

Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer

I am writing to invite your child to participate in The STAR holiday camp to be held at Xavier College from Thursday 7 until Sunday 10 December 2006. We plan to accommodate 22 boys and girls between the age of 5 to 15 who have intellectual and/or physical disabilities. These children will be in the care of Yr 11 and 12 students from St Kevin's College, Xavier College, Genazzano College and Loreto Mandeville Hall for the duration of the camp.

Medical facilities of the highest standard will be available at the College. We will have registered nurses on duty each shift and doctors on call 24 hours a day. A great deal of preparation will ensure the medical needs of each child in our care will be attended.

We will pride ourselves on our choice of student who will care for your. These students, called Companions, will be interviewed and selected with great care. We plan to have one Companion with each child for the duration of the holiday camp. These students, we anticipate, will see this experience as a privilege, where they will undoubtedly learn a great deal about children with disabilities and themselves. Along with the nurses, the companions will be supported in their role by a number of teaching staff from the four schools. All adults who work on the camp will be required to sign a form connected with the Child Protection Legislation.

We hope the camp will be a time of great fun and enjoyment with a program of swimming, picnics, games, mystery activities and parties. We also hope the camp will provide a much deserved break for the full time cares of your child. We are anticipating a large number of applicants who will want to participate in the camp. It may therefore be necessary for us to contact your child's school to obtain information to support their application.

Applications forms and an advertising flyer are attached to this invitation. **Friday 15 September is the closing date for applications. Completing the application form does not automatically indicate your child has been accepted.** I will be in contact regarding the success of their application by mid October. Parent/Guardian/Carer of successful applicants will also be contacted by phone. Please forward the application and medical forms to:

**Matthew Hutchison
St Kevin's College
Moonga Road
TOORAK VIC 3142**

hutchisonm@stkevins.vic.edu.au

I hope you are excited and enthused about this wonderful opportunity for your child. I have been involved in a similar camps in another State and highly recommend this unique experience.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Hutchison
STAR Camp Registrar