

Dear Grade 10 Parents

Thank you for attending my talk on Epic 2024 on Tuesday 16 April. Below are the key points, summarized for you.

The Epic Website can be found [Here](#). Please click on the 'Parent Communication and Documents' link to find all important correspondence. Here you will also be able to find the Epic Presentation I used.

This is the link to the Consent form: [Consent Form 2024](#). Please ensure that this is filled in, signed and returned, either in hard copy or via email to Nicole Lewis in the B.S.U. by the end of May: nlewis@bishops.org.za, if you have not done so already.

[Here](#) is a link to how to update your son's medical details, dietary requirements and medical conditions. It is vital that you go to the parent portal and check these details and submit them by the end of May.

I will send all necessary correspondence at the appropriate time, so there is no need for you to do anything significant until I have told you to. Although it is good to get your son boots as soon as possible, I do understand that some boys are growing rather rapidly, and so you might wish to wait a while! Hi-tec provides each boy with a 20% off voucher, which I received today and will give to the boys early next term, when Chris de Bruin does his Boots Talk. However, if you'd like to make use of one sooner than that, one can be collected from Eleanor at Admin.

Please volunteer for the Parents' Committee by emailing me, if you are keen. The Parents' Committee is responsible for trying to meet the wish lists of our two partner schools and will co-ordinate some of the activities that our boys will do with the learners from those two schools, when on Epic. Packages are often put together for the staff and learners by the committee. Graham Robertson and Nadia Snyman oversee this committee and are available as first ports of call.

If you have a vehicle that we can use on Epic, particularly a bakkie, Twin-cab or 4X4, please would you let me know soonest. I would be most grateful! We need several vehicles to get staff, like rangers and Epic Directors around the Cederberg safely.

Please let Andrea Rutter (arutter@bishops.org.za) know if you have any concerns around the fathers'/ significant paternal figures' final night. We are more than willing to accommodate uncles/ older brothers etc. And remember to book off the afternoon and evening of Tuesday 4 December and the morning of Wednesday 5 December, for when you collect your charge from the Cederberg.

We buy Halaal meat, for those who require it, from Wembly for Epic and take it to the Cederberg. This meat is distributed to all the bases for Halaal-observant boys and there is plenty of it. Parents are also permitted to provide meals/ meal substitutes for their sons

who are Halaal/ Vegan/ Vegetarian/ Gluten-intolerant/ Kosher etc. and the Epic will reimburse you for these meals. However, the detail around this will only happen much closer to Epic. Boys with specific preferences will not be specifically catered for e.g. doesn't like seafood/ lamb, but a plan will always be made to help in this regard, as there are a lot of different food options at the bases.

Soon boys will be asked to pair up with a friend, who they would like to be with for the duration of Epic. It is best to get this sorted out asap.

In my presentation, I emphasised how it was important for parents to prepare their sons adequately for Epic, so that anxiety is reduced (if there is anxiety). This is both mental and physical preparation. Boys need to be able to hike for 3-4 days with a 15kg backpack, so will need some practice in this. They should also be able to cycle. Although boys are not forced to do any activities, we would like our boys to attempt all aspects of Epic with an open mind. And so early preparation is encouraged.

Epic, in the second semester, does provide swimming lessons, a cycling course, 6 practice hikes, all of which are voluntary, with no charge. And preparation for Epic through talks and training starts early next term and continues until the week before Epic.

If you are concerned that your son will not be robust enough to do Epic, it is imperative that you engage in conversation with me as early as possible.

Please feel free to contact me via email about any other concerns or questions.

Kind regards Graeme Klerck

(Epic-Director)

gklerck@bishops.org.za