



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

November, 2009

Issue No.17

ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2010

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This week I had the pleasure of being entertained by the school bands on two separate occasions. Firstly at the third and final Kindergarten Transition session last Thursday and then again on Friday evening at the performance for new recruits. On both occasions I was extremely proud and impressed on how these students have improved their musical skills since the first time I heard them play in May at Band Camp. It was obvious that all students and Mr S thoroughly enjoy playing their instruments and performing at every given opportunity.

Students moving into Year 3 in 2010 are eligible to apply to join the Training Band. Application forms are available from Mrs Davis or the School Office.

Each year the school is required to conduct an evaluation of Educational and Management practices as part of the Annual School Review process. I am currently working with Mrs Pip Stosic to develop surveys for the curriculum area of Mathematics and School Culture. These surveys will be distributed to all families in the next weeks - please take the time to complete the survey and have your say!!

Student Audit: I have included a copy of the note requesting information from families who are considering leaving the school at the end of 2009. This information is necessary to assist with planning and establishing classes for the start of 2010. Please complete the note and return it to the office in an envelope marked "confidential" as soon as possible.

Unfortunately this year growth in our enrolments occurred mainly in the Stage 2 classes. At the start of each year student numbers are always reconfigured in an attempt to maintain workable class sizes and to allow for some growth through new enrolments. This was complicated this year with the removal of the demountable classroom.

Planning for 2010 has already commenced. As further planning takes place it will become necessary to release a number of key staff to contribute to the planning process. I will endeavour to employ experienced and familiar casual staff to ensure that normal class programs are maintained.

I apologise for this disruption but I believe this process will facilitate a smooth and efficient start to the new school year.

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).

Platinum Sponsors of the 2009 Fete

Smoking is not permitted on school grounds



The students in 3C and 3J are now settled back into their old classrooms. There have been some issues with overloading the temporary power supply and this was further complicated with the extreme heat experienced last week. Please be reassured that the onsite contractors have been quick to rectify the situation.

Please take the time to remind your child/children to be aware of their own personal safety when out in the community - especially at sporting grounds and local parks. There has been a report of an assault in the Glenhaven area in recent weeks.

Special thanks to the Canteen for the 'Halloween' Special Food Day on Friday, 30th October. Students were tempted by a huge selection of treats.

P&C A.G.M.: Accompanying this newsletter is a very important message to parents regarding the outcomes of Tuesday's A.G.M. As I indicated in this message most of the P&C Executive positions remain vacant. There will be an Extra Ordinary P&C meeting on Tuesday, 24th November in an attempt to fill the vacant positions. I would however like to thank the outgoing Committee for their support and commitment throughout the year.

Without the commitment and support of the wider school community many programs, resources, improvements and community events would not be possible.

Donna Harris

RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Band Workshop

Congratulations to Mr Strykowski and the Concert and Training Bands on an outstanding performance last Friday at our end of year workshop. The improvement in both bands over the year was remarkable and all students should be very proud of their achievement.

A reminder that we are playing at Dural McDonalds for McHappy Day at 2:00pm on Saturday. Sports uniform may be worn and students may want to wear sunglasses and their school hat as the glare can make reading music quite difficult.

Finally congratulations to the Concert Band on being awarded 2nd place in the Galston District Eisteddfod.

School Swimming Scheme

Let's hope this wonderful weather continues for our Years 2, 3 and 4 students as they head off to the DET Swimming Scheme next week. It is important that students remember to come well prepared with towels, rash shirts, plastic bags and swimmers. Please ensure ALL clothing is well labelled with your child's name. Swimming gear should be sent in a separate bag to the child's school bag.

Dance

Miss Cassie's Dance groups are currently rehearsing for the Presentation Assembly where they will come together as one large group to perform for you. A note will be sent home shortly informing you of changes to the morning dance lessons so that the three groups may rehearse as one. I am also keen to secure the support of any sewers who may be able to assist with some simple sewing for the Intermediate group's costume.

Special congratulations to Imogen of 2V who recently won the Federation Association of Teacher's of Dancing Award for her Grade 1 Ballet performance. A significant achievement, well done Inogen!

Cathie Barclay

SPORTS REPORT

Congratulations to the following girls who have successfully gained selection into the Sydney West Water Polo team: Ally, Sophie, Megan and Jessica. Well done girls!



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The rest of the term continues to be busy.

Week 5	* School Swimming Scheme for Years 2-4 at Riverstone Pool
Week 6	* PSSA Semi-Finals * House Captain elections * School Swimming Years 2-4 at Riverstone Pool * Sydney Metropolitan Water Polo Day at Sutherland Leisure Centre (Monday, 23 rd November)
Week 7	* PSSA - Finals * Gymnastics Enrichment display at end of lunch in Courtyard 1 (Monday, 30 th November)

*Eileen Tudor,
PSSA Sports Coordinator*

FROM THE LIBRARY

Congratulations to the following students who were successful applicants for the Library Monitor positions in 2010: Ruby, Jessica, Jordan, Jacob, Kiana, Lachlan, Riana, Emma, Tiffany, Maddison, Kirsten, Beth, Breanne, Jenny, Ashleigh, Joel and Bronte.

I welcome the new team and look forward to working with them next year in the Library.

*Deidre Bridie
Teacher/Librarian*

SATURDAY SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY LANGUAGES

The Saturday School of Community Languages provides opportunities for high school students to study their background language to School Certificate and Higher School Certificate levels when that language is not available at their day school.

If you are interested in further information on the Saturday School go to www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/secondary/languages/sscl

Year 6 Teachers

P&C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Please see my Annual Report elsewhere in this newsletter. I would also like to mention a couple

of other items to come out of Tuesday night's meeting. Firstly, the final 5 cent fundraiser collection will be on Monday, 30th November so save all your 5 cents and try to catch leaders 3J.

Secondly, a reminder that the Social Club Book order forms are due in to the office on Friday, 13th November. There are plenty of great gift ideas that will be delivered to your door in time for Christmas. If you would like to see a wider range of stock, jump on the website www.scb.com.au and add them to your order form. Remember you can share an order with a friend or two and save on the postage and handling.

Thirdly, Christmas Carol Night will take place on Friday, 4th December. Gates will open at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start with the anticipated finishing time of 8.30pm.

Life memberships were bestowed on three P&C stalwarts who are leaving the School this year. They are Sue Lack, Wendy Griffith, and Alex Latham, the forty plus years of committee and band committee experience they take with them will be sorely missed. On behalf of the school community I thank them for their dedication and service to the school.

At the Annual General meeting which was held after the general meeting all executive positions were declared vacant, unfortunately we were only able to fill 1 position on the executive, that of Vice President, by John Doherty.

There will now be an Extra Ordinary P&C Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 24th November, in the School Library at 7.30pm.

The ramifications of not being able to fill at least 2 of the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer are wide ranging. The P&C would not be able to continue as a financial entity as all current funds would be frozen without the existence of authorized signatories. As a result the sub committees of Band, Canteen and Uniform Shop would not be able to continue to operate for long. The ongoing commitment that the P&C gives to the school for a Resource Teacher, Library Assistant and literary and library resources would end to the detriment of all of our children. Not to mention the installation of Interactive White Boards in all remaining classrooms.

I urge you all to consider your own position with a view to giving up an hour or two a week to help the P&C continue to operate and provide valuable resources for our school's children.

Band and Canteen sub-committees will also be filled at this meeting.

If anyone has any queries as to what any position entails please feel free to contact myself on 0412 399 596 and I can explain the position to you.

Allan White

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

As the end of 2009 is fast approaching, just a reminder that at the beginning of the 2010 school year, the children will need to be in the new style uniforms. If you don't yet have the new style for your children come into the Uniform Shop and consider putting them on hold until early next year or we can possibly look at a lay-by option for you. This way we can ensure that we will have enough stock for the beginning of 2010.

With the new style uniform the girls now have 2 options for a summer uniform.

- Option 1 is the summer dress in the same material as the old style dress however it now has blue piping around the collar, sleeves and button tie.
- Option 2 is the short sleeve lemon blouse (same as the new style long sleeve lemon blouse) with tailored navy shorts. The shorts have an adjustable waist and need to sit just above the knee.

Both options are still worn with lemon socks and black shoes. Samples of both these uniforms can be seen in the Uniform Shop. Please note that the boys' summer shorts have not changed.

Dr Shoe will be outside the Canteen again on Tuesday, 24th November from 8.30am.

2010 Trading Hours:

Please note that we will be open at the following times in the new year -

- Wednesday, 27th January (student free day) from 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Thursday, 28th January (Years 1-6 return) from 8.30am to 10.00am

We are yet to decide if we will open on Monday, 1st February (Kindergarten's first day) in the morning. We will let you know.

As of Monday, 1st February we will resume our regular trading hours (unless noted otherwise) of -

- Mondays from 2.00pm to 3.30pm
- Tuesdays from 8.30am to 10.00am

Lost and Found:

In the Uniform Shop we have the following items that have been handed in from the Front Office lost property. They are note labeled. They are 2 tracksuit jackets and 2 woollen jumpers. If you think they could belong to your child please come and see us in the Uniform Shop. Some of you may have received some uniform items earlier this week. These were items that were in the lost property and had names.

Thank You:

Just a quick thank you to Jenny, Jenelle and Jackie for helping us with the Kindergarten Orientation days over the last 3 weeks. Your help was invaluable and much appreciated. Also, thanks to everyone who waited patiently when we opened over those 3 days - it was very busy and we appreciate your understanding.

Leisa Whiteside & Sally Birthisel
Uniform Shop Coordinators

BAND REPORT

The band members participated in a very successful Band Workshop on Friday. Thanks to the following parents who helped prepare the delicious afternoon tea - Wendy, Janice, Karen and Grace. After the tutorials the band families enjoyed a sausage sizzle dinner. Thanks to Stephen, Sheridan, Julie, Narelle and Morgan for their help. The band concert showcased the fantastic repertoire of the Training and Concert bands. It also allowed many potential 2010 band members to listen and see first hand how wonderful it is to be part of the school band. Please fill out those application forms and hand them in to the band box at the Front Office so we can start forming the Training Band for 2010.

We also need to form a new Band Committee for 2010 so some new faces would be well received. Parents, please consider joining this great committee.

Both bands competed in the Galston District Eisteddfod and played very well. The Concert Band achieved a 2nd place. Well done!

This weekend the Concert Band will play at McDonalds Dural as part of McHappy Day. This is always a fun event in support of a great cause and all members of the school community are welcome to watch the band play at 2.00pm on Saturday, 14th November at McDonalds Dural (behind the roundabout). See you there!

The first AMEB results are coming in so well done to the following students -

Danielle	Grade 1	Flute
Jacob	Grade 2	Saxophone
Dylan	Grade 4	Trumpet

Good luck to those students who are yet to sit their exams. Please let us know your results via the band box so we can acknowledge your results in the newsletter.

Sue Lack

Band Committee

SCHOOL BANKING REPORT

Congratulations to the Samuel Gilbert students who bank through the CBA Student Banking scheme. We have been advised by the CBA that Samuel Gilbert is the second best school bankers in New South Wales. Well done to these students!

Please continue to support this scheme as it not only encourages good banking habits but sees some funds returned to our school with each new account opened.

The final 5 cent fundraiser collection date for this year will be on Monday, 30th November. Keep saving and remember to bring your 5 cent coins on this day.

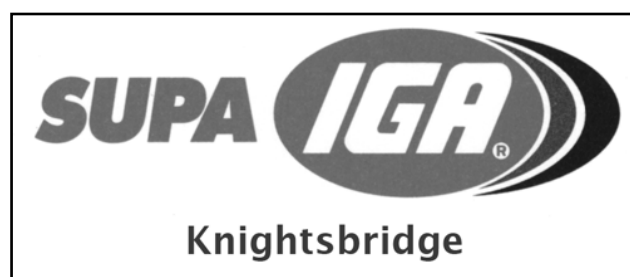
School Banking Team

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- **St Matthew's Netball Club** play at Gooden Reserve Baulkham Hills every Saturday.

Registration is Saturday, 21st November at Winston Hills Shopping Centre from 12-4.00pm. For more information please contact Deanna Moore on 9896 3631 or Belinda Schuster on 9688 6664.

- **Castle Hill United Football Club** is holding their registration day on Saturday, 14th and 21st November from 9am-4pm at Fred Caterson Reserve Castle Hill. For enquiries on player information go to the website www.castlehillfootball.com.au or ring the Club Registrar on 0417 066 196.
- **Baulkham Hills Sports Club Netball Division** has vacancies for girls turning 5 to 14 years in 2010. For more information please ring the Secretary on 9636 8842 or Registrar on 9620 4546 or visit the website www.bhscnetball.org/.
- **Parents Without Partners (NSW) Inc** - the PWP family is a friendly, sociable group with a full program of activities for adults and their children. If you are once again single you will always have somewhere to go, have fun, socialise, dance and make new friends in the same situation as yourself. For more information please contact the Hills group on 9634 7502 or go to www.SydneySingleParents.org.au



The logo for Guardian Knightsbridge Pharmacy. It features the word 'Guardian' in a large, serif font with a stylized 'G' that incorporates a shield-like shape. Below this, the text 'KNIGHTSBRIDGE PHARMACY' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Further down, the text 'OPEN 7 DAYS' is followed by the hours: 'MON-FRI 8:30AM-7:00PM', 'SATURDAY 8:30AM-4:00PM', and 'SUNDAY 9:00AM-2:00PM'. Below the hours, the phone number 'PH: 96803252' and fax number 'FAX: 98948401' are listed. At the bottom, the text 'KNIGHTSBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTRE INSIDE THE PHARMACY' is followed by '"COMPLETE HEALTH SERVICES"', 'BULK BILLING', 'OPEN 6 DAYS', and the hours 'MON-FRI 9:00AM-6:30PM' and 'SATURDAY 9:00AM-1:00PM'.



Samuel Gilbert Public School

November, 2009

Dear Parents,

To coordinate planning and classes for 2010 it is very important that I have accurate information regarding families who will / may be relocating to a new school for 2010.

I am also interested in reasons for movement, to inform for ongoing school development.

Please return the slip below **ONLY** if your child/children are not intending to return. A non-return will be assumed as students to be continuing. No current Year 6 students need to be included.

This information should be sealed in an envelope and addressed 'CONFIDENTIAL' to Donna Harris, Relieving Principal to be returned no later than Friday, 6th November.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Donna Harris, Relieving Principal

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Please return to the School Office marked 'Confidential'

FAMILY NAME: _____

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING:

Name/s: _____ Class: _____

OPTIONAL INFORMATION: Please tick

- We will be attending a private school.
- We are moving.
- We are choosing to attend another public school.

ANY COMMENTS: _____

2009 P&C PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

In presenting the Annual Report for 2009 I would first and foremost like to thank the Committee for their efforts throughout the year.

The School welcomed our new Deputy Principal, Mrs Donna Harris, who has been extremely helpful and cooperative to work with, and has already contributed greatly to the development of Samuel Gilbert.

Much has again been achieved this year, and I would like to take a moment to list some of the P&Cs achievements for 2009.

We were able to hold well supported Working Bees in Terms 1 and 2 which, thanks to the expert direction of Chris Coe, were able to considerably improve the presentation of the school grounds. At the same time these days were fun and brought a sense of "belonging" to the families who attended. There are still a number of projects to be undertaken however these have now been put on hold to allow the building works to be completed.

Entertainment Books were again organised by Emily Koller during first term and were again a success. Thanks again for the great work, Emily.

Again the Chocolate Drive proved popular, thank you Nicole Clifford for keeping our tummies rounded.

In May we held a Trivia Night to promote the "Samuel Gilbert community spirit". The night was a success both in its attendance and by the fun had on the night. It also helped in building friendships and networks across the grades and in turn resulted in a lot of these families volunteering in the working bees and the fete. Thanks once again go to Tracy Imber for organising such a great night.

The Uniform Shop has been successfully run by Leisa Whiteside and Sally Birthisel. During the year we moved the shop into new premises resulting in a much improved selling and buying environment. Although the Uniform Shop didn't contribute to general P&C funds this financial year, as the tail end of the "old uniform" stock was written off, we are confident that the Uniform Shop will be able to contribute \$20,000 to P&C funds next financial year.

The Canteen were able turn around what looked likely to be a difficult year financially, due mainly to the efforts of Canteen Supervisors, Judy Naudi and Jenelle Lockery. This year the annual Mother's Day Stall and Father's Day Stall was run fabulously by the Canteen Committee and again they were a great success. I am sure that you all were proudly given your gifts on the appropriate day.

The 'It's Time for the Great Fete of 09' was a resounding success in August, building on the success of the 08 Fete, with another phenomenal record profit of \$48,000. The Fete once again provided a great atmosphere and community focus with visitors coming from all around the district to attend. Many thanks to all the Fete Committee who did such a fantastic job organising and advertising the event, with special thanks to Donna White, Diane Lawson, Andrew Bowmer and the incomparable "donation getters" Nicole Clifford and Terri Megarry. The P&C and the school community owe you all a very special thank you.

Many thanks to both of our Platinum sponsors:

Kellie McKenzie and Andrew McDermott of Ray White Castle Hill (also a family at Samuel Gilbert). If any school family lists and sells their house with them they will donate 10% of the commission received to the P&C.

G&J Starr Plumbing (also a Samuel Gilbert family) who are happy to look after all your plumbing needs.

Also to our Gold sponsor, Knightsbridge Super IGA and Silver sponsor, Guardian Knightsbridge Pharmacy. Many thanks for your continued support.

With the funds raised this year the P&C was able to provide for eight new Interactive Whiteboards at a cost of \$53,000 and enough have now been ordered in advance to provide every classroom with one once the four new classrooms have been constructed.

There will still be enough funds left to start the replacement program of the old "window rattler" air conditioners with quieter, more efficient split system models.

P&C funds were also provided to employ a Resource Teacher, Mrs Eldridge, who assists with both extended and remedial teaching and in doing so allows class teachers to concentrate on the other students in their classes.

Part time Library Assistant, Mrs Bell, was also partially funded by P&C funds which also provided \$8,000 worth of library resources, and \$10,000 of literary resources.

The P&C also provided funds for the student insurance and funding for fertilising of the oval and the Year 6 Farewell.

All of these are outlined in the Treasurer's Report.

In conclusion I would like to thank the committee members who are moving on and therefore not standing for office again. Firstly our Treasurer, Jackie Coleman, who has given great service to the P&C over the past few years, in particular to the establishment of a new uniform, and will be greatly missed. Secondly our Secretary for the past year, Terri Megarry, whose dedication to the school has also been seen through the School Banking and Fete donation gathering. Thirdly, Alex Latham, who has been Vice President and a committee member for more years than he can remember.

I will also be stepping aside after two very enjoyable years as President, but would like to suggest to the incoming committee that it is imperative to increase the membership of the P&C. This could possibly be done by incorporating membership into the voluntary contribution scheme. I feel that only by having a greater membership will the P&C be able to continue to provide the current high level of resources to the school.

Once again thank you all for your support throughout the past two years.

Allan White
President 2009

SAMUEL GILBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2009/2010 P&C EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I wish to nominate: _____

For the position of: _____

Sign and Print Names:

Proposer: _____ **Nominee:** _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

Signed: _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Please return this to the school Principal