



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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February, 2009

Issue No.2

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What a tragic few weeks our nation has endured. Terrible bushfires and a horrific loss of life at one end of our country and devastating floods at the other end.

Bushfire Mufti Day and Cake Stall:

What a wonderful response by our school community to these activities yesterday. Over \$1,000 was raised by the Mufti Day alone with well over another \$500 being raised through the cake stall. We are still receipting the final figure but it will be well in excess of \$1,500.

I will ensure that this money is sent via Department of Education channels to help schools in the fire affected areas of Victoria.

A special thank you to Kerrilin and the Year One mothers for coordinating a fantastic cake stall and to all the families who contributed cakes and supported the day financially.

2008 Carols:

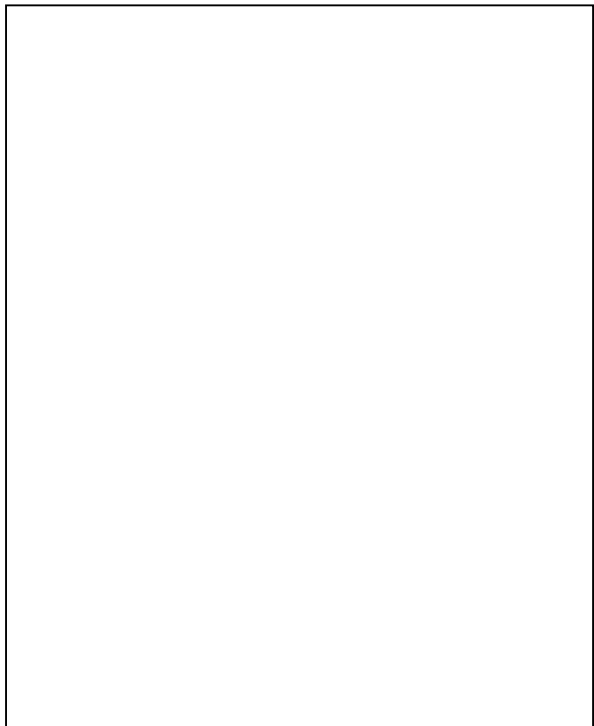
While on the theme of giving I am pleased to report that the many gifts donated at Carols Night last year were delivered to Ronald McDonald House at Westmead. They were very gratefully received. Thank you to the families that generously gave at this event.

Parent Information Meeting:

Thank you to the great number of parents who attended our Parent Information meetings last week. I hope that people found these a valuable activity.

Term Planner:

I have included a Term Planner in this week's newsletter. It is correct at time of publishing. The odd activity may need to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.



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).



Ray White

Fete Meeting:

The School Fete is a terrific school community event and major school fundraiser. For it to be successful we need willing helpers. If you are interested in supporting our School Fete please attend a meeting -

Date Tuesday, 3rd March
Time 7.30pm
Venue School staffroom

Year 6 Castle Hill High School Visit:

Year 6 students and teachers will be attending an Open Day at Castle Hill High School next Monday.

Castle Hill High School is our major local government high school. We have developed strong links with Castle Hill High over the past few years with Castle Hill High students working with various grades across the school.

The majority of our Year 6 students attend Castle Hill High at the end of Year 6.

The **Castle Hill High School Information Evening** for any family from Samuel Gilbert School will be held in the Samuel Gilbert Library on Wednesday, 11th March from 6.30 to 7.30pm. All families are most welcome to attend.

Clean Up Australia Day:

We will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day next **Friday, 27th February**. Grades will work together to clean up various areas of our school. Ms Mannile will be coordinating this event.

We ask that if possible, students bring gloves or old tongs to help them remove rubbish. Students will be closely supervised at all times and safety will be paramount on the day.

If **you do not** wish your child to be involved in this activity please inform your teacher in writing.

In case of wet weather or unfavourable conditions, the day will be postponed to a time suitable for that grade the following week.

PSSA Sport:

After much effort and working around very wet and extremely hot weather PSSA teams have been organised. Unfortunately it is not possible to accommodate all children who wish to be in a PSSA team. This year we have allowed Year 3 students the opportunity to try out for a PSSA team. Year 3 students who are turning 8 or 9 will be competing for positions in junior teams against students who are turning 10 this year.

It was only ever anticipated that a very small number of Year 3 students, the more gifted sportspersons, would make a team.

I believe it is important to give these students with exceptional sporting ability the opportunity to be part of a team to compete against other schools.

Uniform:

Thank you to those families that have supported the school in relation to the Sports Uniform and black shoes.

Just a reminder -
Sports Uniform worn on Grade Sports Days
Kinder - Thursday
Year 1 - Friday
Year 2 - Tuesday
Years 3-6 - Friday

The sports uniform is also worn on Monday if your class is participating in the Gymnastics program. On all other days, black school shoes or black joggers should be worn. Thank you for your cooperation.

Assemblies:

Our Grade Assemblies have started for 2009. As is our practice each class will perform at some time during the year. Due to the changes in timetables and the need to maximize learning time in the morning, assembly times have been changed to -

Junior Assembly Thursdays at 12.15pm
Senior Assembly Thursdays at 2.00pm



Upcoming Assembly Performances:

Thursday 26th February - 2S

Thursday, 12th March - 4W

Thursday, 19th March - 3C

Andrew Bowmer

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Parent Teacher Discussions - As Mr Bowmer mentioned at the Parent Information sessions last week, there will be an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and share information about their child later in Term 1. Although we are at the initial stages of planning these meetings, please note the following dates on your calendar. More information will be coming home very soon.

- **Kindergarten - Thursday, 12th March**
(After lunch sessions)
- **Years 1-6 - Wednesday, 25th March - Thursday 3rd April**
(Sessions timetabled through out the day)
- **Years 1-6 - Wednesday, 1st April**
(Evening sessions 3:30pm-7:15pm)

A note indicating which times your child's teacher is available will be set home in the near future with the opportunity for parents to select their preferred time. Every effort will be made to accommodate families with a number of students in the school who need to see different teachers.

Lost Property - The Duplicating room is overflowing with jackets, hats and other items of school uniform that students have missed placed over the past weeks. If your child has misplaced or lost an item of clothing please encourage them to visit the lost property boxes and see whether any of the items belong to them.

Unfortunately many items do not have names so unless they are claimed by the end of Term 1 these items will be given to the Uniform Shop for resale. With the very changeable weather we are experiencing at the moment it is timely to remind all families to ensure that they have their names on all articles of uniform.

Life Education visit - A reminder that the Life Education Van will be at the school from Thursday, 5th March up until Friday, 13th March. There will be a parent session which is timetabled for Friday, 6th March at 2:00pm. I encourage parents to find the time to visit the Life Education van and discover the wonderful information being provided to all the students.

Stranger Danger - May I please encourage all parents to discuss personal safety with their children as it is important that both home and school are giving the students the same message.

With the start of a new school year it is a great opportunity to take the time to talk with your child/children about what they should do if they feel unsafe when moving around in the community before and after school.

Donna Harris

SPORTS REPORT

PSSA Summer Teams

The Samuel Gilbert Years 3-6 Sports Program has began with many children taking the opportunity to try out for some of the many summer PSSA sports teams. Congratulations to all children who have been successful in being selected. The task of selecting teams was extremely difficult for all sports teachers with the standard of skills being very high.

PSSA Sport

The Summer season commences this Friday, 20th February and concludes Week 8 of Term 1 and will recommence in Term 4. We wish all players well and ask you to remind your child from time to time of the Players Code of Conduct they have agreed to.

Please note that sports uniform is to be worn on Fridays. Children will be issued with sporting equipment and/or uniform for the season ie. Softball pants and Touch shirts Parents will be billed for the full cost of replacing the equipment and/or uniform if **NOT** returned.

Special sport uniforms are only for playing in only. Normal sports uniform is to be worn to and from



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

school.

PSSA Sports draws can be found on the school's website.

School Sport

School sport will start this week with the morning session being split into two groups. Both groups will have a skills based program followed by minor games. We would like to thank Mrs Jutta Smith for coordinating School sport.

Hills Swimming Club Carnival

On **Saturday, 21st February** many of the Samuel Gilbert swim team will participate at this event and we would like to wish them good luck in their events. This carnival will give them all a little extra experience in racing in preparation for the Zone Carnival. We would like to thank Mrs Lynnea Hart for being Team Manager at this event.

Zone Swimming Carnival

Heats: Monday, 9th March
Finals: Evening of Tuesday, 10th March

The school Swim Team has been selected and I would ask that your child return their permission notes to Mrs Hart (Team Manager) promptly if they are involved. Reserves will only attend if swimmers 1 or 2 in the event are unable to compete. Reserves will be notified if they are required.

It was terrific to see so many children participating in the School Swimming Carnival whether it be in the 50 metre stroke events or in the novelties races. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places should have been handed out at today's Primary Assembly.

Zone and Area Trials

There are many sporting opportunities in the PSSA structure for primary students who play other sports at a high or elite level. The PSSA structure allows them to trial and then if successful, participate at an Area or State level. Please note in some sports we may only send 1 or 2 students through to trial.

If your child participates in a sport at an elite level not covered by Summer or Winter PSSA, please write and inform me with the following details:

Sport, Age, Experience, District or Association and contact number for the Association,

As you can see there are many opportunities for the students at Samuel Gilbert to get involved in sport. Please remind your child to listen carefully at all assemblies so they don't miss any important sport messages.

Eileen Tudor

PSSA Sports Coordinator

BAND REPORT

The Training Band has made a great start to their band career and seem to be enjoying their band rehearsals. Well done!

The Concert/Performance Band have continued their music skills from last year and are sounding fantastic.

The Band Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 26th February at 8.00pm in the staffroom. All band member parents are welcome.

Sue Lack, Band Committee

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

If you have come over to the Uniform Shop in the last 2 weeks, you will know how great our new building is. We are now fully air conditioned (just as the rain started to fall!) with samples of all styles and sizes available for your child to try on in our 2 new change rooms. Our new store layout means that most items are now on a self serve basis, which will hopefully reduce the waiting times. Thanks to everyone who helped us to get into our new building, especially Jackie & Steven Coleman, Allan White, John Doherty, Alex Latham, John Lawson and all their families for giving up a few weekends to get the job done. The Uniform Shop is now a much more welcoming place.

Can we please ask that if you come to the Uniform Shop with a pram, that you leave it on our verandah. Unfortunately, prams take up quite a lot of space and can become a hazard in the shop. Also, if school kids are in the shop, can they please leave their school bags outside on the verandah. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

The pre-orders for tracksuits/jumpers/spray jackets is now closed. Thanks to everyone who purchased these items. The order was placed with the supplier this week, and stock is due in the 2nd week of Term 2. Items will be delivered to your nominated child's classroom upon arrival. Just a reminder that the tracksuit is part of our sports uniform only and can only be worn on sports days or PE days (Gymnastics only).

We still have some old style summer dresses available for sale (\$20). These dresses can be worn for the remainder of this year. Any stock not sold at the end of Term 1 will be donated to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal, specifically to a school in need.

Please ensure that when you complete a Uniform Order Form, that it is a Term 1, 2009 Order Form. We did have some price increases this term, so last years forms are now incorrect.

Many thanks to the volunteers that we have had this year, especially to Nicole Brooke, Lisa Woods and Karen Pike. We are seeking a few volunteers to help us out on a Tuesday morning (8.30am-10am) so if you're able to help, please pop in and see us.

You may have noticed that we are currently out of stock of a few winter items. We have placed orders with our suppliers and stock will be available before the end of Term 1. As stock arrives, we will notify you via the school newsletter.

Currently our trading hours are Monday's 2.00pm -3.30pm and Tuesday's 8.30am-10.00am. If you can't make it during these hours and need to access the Uniform Shop, please don't hesitate to contact Sally Birthisel on 0401 647 730 to arrange an appointment. We are more than happy to help you out in any way that we can. Stay Dry!
Leisa Whiteside & Sally Birthisel
Uniform Shop Coordinators



WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE 2009

My name is Nerida Wilson and I am a mum from Samuel Gilbert School and this year I will be participating in the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave.

Last year I was very ill and spent three weeks in Intensive Care at the Hills Private Hospital. Two months after this ordeal I suffered consideration hair loss. As a result of this I decided to participate in the World's Greatest Shave.

I am looking for sponsors to help raise money - private or corporate, big or small so that I can donate to this great cause. Any media coverage to help would be greatly appreciated. I am also looking for a hairdresser who would be willing to do the shave for me, so if anyone can help please contact the school.

The link for my fundraising page on the World's Greatest Shave website is
<http://my.imisfriendraising.com.au/personalPage.aspx?registrationID=283893&LangPref=en-CA>

Thank you in advance, Nerida Wilson (0408 156 503)
al-neri@aapt.net.au

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- **Gazelles Netball Club** is looking for two girls turning 7 in 2009 to join a fantastic little team. Training is at the netball courts in Coolong Street. All games are played at the netball complex in Kellyville on Saturday morning. If you would like to play please contact Jane Relyea on 9659 0714.
- **Hills Motherless Mums** is a group dedicated to providing support, education and information to mothers whose own mothers have died or are medically incapacitated. They meet at St Michael's Family Centre, Baulkham Hills, 10.30am and 12.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month, commencing 18th March. Details please ring 9639 0155.

Guardian

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

Samuel Gilbert Public School

TERM 1, 2009 CALENDAR - Parents

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	26 JANUARY Australia Day Holiday	27 Staff Development Day	28 Students return	29 Kinder students Start Kinder Parents Lunch	30 3.30pm - Kinder Parent Meeting
2	2 FEBRUARY	3 Kindergarten Best Start Program	4 Kindergarten Best Start Program	5 Kindergarten Best Start Program	6 Text Book Day Kindergarten Best Start Program
3	9	10 Stage 1- Parent Meeting - 3.30pm P&C	11 Stage 2 - Parent Meeting- 3.30pm	12 Stage 3 - Parent Meeting- 3.30pm	13
4	16	17 Bushfire – Mufti Day/Cake stall	18	19 Junior/Senior Assembly	20 PSSA starts
5	23 - Yr 6 Open Day CHHS - Young Leaders Day Captains/Prefects	24	25	26 Junior/Senior Assembly	27 Clean Up Australia Day
6	2 MARCH	3 Fete meeting 7.30pm	4	5 - Life Ed starts - Whole School Assembly	6 Life Ed Parent Meeting 1.55
7	9 Zone Swimming Carnival - day	10 - Zone Swimming Carnival - evening - P&C Meeting 7.30pm	11 - Yr 5 Gold Incursion - CHHS Presentation 6.30-7.30pm	12 - Kindergarten Interviews 2-7pm - Junior/Senior Assembly	13
8	16 Life Education finishes	17	18 Harmony Day	19 - Selective HS Test For 2010 - Junior/Senior Assembly	20 Last week PSSA
9	23	24	25 -Y6 Canberra Excursion -Y5 Camp	26 - Y6 Canberra - Y5 Camp - Junior Assembly	27 - Y6 Canberra - Y5 Camp - Sunday, 29 th Working Bee
10	30 Years 1-6 Parent/Teacher Interview Week	31 Area Swimming	1 APRIL Years 1-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews Evening - 3-7pm	2 Whole School Assembly	3 - Winter PSSA try outs - K/1 Cross Country Carnival
11	6 Years 2/6 Cross Country Carnival	7 Easter Hat Parade	8 Year 1 - Excursion	9 - ANZAC Assembly - Easter Scripture Service	10 GOOD FRIDAY