

21 July 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 10 OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Towards the end of Term 4, students will be involved in a week-long Outdoor Education Programme. Most of the activities start on Monday 27 November and run through to Friday 1 December 2023.

As a school, we create programmes which match our Physical Education – Outdoor Education policy, offering experiences which enrich the years of your son's time at Palmerston North Boys' High School. It is our intention each year, to provide a range of programmes to cater for the varied interests within the Year 10 student body. This does lead to a range of costs. The costs of such programmes are carefully considered, but inevitable.

Besides any commercial activity costs, the bulk of costs arise from transport and accommodation.

The School is aware of the extra financial demands on families. Attempts have been made to minimise costs by avoiding excessive use of commercial providers.

Two activities do rely totally on commercial providers and the cost is higher for these than other activities. ('Canoe the Whanganui' and 'Raft the Rangitikei') It has been decided to leave these activities as options because of the nature of the activity and an opportunity to experience a programme which the school cannot offer, at considerably less cost than is available in the public sector.

It is hoped that the four-month period before camps take place, will both make payment easier for families, and will ensure greatest equity among all students when choosing camps.

An issue for the school has been late pullouts from an activity, which usually leads to the activity accruing considerable loss. This situation is impractical for the school.

The school is asking that payment of the camp cost be fully paid by Friday 3 November (Week 4 Term 4)

The Finance Office will invoice when the camp selection process has been completed.

Payments can be made before the invoicing and the due date.

Please email or call with any questions relating to payment arrangements with the Finance Office.

finance@pnbhs.school.nz or 354 5176 Ext. 799

Any payments can be made by cash / eftpos or by using online banking. Online banking is preferable:

Bank Account: *Palmerston North Boys' High School*

Bank Account Number: *03 0726 0476403 00*

Please reference the payment with 'Year 10 Camp' and your son's 'Student ID Number'.

It is inevitable that students will sometimes miss out on their first choice of programme. Some camps attract interest from too large a group for the number of places available.

In order that each student has a fair chance of attending the camp of his choice, we will use the following procedure:

From 3.30pm on Friday 21 July, students can **either scan the QR Code at the bottom of this letter, or use the link provided in this letter**, to access the Camp Selection Questionnaire.

Students must be logged into their **School Google** account, using their **school email and password**, to be able to use the link to the questionnaire.

<https://forms.gle/DBjaH6xzmYUbbp6N6>

This questionnaire **must be completed by 3.30pm on Tuesday 1 August**. The selection process will close at that time and camps will be allocated accordingly.

If for any reason, selections are not made, students can still be placed into activities where places are still available – and there will be places available.

There is **no advantage** to any student who enters his selection first. It **makes no difference** to selection if students complete the questionnaire early or later – the finish time is **3.30pm on Tuesday 1 August** and the **questionnaire must be completed** by then.

The camp allocation will be posted at school by Tuesday 8 August (by list in the Library Quad).

Information for each camp can be read online as well as in this hardcopy.

Any visual presentations about the individual camps can be viewed on Stratus, using the link provided.

Remember that this process does not become 'live' until 3.30pm on **Friday 21 July**.

If any student is having **difficulty with the questionnaire**, see Mrs Tomlinson in the computer administration office on either Monday 24 July, Thursday 27 July, Friday 28 July, and finally, Monday 31 July.

These concerns can also be emailed to Mrs Tomlinson at tomlinsonj@pnbhs.school.nz.

Permission slips, full gear lists, times of departure and other information will be supplied by the teacher in charge of the activity closer to the camps. (The first camp meetings will take place in the middle of Term 3).

If you have any concerns about actual camps or related costs, please phone and discuss your concerns with Mr Miller.

Later, (in Term 4), an evening meeting will be arranged so that parents can talk to staff in charge of each activity.

If you have any questions or concerns about the programme, please ring me (Mr G Miller) during school hours, at 354 5176 or e-mail millerg@pnbhs.school.nz

Yours faithfully

G Miller (Coordinator EOTC Programmes)

