



SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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May, 2009

Issue No.6

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is great to be back into Term 2. This is a busy term with lots of activities and special events.

Term Calendar:

A Term Calendar, correct at printing, is attached to this Newsletter. I encourage families to keep it somewhere safe for reference. Unfortunately dates may occasionally change due to unforeseen circumstances. I will update any changes as the term goes on in our fortnightly newsletters.

Building the Education Revolution (BER):

I am pleased to inform parents that as part of the Federal Government's injection of funds into Education infrastructure - the BER program, Samuel Gilbert Public School has been successful in gaining funding in the first round of works.

It was announced yesterday that Samuel Gilbert has received approval for the construction of new classrooms to replace four demountable classrooms and up to four Outdoor Learning Spaces near the oval.



ANZAC Services:

The school was honoured to be involved in a number of special events to commemorate ANZAC Day. It was my privilege to be with our School Captains at the Dawn Service at the Memorial at Castle Hill. Our Captains laid a wreath at this service on our behalf.

Also approximately 15 members of the Vocal Ensemble formed part of a combined choir with Castle Hill Primary School and performed at a service on the middle weekend of the holidays.

Well done to all these students who willingly gave up their holidays to be part of these special events.

On the last day of the term the Captains, Year 6 students and teachers ran a very moving ANZAC Assembly in our hall. A number of Year 6 students shared their thoughts about their visit to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the War Memorial in Canberra.

The highlight of the assembly was a wonderful rendition of the Last Post and Reveille played by Sam on his trumpet.

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

Cross Country Carnivals:

After the disappointment last term due to wet weather, we enjoyed two glorious days last week for our two Cross Country Carnivals. Well done to all the students who competed so well. The Cross Country track is certainly a test of endurance.

Special thank you to the parents who helped as track officials on the day and to Mrs Johnson, Mrs Marcolin, Mrs Smith, Mrs McLeod and Ms Richmond for your great organisation.

Easter Hat Parade:



What a wonderful event for the Kindergarten, their Year 6 Buddies and Years 1 and 2 students! Our courtyard was awash with colourful headdress and chocolate eggs.

Mother's Day Stall:

A special thank you to Judy Naudi and her team of mothers who ran a very successful Mother's Day Stall this week. There was a wonderful array of handmade crafts. A huge amount of effort is put into providing this stall for our students. Thank you ladies!

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN):

This will be starting Tuesday next week for Year 3 and 5 students. All assessments will operate during the morning session between 9.00 and 11.00am. It is most important that students are at school on time for these tests.

School Disco:

The school will be holding the 'Heroes' Disco on Friday, 15th May. Sessions times are

K-1 5.00-6.15pm

Y2,3,4 6.15-7.30pm

Y5,6 7.30-9.00pm

Tickets are \$4 each and will be for sale from Monday, 11th May outside the school office.

Walk Safely to School Day:

Friday, 15th May is **Walk Safely to School Day**. This day has been set aside by the Government to encourage safe pedestrian behaviour by children, to educate the public that children under ten years of age should only cross the road when accompanied by an adult and to promote the health benefits of walking.

Parents are encouraged to walk to school with their children or to park some distance from school and walk the final leg to school. Teachers have stickers to hand out to students on the day.

Relay for Life:

The Relay for Life will be held on 16th and 17th May at the Castle Hill Showground.

Education Week (Advanced Notice):

Education Week for all NSW Public Schools will be held during Week 5 of this term.

At Samuel Gilbert Public School we will be having an Open Day and Grade Performances on **Friday, 29th May**. Please watch for invitations and programs over the next few weeks.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Trivia Night:

The Trivia Night is fast approaching! It is being held on Saturday, 30th May in the school hall at 6.30 for a 7:00pm start. Get your table together NOW!! (maximum of 10 per table). Cost is \$10 per head.

There will be lots of great prizes for the top tables, prizes for winners of intermission prizes (start saving your gold coins for the night) as well as a prize for the BEST THEMED TABLE. Best of all there will be LOTS OF LAUGHS!

A flyer and entry form will go home this week, so please get your table in as soon as possible.



Smoking is not permitted on school grounds

Fete Update:

Planning for our School Fete is well underway. Over the second half of this term and early next term we will be holding three mufti days to gather items for gourmet hampers and lucky dips and lollies for the Lolly Stall. Please keep an eye out for these activities.

We are looking forward to another terrific fete.

P&C Meeting:

Next Tuesday, 12th May at 7.30pm in the Staffroom. All welcome.

Assembly Performances:

Week 4 - Thursday, 21st May - 15

Week 7 - Thursday, 11th June - 1D

Wishing all mothers a very special Mother's Day this Sunday.

Andrew Bowmer

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY

Welcome back to what appears to be a very busy term. A few housekeeping reminders from me this week.

Individual Health Care notes were sent out at the end of Term 1 so that the school can update the records and procedures. I would appreciate these forms being completed and returned to school as soon as possible. Completed forms can be handed in at the front office. If there are no Health Conditions or allergies please write 'Nil' in the space provided and return to the school.

Changes to school bus services - Hillsbus has advised the school that there have been some minimal changes to their services before and after school. All students have been provided with a note detailing the changes and the new bus times have been included in this newsletter.

MS Read-a-Thon - If your child is interested in participating in this year's MS Read-a-Thon they can collect a registration form from me in the office, call 1300 677 323 or register on line at www.msreadathon.org.au.

Learning Difficulties Parent Helpline provides support, information and advocacy for parents & teachers of children with learning difficulties and/or struggling with Literacy, Numeracy, Behaviour Management, A.D.H.D., Autism/Aspergers, Dyslexia/Dyspaxia, Anxiety, Tourette Syndrome or Self Esteem issues. The Helpline number is 9680 9960 and the website is www ldc.org.au. I have a few flyers if parents require more information.

Dance Camp - Congratulations to Chloe and Bella who are at the North Sydney Regional Dance Camp this week.

Operation Art - Thank you and well done to all the students who entered Operation Art. Castle Hill High School Art Department judged our many entries.

Congratulations to Lily (6S), Catherine (1D), Cameron (4B) and Kate (5J). These students artwork will be displayed as part of Operation Art.

\$240 was raised by the school for the Westmead Children's Hospital. Thank you Ms Barclay for coordinating this activity.

Donna Harris

SPORTS REPORT

Welcome back to another busy term on the sporting field.

We were certainly up and running with two great Cross Country Carnivals in our first week. A huge thank you to Katrina Richmond, Lousie McLeod and Brigida Smith for their organisation of the Junior Carnival and Karen Marcolin and Marion Johnson for the Senior Carnival. Our carnivals just don't happen! There are many hours, days and weeks go into the preparation beforehand. To all the parents who gave their assistance also a big thank you.

Congratulations to ALL children who competed. It is very encouraging to see the high participation rate and even though we can't all cross the finish line together it is great to see so many giving it their best.



HAIRHOUSE WAREHOUSE

Shop 208, Castle Towers Shopping

Centre, Castle Hill, Phone - 9234 1277

To those who will go on to represent us at the Zone Carnival we wish them all the best and look forward to reporting on your success in future newsletters. The Zone Cross Country will be held on Tuesday, 19th May. Permission notes have been sent home to those students competing.

Friday PSSA Sport:

Trials for our Winter sports have been completed and children have been selected in Netball, Newcombe Ball, Soccer, AFL and Rugby League. Congratulations to all children who have gained selection. Please return the permission note, together with the signed Code of Conduct to the Teacher/Coach by Friday as the competition begins this week.

Parents are encouraged to support our weekly competitions and we ask that you adhere to the Parent's Code of Conduct also sent home. Children will need correct school uniform, including hat, when representing us each week. Where a special school jersey is worn we ask that these be looked after and laundered each week as they are costly to replace. Special jerseys are for the game only and should not become the Friday all day uniform. Football and soccer boots are not to be worn on the bus to and from the grounds.

Thank you to Karen Marcolin, Stephanie Walters, Lynnea Hart, Eileen Tudor, Cathie Barclay and Rachael Patti for their willingness to choose and coach these teams.

School Sport:

Children in Years 3 to 6 who are not in PSSA team will participate in Fundamental Sports Skills on Friday afternoons. This involves the teaching of skills followed by modified games. It is always encouraging to see all children out having a go and enjoying sport. Many thanks to Jutta Smith for organising this program.

Area Selection (Sydney West):

Congratulations to Dylan, Alexander and Bethany who have all gained selection in the boys and girls Hockey teams and to Jack who gained selection in the A.F.L. team.

We wish them well as they compete at State Carnivals in their respective sports.

Eileen Tudor, PSSA Sport Coordinator

KINDER/YEAR 1 CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

The K-1 Cross Country Carnival was enjoyed by the students, parents and teachers. It was held on Friday, 1st May. Thank you to all the helpers who made this event a valuable experience.

All the students who participated had an enjoyable day and were given a certificate by Golden Circle.

Congratulations to the following place getters - Curtis, Nathan, Justin, Zoe, Nicola, Jorja, Jayden, Mitchell, Elijah, Sidney, Elizabeth and Charlotte.

FROM THE LIBRARY

The BOOK FAIR is coming!

Our Annual Book Fair is to be held this year from **Thursday, 21st May** through to **Friday, 29th May**, which is **Samuel Gilbert's Open Day**, as part of **Education Week**. The fair will be held in the school **Library**.

Students from all classes will have the opportunity to view and browse through the books available for purchase during their Library lessons on Thursday and Friday of Week 4 and throughout Week 5. Students and their parents will be able to purchase quality books from Scholastic Book Fairs at a variety of times.

Students will be able to **buy** from the Book Fair **after school on Friday, 22nd May** and at the following times throughout the following week -

- **Before school from 8:25-9:30am**
- **During their allocated Library time**
- **At lunchtime**
- **After school until 4.00pm if accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.**

As usual we will need lots of helping hands during the Book Fair so please keep some time free during this week to assist if at all possible. I will send out a note a little closer to the date asking for volunteers. Thank you in anticipation and I look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Deidre Bridie, Teacher Librarian

P&C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Term 2 started with a rush with the Cross Country/Golden Circle Fun Run being a great success and raising in excess of \$3,000 for the P&C. Thank you to all who contributed, this money will go a long way towards our next Smartboard.

This year's Trivia Night has been organised for 30th May, which is only 3 short weeks away, so get your tables organised, and your trivia minds tuned up for a great night of fun, trivia and conviviality.

Planning for the Fete is well under way. If you have volunteered to coordinate a stall we are having a Coordinators Meeting on 2nd June and a member of the committee will be contacting you shortly with more details.

Watch out for the upcoming Mufti Days. These are a great way for the whole school community to contribute towards the Fete and help keep expenses to a minimum.

Still on the Fete, we are searching for a printer to help with the printing of flyers. Last year's donor has unfortunately left the school, so we are looking to fill the void. If you can help in any way please contact me, either through the School, or drop me a line at donna@unwired.com.au.

The Mother's Day Stall has been running all week, including Thursday and Friday recess and lunch. Special thanks to Judy, Donna and their team of helpers. I am sure all the Samuel Gilbert mums will be very spoilt on Sunday. I hope that you all have a great Mother's Day.

Finally don't forget the first P&C meeting for the term is Tuesday, 12th May. I look forward to seeing you there.

Allan White

UNIFORM SHOP REPORT

Just a reminder that our trading hours are Monday, 2.00-3.30pm and Tuesday, 8.30-10.00am.

If you need to place an order, please ensure that you use the Term 2 Order Form, which can be downloaded and printed off the schools website. Your order will be sent to your child's class via the canteen lunch baskets and, in most cases, you will receive your order within a week. Should any items be out of stock, a letter will be sent to you to keep you informed.

Tracksuits have been issued to all those who placed pre-orders this week. We are hoping to have the V-Neck Pullover Jumpers within the next fortnight.

Currently we are out of stock of Girls Winter Skirts, size 4, and Boys Trousers, size 6. We have placed urgent orders with these suppliers and stock should arrive by the end of next week. We are also out of stock of Size 10 and 12 Girls Long Sleeve Blouses and Size 10 Girls Short Sleeve Blouses and have placed an urgent order for this stock also. Demand for our new uniform

has been higher than expected, so we do apologise for any inconvenience.

Thank you to everyone for your patience while in the Uniform Shop. We have been extremely busy lately so your understanding has been greatly appreciated.

We are still seeking volunteers for our Tuesday morning shift. If anyone can pop in to help on a Tuesday, mainly between 8.30-9.30am, it would be a huge help. Just come down and stick your head in the door and we'll put you to good use - no experience necessary!

Sally Birthisel & Leisa Whiteside, Coordinators

BAND REPORT

As I write this Band Report there are 70 musicians packing their bags and instruments and heading off to Band Camp at Vision Valley. They will enjoy lots of band rehearsals and group tutorials as well as many exciting recreational activities including giant swing, horse riding, rock climbing, etc. We look forward to hearing not only great improvements in their band performances but also some great camp stories!

The Term 1 Band Workshop was a huge success. Thank you to the following helpers for serving a delicious afternoon tea - Karen, Grace, Julianne, Janice, Karen, Barbara, Phillipa and Wendy.

Jenny and Sue used the afternoon to clean out the storeroom which is now spotless (almost).

To all the musicians who have AMEB exams in May, keep up your practice and good luck.

A special mention to Sam, trumpet player in the Concert Band, who played with poise and grace, the Last Post and Reveille at the ANZAC Day Service. Well done! It was a very moving performance.

The next Band Meeting will be Thursday, 21st May at 7.30pm in the Staffroom.

Sue Lack

Band Committee

FROM THE CANTEEN

Welcome back to Term 2. By now you should have received your new Winter Menu so throw out your old ones.

The new menu has a few new hot food items -

- Cheese Burger - cheese, sauce, meat, bun
- Hawaiian
- Bolognaise Twirls
- Ravioli (Beef)

- Macaroni Cheese
- Baked Potato (topped with creamed corn, cheese or baked beans)

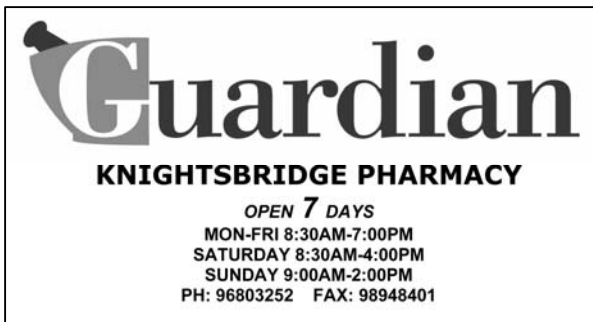
There have been a few price changes so please check the menu. There are also some winter warmers available at recess for example, Sea Shanties, ham and cheese rolls and rice.

A very big thank you to all the mothers who have worked on the Mother's Day Stall. It has been a great success again this year.

Enjoy the cold weather!
Judy Naudi & Jenelle Lockrey
Canteen Supervisors

OF COMMUNITY INTREST

- The Rockets, Castle Hill RSL Soccer Club is looking for players for the 2009 Soccer season for boys aged 10 and 11 years. Registration is free. For all enquiries please contact the Registrar, Sal Maresca on 0421 135 498 or go to www.rockets.net.au.
- Are you new to the area or would you like to opportunity to make new friends? Newcomers Club is a registered, non-profit women's social club providing women of all ages (and their families) with an opportunity to meet and make new friends through a range of regularly held social events. The club covers the Hills area through to the Northern suburbs of Sydney and has been in operation for over 15 years. To learn more please call us on 0412 768 609 or have a look at www.sydneynewcomers.com.au.



ted on school grounds