

November 2008

Dear Parents

Re: Dampier Archipelago Sea Trek

The Outdoor Education Department invites your daughter's enrolment for the Dampier Archipelago Sea Trek. We are excited about this programme as it is an interesting and unique way of exploring the many natural wonders and historic sites that the Archipelago has to offer.

This Sea Trek follows a skills-based curriculum in the form of sailing and boat handling. These skills will be developed during a few training days of sailing and boat handling on the Swan River in Term 3, culminating in the Sea Trek Expedition in the August mid-term break. No prior knowledge of sailing is required. If students already have extensive experience in sailing they will still be required to attend the training, but will be given various leadership roles within the programme.

Please find attached information on the following:

- Sail training requirements
- Expedition summary sheet
- Consent Form

Enrolments for this course will be accepted immediately so please return your consent form as soon as possible. Please note that places are limited and enrolments will be accepted on a first-in basis.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me in the Outdoor Education Department on 9285 4100.

Yours sincerely

Emma Potter
Outdoor Education

SAIL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Aim

The aim of sail-training is to give all participants a sound understanding of marine safety, basic boat handling and sailing techniques. **Attendance to all training sessions is essential and compulsory.** Failure to attend training sessions may result in a cancellation of enrolment.

Course Content

- Launch and retrieval of power and sail boat vessels: beach and jetty settings
- Voyage preparation: navigation, weather, and use of marine radios
- Safety regulations and equipment: collision regulations, IALA navigation marks
- Emergency procedures: man overboard, capsize drill, distress signals
- Coming alongside and manoeuvring: power and sailing vessels
- Sailing technique: running, reaching, sailing close hauled, gybing and tacking drills
- Rowing technique

Proposed Training Schedule

Proposed training times for **Term 3, 2009** are:

Sunday 9 August	Sail Training	9.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday 16 August	Boat Handling	9.00am – 4.00pm

Venue

Marine Education Boatshed: Corner Riverside Road and Pier Street, East Fremantle
School Contact: Emma Potter 0427 182 227, **Boatshed Contact:** 9339 7851

Transport

Transport will be provided via school bus from Outdoor Education at 8.30am and returning by 4.30pm each day

Requirements

- Packed lunch, snacks and water bottle
- Old, dark coloured sailing clothes (quick-dry shorts, long sleeve t-shirts and thermals)
- Bathers and towel
- Wetsuit (optional) as these are also available on site
- Warm dry clothes advisable for post-sailing activities

DAMPIER SAILING EXPEDITION

Itinerary

Thurs 20 August: Depart Perth from Qantas Domestic Terminal. Arrive Karratha and travel to Pilbara Camp School. Begin expedition preparation/overnight at Camp School.

**Fri – Sun
21 – 23 August:** Expedition amongst the islands of the Dampier Archipelago. Activities include sailing, power-boating, swimming, snorkelling, fishing, camping and walking.

Mon 24 August: Conclude expedition and return to Pilbara Camp School by noon to clean and return equipment. Depart Karratha, arrive Perth Qantas Domestic Terminal.

Food: All food will be provided. Please indicate any special requirements in the space provided on the consent form.

Accommodation: For this expedition we will have the relative luxury of camping out in ‘mossie domes’ on the beaches of various islands in the Archipelago. Alternatively students may choose to sleep under houthchies.

Equipment: Specialist equipment for this camp will be met through the combined resources of St Hilda’s, the Marine Education Boatshed and the Dampier Camp School. A comprehensive Personal Equipment list will be provided to students at a later stage.

Transport

Air Travel: Return flights to and from Karratha
Bus Shuttles: Return bus transport from Karratha to Dampier
Expedition Travel: Students will explore the Archipelago using 5m sailing cutters (universal 14s) which will carry outboard motors. A high-speed rescue vessel will accompany the fleet at all times and will have communications with Emergency support facilities in Dampier.

Cost: The all-inclusive cost of the expedition will be \$965.00 - based on 9 participants. This price is guaranteed only for those who pay the deposit early in Term 1 taking advantage of the *discount group airfare*.

Group Airfare: The Outdoor Education Department has arranged a group booking for the return air travel to Dampier. This gives students the advantages of bulk purchasing. However, it also requires students to conform to the booking conditions listed below.

Please note: if you delay enrolling you may incur a higher cost due to airline ticket pricing.

Booking Conditions

Please note that you are required to pay a \$300 deposit. A \$50 cancellation fee is applicable on the airline ticket. These funds will secure the group airfare once the minimum number of enrolments is met. The remainder of the group airfare is fully refundable up until 72 hrs prior to departure. Once the minimum number of enrolments is met, you will be requested to pay the remainder of the funds.

Please note: Individual tickets will be issued at the airport immediately prior to departure.

Travel Insurance

We encourage parents to consider taking out travel insurance (see attached) as we are not in a position to refund all monies paid, should your daughter be unable to travel.