

**SWEET
VALLEY
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



**NEWSLETTER
03 / 2010**

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**17 February
2010**

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Reminder—Music PTA—23 Feb 2010

Dear Parents

A parent gave me an extract from an article in the Financial Mail recently which read as follows :

*'The couple had a single overriding reason for buying their home in Cape Town's Meadowridge when they relocated. They wanted their children, aged one and three, to go to Sweet Valley, a **highly rated government primary school** in nearby Bergvliet, and had to live in the feeder zone to qualify.*

I must say, it certainly made me feel very proud to be a part of such a wonderful school.

Security

Despite the strict security measures that we have had to implement , we are still very much a family orientated school and you parents play an extremely important and valuable role at our school.

I have received a number of letters from parents outlining the dangers of collecting children from outside the school gates, which I had not taken cognisance of. I appreciate your concerns and ask that parents feel free to collect their children from inside the school premises, but not from within the school buildings. Collecting from inside the school buildings creates 1) a security hazard and 2) a disturbance to classes being taught.

The gates are opened for collecting your children at 12:30 for Gr R and 12:50 for Gr 1's and 2's. They are then locked again and opened for collection at 14:30 for the higher grades and will remain open, monitored by our security guards, for extra-mural purposes.

We will be turning the front inside area, near the main gate, into a more parent friendly area.

There will be benches available and we hope that the happy chatting amongst parents, while you wait for your children, will continue, despite the measures we have had to implement.

I encourage you to continue supporting your children at their extra-mural activities. Your encouragement and support is most appreciated.

I am most grateful for all the input I have received with regards to this matter. Thank you.

Music Department

All parents are invited to attend the Annual Music PTA on Tuesday 23 February at 19:30 in the school hall. Parents will be given the opportunity of meeting their children's music teachers and also of viewing music books displayed by Mr Nieuemeyer of Music Book Sales. Tea will also be served as you wait to see the teachers. We look forward to meeting you there.

Staff News

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Lindsay Baynham, our much loved Grade 2.1 teacher, at the end of this term. We wish her all the very best as she begins her new business venture. We will be welcoming Miss Nina Bok back to our staff for the rest of the year as from the beginning of the 2nd term.

School Fees

With February being a short month, debit order parents are please to take note that the action date will be 26 February (the last working day of the month). Music and After-care fees will be billed from February to November. Thank you to all those parents who have paid their January fees. Statements will be sent out at the end of the month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18 Feb—Grade R Picnic

18 Feb—Gen Knowledge Individual Tests—Sure Period

19 Feb—Mini Fete

22—26 Feb—Test Week : Grade 7

23 Feb—Music PTA

24—26 Feb—Grade 6 Camp

1—3 March—Grade 7 Camp

4 March—Zonal Gala @ Herzlia

5 March—Sleepover—Gr R—3 : Foundation Phase

Foundation Phase Sleepover : 5 March

Year Planner

A hard copy of the Year Planner is available on the parent noticeboard in the passage outside the staffroom.

Baden Powell Day

Those of our pupils who attend cubs, brownies, etc. will be allowed to wear their cub / brownie uniforms on Monday 22 February to commemorate Baden Powell's birthday.

Reading Club Moms

Ruth Bosworth, who heads up our ESU Department, has requested the help of 2 volunteer moms for her reading club on Friday mornings. Reading Club takes place from 10:40—11:40. You can contact Ruth by phoning Sue at the front office.

Masifunde IsiXhosa

Introductions

Uyamazi u ____ (name) _____?

(Do you know _____?)

Hayi, andimazi.

(No, I don't know him / her)

Ewe, ndiyamazi.

(Yes, I know him / her)

Herzlia Constantia / Bay City Cycle Race

On Sunday 28 February, Herzlia Constantia will be hosting the Bay City Cycle Race. Situated two weeks before 'the Argus', this race provides an excellent opportunity for final preparation. Starting times—06:30 (84km) and 07:15 (43 km) - from Herzlia Constantia. Secure parking available on school fields in New Kendal Road or South Peninsula High School fields in Boundary Road. There will be plenty of lucky draw prizes. Enquiries : info@baycitycycletour.co.za or 021715-3014 or view the website www.baycitycycletour.co.za

Contentment is not the fulfillment of what you want, but the realization of how much you already have.

Missing Cricket Bag

About two weeks ago a cricket bag belonging to Michael Wagstaff went missing from the Grade 7 passage. It is a Gunn&Moore 5 STAR Original Wheelie bag, grey and white in colour. The bag is clearly marked with Michael's name and contact number.

We appeal to all parents of cricket players using similar bags to please check their children's bags. If you have any information in this regard, please contact either the school or Mr Batt.

Request for Barbie dolls and clothes

We have had a request from the Maitland Cottage Home, which is the charity supported by our Grade 7's, for Barbie dolls and clothes. A different group of Grade 7 children are taken through to Maitland Cottage every Wednesday, where they spend a bit of time playing and chatting to the children, most of whom are bedridden. If your children have outgrown their dolls and clothes and you are looking for a good home for them, please consider donating them to this very worth cause. The dolls and clothes can be handed in to Sue at the front office. Thank you.

Earth Hour 2010



For Earth Hour 2010, WWF calls on South Africans to switch off their lights on Saturday 27 March 2010 between 20:30 and 21:30. This year WWF is challenging individuals, businesses and communities to take the lead by pledging to reduce their own carbon footprint. We hope that you will support Earth Hour 2010. Together we can make a difference.

Events

Our next fundraising event is the Foundation Phase Sleepover on 5 March 2010. More information in this regard will go out on Friday so please check your child's school bag.

Kind regards

Ian Ryan
Headmaster