



1 July 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Year 10 Field Centre 2024

This year will be the 55th year of our Year 10 Field Centre expeditions to Tongariro National Park. Field Centre is a significant event and a 'rite of passage' for our students and is a compulsory component of our Year 10 curriculum. It provides every Year 10 student with the opportunity to gain independence and to develop personal strengths and character. Each student will be in a Lodge group of approximately 20-22 Year 10 students under the supervision of experienced staff. We continue to work to all Health and Safety requirements to keep our students safe while down on the mountain.

The National Park provides an exciting, spectacular and challenging environment for a programme which includes a three-day tramping expedition with camping and cooking out in the open, white-water rafting, an environmental service project, outdoor rock climbing, and completion of the famous Tongariro Crossing.

Programme

As in recent years, given the size of the year group there will be two group departures. Ten lodges will depart on **Saturday 23 November** and return on **Saturday 30 November** followed by a further ten lodges departing on **Sunday 1 December** and returning on **Sunday 8 December**. During the week that students are not away they will take part in a compulsory two-day Auckland based programme run by the College.

Cost

The overall fees for the camp cover return transportation from Auckland to Mount Ruapehu, bus or van travel to various activities, accommodation and all food (both lodge and tramping food), professional guides and external providers for rafting and mountain expeditions, tents and other outdoor equipment. The individual cost is **\$1440** per student which includes both programmes and this amount will be spread over three equal monthly payments of \$480 in your September, October and November 2024 College statements.

Any students with approved withdrawal from the programme after **1 November** (end of Week 2) may not receive a full refund. This is due to non-refundable costs incurred by the College.

Safety and Preparation

Personal preparation is the key to a successful Field Centre. Each student's responsibility is to ensure their own good level of fitness and stamina so that they can participate fully in all activities, enjoy the experience and get the most from their time on the mountain.

COLLEGE

For Boys and Girls in Years 7-13
130 Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga 2010
PO Box 51060, Pakuranga, Auckland 2140
+64 9 577 0749

BOYS' SCHOOL

For Boys in Years 0-8
82 Shore Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28790, Remuera, Auckland 1541
+64 9 520 7682

GIRLS' SCHOOL

For Girls in Years 0-8
82 Shore Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28790, Remuera, Auckland 1541
+64 9 520 1400

PRESCHOOL

For Boys and Girls aged 3 and 4
82 Shore Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28790, Remuera, Auckland 1541
+64 9 520 8814



Lodge Groups

Lodge groups will be finalised in early in Term 3. For any conflicts with sports or other co-curricular activities and significant family events, parents must email a request at the beginning of Term 3 to will.gage-brown@saintkentigern.com. Students are placed in random single-sex groups to provide opportunities to meet new peers as they move from Middle School to Senior School. Feedback from students and staff in recent years has been very positive, highlighting the formation of new friendships. No changes will be made to Lodge Groups based on existing friendships.

Each Lodge Group will have weekly preparation meetings starting in the last few weeks of Term 3 and throughout Term 4 to ensure our students are fully briefed and prepared.

Information Evening

The Parent Information Evening is on **Tuesday 27 August at 7pm** in the **Chapel**. This is an important opportunity to discuss clothing and gear requirements with staff and to gain an idea of what Field Centre involves. Again this year, we have a partnership with Macpac where we receive a 30% Saint Kentigern discount off full priced items. A link to the gear list is attached below and further details can be found on the [Field Centre OLE](#). We ask all parents and caregivers to attend. Students need not attend as they will have their own briefing.

We look forward to our Year 10 students finishing the year positively with an adventure in Tongariro National Park as they complete their years in Middle School.

Yours sincerely

Will Gage-Brown
Head of EOTC

Duncan McQueen
Director of Campus Life & Special Character

Online Link:

[Equipment List](#)

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