



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Address: Ridgescrop Drive, Castle Hill 2154 **Phone:** 9680 4477 **Fax:** 9680 4277
Email: samuelgilb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au **Website:** www.samuelgilb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

September, 2009

Issue No.13

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2010

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Congratulations and well done to all Samuel Gilbert families on a very successful Fete!! It was truly a pleasure to experience the incredible community spirit on the day. Thank you to those families who took the time to visit the Wishing Tree Stall and to make a donation on behalf of their child. These items will be purchased before the end of term ready to be used in the classrooms. There are a few flowers still available if you were too busy on the day - just let the office know and I will follow you up.

It was really exciting to hear the story of our **major raffle prize winners** - Mr and Mrs M. The Ms purchased their tickets from the students at the Homemaker Centre. After being invited to attend the Fete, they came for the morning. Mrs M told how they did an African Safari for their honeymoon and had an absolute love of camping! They have never been to the Top End but had discussed the possibility of undertaking such trip - this is now a reality thanks to the Charlesworth family and Australian Wild Escapes!

Last Thursday's **Open Day** saw a number of prospective new families visiting our school. Ms Barclay and myself provided a very comprehensive tour of the school grounds and were pleased to have the opportunity to showcase the school's facilities. These visiting families were impressed with the number of Interactive Whiteboards across the school (thanks to the P&C) and how well teachers incorporate technology into their everyday classroom practice eg roll marking.

As I reported last week work has started around the first stage of the **Building the Education Revolution**. I am expecting the spare demountable will be removed from the school grounds within the week. I will endeavour to keep the community informed regarding the progress.

Thank you to all **Kiss & Drop** users for their cooperation in response to last newsletter - traffic has been moving a little more smoothly reducing the congestion along Ridgescrop Drive in the afternoon.

We are now accepting **enrolments for Kindergarten 2010**. If you are intending to enrol a child next year please contact the office and complete an enrolment form. Our Kindergarten Transition Program commences at the end of this term with a parent information session. If you are aware of other families in your neighbourhood who intend to enrol a child next year it would be appreciated if you would advise them to contact the school.

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).



It has been my very great pleasure to attend a number of performances over the past two weeks and be entertained by the **Vocal Ensemble, Miss Cassie's Dance troupes, the Hip Hop dancers and the Performance Band**. All of the students and their teachers represented Samuel Gilbert extremely well - we certainly have a broad range of talents across the whole school!

This week I was again impressed with the skills of many of our students as they participated in the school's **Public Speaking and Spelling Bee** competitions. From these competitions our school representatives were decided. The application of the students who participated was excellent and our school will be well represented.

May I please encourage parents to discourage their children from bringing expensive equipment (Ipods, phones or hand held gaming consoles) to school - there is a risk of these items being damaged, lost or worse. I have spoken to the students at assembly requesting that they do not bring these items to school.

Upcoming dates for your calendar -

- Grandparents' Day - Friday, 4th September
- P&C Meeting - Tuesday 8th September
- K-1 Spring Carnival - Wednesday, 9th September
- Years 3 & 4 Book Party Day - Wednesday, 9th September
- Vocal Ensemble Workshop - Friday, 25th September
- School Disco - Friday, 18th September

Happy Fathers' Day to all our wonderful Dads - enjoy your day!!

Donna Harris

FROM THE RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Fete:

What a fabulous day with weather to match! I would sincerely like to thank all parents and staff who pitched in to make the day such a great success. I would particularly like to thank Diane and Andra for giving up their time on Thursday and Friday to help us set up the Art Display.

Grandparents' Day tomorrow. So if you didn't have a chance to admire the student's work at the Fete, be quick, because it all ends this Friday.

Spelling:

Last week we completed the Junior and Senior Spelling Bees to determine our representatives for the Northern Sydney Regional Final of the Premier's Spelling Bee later this term. The top spellers from each class were selected to participate and the tension mounted as words such as "gargantuan", "scrupulous" and "rendezvous" eliminated contestants along the way. All students performed extremely well with Joshua (4B) and Matthew (5M) being our final winners with Cameron (4W) and Jessica (6S) as our runner ups. All four students will now go on to the finals to be held at Cherrybrook Public School on Wednesday, 23rd September.

We also received the results of the UNSW Spelling Competition last week. Of the 70 students who participated, 36 students received awards of Participation, 22 Credits and 10 Distinctions. Matthew (5J) and Eve (3/4T) deserve particular congratulations for receiving High Distinctions in this competition.

Hill's Performing Arts Festival:

What a fabulous evening of talent! Samuel Gilbert certainly did itself proud with wonderful items in Dance, Singing and Band. From the preshow entertainment provided by our Concert Band to the closing dance item by our Stage 2 Dance Troupe it was a night to celebrate the Arts programs being implemented in public schools from across our district. All students sang, danced and played brilliantly, and despite the lateness of the hour, continued to do so to the very end. Well done everyone!

I would particularly like to thank Mrs Hart and Mrs McLeod, who spent the evening running up and down the back stairs to ensure Dance, Band and Vocal Ensemble members were where they needed to be, dressed in the correct outfit. Not a relaxing evening for them by any stretch of the imagination! Also to Mrs Tudor who coordinated the MCs for the evening backstage.



It looked so fabulous we had it up to be enjoyed by new families on our Open Day and for

9634 5378 • 0416 237 757

Finally congratulations to Mrs Evans and Mrs Spears on their superb performance with the Vocal Ensemble and to Miss Cassie for the three wonderful Dance items. I was certainly very proud of the contribution made to the evening by Samuel Gilbert students.

Dance:

Over the past two weeks our three dance groups have competed in the Ryde Eisteddfod. Thank you to all families who made the effort on these Saturdays to have their children available for these competitions. Finding time on the weekend is not always easy so we appreciate your effort. All groups danced well in sections of a high standard. The Stage 1 group did extremely well to gain second place - well done.

Grandparents' Day:

We look forward to welcoming all grandparents tomorrow to our annual Grandparents' Day. As space in the hall and classrooms is limited, we do ask that this day be exclusively for Grandparents or "special friends". If your child's grandparents are dependent upon your help to move around the school, of course exceptions can be made. Please ensure that grandparents understand that we are not able to allow children to leave with grandparents unless written permission has been received from parents. We hope that grandparents will enjoy the opportunity to visit classrooms and watch grades perform. Morning tea will be provided for visitors and you are invited to send a picnic lunch to be shared at lunch time.

Fathers' Day Stall:

Buckets, sponges, BBQ aprons and tools were among the gifts on sale at this year's Fathers' Day stall. A huge thank you to Judy Naudi and her wonderful team for organising the opportunity for our students to buy that "special" gift for Dad. We hope Dads enjoy their surprises and have a relaxing Fathers' Day.

MindQuest:

MindQuest 2009 offers gifted and talented primary students a wide range of enrichment activities. These courses are held on weekends for a cost of \$150.00. Please see information in this newsletter and request a brochure from the School Office if interested.

Cathie Barclay

SPORTS REPORT

Ball Games Carnival:

Congratulations to all the children who participated at the Ball Games Carnival. Both Boys and Girls Shuttle Relays won their events and our Senior Girls Captain Ball Team placed equal first and our Senior Boys Captain Ball Team won. The Junior Boys also came second in both Tunnel and Captain Ball. Well done everyone on a great effort!

Zone Throwing Carnival:

Congratulations to all the children who represented Samuel Gilbert School in the Zone Throwing Carnival.

Thank you to Mrs Smith for acting as an official on the Shot Putt.

Congratulations to -

Jay	1 st in Senior Boys High Jump
Mathew	3 rd in Senior Boys Long Jump
Daniel	1 st in 11 year old Boys Discus

They will now represent Castle Hill Zone at the Sydney West Carnival in Athletics on Monday, 21st September, 2009 at Homebush Athletic track.

PSSA:

There is no PSSA this week due to local schools being involved in the Hills Performing Arts Festival.

Semi Finals - **Semi Finals** are yet to be confirmed but congratulations to those teams that are successful in making it to the semi finals. Semi Finals will be held on Friday, 11th September.



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

To check on your team's progress please visit the PSSA website on www.chpssa.com. To all teams we wish them well. To their coaches, we thank them for their efforts. Well done!

Other Sports News:

Congratulations to -

- **Jay** being named Individual Senior Boys Castle Hill Zone Athletics Champion. Fantastic effort.
- **Joshua** and **Lachlan** winning a Silver State Medal in the NSW State Cross Country Championships in the team events and to **Jay** for winning a Bronze Medal in the teams event.
- **Nicholas** for being selected into the NSW Under 11 Ice Hockey Team. Nicholas will represent NSW at the National Championships being held in Victoria between 16th and 19th September. Fantastic effort Nicholas and good luck!
- Harrison was 5th from 70 boys in State Gymnastics. Well done!
- Nicolas for representing Samuel Gilbert at the NSW State Golf Championships.

Eileen Tudor

PSSA Sports Coordinator

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

Summer stock is already selling fast (particularly Girls Short Sleeve Blouses and Summer Dresses) so please ensure that you have placed your order to secure your uniform.

Unfortunately we are out of stock with the following lines:

- * Girls Shorts sizes 6, 10, 12 and 14
- * Girls Summer Dress Size 8
- * Lemon Socks in Shoe Sizes 5-8 and 13-3
- * Summer Headbands

We are expecting deliveries from suppliers in mid-late September, so if you want to come and place your order, we can dispatch it to your child's class upon its arrival. This will ensure they have their summer uniform ready for the beginning of Term 4.

Sally's Handy Hints: To keep your kids Polo Shirts and Sports Shirts looking like new, Sally has discovered Sards Wonder Stick (it looks like a glue stick) works best for removing stubborn stains.

Thanks again to everyone for their patience and understanding as we have been quite busy as of

late. Remember that if you can't get to the Uniform Shop during our usual trading hours, please call either Leisa on 0417 696 673 or Sally on 0401 647 730 and we can make alternative arrangements.

Thanks also to the parents who came to see us when we opened last Wednesday from 4.00-5.30. We're glad that this extra trading time was appreciated by you all.

Leisa Whiteside & Sally Birthisel
Uniform Shop Coordinators

BAND REPORT

The bands have had a busy term of performances. The school community enjoyed the band music at the Fete and the Concert Band opened the Hills District Music Festival.

Last Friday both bands attended a successful band workshop where they perfected their band pieces but also enjoyed a yummy afternoon tea. Thanks to the following mothers for their help - Alison, Karen, Grace, Jenny, Phillipa, Janice and Wendy.

Listen out for the Concert and Training Bands at Grandparents' Day!

The Committee is organizing a special breakfast to thank our hard working musicians. It will be served on a band morning on a mystery date so make sure you attend every rehearsal so you don't miss out! Please return your notes with your food preference as soon as possible. Enjoy!

The next Band Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 17th September at 7.30pm in the Staffroom.

Sue Lack
Band Committee

SAMUEL GILBERT AFTER SCHOOL CARE (OOSH)

Vacation Care will be operating during the next school holidays from Monday, 12th October to Friday, 16th October.

Activities include movies, bowling, bushwalking, technology and drama. The cost is \$30 per day plus excursion costs. For bookings please contact the Centre on 9899 2729.

Lesley Soper
OOSH Coordinator

P&C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Wow! **It's time... for the Fete of '09** is now over and what a time we had. The weather was very kind and large crowds again attended. I would like to personally thank our Fete Committee, Andrew Bowmer, Donna White, Dianne Lawson, Alex Latham, Terri Megarry, Nicole Clifford, Tracey Imber, Donna Harris and Jackie Coleman. Your efforts were truly remarkable in creating what has now become a highly anticipated community event.

A big thank you to our platinum sponsor Kellie McKenzie and Andrew McDermott of Ray White Castle Hill, (also a family at Samuel Gilbert) who not only provided sponsorship, they also distributed flyers all around the area and both worked tirelessly as volunteers on the day. Also as part of their sponsorship deal if any school family lists and sells their house with Kellie and Andrew, they will donate 10% of the commission received, back to the P&C. So if you are thinking of selling your house speak to Kellie or Andrew and support our platinum sponsor and P&C.

Our other platinum sponsor is G & J Starr Plumbing. Glenn and Jo, a family of the school, have been long term supporters of the School and the Fete, so if you have any plumbing needs call them first for friendly, fast and reliable service.

Special mention to those families who gave up time to sell raffle tickets at the Hills Homemaker Centre. This enabled us to greatly widen our income base, as well as promoting our School and Fete.

There were many others who contributed by way of donation of prizes, so if you see our supporters products and services please support them and let them know you are from Samuel Gilbert. Special mention to the Outback Steakhouse, who not only donated all of the food for the barbecue, they supplied the staff to cook it as well!!!

The efforts of all of these people, other sponsors and donors, the stall convenors, and approximately 180 volunteers, have combined to raise a truly remarkable **\$47,000**. This will enable the P&C to complete the SmartBoard in every classroom project sooner than planned, and provide other important resources for the teaching of our children.

The next P&C meeting will be this Tuesday, 8th September in the staff room at 7.30pm. Your attendance would be most welcomed.

Allan White

MISS CASSIE'S DANCE CAMP

Miss Cassie is running a Dance Camp at her newly built dance studios.



The Camp will run on
Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th
October
from 9.00am to 5.00pm

Classes include Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Acrobatics,
Drama/Singing,
Modern/Contemporary, Musical Theatre,
Breakdance,
stretching and strengthening.

All this for only **\$30 per day**

Venue address is Unit 10, 155 Glendenning Road,
Glendenning.

Only 12 minutes from Castle Hill just off the M7.

Please book your position now by ringing Cassie
on 0412 929 924.

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- **Hills Touch** - Get fit and play Touch at Masonic Oval, Baulkham Hills. Boys, Girls and Mixed from U8 to U16 years. Juniors start 24th September - Seniors start 22-24 September. To register call 0433 766 655 or register online at www.touchfootball.com.au
- **Northern District Cricket Club and Sportspro** are holding a Cricket Clinic from 14th to 16th October at Waitara Oval for 6-13 year olds from 9.00-3.00 at \$255 for 3 days or \$105 per day. For more information ring Sportspro office on 9453 1451 or info@sportspro.com.au
- **Single With Children** is a non-profit social group that provides fun and exciting social activities every week specifically for single parents and their children. It is a great way to meet or make new friends in your area. For your free copy of our social calendar contact us on 1300 300 496 or check out the website at www.singlewithchildren.com.au
- **North West Community College and Baulkham Hills Holroyd Parramatta Migrant Resource Centre** is holding a free workshop for skilled migrants to Develop Your Skills in Resume Preparation, Interview Presentation and Getting Local Work Experience. The workshop is being held at Castle Glen Community Centre, Ridgescrop Drive, Castle Hill on Tuesday, 22nd September from 10.00-2.00pm. For more information ring 9899 5163.