

Year Six Camp - Final Update!!!

26 February 2010

Dear Parents,

This camp newsletter is intended to fill you in on final camp details.

ITINERARY

Monday 1 March

- 8.15 am** Campers are to be at school meeting at the school hall. Cars transporting children to camp can drive down the drive and park on the main courts to be packed. The gate will be kept open for you.
- 9.00 am** Cars depart for Hunua Falls Camp

Friday 5 March

- 1.30 pm** Cars depart Hunua Falls Camp
- 2.30 pm** Arrive at VAS
Please arrange for your child to be picked up from school at this time.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Camp activities on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday include, team challenges, mountain biking, kayaking, raft building, high ropes, confidence course and archery (*all under the supervision of qualified instructors*). Additional activities include orienteering, bushcraft and bush art. On Tuesday 2 March and Thursday 4 March groups will be visiting Sonshine Ranch for horse riding, a water confidence course and flying fox. Once again all activities will be supervised by trained instructors.

We have several parents assisting at camp throughout the week so we meet safe adult/child ratios at all times. We can assure you that all staff have been through an analysis of the risks involved in every activity to ensure the safety of your children at all times.

REMINDERS

Personal Gear List

- Please ensure that you check this carefully before 'D' Day. If the gear is not taken we **do not** supply it. Please ensure your child has plenty of changes of clothes and plastic bags for packing wet clothes as there are no indoor clothes drying facilities at Hunua Falls Camp.
- Please ensure that **all** items are clearly named.
Children are asked **not** to bring sweets, money or items of value to camp. Taking photos is permitted but we recommend disposable cameras only.
- Morning tea and a packed lunch are required on the first day of camp. We recommend disposable packaging so that lunchboxes do not need to be

repacked into suitcases. All children will need a drink bottle to refill during camp and a day pack for trips away from camp.

- A small disposable/named container(eg ice cream container) of nutritious snacks is required for extra sustenance at morning and afternoon tea and to supplement our packed lunches. As we have some children at camp with severe food allergies please avoid products with nuts.

MEDICAL

- Please advise your child's teacher of any changes of contact details or medical changes and provide additional information **URGENTLY**.
- Please send your child's medication to the class teacher for safe keeping, on the morning of departure (unless needed on the person). We **strongly recommend** that the class teacher is given a **spare** inhaler for all asthmatics.
- Please check that **all** medication is labelled and that all instructions are clear. A pink medication form must be completed to allow the administration of any medication.

CONTACTING and VISITING CAMP

- The phone number of the camp office is 09-2924867. We ask that the telephone be used for **EMERGENCIES ONLY**. Should you need to phone, your call is to be directed to one of the VAS teaching staff. Alternatively, if you need to contact your child's teacher please contact the VAS office for their mobile number.
- If an emergency arises at camp, one of us will personally contact the parents/caregivers of the child concerned.
- Kokako Lodge is located at 203 Falls Rd, Hunua should you choose to visit. Directions are available at the VAS school office. Please keep in mind that one of the main objectives of camp is for children to develop independence from home and visits can be disruptive and unsettling to many students.
- We will be unable to cater for any visitors at meal times.

DISCUSSION POINTS

We would be grateful if you could discuss with your child, prior to camp, topics such as:

Tolerance

Respect of privacy

Co-operation

Team spirit

Importance of tidy and clean habits

Table manners

Appreciation of, and adherence to, rules

Personal hygiene

Thank you for endorsing these points, as an understanding of these matters will help to create a successful and happy camp.

Thank you once again for your support of our camp. All we need now is fine weather.

Regards

Stuart Eeles, Jessie McQuinn, Nadia Lazarus, Brad Cates, Clare Whittington
Year 6 Camp Team