

**SWEET  
VALLEY  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER  
17 / 2009**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 30 Oct—Gr 7 Farewell
- 4 Nov—ESU Feedback Forum
- 5 Nov—Gr R 2010 Orientation Day
- 5 Nov—Zonal Gala @ S.V.
- 6 Nov—Gr 1 2010 Orientation Day
- 10 Nov—Thank you Cocktail
- 10 Nov—Art Auction
- 16 Nov—Grandparents Concert
- 16—18 Nov—Waltons Stationery delivery
- 17 Nov—Budget Meeting
- 18 Nov—Gr 1 Prizegiving @ 08:30
- 18 Nov—Arts & Culture Prizegiving @ 19:30
- 19 Nov—Gr 2 Prizegiving @ 08:30
- 20 Nov—Gr 3 Prizegiving @ 08:30
- 25 Nov— 4 Dec—Exam /Test Series
- 7 and 8 Dec—Cantata
- 9 Dec—Foundation Phase Christmas Party
- 10 Dec—Prizegiving : Gr 4 & 5 @ 08:30
- 10 Dec—Prizegiving : Gr 6 & 7 @ 19:00
- 11 Dec—Report handout
- 11 Dec—School closes @ 11:00

Dear Parents

I am sure many of you have watched the movie 'Cars' with your children. I really appreciate the important life lessons one can learn from this family-friendly movie.

The single most important lesson that we can take away from 'Cars' is the **importance of team-work**. The main character learns an important lesson that is easily understood by children, that being that no one can succeed alone. Lightning McQueen learns that not only do we need friends in our times of need, but we gain from helping others as well. By the end of the movie, he fully appreciates the value of friendship in living a happier and more fulfilled life. We can all benefit from learning how to be a good friend.

When the movie opens, Lightning McQueen is a winner and he considers winning the most important focus of his life. We know as mature adults that **winning is not everything**. As the movie progresses Lightning learns that there are many things more wonderful in life than winning. By the end of the movie, while he still wants to be a winner he is a much happier person because he has other ways to measure himself a success.

Finally, 'Cars' teaches us that **doing the right thing can be rewarding**. This encompasses lessons that include completing a job well and helping others. In the end, his decisions to do the right thing rather than focusing on winning at all costs turns out to be far more rewarding.

We do need to mitigate the impact of media and popular culture on our children, but I do think it is important to celebrate the movies and television shows that have a positive effect. The movie 'Cars' has a positive influence on children because it teaches three important life lessons. These are working together, winning not being everything and being a good person can be rewarding.

**ART AUCTION—10 NOVEMBER**

**ORIENTATION DAYS**

A reminder that our orientation days for 2010 Grade R's and 1's are as follows :

Grade R—Thursday 5 November from 13:30—14:30  
Grade 1—Friday 6 November @ 14:00

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Thank you to all parents who have sent in applications to do music in 2010. These are being processed and you will be notified by the end of November at the latest, if your child has been accepted.

**Reminder—The Grandparents Concert** will be held on **16 November at 15:00**. The programme will comprise of various music and drama items. Tea and eats will be served.

The **Arts and Culture Prizegiving** is on **18 November at 19:30**. Please be sure to diarise this as it is compulsory for all Grade 4—7 learners. The Cantata is going extremely well and we remind you that there will be two performances—7 and 8 December @ 19:30. This is wonderful preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

**ART AUCTION**

This exciting event to be held on **10 November at 19:00** will follow on from the Thank You Cocktail Function. All learners from Grade R to Grade 7 have contributed to the creation of all the art works. All who have been invited to the Thank You Cocktail Party are encouraged to stay and we look forward to welcoming all other parents to join us from 19:00. Art pieces up for auction will be on display in the hall foyer from Friday 6 November 2009.

**Gremlins in previous Newsletter**

In our previous newsletter we made a request for the art-room which ended rather suddenly without completing the request. It should have read as follows : 'The art-room is always in need of resources, especially scrap paper (even if one side is printed on), magazines or what have you.' Thank you in anticipation.

# FOUNDATION PHASE NEWS

## **Grade R News**

We are starting our new theme 'Children of the World'. We will be learning about the traditions, clothing, culture and food from other countries.

We are having a boerewors braai on Monday 9 November. It will also be 'dress up' day! Please dress your child in traditional clothing from South Africa or any other country of your choice.

## **Grade 1 News**

We have enjoyed a wonderful three weeks of learning about knights and castles.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their first swimming lesson and are looking forward to swimming this week and every two weeks thereafter.

We have started our new theme 'Children of the World' beginning with South Africa. Please encourage your child to bring relevant items appropriate to the theme.

## **Grade 2 News**

The Grade 2's had a wonderful outing where all sorts of creepy crawlies were collected and examined under a very powerful microscope. I think that we all now see bugs in a very different light! Next week we will be investigating mass and will be discussing whether we think an object is heavier or lighter than another one. It would be great if you could use opportunities at home to discuss mass too. Please continue to revise phonics daily.

## **Grade 3 News**

Thank you to the Grade 3 parents who made our super museum and Rondevlei 'bird adventure' outings possible over the past few weeks.

Plumstead Rusoord, where the Grade 3's presented their 'Spring Show' at the end of last term, will be holding a Spring Bazaar on Saturday 7 November from 08:00 to 15:00, and would appreciate the support of their Sweet Valley friends!

## **Foundation Phase Phys Ed Dress—Reminder**

Please remember that, as we are back in a 'Summer' term and the weather is warming up, the learners must wear their phys ed togs (phys ed shirt, maroon quantec shorts, white takkies and white socks, with maroon jersey for extra warmth if needed) to school on the days they have phys ed during the school day. On the days they have swimming at school, they should bring their costume, towel and cap to school in the Sweet Valley togbag. You will be informed via the message book of the days when swimming will take place. Thanks for your support in ensuring uniformity, pride and neatness in our little ones.

## **Prizegiving—Dates and Times**

Please refer to 'Upcoming Events' on page one for the dates and times of the prizegivings.

## CAFDA CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION— 26 OCT—20 NOV

### **CAFDA CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION**

Over the next four weeks we will be collecting gifts for the abused children and teenagers who are being cared for by C.A.F.D.A. Please refer to the gift suggestions letter from C.A.F.D.A. Gifts may be new or used (in good condition) but must NOT be wrapped. These can be put into the boxes in the office foyer for collection.

A reminder that bread tags can be sent to the front office on an ongoing basis. Once we have collected enough bread tags for recycling, a wheelchair is donated to a needy person.

### **FUNDANI ISIXHOSA NATHI**

#### **Egaraji (At the Garage)**

Khawuzalise itanki (Please fill up the tank)

Khawukhangele ioyile namanzi (Please check / look at the oil and water)

*Life is like a great big canvas. Throw all the paint on it you can!!*

### **MY SCHOOL CARD**

Please remember to swipe your 'My School' card when out shopping. The Loubser Family (Tivon, Grade 4) were presented with a luxurious Woolworth's hamper last week for being the family with the most number of swipes over 3 months.

Remember the monthly prize is for the number of swipes and not the amount spent! If you do not have a card please apply now as the Festive Season is almost upon us.

Kind regards

Mr I G Ryan  
Headmaster