POWER OF 9

CENTRAL AUSTRALIA CA#1

An A-Z GUIDE TO THE 2015 EXPEDITION
Camp (Training)
Your son will receive a Training Camp iPod file with information about this. The Camp, from Monday 17 August to Thursday 20 August, is a compulsory part of his preparation. If there are any changes to the information already provided please email or text us.

Clothing
Your son is expected to travel to and from Alice Springs in his P9 jacket, tracksuit pants or shorts, Hutchins polo top and cap. A full kit list is attached and is also available from the web-site. As we will be away for two weeks, several changes of general purpose clothing would be best. Older underwear, shirts and socks etc are suitable as they can be disposed of before we return. Lightweight, quick-drying clothing is best. “Expensive” designer or fashion clothing is discouraged.

Code of Behaviour
Your son must abide by the Code of Behaviour which he will sign and return. You may view it in the Central Australia Forms link on the web-site. Please talk with him about its implications.

Community Service Project and Fundraising
One important component of the expedition is the community service. Your son will be expected to help raise the funds we commit to this. Our commitment is a minimum of $500, although we aim for $1000 or more so we can do more at the Yipirinya School. Your support would be appreciated.

Contact with us in Alice Springs
One of the important goals of the Central Australia Challenge is to build resilience and independence. Please read the section on personal electronic devices. Our mobile numbers will be provided in case of an emergency.

Departure
Your son must meet with the adult leaders at the airport 60 minutes before the departure time. These details will be provided later. He needs his Hutchins Student Card in his wallet. Please remind him to bring them to the airport.

No boy will be allowed to leave Melbourne airport. If you have relatives or close friends in Melbourne who would like to see your son at the airport, please provide Mr Tuck with the full details in writing before Friday 28 August.

Equipment
Some camping gear will be required including eating utensils, sleeping bag and sleeping mat. Your son will also be required to bring clothing and personal items (as per kit list).
**Expedition Dates**
We depart Hobart on Sunday 30th August and return on Thursday 11 September.

**Expedition Forms**
These will be given to boys at the start of their Challenge. A copy is available on the web-site. Please email or text us with any updated information, such as his medical condition and emergency contact information (which must be for someone with whom we can communicate directly during the time we are away).

**First Aid**
Key staff attending the expedition are First Aid qualified and will carry an expedition kit with them.

**Information**
When any new information is available you will receive an email and be able to access the information from the web-site or at Hutchins Central/Community/Power of 9/Central Australia Challenge Information

**Insurance**
Insurance is paid for by the school.

**Itinerary**
You will receive a copy via an email when it is available. You will also be able to access it on the web site.

**Medical Information**
**Medical Check**
Please see your family doctor, who should be informed of our destination, the dates we will be away and the fact that we will be in remote and rural areas. The main city will be Alice Springs, but we will be visiting areas such as Uluru and Kings Canyon.

**Prescription Medicines**
If at the time of travel your son requires prescription medicine you are asked to provide us with an emergency supply (and instructions) in addition to what your son carries himself. Please provide this to expedition staff.

**School Records**
We have access to all the details that you have provided the School. Relevant information will be taken to Alice Springs. Please make sure you let us know by email or text of any new information that may be relevant. This is particularly the case with any allergies.

**While Away**
Alice Springs has a hospital and there are medical facilities available at Uluru. Key staff, have first aid training. We also take a medical kit and the School’s satellite phone for emergencies.

**Our Home Base in Alice Springs**
Our Yipirinya experience is organised through the Principal at the Yipirinya School and we will be based at the school. There will be a lockable area for the boy’s belongings.

**Personal Electronic Devices**
There are certain personal and social aims important in the expedition. Cameras are useful but please don’t bring laptops or gaming devices.
Under no circumstances is your son to take a mobile phone
Staff will have phones for emergency use. We would like all boys to refrain from social media or home contact during their expedition. This applies to all P9 expeditions. Digital camera: your son should bring a compact camera if he has one. The photos will be able to be used as a record of the trip and assist with putting together his presentation at the end of the trip.

Spending Money
Your son will require spending money. Although it is your decision as to the amount you would like him to have at his disposal, we suggest between $50 and $100 to be more than adequate. Please contact me personally if you wish to discuss this matter.

It is recommended your son does not carry large sums of cash. If you wish us to act as banker for your son we will do that. There is a safe at the school for valuables, such as money.

At all times it is critical that your son is active about securing his possessions.

Supervision
Five adults will be accompanying the boys on various parts of the journey: Mr Robbie Tuck, Mr Ken Kingston and Ms Heather Blyth (teachers assistant) will be at Yipirinya. Mr Ben Duggan and Mr Tony Chadwick (bus driver) will be joining us for the camping trip.