

PRESS INVITATION

Worried About Your Child Entering Secondary School Next Year?

Nervous about the unfamiliar environment? Overwhelming number of subjects in school, peer pressure, boy-girl relationship? Parents and students would ponder on these questions, wondering if they could face these new challenges. On 15 to 17 November 2008, Primary 6 students entering into secondary school life can look forward to Camp Odyssey, a Secondary 1 Preparatory Programme, specially catered for them. This 3 days 2 nights camp would be held at Camelot Changi Coast Adventure Centre.

Camp Odyssey aims to prepare students in managing roles and expectations as a teenager, as well as exposing them to handle issues they may encounter in secondary school. The camp uses the outdoors as a learning platform where students would engage in a variety of activities such as teambuilding, confidence-building and problem solving activities.

In "The Isle of Labyrinth" ala Amazing Race, the students would be engaged in a race of challenging activities that promotes critical thinking, teambuilding and communication skills amongst team members.

Another highlight in the programme is the Night Walk, which aims to build the students' self-confidence and teaches students to overcome their fear of being in an unknown, unexpected environment. Narisha, a student who joined the camp in 2007, shared her experience, *"My journey during the night walk was unimaginable! At first, I was extremely afraid of what to expect, but when I finished, I felt a great sense of achievement."*

For the first time, Dragon Boat would be included in this year's camp. It would be a test of students' endurance, communication skills and cooperation to ensure that the team members keep in tandem with one another.

To further elaborate on the objectives of the camp, two talks would be organised for parents and students. The first talk for students focuses on the topic of handling peer pressure. A second talk would be held on Day 2 of the camp for parents. The speaker would focus on the topic 'Teenage Years, Prime Period of My Growing Child.' Parents would gain interesting insights from the talk, as the speaker share tips on raising teenagers and the issues they may face during their children's prime period. Thereafter, parents would have the opportunity to visit their children and also to gain feedback and exchange ideas with facilitators.

MERCUTM Learning Point would like to invite you to the camp on 15th November 2008 (Saturday) from 10am onwards or 17th November 2008 (Monday) from 8am to 11.30am, at Camelot Changi Coast Adventure Centre. Kindly see the enclosed itinerary of Camp Odyssey.

Please RSVP via email by **13th November 2008** to sumarni@merculearning.com to confirm your attendance. We look forward to your presence at the Camp Odyssey.

About MERCUTM Learning Point

MERCUTM Learning Point is an education and training provider that offers a comprehensive range of programmes and services to the general public, corporate, grassroots organisations and other Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs). Set up in 1999, MERCUTM comprises of Kidz Meadow - a kindergarten and three childcare centres, two student care centres, three learning centres that offer academic and enrichment for students and a Private School offering private GCE 'O' and 'N' Level programmes.

We kindly request the media's support and assistance to inform members of the public of these programmes so that they may take advantage of its benefits. Should you require more information, please contact Ms Sumarni at 6346 8301 or e-mail: sumarni@merculearning.com

END

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Date of issue: 11th November 2008

DAY 1:

0800 hrs	Report to centres
0900 hrs	Reach campsite A Hero's Welcome
	Introduction of camp – boundary, safety, rules and regulations, grouping
0940 hrs	Ice-breaker (5 games)
1145 hrs	Arm Band Making + Cheer The Hero's Gathering
1300 hrs	Presentation
1330 hrs	Check-in
1400 hrs	Lunch
1500 hrs	Team Building games The Labours of Hercules
1800 hrs	Shower
1900 hrs	Dinner
2000 hrs	Talk The First Conclave
2100 hrs	Amazing Race The Isle of Labyrinth
0000 hrs	Night Walk and reflections Hades' Task
0200 hrs	Supper and Lights out

DAY 2

0600 hrs	Rise & Shine / Subuh
0700 hrs	Morning PT
0800 hrs	Breakfast/ Rest
0900 hrs	Team Building Stations The Labours of Hercules II
1300 hrs	Lunch / Zohor
1400 hrs	Dragon Boat The Archilles' Hill Task
1800 hrs	Shower/Dinner
1915 hrs	Campfire The Feast
1940 hrs	Show Preparations
2030 hrs	Camp Fire Songs
2130 hrs	Show Time The Music of Apollo
2300 hrs	Supper and Lights out

1930 hrs	<i>Talk by Azman Atan: "Teenage years, prime period for my growing child."</i>
2100 hrs	Q & A session
2115 hrs	<i>Camp Briefing and Q&A by Camp Commandant</i>
2130 hrs	<i>Proceed to camp fire site</i>

DAY 3

0400 hrs	Initiation Activity The Flames of Prometheus
0600 hrs	Subuh
0630 hrs	Rest
0700 hrs	Breakfast
0800 hrs	Raft Ahoy Odysseus Journey
1030 hrs	Area cleaning / Shower
1200 hrs	Debrief/ Prize presentation Honouring of Heroes
1300 hrs	Buses Depart from Camelot to Tampines MRT Station.