

ACTIVE
LEARNING
CHALLENGE
FOR YEAR 8
STUDENTS

WILLIAM PIKE CHALLENGE AWARD PROGRAMME



Nelson College Preparatory School's motivated team of teachers driving the WPCA has ensured a highly successful programme. The WPCA's activities, community service and personal development have shaped their boys into well-rounded, confident Kiwi kids with life experiences beyond their years.

WILLIAM PIKE

The William Pike Challenge Award (WPCA) is an outdoor-focused, activity-based programme for Intermediate-aged students. It includes a predetermined set of outdoor challenges that must be completed within one school year.

One of the major aims of WPCA is to introduce more young people to the outdoors and encourage them to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities we have in our backyards in New Zealand, and particularly in Nelson.

Nelson College Preparatory School has been taking part in the programme since its inception in 2010, and we continue to be inspired by this courageous young man, who now has more than 30 schools participating nationwide.

The programme promotes a sense of adventure in tomorrow's young men.

WHO IS WILLIAM PIKE?

William Pike is a known Kiwi, teacher, sought-after speaker and a role model to youth nationally and internationally. He is the director and face of the William Pike Challenge Award.

William was one of two young climbers caught in a volcanic eruption on the slopes of Mount Ruapehu, on the evening of 25 September 2007. William suffered numerous life threatening injuries, and as a result, his right leg was amputated below the knee. By adopting a positive attitude and moving on with the support of his family and friends, William was once again, able to embrace his love of the outdoors.

BENEFITS

Passion for sports and hobbies – an introduction to new experiences and encouragement for new sports and hobbies.

Awareness of the environment – respect for the outdoors and learning how to cope in a range of situations.

Future careers outdoors – a glimpse of possible career opportunities that involve the outdoors.

Safety sense – preparation for outdoor experiences and basic survival skills.

Fun – an important factor of the programme.

Personal development – developing confidence.

Goal setting and resilience – developing essential life skills through the outdoors.

Teamwork – team activities and encouragement of one another in a non-threatening environment.

Leadership – the opportunity to take on a leadership role as is evident in having to find a sponsor and work in the community.

SELECTION

Year 8 students are given the opportunity to register in Term 1 of each year. They must fill in an application form and answer questions as to why they should be selected. From here the school will select approximately 24 students. We like to encourage students who do not normally venture into the outdoors.

Boys and parents then sign a commitment statement.



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EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES:

Adventure activities

Buller river rafting, mountain biking on the West Coast Wilderness bike trail, scuba diving, Winter breakout challenge, trail running and canoeing.

Outdoor survival activities

Orienteering course in the Grampians and overnight bivouac in the Brook Valley.

Confidence building

Taking up a new sport or hobby and seeking a financial sponsor for the programme.

Community service

Finding and making a commitment to help out at an appropriate organisation for the duration of the programme.

Recording

Each student will create an online journal blog of their experiences and keep this up-to-date.

Awards ceremony

Held at the completion of the programme in Term 4, during Prizegiving.



"This programme has helped me interact with people that I would not otherwise socialise with. I have learnt that my community service is actually fun! I have met new people and learnt many new skills. For my community service, I have been a sound technician for the Nelson Railway Society."

ASTON, STUDENT



"This programme has taught me to stand up to my fears and learn new things. I learnt how to find a sponsor and completed my community service helping out and learning about trains at the Nelson Railway Society. The rafting was a challenge for me as I had never done this before, but it gave me more confidence to try something new. I am looking forward to our next challenge which is abseiling and the trapeze."

BEN, STUDENT

"I enjoy this programme because we do things that interest me and it dares me to do things that I have not done before. The river rafting and mountain bike trail was a real challenge for me. William has given me the confidence to take on more challenges. I feel good about my community service as I am painting football poles and cleaning fields at Wakefield."

EWAN, STUDENT



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