

OUTDOOR EDUCATION



8 February 2023

Dear E-Block Parents

E BLOCK OUTDOOR EDUCATION : BACKYARD ADVENTURES AND E BLOCK CAMP

We have already started our preparation for our Outdoor Education Activities in the second and third quarters. Your son will be participating in the E Block backyard adventures and the E Block camp in the last week of the third quarter. These activities form part of the first phase of the leadership programme at Michaelhouse. Your Son will have the opportunity to experience and develop leadership, teamwork and a number of outdoor skills. The proficiencies he develops on this camp will stand him in good stead for the D Block Hike next year and for the C Block Journey in 2025.

In order to improve the safety and protection of boys from the elements (weather can be cold and wet in the Midlands) we ask that each boy has his **own tent and camping gear** which will be used for all outdoor activities over the next three years.

Please see the fully detailed kit list attached and make a note of the items needed.

We have asked Bush and Bundu from Pietermaritzburg to set up a small display on E Block Open day on the 15th February and you will be able to view, ask questions and order equipment if you wish.

Please could your son have his equipment together and with him at school at the beginning of the second quarter so that staff can do their pre-camp checks with him.

The E Block Outdoor Education teamwork and leadership exercises will see boys participating in the following activities :

- Pitching Tents
- Low impact camping
- Orienteering / Navigation
- Tree and Animal Identification
- Cooking food on fires
- iNhlosane Hike
- Kayaking
- Ropework and knots
- Raft Building
- Other outdoor life-skills
- Hiking into and out of the Nature
- Stargazing / Astronomy
- Mountain Biking

By their participation they will learn skills and forge relationships which will become the foundations on which their leadership training will be developed in D-Block and beyond. Staff will monitor boys' during all activities.

To reduce the risk of skin cancer in later years, a hat and factor 30+ sun cream are essential. Please ensure that your son has these throughout the year.

Kind Regards

J MORRISON
OUTDOOR EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR

E JEFFREY
HEAD OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION