

Camping Program at St Peter's – Frequently Asked Questions

A progressive camping program is an integral part of the Primary experience at St Peter's. Students from Years 1- 6 attend camps ranging from one day to four days. Our camping programs are developed in conjunction with Crusader's Summit Educational Camps and serve a variety of purposes. Camps allow students to undertake activities and experiences which cannot be completed in a classroom. They also provide students with the opportunity to learn to live with others in a close environment, undertake and conquer new challenges, develop their teamwork skills, get to know each other and their teachers on a different level, develop greater independence and confidence and hear the good news of Jesus from the Crusader leaders.

What food will my child be given and what if they have food allergies?

We cater for all children regardless of their food requirements. Vegans, vegetarians, dairy allergies, fussy eaters, those with anaphylaxis, diabetics, and particular foods required due to religious beliefs and any other specific dietary requirements. Students are given plenty of food throughout the course of camp. During the day students are given breakfast (hot and cold options), morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner with dessert. Parents are free to send food packaged for their child if they have allergies or other food related concerns, for staff to administer. Fruit is always available for the children to snack on throughout the day.

What if my child still wets the bed or requires pull ups?

Students all become dry in their own time. We are aware that for some of our students this can still be an issue later into their primary years for a variety of reasons. If this is a concern for your child you will need to write this on the camp permission forms when they are sent home. The necessary staff will then be informed and made aware of extra requirements your child may have. At camp staff will discretely assist your child where necessary. On previous camps we have had parents provide things like plastic sheets and pull ups. Children can get up and go to the toilet throughout the night and are encouraged to bring a torch.

What if my children suffers from fear and anxiety?

Spending the night away from home can be a big deal for both children and parents. To assist with anxiety related to being away from home, each grade will meet together prior to going on camp to look at photos and talk through what will take place. Social stories can also be given to children in the weeks leading up to camp to help students to calm their concerns. Another option might be to take your child for a drive to the campsite prior to camp so that they can see what it looks like. All activities undertaken at camp are challenge by choice. This means that students will be encouraged to attempt each activity, but that it is their choice whether or not they complete it. Nightlights and/or torches can be brought for those who don't like the dark. If your child struggles with separation please make an appointment to see Mrs Aston so that strategies can be developed to assist them.

What if my child requires medication whilst on camp?

All medication that your child requires whilst on camp needs to be brought to school and handed to the allocated teacher the day of camp. It needs to be labelled with your child's name and when they will require it e.g. time, with breakfast, hourly. Medications will be distributed by 2 teachers

throughout the day / evening at camp. Phone calls will be made if staff have any concerns about the need for or administration of medications. Medications are listed on the camp form, however, additional medications brought on the morning of camp and will be noted down and given accordingly. All parents are required to provide a signature on the medical form for the administration of Panadol or Nurofen. All administrations are logged in a medical book by staff.

What if there is an emergency and I need to contact my child whilst they are on camp?

Staff are contactable at all times whilst on camp via a mobile phone provided by the school. Closer to the camp (approx. 2 weeks before) the school will provide you with a phone number in case you need to contact your child while they are at camp.

What if is my child's birthday while they are on camp?

We understand that it can be particularly difficult to be away from your child on their birthday as it is a special day for both them and you. If it is your child's birthday while they on camp we can make special arrangements for them to contact you during the day. Small gifts may also be given to your child's teacher for them to be given at camp. A birthday cake will also be provided for morning tea on the day so that their peers and teachers can celebrate with them. Please ensure that you make Mrs Aston aware of this so that arrangements can be made prior to camp.

How can I help my child to prepare for camp?

We acknowledge that camp is big deal for both students and parents. Some things that you can do to assist your child are:

1. Be positive - encourage your child that they will have a great time and it's important for their developing independence.
2. Ensure that your child knows how to use hot and cold taps (Years 4 - 6) for when they shower.
3. Get them to help pack their suitcase - we will always help packing up!
4. Teach your child how to roll up a sleeping bag.

Remember that we are all parenting for the future, fostering growing independence and confidence in our children.