

RAUMATI BEACH SCHOOL

22 February 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

TEAM KAPITI CAMPS TO TEAPOT VALLEY – NEWSLETTER ONE

Every alternate year, our year 7 and 8 students are invited to travel to Nelson for our week-long outdoor experience at the Teapot Valley Christian Camp.

Our aim is for all students to have the opportunity to attend Camp with their schoolmates, as it is a wonderful educational, developmental and social experience. For students in year eight, it is a valuable and memorable time before they move onto College, providing for new social interactions and independence before they begin this journey to secondary school. The camp's location in Nelson, and distance from home, is important as for many students this is their first significant trip away from their families; the travel, most significantly by ferry, contributing to the overall experience. One of the many highlight experiences, is the day trip to the Abel Tasman National Park, especially when we're joined by dolphins during the water taxi ride home!

When do we go?

Due to the size of our Senior Syndicate, classes will attend Camp in two groups:

Camp one (rooms 15, 16, 18)	19-23 November
Camp two (rooms 13, 14, 17)	26-30 November

What do we do there?

It is an action-packed week! We travel by ferry to Picton, meeting at school early Monday morning, then bus to Nelson to camp. Along with all the fun of being on camp, we have two activity days (such as abseiling, climbing, archery), a day trip into the Abel Tasman, and a night excursion to the Richmond Aquatic Centre. We return, tired but happy, on the Friday evening.

If your child has any anxieties about attending camp, please contact their teacher. We are really keen for all students to attend, and are happy to work alongside you in implementing strategies to support your child.

We are having a camp information evening on Thursday 8 March (7pm in the Learning Street).

Can I be a parent helper?

Later this term, we will send home forms for whanau to apply to be helpers on camp. A Police check forms part of this process (you may have a current one from previous school camps). The teachers then work to select a group of adults who would best support the needs of the camp group. We aim to let you know as soon as possible so that work/family arrangements can be accommodated. We usually take approximately 11 parents on camp.

What will it cost?

Costings for camp are being finalised: our estimated cost is \$460 per student. This includes accommodation and food, transport, and all camp activities.

Jackie (our bursar) has worked out a payment schedule to help with meeting this cost, which is approximately \$15 per week. We will confirm the last payment when fundraising has been deducted. Payments can be made at any time through the school office or on Kindo. If you would like to set up a direct debit, see the “my account” page on Kindo or email Jackie (jcorbett@raumatibeach.school.nz). There is no charge for parent helpers.

\$100	Due April 13	Payment 1 (includes a \$50 non-refundable deposit)
\$120	Due June 16	Payment 2
\$120	Due August 17	Payment 3
\$TBC	due mid October	Payment 4

Will there be fundraising?

We will endeavour to subsidise this cost by making applications to charitable funding sources (such as the Pelorus Trust) and by running in-school fundraising events. Parents are also welcome to do private fundraising for their own camp account. In 2016, one family did a series of weekend sausage sizzles in term one, covering camp costs early in the year! More information will follow soon about fundraising.

We understand that cost can be a barrier to students coming on camp. We would ask that you communicate early with Mike Farrelly if there are financial difficulties so that payment options can be discussed. You can be assured that this information will be kept confidential. Please speak with Mike in person, or email principal@raumatibeach.school.nz

What do I need to do now?

Please confirm your child's attendance by completing the permission “sign up” on Kindo before 16th March 2018. No money is required until the end of term one (but can be paid anytime). Come and join us at the information evening (date above) too.

We are really excited: our school camps have always been a very special experience for the students, the teachers and parents. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher, or email Wendy Keating (wkeating@raumatibeach.school.nz).

Kind regards,

Team Kapiti Teachers