

Record numbers as YouthCARE Chaplain prepares for 4th annual Dad and Kids School Camp

11 March 2015

Getting young people outdoors and active can improve their physical and mental health. When combined with the chance to spend some quality time with their parents, it can also be a powerful tool for relationship building.

YouthCARE chaplain Susan Hislop hopes this Friday night's (March 13) outdoor activities will do all of the above when East Fremantle Primary School oval is transformed into a camping ground for dads and kids.

Mrs Hislop, the school chaplain, is running East Fremantle Primary School's fourth annual Dads and Kids Camp. This year more than 110 dads have signed up for the camp out.

"It will be the biggest camp we have had. Its big numbers for us especially as the school has 400 students in total," she said.

The camp is open to all students in the school and their dad, uncle, grandparent, stepdad or other male family members.

Mrs Hislop said she started the camping initiative because it was about role modelling and encouraging a healthy dad/child relationship.

"It's also about getting families from the school community outdoors together," she said.

YouthCARE's school chaplains provide pastoral care to WA public schools. They care for the social, emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing of students, staff and families in these communities. The Dads and Kids camp is one of the ways Mrs Hislop offers pastoral care to students and the school community.

"It's a great way to see dads spending time with their children and having a lot of fun in a friendly environment."

"We have a number of activities planned for the evening. They arrive at 5pm and pitch their tent before cooking their dinner and taking part in fun activities. We finish the camp with a breakfast cook up on Saturday morning."

Father of two, Tim Mclean, who has been involved in the Dads and Kids Camp over the past three years, said it was a brilliant idea.

"It's a great way for dads to spark, or reignite, a bit of activity with their kids and have some fun. It's all about having fun," Mr Mclean said.

**photos will be sent on Saturday, March 14.*

For more information:
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Quick Info:

- It's the 4th annual Dads and Kids Camp run at the school by YouthCARE Chaplain Susan Hislop.
- More than 110 Dads have signed up to camp with their kids from the school.
- They will be camping on the school oval.
- Getting young people outdoors and active can improve their physical & mental health.