

St Mary's Catholic College Year 9 Camp By Felyse Buckley and Sam Brookes

YEAR 9 camp at Mungali Falls was amazing. Over the duration of two long and tiring days, this camp had the students pushing themselves to the limits completing challenges set. And the mud was fantastic! (Please note the sarcasm.)



CLEAN FUN: "Mud, glorious mud ..." coated every moment of camp for St Mary's students.

The Year 9s had to work together and show leadership to survive the camp activities. The point of the camp was to not only have fun but to draw the students closer to one another. Underneath the rain and mud the students enjoyed themselves as they completed challenges such as abseiling and activities such as bush walking and land sliding. Other activities included canoeing, running an obstacle course and team raft-building. Extra activities that were included were bush-dancing and ball games.

While bushwalking the students were given the opportunity to swim in a waterfall. There were a lot of exciting things they were able to do that you wouldn't normally be able to do. While abseiling many students faced their fears of heights as they went down. You had to explain to your body that it was perfectly normal to go over the edge of a cliff and that freaking out wasn't necessary at all.

Some succeeded, others not so much, but everyone was happy with their efforts. The raft building was a great teamwork and problemsolving exercise, though no one could avoid the mud onslaught from the group doing the obstacle course nearby. The ground next to the water was soon turned into a mudslide for both groups once their activities were over. The landslide was an interesting activity to say the least. You were put on a mat and wore a helmet as you slid fast and furiously down a slide into a pool of water. The rain and water in your eyes made it hard to see, but it was still lots of fun. The canoeing was quite enjoyable and no boats tipped, though some people had to drag the boat all the way up the bank with some lazy people still sitting in them.

All in all, despite the mud and mayhem, everyone enjoyed the camp and got to know each other better.