

YEAR 8 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Year 8 camps will be held during Term 2 at Brauer College's own outdoor education Annexe at Dunkeld. The Year 8 camps run over 4 days

The camp fulfils a very important role. The program offers invaluable experiences in the total development of the student. These developmental experiences include teamwork, cooperation, risk taking, bush skills, which foster resilience, leadership and strength of character.

The camp will be supervised by experienced local teachers. A close relationship of trust and respect is therefore quickly established. At Year 8 the Dunkeld Annexe provides an opportunity to extend the challenge in outdoor education and self-awareness through skill development and self-reliance. The Year 8 Form Teachers will visit camp during the 4 days.

As a general rule, camp **participation is compulsory** for Year 8. Should your child be reluctant to attend the camp for any reason or if you can foresee any problems, be they social or financial, the Year 8 Coordinators would appreciate you discussing the matter with them at your earliest convenience. They can be reached at the school on 5560 3888.

Please ensure that the Permission Notification Report is filled out and returned to your child's Pastoral Care Leaders no later than three weeks before camp departure.

Jane Boyle
Principal

Dunkeld Annexe

TELEPHONE: 5577 2339

The Dunkeld Annexe is a major part of our college curriculum.

No school classroom can match the resources of the “Outdoor Classroom”. The Dunkeld camp is more than an extension to our school curriculum, it is every facet of education rolled into one, and provides the student with a forum to use every quality and piece of knowledge that the student might have.

The camp concerns the whole student, **PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, SPIRITUALLY, and SOCIALLY**. It is also inter-disciplinary, concerning many of the student’s subjects. Being a **WHOLE** educational experience, it provides the student with a chance to see the relevance of his / her education.

The camp provides challenge and adventure. The school sees this as important in developing:

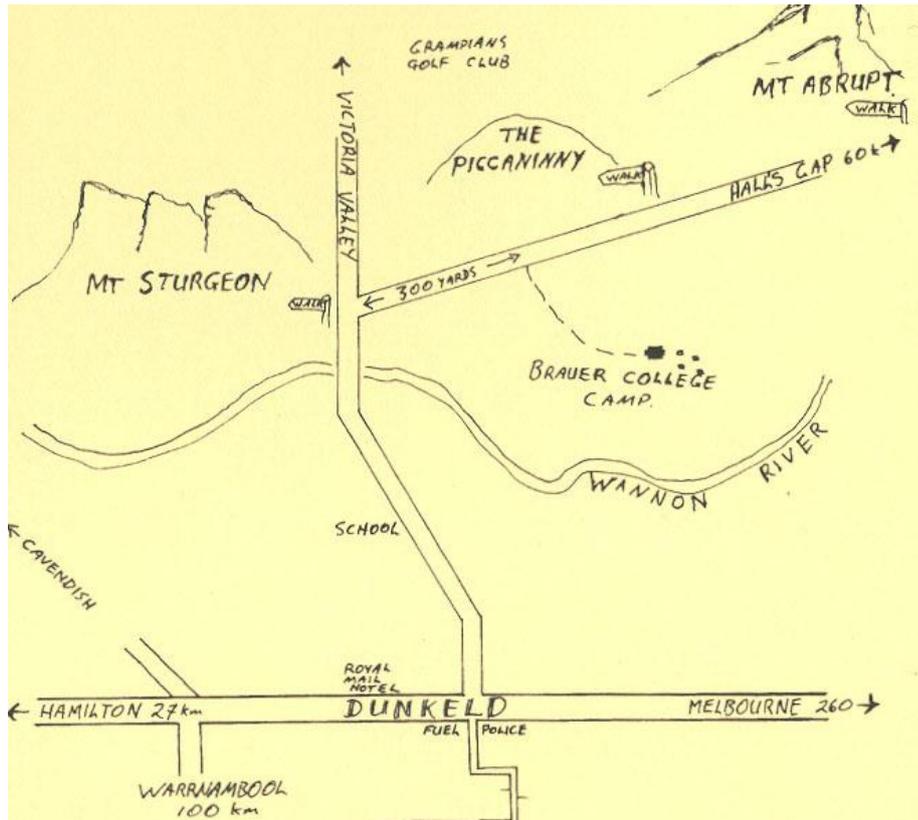
- * Maturity
- * Self Discipline
- * Self Confidence
- * A Desire to Go On Learning
- * Leadership and Initiative
- * Respect and Tolerance

The camp fosters a respect for the Australian environment. Conservation of that environment is becoming an important issue and, as the generation who are going to have responsibility for that environment, they must have knowledge of it through experience.

The camp concerns education for living. Students learn to rely on themselves rather than parents, and learn what it is like to have others rely on them. They must be responsible for their own domestic habits.

The camp is a social forum where students through experience, learn tolerance, respect for others, self-reliance, self-esteem and self-responsibility.

The college’s outdoor education Annexe is in a unique position and has the facilities necessary to fulfil the above. The camp programs are designed around the above aims. **For these reasons, the college considers Dunkeld camps an essential and integral part of its curriculum and, as a general rule, compulsory at Years 7 and 8 (though optional at Year 9).**



The camp consists of 40 acres and is owned solely by Brauer College. It was built by, and is maintained by, the staff, parents and students of the school.

The school hires the camp to other groups so that our own students may be subsidized and parents should be aware that they are able to hire the camp on weekends and holidays.

The camp is in a unique area of flora and fauna.

- * Kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas etc. are all common
- * Some 90 species of birds have been seen in the vicinity
- * Many of the Grampians' endemic species of plants are common near the camp.

The camp is located on the Southern end of the Grampians and Northern boundary of the Basalt Plains.

Camp Facilities

SLEEPING QUARTERS

Students sleep on foam mattresses in cabins. Mattresses are supplied. Students must supply a sheet to cover the mattresses, bedding and pillow with pillowslip.

KITCHEN

The camp is equipped with a modern kitchen. Plates and cutlery are supplied. **Students need only bring a cut lunch for the first day.**

BATHROOMS

Hygiene is considered very important on camps and the camp is equipped with showers, gas hot water etc. **Students are expected to supply their own soap and toiletries.**

TRANSPORT

Students, travel to camp in one of the College's buses, which remains at the camp during the week.

LAUNDRY

The camp has sinks for hand washing, and a washing machine. **Washing is the responsibility of students and detergent is not supplied.**

COMMON ROOM

There is a common room equipped with a large fireplace. It has a table tennis table but students may wish to bring cards/games.

FIRST AID

The camp has a comprehensive medicine cabinet equipped to handle most minor ailments. For any major injuries, students are taken to the Hamilton Hospital, 32 kilometres away.

It is a requirement that students hand any medication they may have to the supervising teacher for safekeeping. It is important that the student's medical form is filled out fully and accurately. Students cannot participate in the camp program without up to date medical details.

List of Requisite Clothing & Equipment

1. Sleeping bag & blanket (nights can be cold on Year 7 camps).
2. Pillow with pillowslip.
3. Casual clothes (3 sets). Sturdiness more important than looks. Please do NOT buy new clothes for camps. The local Opportunity shop is a good option.
4. Warm Jumper/fleece.
5. Changes of underclothing / thermal underwear
6. Handkerchiefs.
7. Sandshoes.
8. Change of footwear. Suitable for hikes. NOT thongs (Sturdy boots ideal).
9. Raincoat-windproof jacket **WATER PROOF**
10. Hat, wide brimmed - very important
11. Swimming togs (preferably dark in colour).
12. Toiletry requisites (soap, toothbrush/paste etc).
13. Towels (2).
14. Torch.
15. Extras: medication, sunburn cream, cameras, cards/games, insect repellent
16. Pyjamas.
17. Small Daypack
18. Beanie
19. CUT LUNCH FOR FIRST DAY.
20. Water bottle at least 750ml
21. Old sandshoes for swimming.
22. Plastic bags (for soiled clothing, footwear).
23. 1 Favourite CD to play on camp CD player.
 - *White clothing tends to get stained.*

MOBILE PHONES will be collected at start of camp and returned at the end. They may be used in an emergency. Students are discouraged from bringing valuable items to camp as loss or damage is not covered by the College.

NOTE:

- Personal gear should be packed in an old suitcase or carry bag as small as is reasonably possible.
- Plastic bags are handy for bringing dirty boots and laundry back from the camp.
- No spending money is required.
- **DEFINITELY NO CIGARETTES OR ALCOHOL ARE PERMITTED.** Students and parents should be aware that if students take illicit goods to camp, or that their behaviour in any way interferes with the smooth running of the camp, they will be sent home at their parents' expense.
- Please limit sweets, chocolates, sweet drinks (unnecessary).
- No MP3 players, iPods, smart phones, hair dryers, or other electrical goods are to be brought on camps. Aerosol sprays are only to be brought for medicinal purposes (i.e. Ventolin) and in this circumstance must be given to Camp Teacher. Roll-on repellents and deodorants please.

Dunkeld Camp Programs

The aim of the Year 8 camp is to extend the students skills from Year 7 and to introduce respect for self, others and the environment as well as develop responsibility for ones actions. Challenge and teamwork are also key parts of the program. Outdoor Education is the focus for this camp and activities are designed in accordance with this.

In Year 8 the students are extended and do longer walks including one up Mt Abrupt plus a 3km solo night hike. They will be taught basic cooking and camping skills. They will develop their navigation skills and undergo an orienteering course offsite. They will be instructed in abseiling and mountain biking.

Year 8 students are encouraged to become familiar with the bush, and use the environment for their own enjoyment without damaging it in a variety of small ways. Students swim in the river and freshwater lake. Games played in Year 8 are designed to increase students' familiarity with animals and the bush. The students are using the rock formations, streams, waterfalls, swamps and scrub of the Grampians to learn not just more about the bush, but to develop an appreciation of it that encourages them to protect it in their adulthood.

Strict timetables are usually avoided, and programmes may vary around the weather and Total Fire Ban days.

We hope this has given parents some insight into the type of activities their child will do at camp. Further activities students may do throughout their years at school include bushcraft instruction, initiative activities, bouldering, orienteering, overnight camping, and maintenance of the camp itself.

DEPARTURE & ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

On the day of departure to Dunkeld camp, students are required to arrive at Brauer College before 8.45am and wait at the Brauerander Park end of the school where the buses pull up (the end of D wing). Parents are required to drop off/pick up students via Brauerander car park and use the crossings to walk over to D wing. Please do not drive into the bus circle.

All students are to attend Pastoral Care meetings/assembly.

Students that have failed to submit a completed Medical Form will not be allowed to participate in the Camp Program. Students that are not on camp are *expected* to attend normal classes. Staying home is not an option.

Students are to be picked up from Brauer College no earlier than 3.00pm. Students who travel home on buses can wait as usual for their bus at the bus shelters.

OTHER CAMPS

Individual subject teachers may use the camp during the year, as the Grampians present an excellent forum for the teaching of Botany, Art and many other subjects. For instance, weekend camps may be held for students doing Japanese, for the College Band as a practice weekend, and for students doing Outdoor Education as a classroom subject. Parents will be informed of these camps as they arise.

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS should be indicated on Medical Form.

FOOD

Students need only take a cut lunch for the first day, all needs are provided for thereafter. There is at least one hot meal each day. Fruit and morning and afternoon teas are provided. Breakfast is normally cereals and toast.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The school is very particular about this facet of the camp. A large area around the camp is cleared each summer, and the camp is equipped with its own hydrant. Activities might vary during days of high fire danger.

COST

The cost for the camp is specified in the Booklist and must be paid in full prior to the camp departure.

If the fee presents a financial hardship, especially to those families where there is more than one child at Secondary school, the College may be able to offer some assistance. If you will have difficulty in meeting the fee, please contact the Year Level Coordinator or Assistant Principal. All requests for assistance are treated confidentially and most often even the son or daughter involved is not aware of the matter.

The Year 8 camp dates:

Group	Week	Dates
8C	2	21 st - 24 th April
8B	3	28 th April - 1 st May
8A	5	12 th - 15 th May
8E	6	26 th - 29 th May
8F	9	9 th - 12 th June
8D	10	16 th - 19 th June

Parent (Camp Preparation) Checklist

- Camp Payment
 - Preferably payment paid with booklist payment.
 - Year 8 camp payment deadline is end of week 3 of Term 1.

- Confidential Medical Form
 - Submitted to Pastoral Care Teacher – by end of week 3 of Term 1.

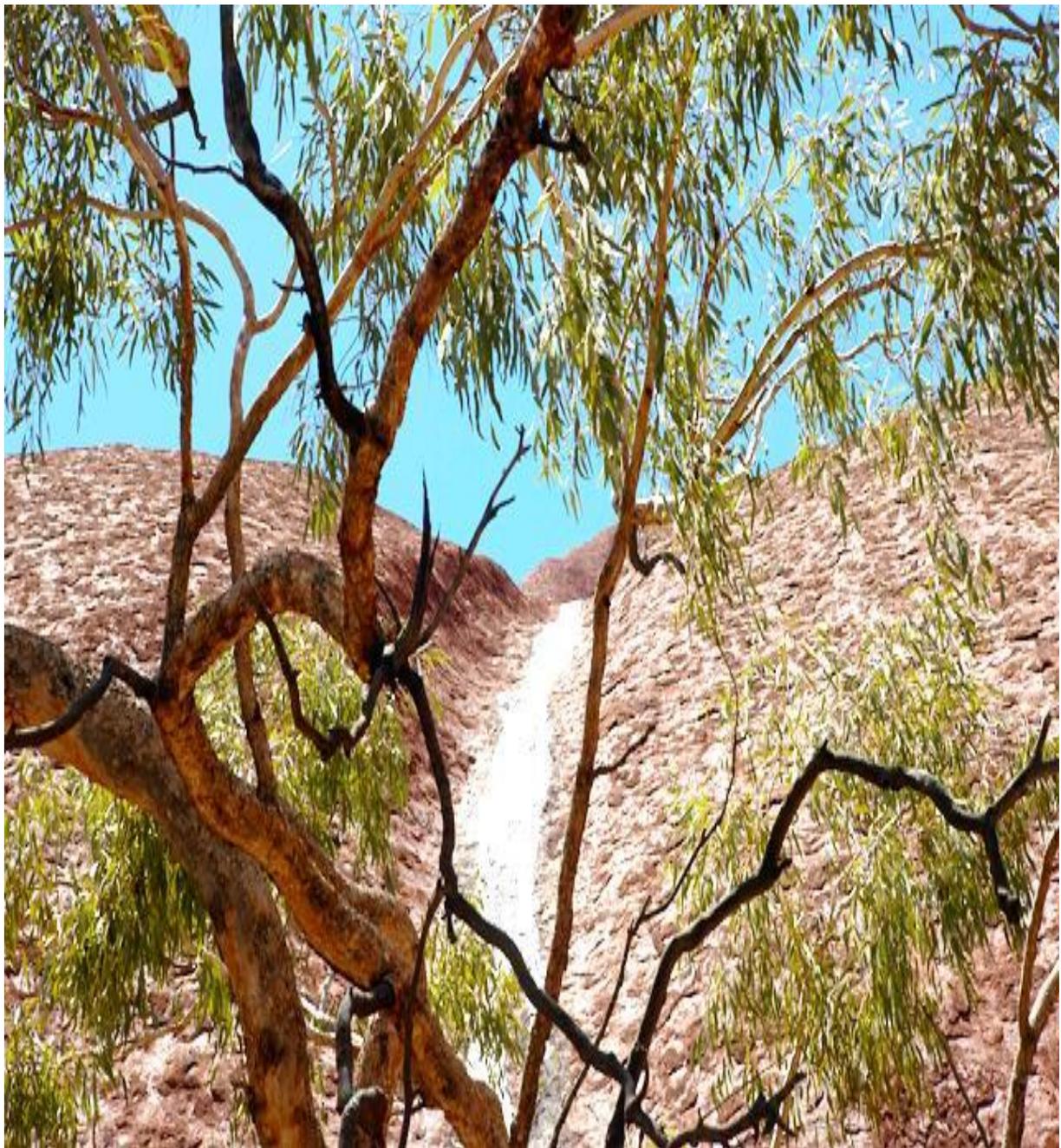
- Requisite Clothing and Equipment (Please see Page 5)

- Medicines Protocol (Please see Page 4)

- Prohibited substances, commodities, items (Please see Page 5)

- Arrangements regarding student pick-up should be made prior to camp.





BRAUER COLLEGE
WARRNAMBOOL

**DUNKELD OUTDOOR
EDUCATION PROGRAM – Year 8**