6 November 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our Year 6 camp approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that phones, ipods and other electronic devices are NOT to be taken to camp. All students and parents have signed a Code of Conduct agreeing to this rule. If a student is found to have broken this rule, it may jeopardise their participation in other Year 6 activities planned for later this term, such as the Year 6 Fete Day, Year 6 Farewell and the last day excursion to Manhattan Bowl.

It should be understood that the choice to bring phones and iPods to camp places children at risk in a number of ways, and makes the conduct of the camp more difficult for the supervising teachers, in that:

1. Property may be damaged, lost or stolen. The teachers attending camp have all of their time taken up with activities and general supervision. Time spent investigating loss or damage detracts from the activities.
2. Phones allow students to take photographs and transmit these immediately, (by messages or email) which can be inappropriate, embarrassing and detrimental to relationships.
3. Students engaged in camp activities are often challenged physically and their formal timetables run from 7am in the morning, at wake-up call, to 9:30 pm when they are expected to go to their rooms for sleep. Students using iPods or phones for loud music after this time may keep whole cabins of students awake, not just those in close proximity.
4. When children are over tired and over stimulated, and have limited opportunity for rest, they become less tolerant of others and may become distressed more easily, by issues with peers. Late night texting or messaging is likely to cause social issues which would otherwise be avoided.

Our intention is that all students have a fun and happy experience at camp. Following these rules will help facilitate this. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Mrs A. Hewson        Mrs K. Fowler
Principal         Assistant Principal