

**SWEET
VALLEY
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER
02 / 2010**

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**3 February
2010**

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	1
Request to Parents	1
Girls' Swimming Costume	1
Enrolment 2010	1
Music Department	1
Hats on Heads	1
Foundation Phase News	2
FP Classroom Visits	2
Art Request	2
Moms who Pray	2
Mini-Campaigns	2
My School Card	2
Walkathon	2
Iron On Labels	2

**TERM 1 : 1—26 FEBRUARY
MINI CAMPAIGN FOCUS AREA—GOOD MANNERS**

Dear Parents

We have had a very busy, but wonderful start to the term. We started off with the Gr 4–7 Athletics Day, which was a wonderful success (well done Disa) and our Orientation Meetings from Gr R—Gr 7 have all been held. Thank you to all of you who attended these important meetings.

Request to Parents

I would ask, for security reasons, that all parents please make every effort to vacate the school premises by 08:00 in the morning. I do realize that for our Gr R parents this is not possible, as Gr R only begins at 08:30. We do need to keep the front gate closed and locked for security reasons and this is much easier to do if we do not have too many parents coming in and out of the gate after 08:00. I am sure you will all understand that we need to take these security measures to secure the safety of your children in our care.

Music Department

If anyone has a spare recorder that they would like to donate to the Music Department, please contact Mrs Wendy Bates.

Sweet Valley Girls' Swimming Costume

I remind you about the introduction of a plain maroon girls' costume in a Roica, chlorine resistant fabric. This new costume is available in the school clothing shop. The old style girls' costume may continue to be worn in the future, and is being sold at a discounted price in the school shop. Please note that the Sweet Valley costume is compulsory for phys ed lessons and extra mural swimming, and can only be purchased from our school shop.

Enrolment 2011

We will soon be processing all the applications received for the enrolment of both the Grade R's and Grade 1's for next year. We always give preference to siblings so it is essential that, if you have a child falling into this category, you hand in his/her application by **Monday 22 February 2010**. Siblings will not get preference once this deadline date for applications has passed. Please note that present Gr R learners are automatically enrolled for Grade 1 next year. It is therefore necessary to give at least a term's notice if you do not intend sending your child to Grade 1 at Sweet Valley next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4 Feb—Classroom Visits—Foundation Phase — 08:00—08:30
- 5 Feb—Interhouse Gala—Gr 2–7—16:00—18:00
- 8 Feb—Cape Town Literature Quiz—17:00—20:30
- 18 Feb—Gr R Picnic
- 18 Feb—Westerford Big Band @ 09:30
- 18 Feb—General Knowledge Individual Tests—Sure Period
- 19 Feb—Mini Fete
- 22–26 Feb—Test Week—Gr 7
- 23 Feb—Music PTA
- 24–26 Feb—Grade 6 Camp

Photograph Day—Thurs 11 March—Gr 7, Class, Individual and Sibling photos will be taken.

Pilot Project - "Hats on Heads"

2010 sees the introduction of this project, which makes the wearing of an official S.V. maroon, wide-brimmed sunhat, clearly marked with each child's name, compulsory for every Gr R and Gr 1 learner. These hats will be kept at school on the hooks outside the classrooms and no Gr R or Gr 1 learner will be permitted to play in the sun without his / her hat. We have received many requests from parents over past years to make the wearing of hats for outdoor activities compulsory and are excited about piloting this project in the best interests of our learners. We shall monitor this project throughout 2010, and trust that our Gr R and Gr 1 parents will do all they can to support it's success, so that we can then ex-

tend it to higher grades in years to come. Please note that, should the monitoring and administration of this project place too large a burden on our teaching staff, we shall not be able to continue making the wearing of hats compulsory for all learners. Thank you in anticipation, for your support and cooperation.

Success comes in cans, not in can'ts !!

Foundation Phase News

Grade R

The Grade R children and their families are invited to a picnic on 18 February. It will be held in the pre-school garden from 17:00–19:00. This will be an opportunity for all our parents to meet informally and get to know one another. More details to follow.

Grade 1

Welcome to Grade 1. We are pleased that so many of our children have settled into the Gr 1 routine so quickly. Can you believe that we are in the third week of term already. We are very proud of the way our little ones are learning their words. Do continue to encourage and help them. From next week, remember to start saying your goodbyes at the front gate. We all look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Grade 2

We have all settled back at school and are enjoying getting to know one another. Thank you to all those parents who were able to attend our Grade 2 Orientation Evening. Our new theme will be plants. Please send any interesting information, books or posters to school for us to have a look at. We look forward to a very happy, fun-filled year with our new Grade 2's.

Grade 3

“Splish, splish, if I were a fish....!” We are having fun discovering many wonders of the ocean and the fascinating creatures which make their home in and around the sea! Ask your Grade 3 child to teach you about “shark sums”! We welcome any interesting shells etc. for discussion and observation. Thank you to all our parents for supporting your little ones in getting the year off to a smooth start.

Foundation Phase Classroom Visits

A friendly reminder to all Grade 1, 2 and 3 parents to visit your child's classroom from 08:00–08:30 on Thursday 4 February. The field will be open for parking on that morning, and you may proceed with your child to the classroom at 08:00–***the children do not have to line up outside the hall.***

There will ***not*** be Junior Choir practice on the morning of Thursday 4 February. Please make every effort to spend this special half hour with your little one and to look at his / her books and chat to the class teacher.

Should you not be able to take up this invitation yourself, please send along a relative or friend, as the children do look forward to having someone special to show around!

We look forward to having you with us on the 4th!

Art—Request for resources

A very big request please for resources for the art-room. We desperately need magazines, large yoghurt containers, tin foil containers, old calendars, clean meat / veg trays, scrap paper, etc. Thank you.

The Moms who Pray

We are privileged and blessed to have a group of moms ‘The Moms Who Pray’ who meet at 08:00 every Thursday morning in the Interview Room. These wonderful moms pray for the learners, educators, staff and various needs of the school.

There is a “Prayer Request” box situated on top of the cabinet outside the interview room. Please place any prayer requests you may have into this box.

DIARISE THE ‘WALKATHON’ - 17 APRIL

Mini-Campaigns

Our first Mini-Campaign of the year has begun. Our mini-campaigns are run for a month at a time. The focus of our first mini-campaign this year is Good Manners. Please talk to your children in this regard and encourage good manners both at home and at school. Teachers will be discussing this month : 1) proper and polite greeting of teachers, parents or other visitors 2) Standing back at doors for adults 3) Saying please and thank you and 4) Putting up a hand and waiting for the teacher's signal to talk.

Uniform and hair neatness and silence / quiet zones including responses to the bells will be monitored throughout the year. Uniform and hair inspections will take place once a month.

To motivate and encourage the children with regards to the above, we will have a ‘Class of the Term’ award which will go to one class in each grade who displays the correct, appropriate behavior as set out above, as well as wearing the correct uniform and adhering to the bells and Quiet / Silence Zones.

The quickest way to double your money, is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket!!

Masifunde IsiXhosa

We are continuing once again with our Newsletter Xhosa lessons. We thank the Xhosa staff for their time in giving us these sayings.

This term we will concentrate on ‘Introductions’ :

Lo ngu (name) (This is)

Ndiyavuya ukukwazi (I am pleased to know/meet you)

My School Card

Win a Gift Hamper with the Back2School Swipe Competition! All you need to do is visit Woolworths Blue Route between 1 Feb and 28 Feb, Swipe your MySchool card, include your name and school on your till-slip, and deposit it in the MySchool box in-store. The supporter with the most SWIPE transactions will win!! Remember with each swipe you raise funds for our school. This competition is open to MySchool supporters of Kirstenhof Primary and Sweet Valley Primary ONLY. The In-Store draw will be on 1 March 2010. Keep Swiping!!!!

Walkathon

A reminder to **diarise 17 April** when Sweet Valley will be hosting a Walkathon. This is a first for Sweet Valley and will be our primary fundraising event of the year. We encourage participation from the entire school—staff, parents and children.

Iron On Labels

Debbie Slabbert is still taking orders for Iron On Labels. The cost of these labels is R50-00 for 50 labels. Please complete the order form below if you wish to order labels. This is a fundraising drive and the school receives an amount for each order received.

Kind regards

Mr I G Ryan
Headmaster

Debbie Slabbert—Iron On Labels (Sweet Valley Primary School)

Name (s) to appear on label _____

Telephone Number (if required) _____

Name of Parent _____

Cell No. _____

Payment by cash or cheque (made out to Sweet Valley Primary School). Place your order with your payment in the Events Box in the hall foyer. Orders in on a Thursday will be ready the following Friday