



- **Keep this note for your reference**

Ski Retreat information for parents and students

Payment: A \$50 deposit for all skiers and snowboarders is due by 28/3/2014

The remaining payment of \$600 for skiers or \$630 for snowboarders is due by 13/6/2014

Information / permission notes: The permission note and information forms should be submitted to the office with your deposit by 28/3/2014. Please keep the information sheets for your reference and only return the signed permission/info sheet.

Clothing: Clothing is provided in the cost; however, students need their own waterproof gloves, sunglasses (or goggles) and headwear.

Sun protection: It's crucial that every student has eye protection in the form of sunglasses or tinted goggles. It is also important for all students to carry sunscreen and apply it regularly throughout the day. Although it is cold, we will be exposed to the sun for up to 8 hours each day. The snow reflects ultraviolet light, which causes severe sunburn if you are unprotected.

Spending money: Money is needed for lunch on the first day and dinner on the final day. The bus will stop at McDonalds (or equivalent) during travel. Otherwise, spending money will only be needed if a student wishes to purchase souvenirs. A maximum of \$50 is suggested.

Accommodation: All linen is supplied; therefore, students do not need to bring sleeping bags. Student rooms are single gender and hold 6. I ask students to consider their roommates. A sheet will be posted on the PE notice board at the beginning of week 2 term 6 for students to select rooms. We are staying at the Snow Gate Inn ph. 64563111. There is a games room; however, there is not a pool; therefore, students do not need to bring swimmers and towels.

Packing: Please limit luggage to one medium suitcase/ bag and a carry-on backpack (if needed). Please ensure everything is clearly named and the students address and phone number is attached to their bag. I discourage the bringing of valuable items (iPods, portable DVDs etc). Movies are played on the bus and we have night activities, which mean students are always entertained.

Skiing / boarding: Every year the majority of our students have never skied/boarded before or even seen snow. We are catering to these student by holding 2hr learn to ski/board lessons every morning. If you are new to skiing/boarding, please don't feel intimidated. The instructors are highly qualified and Smiggins is an easy place to learn. The advance skiers/boarders will still undertake lessons catered to their level. There will be optional trips to more advanced slops, such as the terrain park, Perisher Blue and Blue Cow each day.

Choosing to Ski or Board: The majority of first timers skied last year. I believe it is easier to learn skiing and progression is much faster. Students who snowboarded progressed well and found it highly enjoyable. Some snowboarders were restricted to Smiggins, as they found riding the T-bar (similar to a chairlift) difficult. Students who adapted well to snowboarding had prior experience riding skateboards and surfboards. I found that snowboarding also required a lot more energy, particularly on flat ground. Take this information onboard when making your selection. I usually suggest skiing to first timers with lower confidence. For those who skied last year, you may wish to attempt snowboarding this year.

Further information: I hope I have answered some of the FAQ's. I would suggest keeping the number HHHS handy while we are away. The school can relay information and put you in contact with my mobile, which I'll carry at all times when we are away.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact me at school: 98174565. I'll be more than happy to help. I want to make this Ski Retreat a happy and enjoyable excursion for all.

Josh Gane
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