

The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge 2008

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND TEAM MEMBERS

G.A.T.E.WAYS is an independent organization offering challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children. Now in its 15th year, G.A.T.E.WAYS runs a range of school day programs and the Saturday *Brainwaves Club*.

The first G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge was held in 2001. In 2008 it will be held over 9 weeks at different metropolitan venues and at 1 regional area. The Challenge will extend children's leadership and problem solving abilities through a series of original, creative and exciting activities in four areas.

The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge is a team based program that:

- ◆ stresses teamwork, not individual prowess
- ◆ provides all participants with opportunity for leadership
- ◆ is structured to help students learn to work together for a common goal or outcome
- ◆ practises the fundamental skills necessary for competent performance
- ◆ gives satisfaction from the activities themselves as well as the outcome
- ◆ emphasises having fun with learning

The Challenge for Years 3 and 4, 5 and 6

In school teams of four, students will take part in morning practice sessions to prepare them for the afternoon challenge sessions. The top two teams at each venue will receive a trophy and be invited to the finals to be held on 10th December. All team members will receive a Challenge badge and a Certificate of Participation. Team members should be prepared to do some research and practice.

The Challenge for Years 1 and 2

There will be three sessions in the day. Each session of 90 minutes will be divided into 40 minutes of teaching, learning and practice, a 10 minute break, followed by a 40 minute challenge. All subject matter for the challenge will be covered in the Practice Session. The emphasis will not be on winning a competition but rather on successfully using the information learned in the Practice Session. All team members will receive a Challenge badge and certificate for participation, but there will be no trophies or finals.

Specific Information For Parents

- Date/Venue: See brochures and application forms for specific dates and venues.
- Times: 9.00 am (registration) 3.10 pm (presentation – parents welcome) 3.30 pm (pick-up time)
- Requirements: * **writing materials**, a morning snack, lunch, a hat
* school uniform
* be aware that your child is part of a team
* parents to provide/arrange transport to/from the program – we recommend that team members come together
- Fee: \$71.50 per student (this includes GST) or \$72.95 (includes GST) if using credit card facility.
There will be no charge for the finals.
- Enrolment:: * read the Challenge Brochure in conjunction with this page
* return "Expression of Interest Form" to school immediately.
* please note that **places will be limited to the first 20 teams to register** so it is important to act quickly.
* once registration has been confirmed, **please return completed application form and payment to G.A.T.E.WAYS PO Box 207 Blackburn 3130 within 7 days of registration**
* once we have received forms/payments from all your team members, we will email an Activities Book to your school co-ordinator to assist with preparation for the Challenge.
* please advise school co-ordinator immediately if you decide not to confirm reservation so that the place can be offered to another child.

Specific Information For Teams

- ◆ Decide on a team name. **Please keep it short!** Eg. *Glendal Gladiators, Hampton Heroes, Streeton Superstars*.
- ◆ Each member of the team will lead one of the Challenges. It should be the Challenge that team member is best at.
- ◆ Carefully read and discuss the preparation required for each of the challenges
- ◆ Ask your teacher for the time to complete the helpful mini-lessons presented in the **Challenge Activities Book**
- ◆ Note that this booklet will only be emailed to your coordinator when G.A.T.E.WAYS has received your application forms and payment.
- ◆ **Practise – the most successful teams in the past have been those that practised regularly**
- ◆ If you have any general questions, please give us a call. However the information given in the programs is all that will be divulged until the day as G.A.T.E.WAYS is keen to retain an element of surprise in the Challenges.

GOOD LUCK!

G.A.T.E.WAYS CONTACT

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