



KAUAERANGA VALLEY CHRISTIAN CAMP

PRE-CAMP LETTER

JR. GOLD RUSH CAMP

To parents/guardians of GOLD RUSH CAMPERS:

We thank you for entrusting us with your children, we have a week full of fun, faith, growth and adventures planned for them. Only a few weeks to go until the January Holidays.

We know your campers is just as excited as we are, so here are a few things we thought you'd like to know:

Camp Theme:	Gold Rush Finding, Mining and Purifying the Gold of Faith in Jesus Christ
Dates:	MONDAY, 5 th January, 2026 - FRIDAY 9 th January, 2026
School Years/ Age	School Years: 3-5 or Ages 7-10
Location:	304, Kauaeranga Valley Road, 3577 Thames
Sign In Time	Monday 5 th January Boys: 2pm - 2.30pm Girls: 2.30pm - 3pm *Siblings can come together
Closing Ceremony at Riverfront (Lagoon) *optional for parents to join	Friday 9 th January, 2026 1.00pm The whanau is invited to come and celebrate the end of camp & join us for BBQ before sign out.
Sign Out Time	Friday 9 th January Boys: 2pm - 2.30pm Girls: 2.30pm - 3pm *Siblings can leave together

SIGN IN INFO

We'll be using a **drive-through sign-in process** to keep things smooth and efficient.

When you arrive, our team will direct you from the **first entrance** to the **second entrance** of camp. Please follow the signs and staff guidance.

There will be **four quick stations** along the way:

1. **Gear Drop-Off & Cabin Info** - You will have a helper to get gear to Cabin.
2. **Biscuits, Medication & First Aid Check-In**
3. **Camper Sign-In and Swimming level check.**
4. **Camper Drop-Off & Goodbyes - Guided Camp tours if requested**

Parents are invited to come into the dining hall for a cuppa and some morning tea. If you'd like a guided tour of camp, just let a leader know—we'd be happy to show you around. Prefer a self-guided tour? You're more than welcome!

5. **Trade Post** - Coffee & Goodies, Camp t-shirts, hoodies and hats! Grab one for the road!

PAYMENT INFO

To secure your spot, please transfer a **\$40 deposit** to the account below using the **camper's name as a reference**:

Westpac #: 03 0458 0178492 00

- Early Bird Price: \$190
- Camp Fees: \$210
- The \$40 deposit is **non-refundable and guarantees your campers spot.**
- Family's can set up a payment plan to pay off camp over time. We will subtract the amount every time a payment is made.
- Cancellations made **within 48 hours of camp** are **not refundable.**
- If you're applying for **OSCAR**, please send the completed Work and Income form to programme@kvcc.org.nz or drop it off at camp for us to sign.
- If there is a \$20 difference in your invoice, that is most likely because the \$20 discount is for the **ADDITIONAL** child, not per child.

If your child can no longer attend, please email programme@kvcc.org.nz so we can offer the space to another camper.

DAILY SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Please note: This schedule is for reference only and may be subject to change due to weather, group needs, or unforeseen circumstances.

	Sunday	Monday	to	Thursday	Friday	
8.00am		Rise and Shine			Pack Up	
8.30am		Breakfast				
9.00am		Devotionals in Cabin			Evaluation Form	
9.30am		Cabin Clean Up			Surprise!	
10.00am		Chapel Time				
11.00am		Cabin Time + Morning Tea			Pack Up + Movie	
11.30am		Choice Adventures				
12.00pm					Closing Ceremony + Sausage Sizzle	
12.30pm		Lunch				
1.00pm		After Meal Activity			Sign Out Boys	
1.30pm		Adventure Rotation			Sign Out Girls	
2.00pm		Arrival Boys				
2.30pm		Arrival Girls	Canteen/Film Fest			
3.00pm		Welcome	Water Fun			
3.30pm	Choice Adventure	Water Fun Continues				
4.30pm	Water Fun	Adventure Rotation				
5.30pm	Dinner					
6.15pm	Ice Cream					
6.30pm	Wide Game					
7.15pm	Quick Dip					
7.45pm	God Time/Fire					
8.30pm	Cabin Time /Brush and Flush					
9pm	Lights Out					

DAY CAMPERS INFO

Day campers pay the same rate as overnight campers, as they participate fully in the daily program.

Monday 5th January, 2026 On Registration day please bring your camper at 1pm.

Tues-Thurs 6th to 8th January, 2026

The suggested drop-off time is between **8:00–8:30 AM**, and pick-up is at **8:30 PM***, aligning with the start and end of our daily program.

***An earlier pick-up at 5:30 PM** is also available to accommodate working parents.

Friday 9th January, 2026

On the **first and last day of camp**, day campers should **arrive and leave at the same time as overnight campers which is 3pm.**

Day Campers need to bring each day:

Backpack with: (please put name on everything)

Water Bottle

Togs & Towel

Extra clothes to change into

Medication

Hat-Sunscreen

Extra Running Shoes (if wearing Jandals)

CHAPEL TIME TEACHING CONTENT

Our goal is to create a safe, loving environment where every camper feels valued, respected, and included in our whanau. As a Christian camp, we include biblical teachings twice a day as part of our camp experience. (This was outlined in the terms and conditions at the time of registration). This includes singing, skits, bible stories, fun games and challenges from a biblical perspective. We seek Life and Love in Jesus Christ.

Everyone is welcome and we value our campers from all backgrounds. Many of our regular campers come to KVCC to grow in their own Faith in God. Please be assured that we do not pressure any camper to adopt our faith or go to a certain church.

KVCC's statement of belief/faith can be found on our website here: [Statement of Faith and Practices](#) . If you are interested in asking about more, feel free to email us at programme@kvcc.org.nz

Swimming

We tend to live in the river during the hot days of the summer. We are blessed to have multiple swimming holes for the kids to enjoy! We take the safety of the river into deep consideration during our “Water Fun” swimming times, adventures, quick dips and choice adventures.

We strive to keep a high level of swimmer to supervision ratio at 5 to 1 and limit the amount of Camper at each swimming hole. We have river bank supervisions and active supervisors in the water with the campers to ensure safety at all times.

We have three swimming areas the campers will swim in

They are all on the camp property and no public access.

- **Rapids** - small rapid perfect for tubing, body surfing and snorkeling, it is narrower and has rocks for the kids to jump from into the water. It is a shallower swimming hole.
- **Lagoon**- a wider lagoon style swimming hole with a diving dock for kids to jump from, Kayaks, and heaps of places to play, build things, dive deep and look for crystals. There are shallow spaces also for campers that don't swim well, and can still be with all the campers.
- **Summer Village** - Shallower space that flows from the lagoon

Each parent will be asked during registration what the level of swimming their camper is at and will confirm the level during sign in.

Our levels are as follows:

Red- Not confident at all. Some parents prefer for campers to wear lifejackets if their swimming is at this level.

Blue- Can Swim a little bit, but isn't strong to swim lengths, tread water and dive.

Green- Confident. Can swim, tread water, dive and confidently swim for long period of time without breaks.

Our Leaders will give the camper a bracelet they will wear for the week. It is easily replaceable if it falls off and campers are not allowed to be in the water without one. If we feel like a camper's level does not suit the bracelet they were given, we will have the lifeguard determine the level to the trust of the campers ability to swim.

When a camper goes to the swimming hole they will;

- Make sure they have their proper colour bracelet
- Have sun screen on/hat on?
- Have a Swimming Buddy*?
- Tell them any rules they may need to know

*Swimming Buddy System

Our Swimming Buddy system is a system that gives more accountability to everyone swimming. We try and get swimmers with the same level of swimming capability or pair weaker swimmers with leaders that are swimming. This system makes sure that all swimmers have someone they are looking out for. Every 5-7 minutes, we call out "Buddy" to make sure everyone has their buddy. It helps our lifeguards, supervisors and campers have eyes on everyone, help us to count and keep our supervisor transition seamless. The campers/leaders are told they need to know where their buddy is at all times.

Canteen

Every Summer we offer the campers Canteen which they get to choose from each day. This includes lollie bags, chocolate bars, chippies, frozen fruit kababs, and ice blocks etc. Each day the campers get to choose from special items like Popcorn, Slushies, Fairy Bread, ice cream as well. This Canteen fee is included in the Summer Camp fees and Campers get the same amount to spend each day as everyone else. They will receive their Canteen at the beginning of water fun to enjoy inside with a movie before entering the Hot Valley weather and a swim in the River.

COMMUNICATION DURING CAMP

To help campers fully engage and build relationships without distractions, phones, tablets, and other electronic devices are not permitted during camp. All devices will be collected at the beginning of camp and safely stored.

If your child has a specific need to retain their phone (e.g. for health-related reasons), please speak directly with a staff member prior to camp.

In case of emergency, please contact us via:

- Phone: 07 868 8348*
- Email: programme@kvcc.org.nz

*Please note: During camp, our staff are hands-on with campers, so the office may not always be staffed. Email is the best way to reach us, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We understand that some campers may feel homesick, especially if it's their first time away. Our team is trained to gently support them through it using:

- Distraction and redirection
- Creative activities (e.g. drawing, writing letters home)
- Emotional support and comfort

If these strategies aren't effective, we will discreetly contact the parent/guardian listed on the sign-up form to discuss further steps and seek advice on how best to support your child.

CLOSING CEREMONY and Last Day Pick-Up

We warmly invite whānau to join us in celebrating the end of camp!

Our closing ceremony will take place at 1:00 PM on Friday, 9th January, 2026 .

During the celebration, we will:

- Share highlights from the week
- Announce team and cabin winners
- Reflect on what the campers have learned and experienced
- Say thank you to our Amazing Volunteers and Staff

A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided for all attendees.

All photos taken during camp will be posted on our Facebook page: [Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp](#)

✉ Please RSVP by emailing programme@kvcc.org.nz with the number of people attending, so we can cater accordingly.

If You're Not Attending the Closing Ceremony:

You can pick up your camper at the following sign-out times:

Friday 9th January 2pm

Boys: 2pm - 2.30pm

Girls: 2.30pm - 3pm

***Siblings can leave together**

THANK YOU!

Once again, we are so excited to welcome your children to camp and share the incredible CAMP we've prepared for them. Our team has been planning, praying, and preparing for a week full of fun, faith, and lifelong memories.

Rest assured—your children will be well fed, their energy well spent, and their time well invested. We truly believe this will be one of the best ways for them to enjoy their summer holidays while building friendships, growing in confidence, and encountering God in a meaningful way.

As we head into camp, we would greatly appreciate your prayers for our leaders, campers, and the week ahead—that God would move in powerful ways, keep everyone safe, and that each child would leave feeling loved, encouraged, and inspired.

Thank you for trusting us with your tamariki—we're honoured to be part of their journey. We have included our PARENTS INFO PACK below to answer any other questions you may have!



Blessings and love,

Sheli Taylor
Summer Camp Coordinator
Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp

KAUAERANGA VALLEY CHRISTIAN CAMP

304, KAUAERANGA VALLEY ROAD, THAMES. 07 868 8348

CHRISTIAN CAMP

This is a suggested gear list for all our holiday camps, please pack according to the season and ensure that all gear is labelled with the child's name on it.

MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEA

- Please Bring 2 dozen baking or biscuits to share with the other campers

CLOTHING



- T-shirts X 6
- Underwear X 5
- Shorts X 4
- Pants X 2
- Socks X 5
- Togs X2
- Pajamas X2
- Warm clothes-Jersey/jacket
- Sunhat
- Waterproof Gear
- Covered Shoes (that can get dirty)
- Sandals/Slippers/Jandals/Slides
- Themed Costume (Cowboy/Prospector)

OTHERS

- Bible (if you have one)
- Notebook and pen
- Hand torch (to play night games)
- Bug Spray
- Sunscreen
- Baking (to share for morning afternoon tea)
- Bag to put wet clothes
- Medication including vitamins (Please label in zip lock bag)
- Waterbottle
- Watch

BEDDING



- Single Fitted Sheet
- Pillow
- Sleeping bag/ Duvet
- Extra blankets if needed

TOILETRIES



- Towel X3
- Hair Care
- Soap/Body Wash
- Hanging Toiletry Bag
- Tooth Brush
- Tooth Paste
- Floss
- Hair Brush
- Deodorant for older kids
- Feminine Hygiene (if applicable)

DO NOT BRING

- Vapes
- Phones or cameras
- Peanuts
- Knives
- Expensive clothes
- Expensive shoes
- Drugs
- Extra lollies/ food (we cater for everything)



Parent/Guardian Holiday Camp Info Pack

Welcome to Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp! We are excited to partner with you and your family in the Holidays for some amazing memories made for campers.

My name is Sheli Taylor and I'm the Ministry Camp Coordinator here at KVCC.

...a little about KVCC.

Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp is 5 km from the town of Thames in the beautiful Kauaeranga Valley. The camp started in 1975 when a farm was donated to a local trust to create a space where kids could come and experience God's love and have the best Holidays ever! KVCC has 106 acres of land and is directed by a board of Trustees. We have 8 full time equivalent staff onsite and many volunteers to make this place happen. *We are a non profit organization run by a Trustee Board.*

Cabins: *To take a look at our facilities on our website click [here](#).*

KVCC has 8 cabins we use for Holiday Camps. We sleep **10 campers** to each room with 2 trained Cabin Leaders. We separate boys and girls which means that brother sister siblings cannot be together. We equip each cabin with supplies for Cabin Leaders (clock, night light, coloured pencils, paper etc.) to create a space for each camper to feel at home and enjoy their stay at camp. Campers **need to bring a fitted single sheet for their bunk** with a pillow, sleeping bag or bedding. Mattresses have wipeable covers for disinfecting and hygiene.

Toilets/Showers:

Campers have access to an ablution block of toilets, showers and sinks by their cabins and in the Gym.

Campers need to bring towels, toothbrush/paste, body wash/soap, shampoo/conditioner and any other toiletries they may need for their stay.

Activities:

We strive to create new activities for the campers for each camp. Our site has, **BMX, Go Karts, Archery, Air Rifles, Kayaking, Raft Building, Waterslide, Frisbee Golf, Flying Fox, Axe throwing, Paintball, Outdoor Cooking, Horizontal Bungy, 9 Square, Raptor Ball, Full size gym, playground, field games, games room** and so much more. We also tailor our activities to our theme, therefore we cannot guarantee a certain activity for each camp.

More info and RAMS (risk management) forms go to our website [here](#)

Holiday Camp Themes:

We love bringing a new theme to each Holiday camp. Our theme is included in the decor, activities, games, food and what we learn about in our bible time. We love seeing campers dress up in the theme, so if you can help your camper find something to wear, we love that.

Wide Games: (camp wide games full of mental skills, physical challenges and competition)

Our WIDE GAMES are of EPIC proportion. We are always cooking up new fun and highly active games that will bring the imaginations of the campers to a new level of excitement. Wide games are an hour long, throughout camp, and are full of story, skill and adventure.

God time/Chapel time:

At KVCC we spend time each day learning about who God is from a biblical perspective. We speak to the campers from the bible and invite campers to get to know God more. We want the campers to experience God's love, salvation and truth through our week together. We encourage love, respect, hope and truth towards each other and promote growth in self, love towards others, and living life to the fullest. Our chapel times include singing, dancing, hearing a speaker, and cabin time to discuss what has been taught.

Cabin Buddies:

We try our best to get campers in the cabins with their friends, **but we cannot guarantee this.** It will depend on the time of registration and the amount of campers registered. Campers are always meeting new friends here at camp and we encourage new friendships. If you are wanting your camper to be in a cabin with a friend, please indicate this on your registration form and we will do the best we can. If campers cannot bunk together, they will still have heaps of time to spend together.

Cabin Leaders:

Cabin Leaders are at least 16 years old and may have a Jr Leader at least 15 years old. All our Cabin Leaders come to 5+ trainings throughout the year with character building, culture, and community. We help empower and equip the Cabin Leaders with communication skills and opportunities to grow in faith, leading with patience and love, and growing as a person who serves one another. All our Cabin Leaders go through reference checks, applications, and before camp trainings.

Volunteers:

We have awesome Volunteers. At KVCC boast 1 Volunteer to 3 camper ratio. Camp could not run without the service and sacrifice of the Volunteers that come to help make it possible. All Volunteers go through policies and procedures, team buildings and communication trainings. Volunteers also go through references, police clearance and a application process.

If you would be interested in helping at KVCC please take a look at our website [here](#)

First Aid/Nurse/Medications:

We love to provide space for campers to run and play outside to go beyond their comfort zone. We understand that this means kids will get hurt. **We always have 1 or 2 trained First Aiders available 24hrs a day.** Whether it's taking out splinters or administering medication, they are here to help the campers get through the week with ease.

If you have medication, please label it with their name and any instructions you may have in a zip bag. You will hand in the Medications during sign in. During sign in/registration, communicate with the Camp Nurse to make sure they have full understanding of how to administer it. Campers are NOT allowed to have their medications with them in their cabins, exceptions can be made with inhalers (please make sure that the Cabin leaders know and the nurse knows).

Parents are required to sign in and out medication and sign off for any medical procedures so they are aware of what happened here at camp.

Dietary Needs:

We have excellent food at KVCC and will cater to the needs of each camper. We provide breakfast, morning tea (**along with baking provided from campers**), Lunch, Afternoon Tea (along with baking provided from campers) Dinner and Dessert. All of our meals are catered by a certified food safe personnel.

There will be a separate charge for special diets. Please ensure that this is added to your account.

Camp Fees:

Camp fees are due when registration is submitted. A \$40 registration fee will hold your spot for camp - this is non refundable. You are welcome to pay off your amount over the weeks leading up to camp. Please contact Ruby at office@kvcc.org.nz to organise payment plan.

You can put the amount in a transfer/with campers name to:

Campers Name & West Pac # 03 0458 0178492 00

Our fees of Holiday Camps do not fully cover the actual cost of camp to run. We rely on the donations of trusts and charitable individuals as well as volunteers to fill the roles.

O.S.C.A.R:

We are an OSCAR approved Child Care Facility. If you are new to OSCAR, please look up [INFORMATION HERE](#). For OSCAR funding you will need to fill in a form and send to us for us to fill in our part. Please do this before Camp starts. We do ask if you could pay the fees of camp before you know if you are approved or not.

Family Discount/additional Funding:

We offer a Family discount to additional children of one household. The discount is per child after the first. ie if you have 4 children, you will get \$60 off (\$20 for 2nd, \$20 for 3rd, and \$20 for 4th.)

If you are unable to cover the costs of camp, please let us know and we will do what we can to help your camper get here. Contact Ruby at office@kvcc.org.nz

Discipline, Behaviour issues and Sending Campers home.

We want every camper to have an excellent time at camp. We work very hard to create a top notch programme for all campers to enjoy. Bullying, belittling, gossip and slander are things that stop certain campers from enjoying the best of camp. Please have a conversation with your camper before they come to camp about the power of their words towards others. If your child has had problems with being bullied or bullying others, please let us know to help us navigate and prepare for these situations. We do not want bully's at camp. We will send them home.

Our Leaders are instructed to give discipline to campers to ensure all campers are having a good time and the leaders are being respected. Leaders are communicated with to write up a list of rules and consequences with their campers that are signed and agreed with by the entire cabin. Some consequences are physical; ie push ups, wall sits, runs etc, some are losing points for the team/cabin, some consequences are missing out on special events, dessert or canteen. We have a Head Boy/Head Girl that will have conversations with campers that do not respect the rules. If they have to speak to the camper **three times** we will give you a ring to discuss the campers rest of week involvement with the programme. At times, we will need to include the manager if a incident occurs or a camper is endangered by your camper.

Lost Property: ***MARK YOUR CAMPERS STUFF PLEASE.**

We always get a collection of campers items after camp. If you are missing items, please contact

camp and we will arrange for you to come and pick up the item from the office.

Complaints/Suggestions:

We strongly encourage any parent with complaints/suggestions to contact us as soon as an issue, or suggestion is thought of. We would encourage this communication to us first, to help clear up any misunderstanding or address anything/any person we need to address on our end and to improve the standard of camp.

Please send it in an email to Sheli at programme@kvcc.org.nz

We hope this has been helpful for you. We strive to make the best Holiday Experience for our campers. We absolutely love what we do and know the lasting impression that camp leaves with a person. We trust your child will grow in confidence, whakawhanaungatanga, and experience unspeakable Joy!

Any other questions please contact me @ Programme@kvcc.org.nz

Frequently asked questions:

Q: I have a son who is 9 and a daughter who is 12, can my son go with his sister to the older camp?

A: This will depend on availability. If you have a younger sibling who is 9, they can join their older sibling in the 10-13 camp.

Q: My son is 13 and in yr 9 in high school. Can he still come as a camper?

A: Yes. We allow Yr 9's to come as a camper. We also have a Young Leader (YLEAD) programme for Yr 9-11 that runs at the same time as Holiday Camps.

More information for YLEAD [here](#).

Q: We do not go to church and are not Christian. Is it still ok for my child to come to camp? What kind of Bible stuff do you do?

A: Everyone is welcome to come to camp! We love teaching the life changing message of Jesus to everyone who comes to camp. We speak to the campers twice a day from a biblical perspective. We promote love, peace, joy and living a life of humility and faith.

