

HANMER SPRINGS CAMP 2019

3 December 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We are looking forward to the Year 7-8 biennial camp to Hanmer Springs, that will provide your children with an array of challenging and exciting outdoor activities in a stunning alpine environment. The purpose of this first notice is to provide you all with an outline of 'the basics'.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information or have any queries about this wonderful event. Emily Soward will of course be running the camp but I am doing the initial paperwork.

WHEN? Tuesday 12 February to Friday 15 February. This year, we will be going on camp earlier than usual to avoid harvest. It will also be a great opportunity to develop some class 'bonding'- camp is a fantastic way to build relationships and to get to know each other better.

WHERE? Hanmer Springs Forest Camp

WHY HANMER SPRINGS? Stunning outdoor environment that provides us with an awesome natural playground. This is also a Tua Marina tradition and the camps were very successful in previous years.

WHAT ARE WE DOING? The students will be involved in daily mountain biking, night mountain biking, forest orienteering, team building exercises, and all manner of usual camp stuff. It's going to be brilliant! We will even find time for swims in the famous Hanmer thermal pools to soothe the tired muscles. Students need to continue developing their mountain biking skills, confidence and competence. We cycle in the forest each day and even complete cycle orienteering around the Hanmer village on open roads.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST? We are always keen to keep the costs down to an affordable level and calculations at this stage indicate that we may be looking at a figure close to \$250 per student. I will firm this figure up within the next few weeks.

FUNDRAISING OPTIONS - we won't be running any fundraising activities, as the last two senior camps have seen minimal interest in fundraising with a minority of families taking up the option. A considerable amount of organisation and energy has gone into this for a small amount of return. However, Couplands bakery offer a fundraising option if enough people are interested. **All camp fees will need to be paid prior to departure on 12 February.**

Contact the school office if you want to start drip feeding your payments.

PARENT HELP - We require the support of capable parent helpers for the trip to assist with transport, organisation and all activities. Parents play an integral part in any camp and the presence of skilled and responsible parents ensures the camp will be a success. Student safety is paramount at all times and selecting parents for camp is an unenviable but necessary task. I know that you will all understand that I am unable to take every parent who offers. Gone are the days of just offering to help. We need to meet strict risk management requirements and ensure that

people with the appropriate physical skills, abilities and experience are on camp to ensure student safety. Parents are invited to offer their skills for camp by completing the attached volunteer helper form stating relevant skills, experience and qualifications. **These need to be returned to me by Friday 7 December.** I will then contact any parent helpers so that they can make the necessary work, family or business arrangements. I will then forward the Police Vetting paperwork, so that this can be completed over the holiday period.

PARENT HELPER COSTS – We do not expect parent helpers to make a financial contribution to camp. Parents are often taking time away from family and paid employment and all parent costs will be factored into the overall student costs.

RISK MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES – We are required to complete very detailed risk management documentation to reduce, eliminate and minimise potential risks. We will be presenting RM documentation to the Board of Trustees prior to departure and will be holding a RM meeting with all parent helpers before we depart. Adventure contractors in Hanmer are required to provide me with evidence of qualifications and safety audit procedures prior to climbing and abseiling. Considerable time and effort is placed into ensuring that the safety of your children is paramount at all times – nothing is more important.

FOOD DONATIONS – any donations of fruit, vege, baking or meat greatly reduces the overall cost of camp. More details to follow, but please keep this in mind if you have access to meat, venison, mutton, eggs, vege etc.

MOUNTAIN BIKES – All students and parent helpers will need access to a decent mountain bike for the camp. Start organising these now so that we are ready to go. We transported 40 bikes to Hanmer and back in previous years – it can be done!

CYCLE SKILLS - all students need a decent level of cycle skill and fitness for Camp Hanmer. Start training now! We vary the challenges to meet the needs of the students but they should all be able to ride a bike on the open road, manage entry level MTB tracks and have an acceptable level of fitness. We ride every day and all weather conditions!

TRAILERS – we'll need access to at least three large trailers with cages to transport bikes and gear. Contact me via email if you can assist. We also need tarpaulins and straps.

VEHICLES – parent helpers with decent 4WD vehicles to tow our large bike trailers is important. Utes with canopies, vans or luggage trailers are handy too.

Kind Regards,

Nick Raynor

TUA MARINA SCHOOL – CAMP HANMER 2019 PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM - OFFER OF HELP

To ensure student safety is paramount at all times, it is vital that parent helpers are capable of taking a full and physically active part in all camp activities. Camp Hanmer will involve a very high level of physical activity each day. Parents will be required to lead or assist student groups in daily mountain biking, orienteering, rock and tree climbing, forest runs and swimming. Kitchen and cooking skills are also required. Please complete the form below.

I have the following skills/experience/qualifications [Tick or Cross x]

Qualification	Current	Not current	Notes (recent experience)
Car driver's license			
First aid certificate			Valid until: Date lapsed:
Teacher registration			
CPR certificate			
Life Saving certificate			

Instructor / coaching qualifications/experience relevant to outdoor activities: Outdoor Leadership, Orienteering, Risk Management Skills, NZDA Hunting, Mountain Safety Bushcraft etc.

Mountain Biking Experience:

You may be asked to lead ability groups on a variety of forest tracks in and around Hanmer. You will need to be able to ride for a few hours each day in **all weather conditions**. Tracks vary from flat beginners to advanced uphill/downhill/technical single track.

Swimming ability: (please describe – could you swim and rescue a student?) Do you swim regularly?

Physical Fitness: Below Average Average Above Average

Other significant skills or experience relevant to the Camp Hanmer activities:

Orienteering? Abseiling? Tramping? Cooking for large groups?

People Management? Medical?

I certify that the above information is correct. I am aware that I will be subjected to a Police Vetting if selected to attend camp Hanmer as a parent helper.

Parent Name: _____

Date: _____

RETURN BY FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER