

Dear Grade 10 Parents

Thank you for attending my talk on Epic 2026 on Tuesday 20 April. Here is a link to the **TALK** on YouTube, in case you were unable to be there: <https://youtu.be/ZAKloqMCoSo>.

Below are the key points, summarized for you.

The **Epic Website** can be found Here: [Bishops Diocesan College - Bishops Epic](#). Please click on the 'Parent Communication and Documents' link to find all important correspondence. This year's correspondence has 2026 written after it. Here you will also be able to find the Epic Presentation I used.

This is the link to the **Consent Form 2026**. Please ensure that this is filled in, signed and returned, either in hard copy to Ms Kelly van Vlaanderen or via email to [kvanvlaanderen@bishops.org.za](mailto:kvanvlaanderen@bishops.org.za) asap.

**HERE** is a link on how to update your son's **medical details**, dietary requirements and medical conditions. It is vital that you go to the parent portal and check these details and submit them asap, even if there are no changes. Please contact me if there is something you feel I should know that cannot be recorded digitally.

I will send all necessary correspondence out at the appropriate time, so there is no need for you to do anything significant until I have emailed you. Don't buy boots for your son yet. **Hi-tec** provides each boy with a **20% off voucher**, which I will receive soon and will give to the boys early next term, when Chris de Bruin does his Boots Talk. However, if you'd like to make use of one sooner than that, send your son my way.

Please volunteer for the **Parents' Committee** by emailing me, if you are keen. The Parents' Committee is responsible for trying to meet the wish lists of our two partner schools and will co-ordinate some of the activities that our boys will do with the learners from those two schools, when on Epic. Packages are often put together for the staff and learners by the committee. There is also a second-hand sale to be organised. Kelly van Vlaanderen and Nadia Snyman oversee this committee and they are available as the first port of call. We would like to hold our first meeting later this term.

If you have a **vehicle** that we can use on Epic, particularly a bakkie, Twin-cab or 4X4, please would you let me know soonest. I would be most grateful! We need several additional vehicles to get staff, like rangers and Epic Directors, around the Cederberg safely, in addition to the school transport we use.

Please let Andrea Rutter ([arutter@bishops.org.za](mailto:arutter@bishops.org.za)) know if you have any concerns

around the **fathers'/ significant paternal figures' final night**. We are more than willing to accommodate uncles/ older brothers etc. And remember to book off the afternoon and evening of **Tuesday 1 December** and the morning of Wednesday 2 December, for when you collect your charge from the Cederberg.

**Dietary requirements:** We buy Halaal meat, for those who require it, from Wembly for Epic and take it to the Cederberg. This meat is distributed to all the bases for Halaal-observant boys and there is plenty of it. Often Jewish boys also prefer Halaal sausage instead of the usual boerewors. Parents are also permitted to provide meals/ meal substitutes for their sons who are Halaal/ Vegan/ Vegetarian/ Gluten-intolerant/ Kosher etc. and the Epic will reimburse them for these meals. However, the detail around this will only happen much closer to Epic. Boys with specific preferences will not be specifically catered for e.g. doesn't like seafood/ lamb, but a plan will always be made to help in this regard, as there are a lot of different food options at the bases. Boys will not go hungry!

Soon boys will be asked to **pair up** with a friend, who they would be with for the duration of Epic. It is best to get this sorted out asap.

In my presentation, I emphasised how it was important for parents to prepare their sons adequately for Epic, so that anxiety is reduced (if there is anxiety). This is both mental and physical preparation. Boys need to be able to hike for 3-4 days with a 15kg backpack, so will need some practice in this. They should also be able to cycle confidently. Although boys are not forced to do any activities, we would like our boys to attempt all aspects of Epic with an open mind. And so early preparation is encouraged. Epic, in the second semester, does provide swimming lessons, a cycling course, several practice hikes all of which are voluntary (two hikes are compulsory), at no charge. And preparation for Epic through talks and training starts early next term and continues until the week before Epic.

If you are concerned that your son will not be robust enough to do Epic or if there are any special considerations I should know about, it is imperative that you engage in conversation with me as early as possible.

Please also feel free to contact me via email about any other concerns or questions.

Kind regards

Graeme Klerck

(Epic-Director)

[gklerck@bishops.org.za](mailto:gklerck@bishops.org.za)