

Dear Grade 10 Epic Parents and Boys

While your sons are ensconced in their grade 10 exams, I thought it would be a good opportunity to email you and remind you about what's coming up wrt to the Epic Training Week and the departure details for Epic. This will be my last bulk email.

Just a reminder that the father/ father figure/ parent letter needs to be handed in at the BSU or Admin by Monday 11 November, at the latest. Please let Nicole Lewis know if there is going to be a delay at nlewis@bishops.org.za.

Your boys will have access to their two Epic boxes in G2, from Friday 8 November. All they need to do is collect their boxes at their convenience. **Parents are not to collect boxes on behalf of their sons.** These food boxes must be handed in in G2 by 14 November, at the latest. Boys have been told about all the specifics around packing and marking their boxes.

The Epic training week takes place from Tuesday 12 November to Friday 15 November and is compulsory for boys – all of it. It is not a convenient time to book doctors' appointments or help your son pack his bag. This should be done over the weekend, prior to the Epic Training Week. Training will take place during normal school hours. Boys can wear civvies (but this needs to include takkies, shorts and a t-shirt), as the activities they will be doing will mostly be outdoors in nature. Please find attached the schedule for the Epic Training Week.

On Tuesday or Wednesday & Thursday (depending on your son's group), boys must come to school with their fully packed backpacks, including their own food for the first staff hike. This is so they can get their backpacks correctly set up and to check whether their bags are light enough. They must store their bags in the Old Gym and should not leave their bags in their houses. Please see the attached programme to see which day your son should bring his backpack. Take note that Breckkranz boys have been divided among the other 5 groups (at the bottom of the page).

On Thursday, all boys will hike with their full backpacks, with staff members, on Table Mountain. Details about this hike will be sent out to boys, closer to the time.

The '**Blessing of the Boots**' chapel service will take place at 7.45am on Friday, in the Memorial Chapel, before the start of the day's Epic training, to which you are invited. This is a short service that will 'metaphorically' send boys off into the Mountains. We look forward to welcoming you to the service.

On Sunday 17 November at 9am, I will meet parents whose sons' have special dietary requirements/ medication requirements, for them to give me additional food/ medication to take to the Cederberg. This will take place on the lawns outside the Memorial Chapel. Please liaise with me about this beforehand. I leave for the Cederberg directly thereafter.

This is a reminder that if your son carries an EpiPen, he should make this known to his partner, so that his partner knows where it is in his bag, in case of an emergency. We recommend that you send your son with two EpiPens as a precaution.

Andrea Rutter (arutter@bishops.org.za) is the Epic Control Centre for the duration of Epic, so if you need to get a message to me, it is best to work through her. She will be sending details about this to you shortly. Please do not contact me directly. I will have my hands full looking after your sons.

Transport arrangements for Epic are simple. Andrea will be sending these out to you as well. Your son will leave for Epic at 6am on 19 November, from Bishops. Depending on what group your son is in, will determine which bus your son should get on. Andrea will co-ordinate this on the day, but it is best to study the arrangements she will send out, so there are no mix ups. Your sons are asked to be at Bishops (opposite the Piley Reece) by 5.30am. Buses will depart on time, so...

He must wear his hiking boots on his way to Epic. This is because most groups will either start their first hike or hike into their bases, when they are dropped off. It also prevents boys from forgetting their boots. They will also need to carry their packs. It is advisable to send a packed breakfast for your son for him to eat on the bus.

As always, please let me know if you have any queries.

Almost there!

Kind regards
Graeme Klerck
(Epic Director)