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Team building is a great way for schools to start the year

The start of the school year is a vital time for students, teachers and staff to engage in team building.

That is the opinion of leading team events professional Michael Cromie from Corporate Challenge Events.

“Whether it’s to develop leadership, communication and teamwork skills or focus on responsibility, trust and bonding, team building has a very important place in schools,” said Mr Cromie.

“This tends to be heightened at the start of the year when schools hold leadership camps for senior students, induction days for new teachers and staff, and events to help instil a strong culture overall.

“Well-structured and tailored team building events can be perfect to hold in schools to achieve those outcomes.”

With school planning for 2018 well underway, Cromie recommends four team building activities for schools to start the year.

1. Survivor

“Just like the reality TV show, Survivor presents challenging team activities to determine who is the ultimate survivor of your class or cohort. It is a great program to take advantage of the great outdoors especially on a school camp with some variety in the environment. Survivor puts the onus on leadership, teamwork and strategy in challenging yet fun situations.”

2. Mini Olympics / Commonwealths

“Mini Olympics is a program that can bring these Games to life at school in a fun and creative way. Through a variety of sports that can be delivered in a school hall or oval, the main focus is fun, bonding and team dynamics. With the Commonwealth Games looming in April, this presents a great opportunity for students to learn more about the competing nations whilst going for their own gold.”

3. Bikes for Tykes

“One of the most powerful charity team building programs for schools is Bikes for Tykes. This is a real process-driven program putting teams through their paces in a series of activities to earn pieces of a bike. The objective is to build a brand-new bike to donate it to a child or family in need.”

4. Safe Crack

"This is a popular program, particularly for teachers and support staff, to hold during professional development days or as a social team event. Teams are tasked with bringing a diamond smuggling ring to justice by using skills in information interpretation, problem solving and lateral thinking. They have to sift through evidence, uncover the combination to a safe and conquer various challenging situations along the way to ultimately identify the culprits."

Kimberley Nicholls from Roxburgh Park Primary School praised the benefits of team building to start the school year.

"Our school staff loved the event and it was a great start to the year," said Ms Nicolls.

"The activities were all challenging and fun and allowed our staff to work with people they wouldn't normally work with."

Corporate Challenge Events is a specialist in school team events, team building activities, corporate training, conference planning and corporate events planning from Sydney in Australia to Auckland in New Zealand.

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