



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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July, 2009

Issue No.10

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2010

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This will be the final newsletter for the term. There will be a short note sent home towards the end of next week just as a reminder about a few coming activities and to wrap up the term.

Athletics Carnival:

The School Athletics saga finally was concluded on Tuesday. Wet weather, closed grounds and dates have all conspired to make the holding of the carnival very difficult.

Despite the wonderful weather forecast, the day was suitably cold, windy and overcast. Thank you to the many parents that braved the conditions as parent helpers and the small band of dedicated spectators that huddled on the hill in blankets.

Well done to all students for your terrific involvement on the day. Also to the teachers for your tireless work to organise and run this carnival.

We hope to finalise Field Events next week and Ball Games teams early next term.

The Zone Carnivals are being held in Week 4 of next term -
Track Carnival - Wednesday, 19th August
Field and Ball Games Carnival - Friday, 21st August

Information for competitors will be distributed early next term.

Pressure Cleaning Day:

Thank you to the small group of very dedicated Dads that worked on Sunday morning cleaning walkways and steps. There is still work to be done but thank you for a terrific job. We were all very wet and cold by midday.

Planetarium:

Today we have completed 4 days of the Planetarium visit to our school. Students have had a wonderful opportunity to look at the stars and constellations and gain some real insight to astronomy. Thank you Ms Mannile for your organisation of this event. Thank you parents for your support of this school incursion.

Ray White Works

with Samuel Gilbert Public School

Kellie McKenzie 0416 238 677
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 school grounds

Dance Groups:

Next Wednesday night we have been invited to be part of a Celebration of Dance in the Castle Hill area. Dance groups from Castle Hill Public School, Castle Hill High School and Samuel Gilbert Public School will perform as well as a combined Boys Hip Hop group from the 3 schools.

Date: Wednesday, 8th July

Venue: Castle Hill High School

Time: 7.00pm

Information has been a little slow about this event. I apologise for this. There have been difficulties with coordination between the three schools.

I look forward to seeing parents and our performers next Wednesday evening.

P&C 5 Cent Collection:

Thank you to the many families that have supported the P&C 5 Cent Collections. The response so far has been outstanding. There will be a number of collections next term.

School Fete:

The annual Samuel Gilbert Public School Fete, organised by the P&C, is both a huge fundraiser and community event.

Planning and organisation is well advanced. Thank you to the many families and individuals who have volunteered in some way. Help is always needed and much appreciated.

Please keep Sunday, 23rd August in your diaries. It will be a fantastic day.

Student Community Service:

It is not often as a principal or teacher that you meet students with a deep passion and concern for one of these 'bigger issues' and a great desire to do something about it.

Madellen (3J), Brielle (3C) and Penny (3C) have been in intense negotiation with me regarding their great environmental passion - Green Peace and the Banning of Whaling.

After much persistence, these Year 3 students are organising a lunchtime Disco, primarily for Kindergarten to Year 2 students on the first Friday of next term, 31st July.

Cost of entry will be 50 cent or gold coin donation. Mrs Revello from the Jitterbugs will coordinate the music.

Additional information will be sent home about this activity early next term. I encourage you to support these young ladies in their endeavours.

Student Reports:

The Semester 1 Reports should be sent home next Wednesday.

Parents who feel that they require further follow up should contact the teacher next term to arrange a meeting.

Gymnastics Display:

Our Term 2 Enrichment Gymnastic students have been working toward a short gymnastics display. They will perform a short 8-10 minute routine next Tuesday at 1.50pm in the courtyard (weather permitting). Parents of these students are welcome to attend.

Calendar:

WEEK 11

Monday, 6/7 - Seniors Field Events

Tuesday, 7/7 - Juniors Field Events

- Kindy 100 Days Celebration
- NSR Debating Workshop
- Castle Hill Maths Day

Wednesday, 8/7 - Dance Celebration Night

- Year 6 Mt Tomah excursion
- Reports home

Thursday, 9/7 - Fete Mufti Day

Friday, 10/7 - last day of Term 2

TERM 3

WEEK 1

Monday, 27/7 - Pupil Free Day

- Staff attending a Technology Conference

Tuesday, 28/7 - Students return

Friday, 31/7 - Save the Whale Lunch Disco K-2



Smoking is not permitted on school grounds

WEEK 2

Tuesday, 4/8 - P&C Meeting

Wednesday 5/8 - NAIDOC Day activities

- OC Placement Test

Andrew Bowmer

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mr Bowmer all the very best for his new and exciting short term challenge as School Development Officer. I know that it was not an easy decision to make and we do look forward to his return for the start of next year. Although I have only been at the school for a very short time I am confident that with the support of the staff and the community I can continue with the achievements and initiatives established for this year.

Now to a few housekeeping matters:

- Term 3 commences on Monday, 27th July for all staff with a Combined Technology Conference at Castle Hill Public School and Castle Hill High School
- Students return on Tuesday, 28th July for another busy term
- Car park safety - I have been concerned over the past week by the number of parents stopping to drop off students in the driveway of the staff car park early in the mornings. Students' safety is at risk as they are being dropped hurriedly on a driveway with a constant stream of cars arriving for the start of the day. Kiss and drop is much safer alternative. My other concern is the increased risk of an accident with cars arriving to park and other vehicles stopping inappropriately, u-turning or reversing from the car park. (I am not referring to the parents who park in the staff car park to deliver their child/children to the out of school hours care centre.)
- Afternoon kiss and drop - parents please consider the local residents by following the appropriate procedures when picking up students at the end of the school day.

Parents are requested not arrive early and park at the start of the kiss and drop area to wait for their child. This creates an interruption to the flow of traffic along Ridgescrop Drive and frustrates our school neighbours who are unable to come and go from their homes between 2:45 and 3:00pm each day.

A reminder to all parents that our **Whole School Photo** will be taken this Friday, 3rd July. We request that all students wear their sports uniform this Friday for the Photo.

Please be aware that student Half Yearly Reports will be coming home next week, please keep an eye out for them and remember to ask your child/children for them.

Looking forward to a very busy and exciting Term 3.

Donna Harris

EDUCATION TAX REFUND - DON'T FORGET TO CLAIM

How do I claim the Education Tax Refund?

- In your tax return.
- If you don't lodge a tax return, claim on a separate form or over the phone.
- If you use a tax agent, make sure you ask them to claim for you.

The Education Tax Refund lets you claim up to 50% of eligible education expenses for school children. If you are eligible, you can get back up to \$375 for each primary student and up to \$750 for each secondary student. You can claim things like text books, stationery and even internet costs.

If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A for a child at primary or secondary school, you will be eligible. Some other people are eligible too, to find out more about this and other information such as what you can and can't claim go to australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund or call the Tax Office on 13 28 61.

** Remember, you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim.



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

Smoking is not permitted on school grounds

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Although not the sunny day predicted, we were finally able to hold our carnival on Tuesday. Thank you so much to all parents who organised their time to help us on both the original date and this week. We couldn't manage without your help and it is greatly appreciated.

Cathie Barclay

Athletics Carnival Coordinator

ROTARY ART

4B recently entered a Rotary Art Competition where they created art works which represented the work done by Rotary in local and global communities. I was very proud to attend a Rotary dinner with Genevieve, Emma and their parents to receive their awards. Genevieve was equal winner of the Primary School section and Emma was placed third. We were very excited to learn that Samuel Gilbert was also the winner of the Primary School section so all children in 4B should feel very proud of their efforts. We won a \$500.00 voucher to an art store and Genevieve and Emma received vouchers for \$200.00 and \$50.00 respectively. It was a very exciting evening.

Cathie Barclay

HIP HOP DANCE

Last Thursday 25 boys from Year 3-6 attended a Hip Hop Workshop at Castle Hill Primary School. The workshop was led by a group of Year 11 students from Castle Hill High School and all boys learnt a variety of steps and Hip Hop moves. They will be performing their routine next Wednesday evening at Castle Hill High School at 7:00pm along with our other Samuel Gilbert Dance groups in a "Celebration of Dance". Castle Hill Primary and High School will also have groups performing. All families are most welcome to attend with a gold coin donation at the door.

Cathie Barclay

SPORTS REPORT

Athletics Results:

Congratulations to the children who participated in our Track Carnival. It was great to see all the children out there giving their best and having fun.

Sincere thanks to all staff who worked tirelessly throughout the day to ensure all children were catered for.

A special thank you to Ms Barclay who organised this event. Also a big thank you to all parents who assisted with the carnival.

For the children who gained 1st and 2nd places they will represent our school at the Castle Hill Zone Carnival next term on Wednesday, 19th August, 2009. This carnival will be held at Roxborough Park (Alfred Whaling Reserve).

Field Events:

This term during school sport lessons all children in Years 2 to 6 have taken part in field events. These events include Long Jump, Shot Putt and Discus. From these lessons some children have been successful in qualifying into finals.

Next week, weather permitting, we will be holding the finals for the Field Events. Senior children aged 11, 12 and 13 will have their Field Events finals on Monday, while juniors aged 10 and under will compete on Tuesday afternoon. Children wishing to participate in High Jump need to have **written permission** from their parents before competing. All children competing in Field Events will need to wear their sports uniform on the day. A list of children who have qualified has been placed on the school sports window.

School Sports Representatives:

Congratulations to Deveree who successfully participated in the Southend Tennis Competition last week. Her team successfully made it through to the semi finals.

Good luck to Dylan and Alexander who will participate in the PSSA State Hockey Championships at Moorebank next week.

Eileen Tudor, PSSA Coordinator

P&C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Wow the 5 cent fundraiser is now in full swing, but which class is going to catch 3J? They are runaway leaders with a fantastic total of \$225.40 from 2 collections. It is time for the rest of the classes to stand up and count your 5cents to peg back 3J's lead. In the words of Arnie: "Come on you can do it!"

Chocolate money is due in, so if it is still sitting on the kitchen bench, please get it in to school as soon as possible.

Thanks to the few dedicated dad's who volunteered their time on Sunday morning, we were able to pressure wash a lot of dirty areas of concrete, the difference is amazing in the areas that we were able to clean.

Great effort from the Canteen staff and helpers in providing special lunch orders for the Athletics Carnival, not just once, but twice. They have also provided special lunches for Mr Bowmer's inservice course. Thanks ladies for your fantastic dedication to the needs of our children.

"It's time for the Great Fete of 09" Raffle Tickets. They will be sent home today - we have some fantastic prizes to be won. Remember if we are able to sell all of the tickets we will raise enough money to purchase another 2 SMARTBoards. If anyone can spare an hour or two to sell tickets at the Homemakers' Centre please contact me at donna@unwired.com.au.

The Centre Management has kindly given permission to sell tickets there and it will be a great opportunity to raise funds from outside of the "normal school community.

It is with a lot of sadness that we bid a temporary farewell to our Principal, Mr Andrew Bowmer, as he takes up a relieving role in Head Office. I wish him well and hope to see him back at SGPS shortly. In the meantime we will be ably served by Donna Harris as she sits in the chair for the next two terms.

Finally a number of parents have already offered to help on Fete Day, however we are still in need of more volunteers. Even if you can only spare an hour on the day, every little bit helps, drop me a line at donna@unwired.com.au. Remember all money raised goes towards school resources for your children.

Allan White

FROM THE CANTEEN

A big thank you to the parents who helped the Canteen serving and making lunches for the Athletics Carnival on both dates. We could not have done it without your help!

Remember the CANTEEN IS CLOSED ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM, Friday, 10th July.

Judy Naudi & Janelle Lockrey
Canteen Supervisors

BAND REPORT

The bands are rehearsing well in preparation for upcoming eisteddfods and performances. Please continue to attend all rehearsals as every band member is critical to the overall sound - it is a team effort.

Enjoy the holidays. Band resumes on the first day back. Training Band 28th July and Concert Band 30th July.

The next Band Meeting will be held on Thursday, 2nd July at 7.30pm in the Staffroom.

Sue Lack
Band Committee

SAMUEL GILBERT AFTER SCHOOL CARE (OOSH)

Position Vacant:

Samuel Gilbert OOSH is looking for a casual staff member for 5 days per week for morning and afternoon shifts.

Criteria:

- Experience working with 5-12 year olds
- Communication skills
- First Aid Certificate
- School holiday work optional.

Please send your Résumé to - Samuel Gilbert OOSH, PO Box 22 / 159 Ridgescrop Drive, Castle Hill, 2154.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th July, 2009.

Vacation Care:

Samuel Gilbert OOSH will be operating during the school holidays from Monday, 20th to Friday, 24th July only.

Activities include movies, bowling, bushwalking, technology and drama. The cost is \$30 per day plus excursion costs. Please call 9899 2727 to make a booking.

Vacancies:

Several vacancies exist at After School Care. Please contact the Centre on 9899 2727 for more information.

Lesley Soper,
OOSH Coordinator

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- **SupaDay - Pupil Free Day Program** - Join us for fun, craft, games, drama, music, video and learning about Jesus. Registrations are open for children in school years K-6. Our next SupaDay is on Monday, 27th July, 2009 at St Paul's Church, Old Northern Road, Castle Hill from 8.30am to 5.00pm. The cost is \$15 per child (\$30 maximum per family). For more information please phone St Paul's Anglican Church on 8858 1111.
- **Kenthurst Kindy Fete** - Kenthurst Pre School will be hosting their Annual Fete on Sunday, 2nd August, 2009 from 10.00am to 3.00pm at the Kenthurst Rotary Park in Nelson Street, Kenthurst. This is their main fundraiser for the year and all money raised is put straight back into the Pre School for the children. It is a wonderful family day that includes rides, animal farm, face painting, hot food, plants, showbags and much more. There is live entertainment on the stage all day. It will be a great day!
- **Hills Barbarians Cricket Club** - Registrations will be held from 9.00am to 1.00pm on Saturday, 18th and 25th July, 2009 at Stockland Mall Shopping Centre, Baulkham Hills. Players aged from 5-8 years for in2Cricket, 9 to 15 years for Juniors and Seniors are invited to register. If you would like further information please contact Jenny Bateup on 0418 851 771 or www.hillsbarbarians.org.au



Guardian
KNIGHTSBRIDGE PHARMACY
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MON-FRI 8:30AM-7:00PM
SATURDAY 8:30AM-4:00PM
SUNDAY 9:00AM-2:00PM
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SUPA IGA
Knightsbridge