



THE WALLUMETTA NEWS

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Term 3 Week 9 2009

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From the Principal....

Wakakirri Magic

What an amazing evening of talent the audience was treated to at the Entertainment Centre last Wednesday! As part of an elite group of schools who had reached the Wakakirri finals, GPS students certainly did us all proud and danced their hearts out on the night. We are so proud of all of you. GPS was awarded a Bronze Award for their wonderful performance. I would like to share with you part of an email I received from a parent at Stanmore Public School who also performed on finals night.

Dear Principal

I just wanted to congratulate Gladesville for what I thought was an outstanding performance – beautifully choreographed and danced, excellent costumes (with appropriate attention to the Wakakirri principles of sustainability) and a really great original story that was clear, entertaining and moving. I saw

the performance twice (at the regional heat and the final) and was very impressed both times. Congratulations!

Events such as these make me really proud of the NSW Public Education system, the talent of the kids and the dedication of the staff. I think that the staff, children and parents of Gladesville have provided a fantastic example of this.

Kind regards

RV, Parent at Stanmore Public School

Congratulations to all the students and parents for their support of this program, and especially to Miss Brown, Mrs Bolger and Mrs Brown who have given so much time, energy and love in preparing the students for their performance.

Debating Success

Congratulations to Mrs Pigram and the students in the debating team – James, Caitlin, Amelia, Zuhaira, Matilda and Kaitlin who had to have a 'play-off' with Ermington P.S. to determine who should represent our area at the Regional Finals. In an outstanding effort the team won this debate arguing the negative in the topic "All children should have a pet". This is a fabulous result and we are very proud of all of you. Good luck for the finals.

Thank you to Mrs Dummett and Mrs Labrie for transporting the team to the Regional finals.

Spelling Bee – Regional Results

Congratulations to Tayanah, Claire, Joyce and Connor for their great effort at the Regional finals at Lewisham last week. All students performed creditably and we are very proud of you for showing such confidence and determination in this extremely challenging competition.

Area Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all students who competed at last week's Area Athletics Carnival. There were a number of fantastic individual performances highlighted by:

Ben S – 3rd Junior Shot Put

Ella B – 3rd 11yrs 100m

Ed P – 2nd Snr 800m

We wish these students all the best when they compete at the State Athletics carnival.

Library Borrowers

An audit of library borrowing was carried out last week and I would like to congratulate the following students for having healthy borrowing habits and an obvious love of books.

KC – Imogen, Jasmine, Elana, Ben, Sinead, Gabrielle, Sophie, Max and Ryan

KP – Parker, Evelyn, Leo, Matilda, Elizabeth, Hannah N and Tully

KW – Chloe, Imogen and Zara

1B – Eleni, Boyd, Ruby, Vanessa and Isabella

1P – Monique, Charley, Brynn, Ava, Sarah, Hannah and Rose

1W – Giselle, Deepti, Connor, Carina and Aaron

2F – Maddie, Sierra, Maggie, Moustafa, Georgia, Phoebe and Hans

2M – Rachel, Saskia, Jade and Angelica

3JK – Patrick, Gabbie, Sophie C, Myles, Emma, Cormac, Benjamin, Alex, Daniella, Lucy R, Liam, Anja, Shoryu and Cameron

3M – Johan, Joannah, Myla, Tia, Sophie, Jacob, Amy, Huon, Louis, Caelan and Sarah T

4BF – Rajan, Sarina, Luke, Elise, Kate, Angus and Stephanie

4N – Sabina, Chloe, Madison, Fred, George, Brittnie and Michael

5P – Natalie and Cherry

5/6B – Zuhaira

5/6R – Amelia C, Claudia and Maddie

Books are a 'window to the world' and it is obvious from the fantastic response to our book fair and book parade that students at GPS love reading. Please encourage your child to return borrowed books and borrow a new one every week.

Touch Football and Cricket Stars

Congratulations to:

Rajan C, who has been appointed Captain of the 2009 Foster Shield cricket team for the 2009/10 season representing Gladesville & Districts.

Brendan R, who was a member of the Sydney North Touch team that was victorious at the State Championships. The team excelled throughout the tournament, convincingly winning the Final 8-0.

Brendan has now been selected as a shadow reserve for the NSW team.

Well done to Raj, Brendon and all GPS students playing in state and representative teams!

Peace Ceremony

Our student leaders will be attending Hunters Hill High School tomorrow to participate in a Peace Ceremony organised by students from the high school. The ceremony is in recognition of the United Nations International Peace Day celebrations with the aim of bringing schools together in a united

cause to reflect on and work towards the need to build a culture of peace within our world.

Band Camp

A successful Band Camp was held last weekend, where students could really hone in on their specific instruments and participate in some intensive tuition. The camp was a great success and I would like to acknowledge and thank band instructor Sian Joyce for her continuous enthusiasm in supporting this program at GPS.

I invite all members of the school community to our **Musical Soiree in the school hall on Tuesday September 29 from 7.00pm** to enjoy an evening of music from our bands and string ensembles.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2010

If you have a child who is eligible to start Kindergarten in 2010 it is imperative that you contact the school NOW. We have finalised arrangements for our Kindergarten Orientation Program and places for local enrolments are nearly full. If you have a child who turns five before July 31, 2010 they may be eligible to start school next year. It is important that you complete an enrolment form for your child as soon as possible so they can be included in the Orientation Program. Please collect enrolment forms from the school office.

Seeding Grant 2009

The school applied for and was successful in being awarded a \$500 Seeding Grant from Northern Sydney Health Promoting Schools Committee 'Live Life Well' program. Our school captains Zuhaira and Ed attended the award function and spoke about how the Student Representative Council would use the money to buy netball bibs and soccer shinpads to enable them to run the lunchtime K-6 sport competitions. The students are congratulated for the way they spoke and we would like to thank Mrs Penrose for driving the students to the function, Mrs Azmi for attending and Miss Kotouc for preparing the students for their presentation. Well done!

Working Bee - Sunday 27 September, 10:30am to 12:30pm

Please consider marking this date on your calendar to join in the working bee. There are a number of areas to work on including the Peace Garden, moving plants away from the canteen area and the southern boundary of the sports field where we are establishing some native habitats (a good spot for children to help).

For more information please contact Helen at kirkman.helen@gmail.com.au

Gladesville Town Centre Upgrade Works

GMW Urban Pty Ltd are the head contractors responsible for the upgrade of Victoria Rd outside the school. Work commenced last weekend and will continue until October 12. Work includes the replacement of the footpath, new drainage, new street lighting, trees and foot pavers. As a result, there will be a temporary relocation of the bus stop and loss of car parking on Victoria Rd. I have expressed my concern to the contractors and council for the lack of notice given to the school community regarding this upgrade and the difficulties for parents in finding suitable parking. I would ask that all parents who transport their children to and from school by car allow additional time when picking them up from school as you may need to park further away from the school than usual and walk extra distances. Please also see item from RCC regarding school parking, later in the newsletter.

Judi Partland
Principal

Library News!

Thank you to all the families who so generously supported our recent Book fair. We sold \$2599.50 worth of books which means that we were able to spend \$775.50 on new books. Look out for lots of new titles in the library over the coming term. Congratulations to the 105 students who completed the Premier's Reading Challenge. The certificates should be arriving in November and will be awarded at Assembly.

Creative ways to encourage students to read;

Research on reading generally agrees that the most critical aspect of reading is how a child feels about reading. Positive reinforcement from parents and teachers helps – children need to know that adults in their lives care about reading.

Research also agrees that in most cases forcing a child to read for pleasure will yield no positive results. Some families find that having a reading time when the whole family reads works. If your child is a reluctant reader let him/her choose light material to read. Happy Holiday Reading

Inez Goodfellow
Teacher Librarian

School Photos Thursday 29 October

A reminder that school photos will be taken in Week 2 of Term 4. Envelopes will be sent home before that date so that families can pre-order photos. Please remember that full summer school uniform must be worn by all students.

Crazy Hair Day is on again in 2009! 1 October

Students can go wild with their hair for a day to raise money and awareness for Cystic Fibrosis. Whether you decide to colour it, gel it, tease it, tie it, spike it or twist it this is your chance to be different and stand out!

Bring a gold coin donation. Students will still wear school uniform.

Year 6 Fete - Thursday 1 October

Our annual Year 6 fete will be held Thursday 1 October between recess and lunch. It is a fun day with many activities including cake stalls, obstacle courses, dress ups, face painting and loads more. Students will need to bring small change (no more than \$5) to purchase things on the day. Recess can be bought at the cake stall. Monies raised will go to the Year 6 Fundraising effort.

Information from Ryde City Council

Keeping Kids Safe – School Parking Fines Increase

Did you know that since 1 July 2009, fines for parking illegally in schools zones has increased?

The City of Ryde supports the initiative of making travel to and from school as safe as possible for kids. The roads around our schools have restrictions to help prevent children getting hurt.

The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has issued guidelines that increase fines issued to drivers who break the rules. For example, stopping or parking in a No Stopping zone will now incur a \$253 fine and two demerit points.

New Kiss and Ride zones are being installed to help make it clear where parents can drop-off and pick-up their kids legally. These zones are for pick-up or drop-off only.

There are some easy to remember safety tips to assist parents in keeping your children safe in the new Kiss and Ride zones. Remember:

- *Follow the school procedures*
- *Never double park*
- *Never make a U-turn in close proximity to the school*
- *Ensure kids use the footpath-side door when getting in and out of a vehicle*
- *Ensure the hand brake is applied when the vehicle is stationary.*

A new brochure outlining the new zones and the increases in fines can be downloaded from the City of Ryde's website at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/WEB/SITE/me.get?site.section.show&PAGE2305.

If you would like more information about the Kiss and Ride Zones, please contact Mr Chris Hellmundt,

P&C News

pudding Lane Christmas Puddings

These popular Christmas Puddings are available to order at our school again this year.

Tasting times:

Today - come to the canteen after school to taste puddings from 3pm. The Cuppa Club will open specially for those waiting to pick up children after the Year 3/4 excursion.

Tomorrow - we are also offering a free tasting at the regular Cuppa Club in the Canteen on Wednesday morning, 23 September from 9:00am.

Please come along to taste some award winning pudding with coffee and a chat. Lots of varieties, sizes and shapes are available, including Gluten Free. These are lovely puddings for your family and make beautiful gifts.

All profits will go to Gladesville Public School.

Please see the attached order form for more information.

Fathers' Day Stall and Wrapping Night

Thank you to all the mothers who helped out with the Fathers' Day Stall gift wrapping. It was a great night with the capacity crowd making short work of 300 or so gifts. Special thanks go to Roliza Annon for the delicious chocolate pavlova she made especially to sustain the hardworking crowd.

Thankyou also to the enthusiastic helpers on the Fathers' Day Stall. The children put a lot of thought into their choices and there was always a kind mum nearby to help them with the tough decisions.

Band News

Band Camp , last Sunday, turned out to be a wonderful day! Thank you to all the children who joined us and a really big thank you to all the parents who helped throughout the day and came along to listen to the bands perform at the end !

I wanted to let everyone know that we have a fantastic group of children in our 2 bands and they were an absolute joy on Sunday ! They worked very hard, were extremely helpful , polite, well behaved and very happy ! This was despite the fact we made them dance at lunchtime !

Open Invitation to the Musical Soiree

Our Musical Soiree is coming up on Tuesday 29 September! The evening will begin at 7 pm in the school hall and will showcase most of our GPS music programmes - unfortunately, the lack of space will prevent the choirs from performing !

Could year 6 parents bring along a bottle of wine to share after the performances, and everyone else a

plate of supper to share?

Bronwyn Allomes

ONE LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, THANK YOU FROM THE BUSH DANCE COMMITTEE

We would really like to thank Elyse Sainsbury - for the cardboard she so generously donated for Bush Dance Signage - and her partner Tony - for rigging the huge floodlights to light up our playground.

Thank you very much to both of you!

Bronwyn and India

Coordinators

P&C Mango Fundraiser

This year we will be having a Mango Drive, a fresh & alternative fundraiser. A box of mangos can be ordered for \$24, a profit to the school of \$5.50 per box. Order forms will be sent home in the first week of Term 4. Please tell your Mango loving relatives, friends & neighbours.

Evening of Hope for the Climate – Saturday 24th October – Putney Park

Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Group invites all families to join them from 5pm to 7.30pm at Putney Park to make an inspiring candle message in an Evening of Hope for the Climate. Music and games will be provided as well as lantern making materials for those who want to make a lantern to add a candle to the display. There is no cost in participating. The event will be one of thousands happening around the world on the same date being held by schools and other community groups to send a message to government leaders meeting in Copenhagen to agree on action on climate change. 350 parts per million has been agreed as the safe level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and an organisation called 350.org is registering and reporting on all the local events. For more information www.350.org. or about the local event www.climatechangepg.org

Bus Network Changes

Sydney buses have notified the school that a number of changes will occur to various routes and timetables in the north and northwest regions, commencing Sunday 11 October. Please visit the Transport Infoline

www.131500.com.au/newjourney.asp for any changes.

Vacation Care

All applications for Ryde City Council Vacation Care must be made online at

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/vacationcare by 25 September.