

29 August 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Year 10 Field Centre 2022

This year will be the 53rd year since the College began 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 a compulsory component of our Year 10 curriculum. It provides every Year 10 student the opportunity to gain independence and to develop personal strengths and character. Each student will be in a Lodge group of approximately 22 Year 10 students under the supervision of experienced staff. We continue to work to all Health and Safety requirements regarding Covid and advice from the Ministry of Education 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. Nine lodges will depart on **Saturday 19 November** and return on **Saturday 26 November** followed by a further nine lodges departing on **Sunday 27 November** and returning on **Sunday 4 December**. During the week that students are not away they will participate in a compulsory two-day Auckland based programme run by the College.

Cost

The overall fees for the camp cover transportation from Auckland to Mount Ruapehu and return, bus or van travel to various activities, lodge and camping food, professional guides and equipment for rafting and mountain expeditions, tents and lodge hire. The individual cost is **\$1000** per student which includes both programmes and this amount will be included on your College account. If necessary this expense may be spread over equal 2 or 4 monthly payments by arrangement with our Finance Team.

Any students with approved withdrawal from the programme after **1 November** 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.



Lodge Groups

Lodge Groups for both weeks will be published before the end of Term 3, and each Lodge Group will have weekly meetings throughout Term 4 to ensure our students are fully briefed and prepared.

Information Evening

The Parent Information Evening is on **Tuesday 13 September 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 2022 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 page. We ask all parents and caregivers to attend. Students need not attend as they will have their own briefing.

Please ensure the Informed <u>Field Centre Parent Consent Form</u> is completed before Friday 23 September.

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 before moving into Senior school next year

Yours sincerely

Will Gage-Brown

Head of EOTC

Duncan McQueen

College Principal (Acting)

Online Link:

Equipment List Field Centre OLE