Dear Parents,

This notice is to provide you with important details for the upcoming Year 7/8 Clifford Park Camp.

VENUE: Clifford Park Activity Centre
Clifford Drive, Wonga Park

DATE: Wednesday 4 March - Friday 6 March 2015

PROGRAM: This camp is designed as an introduction to Middle School for our new students and a time of community building. It will involve:

- Year 7/8 team building activities
- Looking at the importance of living in community (ie. encouragement, getting alongside others, group and individual responsibilities...)
- Personal challenges (ie. overcoming fears, openness to the new, perseverance...)
- Introducing students to canvas camping and encouraging them to develop their skills in basic camping.

Activities in which the students will be involved include: cooking, walking, archery and initiative activities

Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 March, the students will be participating in an alternate program run at school.

TRANSPORT: Students will be transported to the camp by the school buses. The coach will depart MECS at 9:00am on Wednesday 4 March and will return to school for normal dismissal at 3:15pm on Friday 6 March 2015.

STAFFING: Mrs Alison Copeland, Mrs Nicky Joiner, Mrs Sharon Rodrigo-Wilson, Mrs Nastalie Peeler, Mr Duc Tran, Mr Bradley Turner, Mrs Anne-Maree Forbes, Mrs Elia Livett, Mrs Meredith Opie, Mrs Sharon Witt, Mrs Natasha Le Brocq and Mrs Illeana Noble.

EQUIPMENT: An equipment list is attached to this notice.

Please note that NO mobile phones, iPods, or MP3 players etc are to be brought on camp. If there is a specific circumstance where a particular student requires an electronic device please speak to the class teacher to discuss that matter with them.

MEDICAL FORMS: Please complete and return the attached medical form by Friday 13 February. It is important that parents/guardians keep us informed – particularly if there has been any recent illness or problem that teachers and leaders need to be aware of. Information on these forms will be kept strictly confidential and the forms are destroyed at the conclusion of your child’s camp. Students will not be permitted to attend the camp if they have not returned their medical form.

MEDICATION: All Cycle A student medication must be given to Mrs Anne-Maree Forbes and Cycle B student medication to Sharon Witt by a parent (in a clearly labelled plastic bag) on Wednesday morning of the camp. These will be kept safe at base camp and administered to your child as per your/doctors instructions given.

For catering purposes please ensure the section relating to your child’s dietary requirements, including adequate details of what they are unable to eat and alternatives, is completed and returned to school in a timely manner. Thank you for assisting us in this.
**SUNSMART:** As students will be participating in various outdoor activities, it is imperative that they have their own supply of sunscreen with them at all times. Students are required to be vigilant with the application of sunscreen during the day. There is a high risk of sunburn if these items are not worn or re-applied whilst in the open (even on cloudy days).

Further to this it is **very important** that students carry their own water bottle (these are NOT to be shared under any circumstances) and to wear their broad-brimmed hat **at all times** in the open. **Please note students are not permitted to board the bus if they do not have these items with them.** Please ensure that your child’s hat is placed in their day pack and not amongst their other luggage.

**STUDENT BEHAVIOUR/CONCERNS:** Parents/Guardians will be notified if their child severely misbehaves or acts in a manner that may compromise the welfare of other students. The leadership team reserves the right to request that parents make arrangements for their child to be picked up from Clifford Park, if such behaviour occurs.

Please remember the staff and students in your prayers as we prepare for an exciting and enriching camp. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher at school on 9738 6000 or for students in Cycle email Alison Copeland at acopeland@meecs.vic.edu.au and students in Cycle B email Bradley Turner at bturner@meecs.vic.edu.au for any further details about the camp.

Yours in Christ,

*Mrs Alison Copeland, Mrs Nicky Joiner, Mrs Sharon Rodrigo-Wilson, Mr Bradley Turner, Mrs Natalie Peeler and Mr Duc Tran*

*Cycle A & Cycle B Teachers*
**Year 7/8 Clifford Park Camp 2015 - Equipment List**

**All EQUIPMENT items** are to be brought on the camp. Please CLEARLY NAME all items belonging to your child. PLEASE NOTE that on this camp students **SHOULD NOT BRING:**

- Electronic games
- Ipods or MP3 players
- Mobile phones
- Money

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon tea for first day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three changes of clothes (socks, jocks, T-shirts, pants, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old clothes for ‘Challenge Course’ (students can get very muddy and wet!)</td>
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<td>Spare dry shoes – no thongs</td>
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<td>* Water Proof jacket  i.e. Japara, light weight coat</td>
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<td>Light woollen jumper and/or hoodie</td>
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<td>School Hat (broad brimmed)</td>
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<td>Sunscreen (minimum SPF 30+)</td>
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<td>A pencil case and clip-board</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Good quality sleeping bag (it can get very cold!!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pillow</td>
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<td>Sleeping mat (closed cell foam) or Lilo</td>
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<td>* Tent (to be shared between at least 2 people)</td>
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<td>Water bottle (for drinking)</td>
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<td>Bowl, Mug, Knife, Fork, Spoon and Tea Towel</td>
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<td>Whistle (on a neck cord) - important in case of Emergencies</td>
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<td>Small torch and spare batteries</td>
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<td>Toiletries</td>
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<td>Two towels &amp; bathers</td>
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<td>Three (empty) garbage bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal medication (to be handed to Mrs Forbes/Mrs Witt on Wednesday morning of camp)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small day pack - important for walks</td>
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* Please make sure these items are good quality, as it can be very cold and wet on camp. Please note: Students will be working out tent groups at school and very rarely do new tents need to be purchased.

^ Please note that cotton drawstring utensil bags are available for purchase from the office for $3.