



## Testimonials



**May 2014, Year 9, 200 participants.**

“ Dear Colin and KFAC staff,

Thank you for a wonderful week at your camp. The students and our staff were greeted with warmth and enthusiasm which continued throughout the week. Staff were given a briefing during which your expectations of us and students were made clear and our minds put at ease. The highlight for many of the staff during the camp was the opportunity to get to know our students in a new environment, and the program you ran created a fantastic opportunity for relationships to strengthen and new relationships to form. In particular, the Strengths sessions gave students the opportunity to reflect upon their strengths both in terms of their character and their physical abilities. Students spoke openly and powerfully about themselves and in the final session, about one another. The gradual building of relationships and understanding of strengths meant that eventually, students who would not usually spend time together were expressing gratitude and admiration for one another; this was uplifting to witness. I believe students felt comfortable to speak so openly in front of their peers because of the atmosphere created by their leaders; everyone was relaxed yet had clear expectations, listened to all students and spoke with utmost respect. The camp's mantra "challenge by choice" was enacted; students were encouraged to give everything a go outside of their comfort zones, without it becoming intimidating or competitive. Personally, I found the Leap of Faith terrifying, but the encouragement of the students was motivating and Kayla, our leader, was very supportive. The camp finale, Wildergaining, was a sensation. Students were working together in their groups, using a variety of skills, thinking strategically and creatively – the ballet performances were definitely a highlight! Furthermore, the camp food was absolutely delicious – congratulations to Michelle and her team! Thank you to Colin, Kieran, Slim, Michelle, Kayla, Jack, Ally, Emily, Matt, Kate and Ian for a wonderful experience. ”

**Anna Daish, Year 9 Student Learning Leader, Camberwell High.**



**February 2014, Year 8, 60 Participants.**

“ Our Year 8s absolutely loved the challenging, thrilling and thought-provoking Young Rhythms Program at Kinglake! What an amazing week... The skills they gained from their camp experience are so important at this stage in their development, and link in perfectly with our approach to pastoral care here at school. The program run so smoothly and it was a joy to work with such a capable team throughout the week! Thank you!! ”

**Alison Reid, Year 8 Co-ordinator, Shelford Girls Grammar.**



**February 2014, Year 7, 80 Participants.**

“ Many thanks to Col, Michelle, Kieran and all the team at KFA for another successful and enjoyable camp experience for our Year 7's. Your professionalism in all aspects of planning, communication and the day to day program were greatly appreciated. The food as usual was 'made with love' and kept energy levels high! We look forward to returning in 2015 and seeing another group of students benefit from the personal growth which is very much part of the experience at KFA! ”

**Angela Wiseman, Head of Years 7 & 8, Mentone Girls Grammar.**

# Students & Coordinators

- **2014-Year 8 student** - AMAZING, enjoyable, fun, the best camp I have ever been to.
- **2014-Year 8 student** - The 2014 camp was one of the best I've ever been on. It was fun, I made new friends and I tried things outside my comfort zone.
- **2014-Year 9 Student Learning Leader** - The camp finale, Wildergaining, was a sensation. Students were working together in their groups, using a variety of skills, thinking strategically and creatively
- **2014-Year 8 student** - It was the best camp I have ever been to! The activities were enjoyable and fun. The food was delicious and I got closer to my friends.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - Some of my highlights included the FOOD it was absolutely amazing, I loved the water course even though it was freezing when I fell in and just the atmosphere of everything. All your staff was very kind and it just felt so relaxing and happy place.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - Thank you to everyone at Kinglake Forest Adventures Camp. This would have to be one of my favourite camps I had such a wonderful experience and loved every moment.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - The food was amazing. The best camp food I've ever had. The cookies and slices were amazing.
- **2014-Year 8 student** - I think the camp was awesome and the activities were challenging but fun. I enjoyed taking the challenges and loved the food it was the best!
- **2014-Year 8 student** - It gave me a chance to get away from technology and just appreciate the Beauty of nature. I liked the camping because I liked looking at the stars at night.
- **2014-Head of Years 7/8** - The food as usual was 'made with love' and kept energy levels high! We look forward to returning in 2015 and seeing another group of students benefit from the personal growth which is very much part of the experience at KFA.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - This camp has absolutely been the most amazing camp I've ever been on.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - From the beginning I was so excited to see how this camp would turn out and when we arrived I knew it was going to be awesome.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - So far in my life I have been on 7 camps and none of them compare to how much better your camp was.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - I am so grateful for what you have done for me and my peers.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - I would like to thank the staff at Kinglake for providing us with an excellent camp site and an array of crazy, exciting activities. I am especially grateful of Ali for the being awesome and making the camp experience even greater and being all round Majestic.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - I recommend this camp. It teaches many life skills and how to appreciate nature more. It makes you recognize you should care more about your surroundings and the people around you and not just yourself.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - I learnt so much about not only myself but so many others, I also made a lot of new friends that I wouldn't of come close with if it wasn't for the positive environment surrounding us.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - The food was a whole new level, probably the best camp food I have ever had. The afternoon teas were magnificent as well as the main meals.
- **2014-Year 9 student** - I think that a way to improve this camp is to continue doing what you're doing. It's a great place filled with many activities, positive and friendly staff and inspiring stories.

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