not travelling to the city during peak hour. Staff will meet students at Circular Quay and ensure they catch the correct ferry to Cockatoo Island. If you have any concerns about your son travelling by public transport, please contact me at john.alvear@syd.catholic.edu.au.

During pastoral lessons all students will be directed on how to plan their trips to and from the venues. Students will be responsible for purchasing their own tickets for the train and ferries.

An outline of the activities for each group is attached. May I ask that you complete the attached consent form and have it returned to the college via your son's Homeroom teacher by Wednesday, 4 November.

Kind regards,



Mr John Alvear
Year 9 Pastoral Leader

GROUP A:

Cockatoo Island Camp Out, Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour (8969 2111) stay@cockatooisland.gov.au

- DEPART:** Students are to make their own way and arrive at Cockatoo Island Wharf by 11.15am on Tuesday, 17 November. This will involve catching a train to Circular Quay and then a ferry to Cockatoo Island. Staff will meet students at Circular Quay to ensure they catch the correct ferry to Cockatoo Island.
- RETURN:** Students will leave Cockatoo Island and participate in activities at the Royal Botanical Gardens. They will be dismissed from Martin Place on Wednesday, 18 November at 12.30pm and will make their way straight home after being dismissed.
- WHAT TO TAKE:** See Page 4 of this letter for an equipment list
- FOOD:** Meals provided: lunch, dinner, supper and breakfast

Karloo Pools Walking Track (One day), Royal National Park

- DEPART:** *Students are to make their own way and arrive at Sutherland Communications Rural Fire Brigade (next to Heathcote Station) by 9.30am on Thursday, 19 November. This will involve them catching a train to Heathcote Station. Students will need to plan ahead to ensure they arrive on time.*
- RETURN:** Students will be dismissed from Heathcote Station at approximately 1.30pm. They will make their way straight home after being dismissed.
- WHAT TO TAKE:** Sturdy walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, food, water and rain jacket (if necessary)

GROUP B:

Karloo Pools Walking Track (One day), Royal National Park

- DEPART:** Students are to make their own way and arrive at Sutherland Communications Rural Fire Brigade (next to Heathcote Station) by 9.30am on Tuesday, 17 November. This will involve them catching a train to Heathcote Station. Students will need to plan ahead to ensure they arrive on time.
- RETURN:** Students will be dismissed from Heathcote Station at approximately 1.30pm. They will make their way straight home after being dismissed.
- WHAT TO TAKE:** Sturdy walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, food, water and rain jacket (if necessary)

Cockatoo Island Camp Out, Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour (8969 2111) stay@cockatooisland.gov.au

- DEPART:** Students are to make their own way and arrive at Cockatoo Island Wharf by 11.15am on Wednesday, 18 November. This will involve them catching a train to Circular Quay and then a ferry to Cockatoo Island. Staff will be at Circular Quay to guide the boys onto the correct ferry.
- RETURN:** Students will leave Cockatoo Island and participate in activities at the Royal Botanical Gardens. They will be dismissed from Martin Place on Thursday, 19 November at 12.30pm and will make their way straight home after being dismissed.
- WHAT TO TAKE:** See Page 4 of this letter for an equipment list.
- FOOD:** Meals provided: lunch, dinner, supper and breakfast.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROHIBITED ITEMS: No sharp objects (knives etc.) or glass containers, etc are to be brought to camp. Banned substances are strictly prohibited and will be dealt with in accordance to college rules.

VALUABLES: Due to the nature of the activities valuables and electronic devices are taken at your own risk. Staff will not be responsible for these items.

MEDICATION: If your son is required to take medication whilst on camp, please ensure the medication is in its original packaging and clearly labelled with his name, dosage and frequency. This is to be handed to Mr Alvear by Monday, 17 November. Students with asthma inhalers or epipens should carry them at all times during the activities. Please note that we will be using medical data which you have already provided the college. If you need to update your son's medical condition, please do so by emailing the college at info@dlscaringbah.catholic.edu.au

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS: Please inform me of any dietary requirements via email john.alvear@syd.catholic.edu.au by no later than Wednesday, 4 November

COST: The cost of the camp is included in your son's school fees. Travelling expenses for the train and ferry are to be paid by the student when travelling to and from the venues.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

In the unlikely event that a student is dismissed from any of the activities due to behaviour, parents will be notified and parents will need to collect their son from the venue.

COCKATOO ISLAND CAMPING INFORMATION:

The following information will help you prepare your son for the upcoming Cockatoo Island camp.

WHAT YOUR SON WILL NEED TO BRING:

- Money for public transport (train and ferry)
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Toiletries
- Towel (if using the showers)
- Money for lunch on the second day

WHAT IS PROVIDED BY THE CAMPSITE:

- Two man tent. This will be setup by the company. The tent also has two chairs.
- A sleeping mat. You can pay for a raised camp bed - additional \$10
- Lunch, dinner, supper and breakfast

To be returned by Wednesday, 4 November to your Homeroom Teacher.

YEAR 9 ACTIVITIES WEEK

STUDENT NAME: _____ HOMEROOM: _____

PARENT PERMISSION

Parents are required to tick all three boxes in order for their son to be able to participate in the camp.

- I give permission for my son to attend the Year 9 activities in Week 6.
- I have emailed Mr Alvear with my son's dietary requirements (if applicable).
- I understand that should my son behave in a manner which is contrary to the college's expectations, I will be asked to collect him from the venue and bring him home.

PARENT NAME: (please print) _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____