

Dear Grade 10 Epic Parents

Epic takes place from 19 November – 4 December, this year, for your son. This event is part of the Bishops curriculum.

Epic is charged in three instalments – at the end of terms 1, 2 and 3 – totalling R20 100 (a 6% increase on the 2023 cost).

Exchange candidates have been chosen. If your son has been chosen for exchange in term 4, then charges for Epic will be reversed on your son's account, because he cannot do both.

On the Bishops College website, there is a link to tell you all about Epic. Or click here: [Bishops Diocesan College](#).

I am going to try and send just six emails about Epic in the course of this year, at times when information is relevant. These emails will also be linked to the Epic website under '**Parent Communication and Documents**'. Last year's letters are still all there for your perusal.

You are invited to attend an Epic briefing on **Tuesday 16 April at 6pm in the Memorial Theatre (parents, not boys)**. This will be on the same day as the grade 10 Parents' reception, which follows at 7pm, so you can kill two birds with one stone.

It is important to attend this Epic meeting to try and understand the vital role you will play in the success of your son's Epic experience and to understand details like the last night, safety, kit, the correct footwear, food and cost – it will hopefully prevent last minute confusion and panic and help you help your son prepare appropriately for what should be a wonderful experience.

There are two dates we would like you to diarize now. The first is **Friday 15 November at 7.45am** for the 'Blessing of the Boots' Service, when we 'send' the boys off into the wilderness and the second is **Tuesday 3 December – for the fathers' (or significant paternal figure) and sons' last night** (you can leave Cape Town at 12pm on Tuesday and be back in the office before 10am on Wednesday).

It would be great if you could do the following two things before 16 April:

Firstly, log onto the **My Bishops Life Parent Portal** and update your son's medical, dietary and allergy records. This has to be done, even if details remain unchanged, as it will only reflect on the Bishops side once the necessary submit button has been pressed. It should not take more than a couple of minutes. Please [click here](#) for help on how to update these records.

Secondly, please fill in and sign the [Consent Form 2024](#) and return it on the night of the Epic address in hard copy or email it to nlewis@bishops.org.za in the interim. This document has to be signed by one parent. Your signature also confirms that you have visited the website and filled in the correct medical details for your son and are thus aware of the potential risks associated with sending your son on Epic.

We are aware that Epic can sometimes be a challenging time for boys, and perhaps more so for boys who are dealing with mental health challenges. Many boys with anxiety and other challenges do indeed manage quite well, with the right preparation, but for some the challenge can simply be too great. If you feel your son might be in this situation, please would you contact me. It would also be good if you communicated with me via email about any serious concerns (including medical concerns) you may have wrt your son doing Epic.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you there next Tuesday.

Kind regards
Graeme Klerck
Epic Director
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