



# Year 9 Wee Jasper Adventure Camp



Wednesday 8 to Friday 10 March 2023

**LOCATION:** [Billy Grace Reserve, Wee Jasper \(Click to View Camp Map\)](#)

Wee Jasper is a small, picturesque valley at the foot of the Brindabella Ranges on the backwaters of Burrinjuck Dam. It is located 54km south-west of Yass. The students will be camping at Billy Grace Reserve on the banks of the Goodradigbee River. The Wiradjuri people are the traditional owners of the land. The reserve is managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management. Limestone karst in the valley provides the ideal geological environment for cave formation.

## TRANSPORT:

Students will be travelling by either mini-bus or Coastal Liner coach to Wee Jasper. A mini-bus will be used at the campsite to ferry students to and from activity locations. Buses will depart from the College at 6am, students will need to be at the College by **5.30am** on Wednesday 8 March. All luggage will be loaded into the trailers and coach before departure. Please ensure you limit your belongings to **one bag** and a daypack + pillow.

Buses will arrive back at the College on Friday 10 March by **5.30pm**, any changes to times will be provided via the College App and Facebook page.

## ACCOMMODATION:

Students will be staying in tents that are provided by Australian Outdoor Education.

## WEATHER:

The weather and temperature can be extremely cold. Therefore, adequate clothing and sleeping bags are essential (see equipment list).

## MEALS:

The first meal provided by the camp will be lunch on Wednesday and the last meal will be breakfast on Friday. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner will be communal meals which Australian Outdoor Education staff will prepare and cook. Morning and afternoon teas will be distributed by activity staff throughout the day. Students who have specific dietary requirements (lactose intolerance, coeliac, vegetarian etc.) will be accommodated provided this information is supplied on the online form. There are no shops in Wee Jasper.

**Students will be stopping at McDonald's Sutton Forest for breakfast on the first day and lunch on the way home.**

**Please ensure your son has money for these two meals.**

**Nuts:** Please remember DO NOT bring nuts of any kind to camp. This can result in students who have allergies to nuts having an anaphylactic reaction.

## MEDICATION:

All medication must be handed in to me on arrival at the College in a clearly labelled bag (details of dosage and frequency must be provided in the consent form). Separate written permission must be provided to me indicating that your son can self-administer his medication without supervision. *No student is to have any medication without notification.*

**ACTIVITY PROGRAM:**

Wee Jasper offers a unique adventure opportunity; an 'ABC' combination of Abseiling, Bushwalking / Biking and Caving will provide memories that will last a lifetime. At the end of a long day, an evening campfire provides the focus for relaxation, debriefing, stories and conversation.

ACTIVITY	GRADE	CLOTHING
<p><b><i>Signature Cave / Bushwalk</i></b> After bushwalking to the cave entrance students will explore this short cave with its mazes and interesting 'art'. This walk-in cave provides a great introductory level experience.</p>	Medium to Hard	Good walking shoes are preferred, shorts and shirt and a light rain jacket
<p><b><i>Crater Abseil</i></b> 2 single pitch 26m cliff abseils with rock walls and overhangs. Students need to exercise extreme caution when walking to and from the abseil site and follow the designated paths.</p>	Medium to Hard	Long pants, shirt and sturdy shoes. Students with long hair will require a hair tie
<p><b><i>Mountain Biking</i></b> Skills session followed by a self-guided orienteering course around the campsite.</p>	Easy - Moderate	Long pants, shirt and sturdy shoes.
<p><b><i>Daylight Cave</i></b> Students will explore the cave, finding out how the cave got its name. They will walk in and out of the cave. It is a relatively easy cave but can be very slippery at times which requires caution.</p>	Medium to Hard	Long pants, shirt and sturdy shoes. Students with long hair will require a hair tie
<p><b><i>River Walk</i></b> Slow down and enjoy a trek - students will be transported to Micalong and follow the trail beside the Goodradigbee River. This is a picturesque walk and makes for great photo opportunities. St Edwards college staff will guide the walk and remain in communication with base camp via radio.</p>	Easy - Moderate	Long pants, shirt and sturdy shoes.
<p><b><i>Gong Cave</i></b> Following harnessing, students are required to climb 3m into the cave using a caving ladder. Students will be attached to a belay rope for safety. Exploring the cave requires students to crawl and climb through two chambers. Students need to exercise extreme caution when climbing into the second chamber. They will be required to climb 3m out of the cave using the caving ladder - a belay rope will be attached.</p>	Medium	Overalls and sturdy shoes are recommended, not provided
<p><b><i>Canoeing</i></b> The lower Goodradigbee River offers a short section of moving water that tapers out into a relaxing paddle through the town of Wee Jasper and past volcanic rock formations that form part of the Snowy Hydro system. The group is shuttled back to camp via a minibus.</p>	Easy - Moderate	Shoes that can get wet, appropriate swimmers, towel and hat.
<p><b><i>River float</i></b> The upper section of the Goodradigbee River is perfect for blowing up an air bed and sliding straight into low grade white water rapids. Just sit back and relax, allowing mother nature do the hard work whilst you float down the river back to camp.</p>	Easy - Moderate	Shoes that can get wet, appropriate swimmers, towel and hat.
<p><b><i>Carey Cave tour</i></b> Students will gain a wealth of information that enhances their understanding and appreciation of the cave environment whilst also learning about cave conservation and safety while exploring this natural wonder.</p>	Easy	Long pants, shirt and sturdy shoes.

**Other activities may include:**

- Field archery
- Low rope initiatives

**Please Note:**

Students will be exposed to activities that requires *physical exertion* such as sustained walking on steep gradients, climbing/crawling in caves and ladder climbing and are conducted in *dark* and occasionally *confined spaces*.

It is important that you inform the College by completing the consent form of any illness/injury/condition that may limit involvement in these activities, this does not necessarily prevent participation.

The camp provides a great opportunity for students to build new friendships, increase self-confidence, learn more about themselves, and best of all have a great time doing it. Attached is a list of suggested items to bring to the camp.

**Students are expected to follow College and Camp rules.** If any student breaks these rules and puts themselves or others at risk, their parent or carer may be contacted, and arrangements will then be made for the student to be collected from camp if it is deemed necessary.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

For the duration of the camp, I can be contacted in **EMERGENCIES ONLY** on **0455 344 197**.

If for any reason your son is unable to attend the Camp, please contact me to discuss.

**[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE CAMP CONSENT FORM AND MEDICAL INFORMATION](#)**

It is appreciated if you could complete the consent form ASAP. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if your son's medical condition changes after you have submitted the consent form.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Nathan Marks  
Year 9 Pastoral Leader  
[nmarks@stedwards.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nmarks@stedwards.nsw.edu.au)

**COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

*A thorough risk assessment has been conducted on this event. Great consideration has been given to implementing all the necessary [Current COVID-19 Rules and Guidelines](#)*

*If a student son has any signs and symptoms of COVID-19 including fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, muscle/joint pains, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, extreme tiredness, unexplained chest pain or conjunctivitis (eye infection) he is not to attend the event. Parents are asked to notify the College of their son's absence via phone or email.*

*[If a student tests positive, parents are required to notify the College via this link, also available on the College website](#)*

*If a student presents at school or the venue with signs and symptoms, he will not be permitted to attend the day and parents will be contacted to collect him. Similarly, if a student develops signs and symptoms while attending the excursion, families will be contacted to make arrangements for him to return home.*

## STUDENT GEAR LIST

ITEM	QUANTITY	CHECK & LABELLED
<b>Clothing</b>		
Beanie	1	
Gloves	1 pair	
Gum boots	<i>Recommended</i>	
Jacket/Jumper	2	
Long pants	2	
Overalls – for caving to keep clothes clean	<i>Recommended</i>	
Shirts – Long sleeved is great	3	
Shoes – 1 pair for caving (to get muddy), 1 pair for walking	2 pairs	
Shorts – no ‘short’ shorts	2 pairs	
Socks	4 pairs	
Thongs – for shower	1 pair	
Tracksuit	1	
Underwear	4 sets	
Swimmers and shoes to wear in the water (canoeing)	1	
Wet Weather Gear	<i>Essential</i>	
Hat	1	
<b>Utensils – You will need these as there will not be spares at camp</b>		
Bowl	1	
Cutlery	1 set	
Mug	1	
Plate	1	
Tea towel	1	
Carry bag - a shopping bag is perfect	1	
<b>Bedding</b>		
Pillow	1	
Sleeping bag <i>Ensure it is suitably rated for minus temperatures. Suggest minimum rating -5 degrees. Layering of clothes (thermals) will also assist in keeping warm.</i>	1	
<b>Other</b>		
Toiletries: no spray-on deodorants		
Water Bottle – <i>must have a refillable bottle</i>	1	
Large Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothes	3	
Sun hat/screen	1	
Torch	1	
Towel	1	
Whistle	1	

### Exclusions

- Valuable items eg. watches, jewellery etc. No responsibility will be taken for damaged or lost personal devices.
- Mobile phones; no phone reception in the area and no facility to recharge phones.