Dear Parents and Year 10 Students,

It is now just over a week before we leave on one of the most exciting and challenging school camps/experiences ever! All plans are in place but I need to remind you about a few matters. Please go through the attached equipment list and ensure ALL items have been organised and packed.

Your child’s group leader will specifically check the following items (listed below) on Friday September 15 between 4.00pm and 5.00pm in the SENIOR SCHOOL car park.

Items in red need to be packed in the backpack provided by the school. The backpack and its contents will be checked and then returned to the student to carry on the bus (to have on hand at all times). Students will be required to purchase any items that are missing on the first day of the trip.

A) **Backpack (school provided):**

- Centre trip journal (A4 spiral bound with blank pages)
- pencil case
- a total of 2 litres of drinking containers
- torch
- "wet ones"
- "Band-Aids"
- throat lozenges
- school provided hat
- sunscreen
- whistle on a cord
- wrist watch.

B) **Suitcase (max. weight 16kgs)** This will be packed in the coach and should contain all the other items on the list. The following items will be checked on Friday so pack them towards the top:

- spare batteries
- two pairs of STURDY shoes -hiking and runners (no low cut ‘slip-ons’)
- three collared shirts
- rain coat/jacket
- odour eaters or tinea powder
- thongs (for shower)
- roll on or stick deodorant

In order to meet safety and health regulations, aerosol spray deodorants are NOT PERMITTED

Please note that all skirts, shorts and dresses must meet the MECS Senior School Dress guidelines (past extended hand length).

C) Please bring supper items (shop bought cakes, biscuits, slices etc.) and give these to the cooks.

D) Students who need to call home regularly may, with an explanatory letter from a medical doctor or counsellor, bring a mobile phone and leave it in the care of a staff member.

E) The trip will leave from the Senior School car park at 6.00am on Saturday September 16. Students must arrive by 5.30am at the latest. Upon arrival, students must report to their group leader by 5.45 am. Students will need to bring their lunch for this first day. Toilets will be open.

F) **Post Trip Information:** The trip will return by 7 pm on SUNDAY the 1st of October at the “kiss and drop” area at the bottom (York Rd end) of the school. Year 10 students are not required at school until Monday the 16th of October (start of term IV). However, because Wednesday the 11th of October is a VCE-VET day at government schools, VET/VCE students are required to attend on this day from whenever these programs begin. Ranges TEC VCE-VET students will need to determine if classes are running in that week.

Dr. Roger C Fernando
Trip Leader
The following items will be checked on Friday 15th September.

- **Current medication** to be given to a staff member.
- **Suitcase** small to medium (max. size 630 mm x 460 mm x 200 mm). **Maximum** weight 16 kgs.
- **Warm sleeping bag,** as the temperature can fall to 0°C in the desert
- **Pillow**
- **Lilo** or inflatable airbed *(no swags or mattresses)*
- **Warm clothing:** jeans, jumper, jacket, tracksuit to sleep in
- **Cool Clothing:** Three **collared** shirts for hiking, t-shirts with sleeves.
- **Shorts** must meet SS Dress guidelines *(past extended hand length).*
- **Underwear and socks** (X 7 sets)
- **Skirt (to or below knee)** (female students are required to wear a skirt for the church service)
- **Raincoat/Jacket** with hood in the event of wet weather
- **Bathers** and **Towel**
- **Personal toiletries** (keep these to a minimum. Eg. limited cosmetics)
- **Two pairs of shoes** consisting of:
  - **Sturdy shoes** for hiking and
  - **Comfortable runners** *(No low cut shoes under any circumstances)*
- **Thongs** for showering, **Odour eaters** and **Tinea powder/cream**
- **Wrist watch**
- **Camera**
- **Washing powder** *(small amount in container with tight fitting lid)* and **pegs.**
- **Plastic bags** for dirty washing
- **Fly net** for over hat *(optional but advised)*
- **Gaiters** for protection against bindies *(optional).*
- **Music CD** *(optional, 1 only)* with no inappropriate lyrics.
- **Backpack/Daypack** *(will be provided by the school)* to carry the following:
  - **Journal** to record YOUR trip
  - **Centre Trip document** *(will be given to students on Day 1)*
  - **Pencil case** containing pens, pencils, sharpener, rubber, etc.
  - **Drink bottles** - at least 2 litres in total *(can be 2 separate litres.)*
  - **Torch**
  - **Roll on or Stick deodorant** *(Aerosol spray deodorants are NOT PERMITTED).*
  - **Wet ones** for washing hands when water is not available
  - **Half a roll of toilet paper**
  - **“Band-Aids”**
  - **Hand cream** and **lip salve**
  - **Throat lozenges** eg. Strepsils
  - **Sunscreen** *(blockout)* and **Sunglasses**
  - **Whistle on cord**

_To be brought on the Day of Departure:_

- **Cut lunch** for Day 1