Outdoor Education at St Augustine's

St Augustine’s Outdoor Education Program is designed to complement the core values of the College. Through a partnership with the Outdoor Education Group (OEG), St Augustine’s provides experiences that prepare students for the personal, social and environmental challenges they will face as they learn and grow together both within the College community and beyond.

The core values of the College; unity, truth & love are complemented by the core values of OEG self, others and the natural world. Programs are designed to appropriately challenge students in outdoor settings while they learn new skills, and journey through Australia’s wild places with a strong support network. All experiences are educationally facilitated whether it be cooking their own food; carrying a pack; living in small communities, or journeying through native bushlands.

Pastoral care is of particular focus while on camp. The following are some of the elements of the College core values that are addressed on Outdoor Education Programs.

- To explore energetically the physical world and the world of ideas with an openness to the goodness and beauty of reality.
- Being a friend.
- Loving deeds.
- Service to the community.
- Care for the common good.
- Sharing of goods (information, resources, talents).
- Personal interest and support of one another.
- Bearing shared burdens and responsibilities.
- Eagerness to serve the common good.
- Respect for one another, our diversity, and our talents.
- Shared identity and membership.
- Welcoming and lasting friendships.
- Expressions of unity in community gatherings

Program Details

Yr 8 – “Biloela Exploration” Wednesday, 2 – Friday, 4 April 2014

This is an introductory Outdoor Education Program. Students begin their exploration of the Southern Highlands as they journey through the Wingecarribee River Valley. This program has a focus on team building and is based at Biloela, where each group will tent one night and stay one night in Eco-Cabins. Activities include navigation, a mini expedition where students carry gear but no food, a flying fox canoeing and various initiatives and low ropes elements.

For more information on the venue click here: http://www.biloelabushcamp.org.au
For up to date weather: http://www.weatherzone.com.au/nsw/illawarra/moss-vale
Yr 9 – “Kangaroo Valley Expedition”  Monday, 24 – Friday, 28 March 2014

The amazing sandstone amphitheatre of Kangaroo Valley’s escarpments provide a rich backdrop for this bushwalk and canoe expedition, rewarding these young explorers with new skills as they begin their journey to independence in the outdoors. Students learn to prepare for the elements, camp in tents, carry all their gear and some food, navigate, canoe, cook and clean for themselves while working in small teams to develop resilience.

For more information on the venue click here: http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/morton-national-park

For up to date weather: http://www.weatherzone.com.au/nsw/illawarra/kangaroo-valley

Yr 10 – “Biloela Expedition”  Monday, 17 – Friday, 21 November 2014

Students return to Biloela for a new challenge, this time on a bushwalk expedition carrying all their gear and some food, through the property, from the surrounding National Park and State Forest. At this age and experience level students are able to take greater ownership over the program. This year students also have the opportunity to participate in an extended canoe session, abseil along with a mountain bike journey.

For more information on the venue click on the link below:
http://www.biloelabushcamp.org.au

For up to date weather: http://www.weatherzone.com.au/nsw/illawarra/moss-vale

General Program Information and Links

For general information on OEG visit their website currently under revision: www.oeg.org.au

View photos from 2013 Year 8 Camp here and 2013 Year 9 Camp here.