24th November, 2016

Dear Students,

I am writing to you regarding the three day Year 12 Retreat. A retreat is a time to step back from the normal routine and rigours of daily life, a time to make space for aspects of life and spirit that are often overlooked. It gives the opportunity to disengage from the world’s rhythm for a while and explore the world of relationships and the sacred. It allows you the opportunity to experience the thrill of being in communion with others, a deepening in the understanding of yourself, of others and God. This is an ideal time and opportunity for Year 12 students as you begin your final and important last year of secondary schooling. The retreat forms an integral part of the Religious Education Programme of the College and all students are required to go on retreat.

The Retreat is from Wednesday 15th - Friday 17th February, 2017 and conducted in House Groupings at four different venues as follows:

**Chavoin House**
- Britannia Park Campsite
- 210 Britannia Creek Rd
- Wesburn VIC, 3799
- Melways Map 289 C12
- Ph: 5967 1331

**Colin House**
- Mt. Morton Camp and Conference Centre
- Crn Fairmont Ave and Mt Morton Rd
- Belgrave Heights 3160
- Melways Ref: 84D3
- Ph: 9754 2896
- (Enter via Fairmont Ave)

**More House**
- Wombat Corner
- Emerald Lake Rd
- Emerald VIC, 3782
- Melways Ref: 127 K 3
- Ph: 5968 5057

**Rice House**
- Lyrebird Park
- 510 Beenak Rd.
- Yellingbo, VIC. 3139
- Melways Ref: 308 K10 (+1 km)
- Ph: 5964 8236

**Travel Arrangements**

- **All Buses leave the Vermont 5th Campus:** Wednesday, 15th February at 9 am
- **All Buses return to the Vermont 5th Campus:** Friday 17th February at 2.30pm approximately
Year 12 Retreat Luggage List

1. Students will need comfortable summer clothing and footwear, eg. Tracksuits, jeans, shorts, runners, hat
2. Sleeping bag or sheets and doona
3. Pillow and pillow case
4. Warm jumper/ windcheaters - as nights can be cool.
5. Toiletries, including sunscreen, insect repellant
6. Towel
7. Drink bottle

Please read Guidelines for Student Behaviour below. Fill in your name, House and sign in the spaces provided.

Students in the past have regarded the Retreat as one of the highlights of the year and we look forward to working with you on the 2017 Year 12 Retreat.

Mr. Gartland
Director Education in Faith

Ms. A. McLachlan
Assistant Principal Students
Guidelines for Student Behaviour

Emmaus College school rules will apply at all times. Students are to respond appropriately to requests made by staff at all times. The disciplinary requirements of the retreat are the same as those set out in the Emmaus Discipline Policy. Students will also be required to observe the respective camp site rules and regulations, such as lights out times, strict segregation of dormitory buildings, leaving the camp site and expected behavior. Minor infractions of rules may be dealt with by extra cleaning/kitchen duties, and/or by the usual responses as outlined in the College Discipline Policy. Major infractions of the discipline policy including possession of alcohol or other illicit substances, posting any information or images on a mobile phone, Facebook or any other social networking site which might put themselves in danger or harm the reputation or cause offence to other students, staff or Emmaus College could lead to dismissal from the retreat.

The procedure for dismissal from the retreat is as follows: The parents/guardians are informed of the dismissal and the reasons for it. Parents/guardians have the option of collecting their son/daughter from the retreat or by negotiating alternative arrangements at parent/guardian’s expense. The student is automatically suspended and may be re-admitted to the College only after an interview with the Principal, in the presence of the parent/guardian. This policy is designed to ensure the safety and well-being of all students at the Retreat.

Cameras or other valuables are the responsibility of the student to look after. There is no need for students to bring electronic equipment such as ipods, ipads or mobile phones. However if students choose to do so, College rules regarding the use of mobile phones/ipods or the like will apply: that is should any such device cause disturbance to the program sessions or running of the retreat in any way it may be confiscated.

The section below must be signed in acknowledgment that you have read the information regarding the Yr 12 Retreat and understood the guidelines for student behaviour.

I have read the information regarding the Yr 12 Retreat and understand the guidelines for student behaviour. I understand that in the event of misbehaviour that causes disruption or behaviour that poses a danger to other students, the student responsible may be sent home at the discretion of the Emmaus College Principal or his delegate. I further understand that in such circumstances any costs associated with their return will be the responsibility of the parent.

Student Name: ____________________________ House: ____________________________

(write name using block letters)

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________