



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2010

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

There has been much activity in and around the school this week in preparation for this Sunday's Fete. Please make sure that you take the time to read the many notes coming home this week with last minute information, these notes will help to keep all the school community well informed and assist us all to have the best day possible! I do hope that I get the opportunity to catch up with lots of families when you visit the 'Wishing Tree' stand.

Crazy Hair Day:

Thank you to all those families who generously donated towards the Gourmet Hamper and the Hoopla.

Building the Education Revolution Update:

The starting date for the construction of our new classrooms is rapidly approaching. In the very near future, the spare demountable will be removed from the school grounds, whilst the other demountables will be relocated on site in readiness for the beginning of our project. Once the construction begins parking along Gilbert Road will be restricted and there will be no pedestrian access via the gate on Gilbert Road near the Kindergarten classrooms. I will provide more information as it becomes available.

Parking Issues:

Once the B.E.R. construction commences there will be a reduction in the available parking in and around the school. With this in mind I would request that parents not use the staff car park. Parents should use the 'Kiss & Drop Zone' available at the front of the school to drop students off for school, band and dance lessons. Parents dropping or collecting students from OOSH are able to use the limited spaces provided at the far end of the car park before 8.00am and after 3.30pm each day. Thank you for your support with this matter, students moving in and around the staff car park poses a real safety issue especially with the anticipated increase in heavy vehicle traffic.

Kiss & Drop Zone:

Parents parking and waiting for extended periods of time is creating significant traffic issues around the school each afternoon, particularly on Friday afternoons. Cars bank along Ridgescrop Drive and prevent traffic from flowing fluently and also prevent the school buses from pulling into the bus bay. On Friday this has created a major concern with the sports buses being unable to return the students to the school in time to catch their buses or to be collected from the kiss & drop zone.

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).



Ray White

Parents are requested not to arrive early and park in the Kiss & Drop Zone. Bus duty staff will be asking parents to move on and to rejoin the queue.

Please be aware that occasionally the Council Traffic Warden monitor the traffic flow along Ridgecrop Drive to ensure that all parking regulations are being consistently adhered to. Late in Term 2 a number of parents were photographed and issued with traffic infringements.

I have included the 'Kiss & Drop' guidelines within this newsletter.

Zone Athletics Representatives:

I would like to wish good luck to all the students representing Samuel Gilbert at the Zone Athletics Carnival at Blacktown this week. We are sending a team of 32 students and 3 staff and we wish them every success!

Dance Eisteddfods:

Students from Year 1 through to Year 6 will be representing Samuel Gilbert at the Hawkesbury and Ryde Eisteddfods this week as well as performing at the School Fete. Thank you to Miss Cassie and Ms Barclay for your efforts in preparing our dancers - we look forward to their performance at the Fete.

Congratulations:

The Samuel Gilbert B Team defeated North Rocks B Team on Monday in a debate on "Should sport be voluntary?" This was a great effort from our team in Mrs Eldridge's absence due to illness!

The Annual School Report for 2008 arrived in the school this week and should be coming home today - so please remind your son or daughter to get it out of the school bag.

Looking forward to a great day at the Fete on Sunday - hope to see you there.

Donna Harris

FROM THE RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NSW Competitions

This week we completed the last of the NSW competitions with over 100 students sitting the Mathematics paper. Congratulations to all children who had a go and a huge thank you to the teachers who gave up their time after school to administer the papers.

Of the 54 students who sat the Science papers 10 gained Distinctions and Chris (5J) and Mark (3/4T) must be commended for achieving High Distinctions.

65 students sat the Computer competition with 15 Distinctions being awarded and Lachlan, Ethan and Adam doing 4B proud with all three boys achieving High Distinctions.

In the Writing Competition, of our 55 students participating, 10 Distinctions were achieved and Renee of 5J achieved a High Distinction. Congratulations to all students.

Band

On occasion Mr Strykowski may be delayed or absent. Both the Concert Band and Training Band have a parent liaison representative who will wait with the band and notify a member of staff so that adequate supervision is ensured. The Band operates as a parent run committee and we ask that no child be left at band unless an adult is present. Thank you to those parents who waited with the band and informed me that Mr S had not arrived this week so that supervision could be provided. Both Mr S and I appreciated your assistance.

Dance

This week all three dance groups performed with success in the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod at Windsor. The standard of competition was extremely high and we were very proud to achieve a First place (Stage 1), Third place (Stage 2) and a Highly Commended (Stage 3). Congratulations to Miss Cassie and all dancers on wonderful performances.



Thank you to all parents for ensuring hair, costumes and make up were "perfect" and to those who came out to Windsor to lend their support.

A reminder that the Stage 2 and 3 groups will be performing at the Ryde Eisteddfod this Saturday, all three groups will perform at the Fete from 10:45am and Stage 1 will perform at Ryde next Saturday, 29th August.

Debating

The excellent training Mrs Eldridge has provided to our debating teams was evident over the last two weeks when both our A and B Teams defeated two very strong North Rocks teams on the topic area of Health and Fitness. Despite Mrs Eldridges's absence our teams went about their preparation confidently and argued their cases convincingly. Our A team of Sarah, Rebecca and Hollie left no doubt as the negative team that "Junk food should NOT be sold in school canteens" and Jay, Megan, Dunya and Harrison cleverly convinced the adjudicator as the affirmative team that "Sport in Schools should be voluntary". Well done to both teams!

Hills Performing Arts Festival

On Monday, 31st August our Dance Groups, Concert Band and Vocal Ensemble will be performing at the Hills Performing Arts Festival. Please note that Band and Dance students need to meet at the backstage entry at 6:00pm and Vocal Ensemble will meet at 6:30pm. Only Band members will be able to leave after their performance as they are opening the show and will be finished by 7:15pm. Dancers and Vocal Ensemble will be supervised before and after their performance and should be collected from the Southern Foyer at the conclusion of the evening. The estimated finishing time will be between 8:30 and 9:00pm. We hope you will be able to join us to enjoy the show.

Zone Athletics Carnival

Yesterday I enjoyed accompanying our Athletic representatives to Blacktown Olympic Park for the Zone Athletics Carnival.

Not only was the weather superb but this venue provided a great opportunity for our students to compete on a wonderful track. All students performed extremely well with 8 different students advancing to Regional level to represent the Castle Hill Zone. Particular congratulations to these students: Jay, Sophie, Megan (all in 800m), Josh (Junior Relay and 9 years 100m), Mathew (200 and 100m), Ben (13yrs 100m - to be confirmed on time) and Jack, Luke and Dylan (Junior Boy Relay). A fabulous effort! Thank you also to the parents and grandparents who so willingly assisted with transport to and from the venue and for their support and encouragement of all students throughout the day.

Cathie Barclay

LETTER FROM JAY (6H)

"Dear Samuel Gilbert Public School and Community,

Next week I am going to the PSSA Nationals representing NSW, and I would like to thank families of Samuel Gilbert for their help and support. The mufti day helped out a lot with my levy, and I will do my best to represent Samuel Gilbert and NSW proudly as the best sportsperson and basketballer I can be.

From Jay"

ROBOTICS WORKSHOP AT CHHS

On 6th August 6 students from Years 5 and 6 attended a Robotics Workshop with Mr Shivansky of Castle Hill High School. We took along a prepared robot for the Robocup Competition, learned to choreograph and program robots with music, joined with Castle Hill Primary School children to explore building and the manipulation of robot types.

Children who attended with Ms Mannile were Aly, Vlad, Harrison, Rachel, Dylan and Chris. We were ably assisted by Year 9 students as part of a Linkages program. We have returned to school with great enthusiasm to attend the Robocup Challenge at the end of the month with the UNSW Competition for Juniors.



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

Many thanks to Mr Shivansky at the Castle Hill High students who helped us.

Ms Mannile
Science Teacher

A REMINDER FROM THE LIBRARY

(This is a reminder to all parents of children participating in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge.)

Dear Parents,
Just to remind you, August is the final month of the Premier's Reading Challenge so all children need to keep reading those PRC books and enter them online at home.

Your child needs to have finished reading the prescribed number of books required for their grade level by **Friday, 28th August**, even though the Premier's Reading Challenge actually closes on 1st September.

This means that **there are only 8 days to go!**

As incomplete or unvalidated records can prevent eligible students from receiving a certificate or being included in the Premier's Reading Challenge Honour Roll, it is essential that reading records are entered before 31st August and validated by either Mrs Bell or myself. (I personally do not want to leave it quite this late and so ask you to complete all records by the above date, **28th August 2009**).

Any later than this and Mrs Bell and myself will be unable to validate the completion of the Challenge.

Deidre Bridie
Teacher Librarian

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

Last week you received a pre-order form for the new style summer uniform. These orders need to be at the Front Office or Uniform Shop by Friday, 4th September. If you wish to order stock that isn't on the pre-order form, you will need to fill in a Term 3 Order Form which can be downloaded from the school's website, or just see the lovely ladies in the front office.

To assist families who can't get to the Uniform Shop during our regular trading hours, we will be open on **Wednesday, 26th August from 4.00-5.30pm**.

This will give people the opportunity to either lodge their pre-orders or just to try the new style uniforms on your kids. If you are still unable to make it to the Uniform Shop and need to try on the uniforms, please call either Leisa on 0417 696 673 or Sally on 0401 647 730 and we will make alternative arrangements for you.

A reminder that Dr Shoe will again be at the school (out the front of the Canteen) on Tuesday, 15th September from 8.30-9.30am. He is also available for free home fittings. To organise please call him on 0414 912 838.

We have been extremely busy in the shop lately due to people needing to try on new uniforms and we thank you for your patience and understanding.

Enjoy the Fete!
Leisa Whiteside & Sally Birthisel
Uniform Shop Coordinators

CANTEEN NEWS

Father's Day Stall

We just wanted to let everyone know that we will be having a Father's Day Stall on 1st and 2nd September. We understand that at the moment everyone is focused on the Fete so a note giving all the details will come home next week.

If anyone is able to help, please ring Judy on 9894 2523 or come and see us in the Canteen.

Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day is on Friday, 4th September and the Canteen traditionally supplies morning tea for all our visitors. Donations of cakes, slices or biscuits would be appreciated. Please see Judy or Jenelle in the Canteen.

We would also like to remind you that the Canteen does not prepare additional lunch food - if you would like lunch for your Grandparents please place an order on the morning with your child's normal lunch order.

Judy Naudi & Jenelle Lockrey
Canteen Supervisors

BAND REPORT

The school community is looking forward to hearing the school bands play at the Fete. Please be at school on Sunday at 9.45am with your instrument and music in casual clothes (school uniform NOT required). Instruments can be locked away after the performance if required.

Notes have been distributed for the Band Workshop on Friday, 28th August after school. Please return permission note as soon as possible so we can cater for a delicious afternoon tea and sufficient tutors for each instrument. Pick up time is 5.30pm. Please remember your instrument on this Friday as it is a non-band morning.

The next Band Meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th August at 7.30pm in the Staffroom.

Sue Lack

Band Committee

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- **Australian Red Cross Blood Service** - help to keep blood stocks out of the red this winter by becoming a regular blood donor. With the winter cold and flue season upon us, many of Australia's regular blood donors are not well enough to give blood, putting pressure on the nation's blood supply. 21,000 donations are still needed each and every week to treat people suffering from illnesses such as cancer and heart disease. In the Year of Blood Donor do something special and become one. Find out more at www.donateblood.com.au or call 13 1495.
- **Hills Community Aid & Information Service** is running a free, half day workshop to help volunteers get the most out of their community service work. The course includes information on where to volunteer, what to expect and the rewards of being a volunteer. The course is on Wednesday, 26th August at the Baulkham Hills Community Centre from 12.30-3.30. For more information call 9639 8620.
- **Hills Barbarians Cricket Club** is taking players aged from 5-8years for in2Cricket on Friday nights and 9-15yrs for Juniors for Saturday morning competition. If you would like further information please contact Jenny Bateup on 0418 851 771 or go to www.hillsbarbarians.or.au
- **Football Development Australia** has a Summer Development Program for young soccer players at Parramatta Stadium for players aged 6-13years who are passionate about improving their game in the off season. For more information regarding this program ring FDA on 9024 5122 or go to info@footballdevelopment.com.au

- **Hills District Little Athletics** welcomes children aged 5-17years to join in fun and fitness with Little Athletics. Registration days for 2009/2010 season are Sunday, 23rd August and Saturday, 29th August from 10.00-2.00pm at AH Whaling Reserve, Baulkham Hills. For further enquiries please contact Joanne 0404 452 210 or Trish 9634 3213 or register online at www.laansw.com.au
- **Castle Hill Softball Club** needs a few more boys/girls turning 7,8 or 9 this year to play Teeball this summer and boys/girls turning 11,12 & 13 to play softball. All games are played at the same time, same location every week commencing 17th October. All new players under 12 receive a free hat, socks, bag, mitt and ball before the season commences. For more information contact Natalie Blanning on 0411 286 308 or castlehillsoftball@yahoo.com.au
- **Sports Spectacular - Blacktown Olympic Park** - Saturday, 22nd August. Bring the family for the official opening of the new AFL/Cricket facility. There will be a variety of free interactive activities, loads of giveaways, face painting and mega inflatables for the kids. For more information visit blacktownolympicpark.com.au

The logo for Guardian Knightsbridge Pharmacy. It features the word "Guardian" in a large, serif font with a stylized 'G' that incorporates a figure. Below it, "KNIGHTSBRIDGE PHARMACY" is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

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