



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Issue No.1

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Swimming Carnival:

We enjoyed a very successful Swimming Carnival on Monday. It was terrific to see so many students competing. The general cooperation by all was fantastic. Thank you to the large number of parent volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout the day. Without your support we would not have been able to run such an efficient carnival.

We were able to allow almost an hour at the conclusion of the carnival for novelty events. This allowed all children at least sometime in the water on such a hot day.

Thank you to the many spectators that vocally supported the competitors.

A special well done to Mrs Tudor and Mrs Hart who took over the running of the carnival at the last moment.

The Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday, 9th March and the Finals on Tuesday evening, 10th March, 2009.

Samuel Gilbert Public School will be running this carnival. Any parent volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

Class Organisation:

I believe Samuel Gilbert Public School has had a very settled start to the 2009 school year. We have not had a late influx of students and therefore will be staying at the 21 class structure as published last week.

The refurbished demountable is up and organised and 3C have moved into this classroom.

Bell Times:

For the first six months of 2009 we are trialling some changes to bell times. The lunch break has been pushed back 20 minutes. This means we only have an hour of class time after lunch. It maximises the learning time of students before lunch, while they are less fatigued.

Lunch times are now - Eating time 1.00 to 1.15pm

Play time 1.15 to 1.55pm

Last session - 1.55 to 2.55pm.

Ray White Works

with Samuel Gilbert Public School

Kellie McKenzie 0416 328 677
Andrew McDermott 0410 598 397

Sell your home with us and 10% of selling fee will be donated to Samuel Gilbert P&C (conditions apply).



Smoking is not permitted on the school grounds

Kindergarten Students:

It was very exciting visiting the classes of our new Kindergarten students last week. A special welcome boys and girls and to the new families of Samuel Gilbert Public School. Our Kindergarten children and teachers are administering the DET Best Start Program at the moment. It allows the teachers to see exactly the skills that the students enter Kindergarten with and then tailor the program to best suit.

Thank you to the parents for your cooperation regarding the administration of this program.

P&C Meeting:

A reminder that our first P&C meeting for 2009 will be held next Tuesday, 10th February at 7.30pm in the Staffroom. All are welcome.

Good Guys, Castle Hill:

A reminder to all parents about this great scheme which generated over \$1000 for our school last year. It is very easy and costs you nothing. If you are purchasing any item at Nash Patel's Good Guys just tell the customer service desk that you would like to claim your reward vouchers under the Support Your School Program before you pay. They will give you the vouchers which can be sent along to the school office. The school then uses them to purchase equipment.

Parent Information Afternoons:

We will be holding a series of afternoon sessions for each stage of the school so that teachers can explain the program and organisation of their classes and parents have an opportunity to meet their child's teacher.

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) - have already held their session last Friday. Thank you to the many parents who attended.

Stage 1 - Tuesday, 10th February (Years 1 & 2)
Stage 2 - Wednesday, 11th February (Years 3 & 4)
Stage 3 - Thursday, 12th February (Years 5 & 6)

I look forward to meeting parents on these days.

Teacher Meeting - Industrial Action - Friday, 6th

February:

Just a reminder that a number of teachers will be stopping work on Friday morning to attend a meeting to finalise the new salaries and conditions agreement. The school will remain open for all students and where possible normal programs will continue.

Term Calendar:

We are finalising the Term 1 Calendar. I apologise for not sending it home with this first newsletter but I need to ensure that it is as correct as possible before publishing. I have included a list of main events below for this term on a week by week basis.

Week 3

Monday, 9th Feb - Year 6 Leadership Day

Tuesday, 10 Feb - P&C meeting

- Years 1 & 2 Parent Information
Afternoon

Wednesday, 11th Feb - Years 3 & 4 Parent
Information Afternoon

Thursday, 12th Feb - Years 5 & 6 Parent Information
Afternoon

Week 4

Thursday, 19th Feb - Selective High School Test
for 2010

Friday, 20th Feb - PSSA starts

Week 6

Thursday, 5th to Monday, 16th March - Life
Education

Week 7

Monday 9th March - Zone Swimming Carnival (all day)

Tuesday, 10th March - Zone Swimming Carnival Finals
(evening)

Week 8

Tuesday, 17th March - Kindergarten Parent Teacher
Interview/Discussion

Week 9

Wednesday, 25th to Friday, 27th March - Year 6
Excursion to Canberra
- Year 5 Camp

Week 10

Years 1 to 6 Parent/Teacher Interview/Discussion -
dates to be determined.

Week 11

Thursday, 9th April - ANZAC Day



Smoking is not permitted on the school grounds

Some General Reminders:

Parking on School Grounds - Parents should not park on school grounds. Families using the OOSH may use the car park to drop off/pick up children **before 8.00am or after 3.30pm.**

All parents and staff park on school grounds **at their own risk** - the DET and school take no responsibility for damage to cars due to trees, branches or road surfaces.

Smoking on School Grounds - Smoking is not permitted at any time on school property.

Dogs - Dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

Thank you for your assistance in these matters.
Andrew Bowmer

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL:

Thank you to the school community for such a 'warm' welcome. I look forward to getting to meet parents at the various school functions starting with the Parent Teacher Afternoons next week. If you see me around the school please stop and say hello.

Parent Information Sessions are taking place next week. All sessions will begin in the Hall and then parents will move to their child's classroom.

- Stage 1 (1S, 1D, 1Y, 1L, 2V, 2N, 2H) on Tuesday, 10th February at 3.30pm
- Stage 2 (3J, 3C, 3/4T, 4B, 4W) on Wednesday, 11th February at 3.30pm
- Stage 3 (5S, 5J, 5M, 6H, 6S) on Thursday, 12th February at 3.30pm

Textbook Sale Day will be Friday, 6th February. All payments should be sent to school in an envelope with the names and the 2009 grade(s) of your child/children clearly written on the front.

Unfortunately there were a few omissions from the textbook list sent out last week. These texts are listed below and the amount will be included on the Term 1 invoice.

Year 1 - Foundation Handwriting \$11.90
Year 6 - Foundation Handwriting \$11.90

Life Education Visits:

Our students will again have the opportunity to attend Life Education sessions this year. The Life Education Van will be in our school from Thursday, 5th March to Monday, 16th March inclusive.

A Parent Session has been timetabled for Friday, 6th March at 1.55pm. This session provides parents with information about the lessons being presented to the students. Take advantage of this opportunity to visit the Life Education Van.

More information will be distributed closer to the visit.

Donna Harris

FROM THE LIBRARY

Library Help Needed

If there are any parents who would like to help out in the Library with book returns, sorting and other simple tasks on a **Friday morning**, your help would be greatly appreciated! Parent helpers are needed for the first teaching lesson of the day from **8:50 to 9:50am**, beginning this Friday, 6th February. Parent help with book covering and preparing new books for loan is also required and will be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, I am seeking parent helpers who are happy to come to school to assist the Year 5 & 6 children with their Library research skills. During Library lessons these children are often working on computers, trying to locate appropriate resources by using the Enquiry Terminals and attempting to glean information from books and encyclopedias. I'm sure you can appreciate how difficult it is for one person to get around to all those children who need assistance. If any parent has a particular interest or expertise in this area, or who is simply willing to come in and help, then please send me a short note letting me know when you are available.

The Year 5 Library times are: **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9:50-10:50am.**
The Year 6 Library times are: **Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 12:15-1:00 pm.**



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

If you can only make it to one of these timeslots that's fine, just drop me a line so we can work something out.

Thank you in anticipation.

Deidre Bridie (Relieving Teacher Librarian)

FROM THE P&C

Welcome to another year at Samuel Gilbert, I trust that you all had an enjoyable break and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Special welcome to all the new parents of the school, and I hope that you enjoy the time that your children spend at Samuel Gilbert.

The first P&C meeting for the year will be held next Tuesday, 10th February at 7.30pm in the Staffroom. I look forward to seeing a lot of new faces on the night. If there are any particular issues you would like to raise please send an email to sgps.pcinfo@gmail.com.

The Uniform Shop will be moving next week to the old community nurse's building, just across the driveway from the existing shop. The new shop, you will be pleased to know, is air conditioned. Leisa and Sally are looking for volunteers to help in the shop for a couple of hours a week, if you can help out pop into the shop and talk to them. You will be gratefully welcomed.

Allan White

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

The trading hours for the Uniform Shop will be Mondays from 2.00-3.30pm and Tuesdays from 8.30-10.00am until further notice.

Dr Shoe will have a display of shoes for purchase in front of the Canteen on 17th February and 10th and 31st March from 8.30 to 9.30am.

Sally Birthisel and Leisa Whiteside
Uniform Shop Coordinators

FROM THE CANTEEN

Firstly I would just like to officially welcome Jenelle Lockrey to the Canteen. Jenelle and I will be sharing the Supervisors position and I hope that you will all show her the support and friendship which you have shown me.

Our volunteer roster, although looking much healthier than last year, still has some vacancies which we really need filled. Ideally we would like to have two volunteers in the mornings and at least one for the second shift. If you are able to

help please either come to the Canteen or ring us so that you can see just what shifts we still have vacant and whether these are suitable for you.

Just a reminder, if you are shopping in Knightsbridge IGA please use our Frequent Shopper Number 3058. For every voucher we receive the Canteen is able to supplement the fresh food items we provide - frozen mangoes being amongst the most popular.

Please note the price for the 100% Fruit Juice is \$1.20.

Judy Naudi and Jenelle Lockrey

BAND REPORT

Welcome back to all existing band members from 2008. As we are working with a 2 band program this year, you are all in the Concert/Performance Band. Rehearsals commence this Thursday, 5th February and will be held each Monday and Thursday for the rest of the year.

A special welcome to all our new members who will make up the Training Band for 2009. Rehearsals commence on Tuesday, 10th February at 7.30am in Burragali with Mr Mark Strykowski. We know you will have a very enjoyable year of music.

This year the Samuel Gilbert Public School Band Program celebrates its 20th year. We are organising a celebratory dinner to be held on Saturday, 7th November, 2009 at 5.00pm at Samuel Gilbert School. Please mark this date in your diary as all former and current students and their families are invited to attend.

Please read the fortnightly band report in this school newsletter as it will keep you informed of upcoming events.

Sue Lack, Band Committee

STUDENT BANKING

To all new families, welcome to Samuel Gilbert Public School and to our existing families, welcome back.

Student banking will continue each Monday morning in 2009 with our first banking commencing on Monday, 9th February.

Student Banking Starter Packs will be sent home shortly to all 2009 Kindergarten children. However, if there are any other students who do not have a bank account and would like to open

one, please forward a request for an application form to the Banking Team via the school office. We encourage all children to consider opening an account in this rewarding (for student and school) scheme. For each new account opened Samuel Gilbert School receives \$5.50.

Please note that the Banking Team can only process deposits for the Commonwealth Bank 'Youthsaver' accounts and that while cheques will be accepted, they must be in the student's name. We can also accept banking from students who have left the school (or perhaps haven't yet started) but have a sibling at the school.

Please continue to support the Samuel Gilbert Public School Banking Program.

From the SGPS Banking Team



KNIGHTSBRIDGE PHARMACY

OPEN 7 DAYS
MON-FRI 8:30AM-7:00PM
SATURDAY 8:30AM-4:00PM
SUNDAY 9:00AM-2:00PM
PH: 96803252 FAX: 98948401

KNIGHTSBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTRE
INSIDE THE PHARMACY
"COMPLETE HEALTH SERVICES"
BULK BILLING
OPEN 6 DAYS
MON-FRI 9:00AM-6:30PM
SATURDAY 9:00AM-1:00PM

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- For Sale - Girls size 10 and 12 Samuel Gilbert Summer and Winter uniforms in excellent condition. Please contact Mrs Archer on 9899 9598.
- Hills District Rugby League is holding registrations for 2009 at Crestwood Oval on Saturday, 7th February from 10.00-3.00pm, Wednesday, 11th February from 6.00pm-8.00pm and Sunday, 15th February from 10.00-3.00pm. For more information please contact Matt Reardon on 0407 237 238.
- Beecroft Cherrybrook Junior Rugby Union is holding Winter 2009 registrations for U6 to U17 - www.beecroftjunior.rugby.net.com.au.
- Rockets Soccer is holding registration days for 2009 season on Saturday, 7th February from 9.00-3.00pm at Castle Towers Shopping Centre. For enquiries ring Mike Molyneux on 0412 778 815.
- Baulkham Hills Sports Club Netball Division has a vacancies for girls turning 8, 9, 10 and 11 years in 2009. For enquiries and registration please ring Vivienne on 9620 4645.



Knightsbridge