

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Dear Parents,

As part of our Camps Program at Pakenham Springs, the Year 6 students attend an external camp. This builds upon the Year 2 experience of the school sleep over as well as the outdoor adventure camp at Phillip Island in Year 4.

After careful consideration and consultation, the decision was made to change the venue of our Year 6 Camp in 2017 to Canberra and to extend the camp to 4 nights and 5 days. The reasoning behind this was to offer a completely different camp experience to anything our students had previously experienced and also to take advantage of the fabulous facilities and experiences on offer to complement our Civics and Citizenship studies in Year 6. This camp will take place from Monday October 30<sup>th</sup> – Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.

The final cost of the camp is \$550. This includes all costs; transport, accommodation, all activities and all meals. Payments can be made anytime from now, in whole or in part payments. These payments can be made by cash or card at the office or via QKR. We encourage all parents to begin making small regular payments for this camp as soon as possible so that the cost does not become overwhelming. Final payments for the camp will be due by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

The activities and experiences in our Canberra excursion include:

- High Court of Australia (facilitated program)
- Australian War Memorial
- National Capital Exhibition Centre
- Royal Australian Mint (Guided Tour)
- National Gallery (Discovery Tour)
- Museum of Australian Democracy
- Australian Institute of Sport (Night tour and Sportex)
- Parliament House (Education, Hospitalities and Tour)
- Questacon (Science and Technology Centre)

Accommodation will be in motel-style units at the Ibis Styles Eaglehawk (students will be in rooms of 6 students with their own ensuite).

**Further Information Regarding the camp will be provided during an Information Session to be held on Wednesday July 26<sup>th</sup> (confirmation of time and details for the information evening will be provided closer to the evening).**

At this point, we would like to gain an indication of which students will be attending camp. To confirm your child's place on the camp, we would like for the confirmation notice attached to be filled in and returned by **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March.**

We are also looking for any enthusiastic and energetic parents who may be able to come along and support our staff on the camp. Parent helpers on camps are an essential part of making camps an enjoyable and worthwhile experience for all students. ***They also assist the school in keeping the costs of a camp down, as without parent support we need to release more staff from classes to ensure we have the correct student to adult ratios which are mandated by the Department of Education at camps. In releasing other staff members, we incur the cost of replacement teachers for these classes. This results in these extra costs being included in the camp cost.*** If you are interested in volunteering to be a parent helper, please fill in the attached expression of interest form and return by **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March.** Our school process of selecting parent helpers will be followed and all parents will be notified about whether they are required or not as soon as possible.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself at the school.

Kind Regards,

Renee Cotterell  
Assistant Principal Years 4-6

**YEAR 6 2017 CANBERRA CAMP**  
**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017**

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I wish for my child to attend the Year 6 Camp to Canberra.

No, unfortunately my child will not be attending the Year 6 Camp to Canberra.

Yes, I am interested in attending the Camp as a Parent Helper. I understand that I will need to organise a Working with Children check (if not already held). **Please complete details below.**

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_