



Adventure School

Tōtara Camp 2024

1 November 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The following notice is our first advisory about camp next year. We thought it timely to let you know more about what is being planned, where we are going and a preliminary indication of costs. **We will be hosting a Camp Information Evening in the Learning Studio / Hub from 6pm on Thursday the 9th of November.** This will allow us to go into all of the following in more detail and offer you the opportunity to ask any other questions you might have at this stage.

Please note that you will also find a link at the bottom of this notice that takes you through to an intention form. It is important that you fill this out by the end of next week, Friday 10 November, so that we can have a clear indication of whether parents are able and willing to offer their financial support to the camp.

Camp Mākahika

Tōtara Camp will be held at the [Mākahika Outdoor Pursuit Centre](#) from Tuesday the 5th of March to Friday the 8th of March. Mākahika is set in the foothills of the Tararua Ranges and is a reasonably short (90 minute) drive north from school. Planned camp activities will include a bush craft and safety programme, a river and water safety programme, tramping, high and low ropes, orienteering, team building and an overnight bush-camp experience. All these activities are run by highly experienced and industry qualified instructors. The camp itself is audited annually by AdventureMark. Students will be split into three groups and they will experience different sleeping arrangements each night; cabins in the lodge, an overnight bush experience and tents on the main campground.

Indication of costs

Funds raised this year from Stall Day and Pizza & PJ Day will be put towards camp. We are also presently applying to three separate charitable trusts for grants which, if approved, will reduce costs further.

At this stage it is impossible to give you any more than an indication of costs. But working on the assumption that we are successful with one of our grant applications, we expect the cost to parents will be around \$350 per student.

We appreciate that this is a significant cost to bear. Some families have chosen in the past to spread the financial load by making instalments towards camp ahead of time. If this is something you would like to consider, part payments can be made into the School Account, referencing with your child's name and 'totara camp'.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly to discuss, in confidence, any concerns you have about meeting the costs of camp.

Intention Form

Can you click on this [link](#) and indicate your intentions with regard to financially supporting camp in 2024.

What's next?

Assuming we have a favourable response from the above intention form, another notice will be sent out next month with additional camp information. This will include an expression of interest form for parents who would like to join us as Adult Supervisors and a link to a Google form that will ask for medical, dietary and other necessary information about your child. Hopefully we will have a clearer indication of whether we have been successful with at least one of our three grant applications.

If you have any questions at this stage about camp and are unable to attend the parent meeting next Thursday, please feel free to email me directly at mhughes@adventure.school.nz

Thanks and regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hughes', written in a cursive style.

Mark Hughes
Totara Syndicate