



Newsletter # 8 Term 1 2015



The Urban Challenge is.....

Outdoor Education with a twist.... The Urban Challenge is an innovative, adventurous programme developed to engage students in the urban landscape, **to work as a team and to have a fun, exciting and real world experience**. Our programme breaks new ground in innovation, enjoyment and value. The Urban Challenge is a **unique unfolding adventure** across the city, with students solving riddles, completing challenges and engaging in a range of exciting urban flavoured activities along the way.

There are countless benefits from The Urban Challenge; **practical independence**, discovering **new skills**, taking **responsibility** for themselves and the group, skills transference, **confidence**, discovering new places and the list goes on. The best bit is the students don't realise they are absorbing all this, as they are just having fun. To engage the students, **the adventure reveals itself over time**. Each night after uploading their daily blog and photos, they download the next day's programme. Even then, some details are left as a surprise, creating moments of pure unexpected joy along the way.

The **blogs and photos** are a great way to engage the parents - they love being involved - both seeing and reading what their child's team has been up to. The parents find they have a better understanding of their child's camp experiences because of these blogs and pictures.

...the exciting alternative to traditional school camps!



A Sydney Summer – the Teams live it up in the sun! – surf-it on the waves; breeze-it on the ferry; tenpin bowl-it; wrap-it for lunch; train-it on the tracks; find-it on the clue chase; urban-it real good!

Breaking News – read all about it!

Dance Central Sydney – Hip Hop Dance Battle

We have a new urban dance provider - **Dance Central**! As one of our many activity options in-between clue chases, scavenger hunts and train trips- students make their way to an **indoor studio space** where they are taught by enthusiastic and oh-so-cool teachers.

The students learn a **hip-hop routine** which culminates in an epic dance battle.

Teams are loving it and getting really involved – **popping, locking, crumping** and, of course, **oozing street attitude!**



SUP-ping – Stand up on a board and paddle!

The latest and greatest water sport is **Stand Up Paddle Boarding!**

As another of our many activity options - students head over by bus to enjoy SUP-ping on **Narrabeen Lakes** with **Manly Surf School**.

After their pleasant paddle Teams delight in a scrummy pizza dinner and bowling at Dee Why before bedding-down at Collaroy YHA.

Our **activity options** are the perfect way to **punctuate our programmes** with even more **fun, teamwork and urban-flavoured pursuits**.



Team Costume Capers *-just go with it!*

Team with the Theme – dress-ups, songs, dances, mascots. The Team identity is where it's at! Some of our favourites have been – Where's Wally, **Construction at Work**, Rainbow Raiders, **The Hypercolours**, Pretty in Pink, **Footy Fans**, and Radically Red!



Staff Profile

Heather



Heather has been a Guide on our Urban Challenge team for 5 years! Heather is really in her element when she is eating Thai food, stand up paddle boarding and coaching slalom ski racers- but hopefully not all at once!

Between seasons Heather keeps herself busy travelling, studying and working in various passions including - personal training, skiing, disability support, outdoor recreation and tourism.

Heather is a fun, conscientious and dynamic Urban Team Guide ☺



Hi-Tech and Hi-Fun – Ipad and Iphones

The Urban Challenge is now even more hi-tech. We have recently purchased **12 Iphone 6+s and 24 Ipad Airls!**

These have been enjoyed on our last 8 programmes to enormous effect. Students have been able to utilise these devices in many ways to **enhance their urban experience**.....using **Apps** from transport information and maps to 'Find me a toilet'; to facilitate clear and fast **communication** with our Game Master; to take videos and photos (and photo effects and selfies!); easy access to our website for clues and to upload their daily blogs.



2016 Dates – Book Now



We are currently locking-in our **dates for 2016!** If you are interested in The Urban Challenge for your students please **contact us now** for more information. Suited to Years 9 – 12 we have 1 – 4 day programmes available that we can tailor to meet your school's outcomes.

Don't let your students miss out - hear from you soon!

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Blog Highlight

We travelled through the city on various fast running rides. We stayed at hotels with gorgeous views, the lights displaying amazing hues. We admired the coast's sandy beaches. We basked in the sky's lights beyond our reaches. We searched and wandered for hidden clues that wore on our minds just like our shoes! Our tired limbs pushing us through anything that the Game Master threw! So wish us luck on the last day of this challenge as we experience something we beyond what we imagined.

