

Dear Grade 10 Epic Parents

Epic draws every closer – just 68 days to go!

Medical details and dietary requirements should have been updated by you, by now, on the Bishops system. Please update them immediately if you still have not AND contact me directly if there is something important you want me to know about your son medically. If your son carries an epipen, he must carry two, in case of an emergency deep in the mountains.

This term the boys have already received addresses from me (introducing Epic), from our cycling professional, another about boots, one from the Cape Leopard Trust and last week there was a talk about snakes. There will be a food talk, next term, closer to Epic.

Boys who were not quite up to speed with cycling have already had a 3-day workshop and a swimming workshop is about to commence, if your son would like to join. We have also already offered 2 training hike opportunities, of which very few of your boys have tried to take advantage, and so we have cancelled them.

On Thursday 19 September, all Epic boys will climb Devil's Peak. This will be a measure of how fit boys are and perhaps be a wake-up call for some. This event is compulsory for all Epic boys. Boys who do not climb on Thursday may put their Epic in jeopardy. We have spoken repeatedly to boys about their fitness and now is the time to encourage your sons to get training, if they have not done so already. We will offer two further practice hikes in term 4 and then the boys will do a compulsory hike with their backpacks during the Epic training week. By now, all boys should have purchased their boots. Boys have been told that they are allowed to wear their boots to school to walk them in, but this will not suffice – hiking is very different to walking around at school.

The Epic groups and hiking groups have also been announced and so boys can now see with whom they will be spending the duration of Epic, with whom they will be hiking, what the hiking routes will be and where they will be spending their last night (for fathers/ father-figures coming up on the final night).

Linked to the website is the equipment list, if you would like to start gathering things together. This is a guideline and you are not expected to buy everything new or any 'top of the range' equipment. Many of last year's grade 10s and the 2022 grade 10s will still have kit and this kit can be borrowed from them. Please also find, linked to the website, the School Shop Order form, from which you can purchase Epic equipment, if you so wish. The order form and Epic Equipment List 2024 is linked here: [Bishops Diocesan College](#).

The Parents Epic Committee which helps create activities for the kids in the schools we work in and fundraises for their wish lists will be in touch. Please support their initiatives. You are reminded to make donations via the boxes in each of the houses.

I want to emphasize, once again, that Epic should be something your son is looking forward to, perhaps with a little trepidation, but not something he needs to be fearful about. Knowledge is key and so the information on the website will help him to understand more about what to expect. So please get him to read all about The Epic, if he is concerned, and come on the

practice hikes.

Kind regards
Graeme Klerck
(Epic Director)