PAIN Trip No. 2 2011

Day 1:

Today 12 students from year 9 and two teachers (Miss Stahl and Mr Ebeling) threw ourselves in the treacherous wilderness, full of bears and cougars... as well as man eating fish... we barely survived. Okay, so we may have exaggerated a little bit, but we did take a bus to the Blue Water Holes. Once we arrived, we were eager to get going and manage throughout the week. Within an hour of walking, we knew that this week was really going to stretch out. When we arrived at blue water holes, Charlotte was not allowed near Miss Stahl, as she apparently made her ROFL (roll on the floor laughing). Which would be ironic... her being a huge comedian and all? Mr Ebs and Miss Stahl were keen to try out Mr Obrien’s S.A.S orange cure, only problem... severe lack of Elastoplast (aka, tape) in their brilliantly (under) stocked emergency kit.

Day 2:

This day started off with a very funny morning as Sam ironically asked “how do you make weetbix?” The rest of the day was stretched out, as we ditched our tents and packs and went for a hike to some caves. We adventured through the tunnels with our head torches and hit our head on the stalactites. As the day became hotter, only half of the group were capable of walking to the wonderful waterfall, which was a sight to see. The water was freezing, but we all summoned the strength to jump in and have a great time. After we hiked back to the campsite and dried our shoes around the fire, we relaxed for the rest of the night.

Day 3:

WHAT A DAY. Nothing else to say except walking 18km in 5 hours all up hill is a real challenge. We all pushed ourselves just to keep going. It was hard but where we were camping (Hainesworth Hut) was definitely worth it! It was amazing. As soon as we arrived, we took off our packs and collapsed on the grass. We all collected fire wood and made a roasty fire (which was “too strong, too strong” according to Shirley) and all relaxed and made jokes. Also teasing Maddie’s amazingly high IQ of 25. We had a pretty good day and were more excited because we knew the next 2 days of hiking would be a breeze.

Day 4:

This morning was quite a fail. Miss Stahl convinced us to make pancakes (which we found out was quite impossible without butter) so everyone settled for scrambled-half-cooked- pancakes or just drank it. Today was an easy hike, 5km on a pretty flat road till we would reach our last campsite: Ghost Gully. Most people went to see the ghost cattle and the lone rider, but those who refused were excluded from the rest of the group until they willingly accepted to pay respects. Later on, Mr Obrien and Caitlin came out to say hello and see if we were still alive. They then awarded us with some prizes:

Camp Citizenship: Angus and Shirley.
Blonde Award: Maddie
and Masterchef Awards: Gabby and Tom.

Everyone else got Cheezles!  A Great night was had by all. Everyone shared their awards around.

Day 5: The last day. The most amazing day. We all loved this day. It was a quick walk to the bus taking us over an hour. When we saw the bus approaching, we all basically screamed and tried jumping up and down with our packs still on but that didn’t quite work, due to everyone’s blisters. I think we all agreed that we had an amazing week, making friendships with each other we thought we’d never make. We made amazing bonds with teachers and just had an awesome week 😊