



# SWEET VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER 13 / 2009



26 August 2009

Dear Parents

What a busy and exciting time we have planned over the next two weeks with our Readathon having been launched on Monday. Happy reading!

UPCOMING EVENTS	
24 August	Readathon launch
27 August	Hooked on Books
28 August	Star Gazing (from 19:00)
1 September	Book Fair
2 September (during school day)	SA National Theatre of Youth presents "Matilda"
3 September	Staff and Grade 7 Photographs
4 September	Grade 7 Mini Fete
4 September	Report handout (Gr 4 – 7)
7 – 11 September	Arbor Week
8 September	Parent Talk – Pre-Teens @ 19:30
10 September	Foundation Phase Open Day

### **PARENT TALK – PRE-TEENS**

A reminder to parents that Mr Gavin Fish, the Deputy Head at Fish Hoek High School, will be presenting a wonderful talk '**Ten Equals Teenager**' on **Tuesday 8 September @ 19:30**. Please diarise this date.

He will be sharing his mistakes, insights and many funny moments with us. We will be looking at boundaries, anger, the Bamboo principle, the ways in which kids are like puppies and teens like cats, freedoms and restrictions, talking so that they will listen to us and listening so that they will talk to us. The presentation is light and inter-active. Participants are welcome, spectators not!! **This is a talk not to be missed.**

### **BICYCLE STOLEN**

I would ask that parents please be aware, and make your children aware that a pupil from our school had his bicycle stolen from him a few weekends ago while he was out cycling. Please exercise caution at all times.

### **CHARITIES – YOUR BREAD TAGS CAN MAKE SUCH A DIFFERENCE**

We are going to be collecting the little tags from bread packets to recycle. The proceeds from the sale of these tags will go towards the purchasing of wheelchairs. There is a box to deposit these tags into at the secretaries' office. Please start collecting these tags at home and once you have a decent number, they can be sent to Mrs Evans at the office.

Casual Day is officially on Friday, 4 September. As it is the same day as our Spring Fete and our learners

are entitled to a free Civvies Day on that day anyway, we are going to be holding **Casual Day the following Friday, 11 September 2009.** Casual Day supports 5 different charities and will cost R10-00 per child. Every child who wears civvies on 11 September, and pays R10-00, will be issued with the official Casual Day sticker.

### **COLLECTION FOR CHARITY**

If you have any denim jeans, caps, bags, jackets that you no longer wear or are in need of, we would be most grateful if you would consider donating them to charity. A box will be placed opposite the parent notice board in the passage for these items to be placed into. Thank you so much.

### **GRADE 5 – 7 DISCO**

A Grade 5 – 7 Disco will be held on Friday 18 September from 19:00 – 21:30. The cost of this event will be R5-00.

The tuckshop will be open. ***This social is only for Sweet Valley Grade 5 – 7 pupils!!*** There will be teachers and parents on duty.

Come along Grades 5, 6 and 7 – relax and dance with your friends.

### **READATHON PROGRAMME**

Mrs Senogles, our educator/librarian writes: Our 2009 Readathon, "The Universe – Yours to Discover", was launched in assembly on **Monday 24 August**, with a power point presentation about our solar system followed by a very exciting play that was enjoyed by all the learners. An alien invasion by the staff added great fun to the assembly.

Last night, a very excited group of Grade 1's gathered in the library for an evening of space stories followed by hot chocolate. Today in assembly, the learners were taken beyond our solar system with a power point presentation by Mr Ryan and Mr Miles.

Author and singer, Bettina Schouw, will be encouraging the Grade 5's tomorrow to reach their dreams. On **Friday, 28 August**, Mr Willie Koorts, amateur astronomer, will be visiting our Grade 4's.

**Also this Friday**, 4 large telescopes will be set up on our big field, You are invited to come with your family to observe the night sky. There will be 2 informed adults at each telescope to answer your questions. Come and observe the night sky from 19:00 (weather permitting). No learner may arrive if not accompanied by an adult and this includes Gr 7's. See you there!

Next week, all the learners will learn about Gallileo and his findings. The Grade 7's, will have the pleasure of listening to astronomer, Dr Luis Balona. Grade 3's will meet author, Bettina Schouw, author of 'Dreamwalking'. A Book Fair will be held in our school hall on **Tuesday, 1 September** from 10:30 – 15:30. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to

shop at bargain prizes. On **Wednesday, 2 September**, the learners will enjoy a production of Matilda by the SA National Theatre of Youth. Grade 5's will take a closer look at Indigenous Astronomy. On **Thursday 3 September**, the Grade 1's and 2's are invited to come to school dressed up as their "favourite book character".

Kim Senogles will be visiting our Grade 2's as a story-teller. Also on Thursday, the Grade 6's will be visited by astronomer, Dr Ricky Oliver. Competitions will be held for all the grades. Our library is a focal point during this time so please pop in and visit and admire the displays.

### **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Parents are please to note that the Music Prize Competition is on **Saturday 12 September** in the W.J. van Heerden Hall at 15:00 and should end at approximately 17:00. We have secured the services of two well know musicians as our adjudicators and are looking forward to an interesting and entertaining afternoon of music at which the diversity of music tuition is displayed. If your child is participating you will receive notification by the Monday 7 September at the latest. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

#### **Cantata**

Practices for the gentlemen have been going well. We would welcome some more male voices. Please think about this. There will be a full rehearsal of ladies and gentlemen on **Tuesday 1 September**. We look forward to working together. Please try to attend this rehearsal even if you have problems with any other times. Practice begins at 19:30 and will end at approximately 20:45.

### **FOUNDATION PHASE NEWS**

Our Foundation Phase learners are thoroughly enjoying exploring the new jungle gym in the Foundation Phase playground.

#### **All Grade 1 – 3 Parents**

Please diarise the date of our Term 3 classroom visits. This will be **Thursday 10 September from 08:00 – 08:30 in your child's classroom.**

#### **Grade R**

The Grade R's are learning about dinosaurs. Please send any books or plastic dinosaurs for us to look at. We are still collecting boxes, wool, corks and other scrap materials.

Thank you to the mom's who offered to help with our stocktaking. Please let us know if you are still able to assist us.

#### **Grade 1**

The Grade 1's have just completed a theme on transport which ended with a fun-filled boat trip around the harbour at the Waterfront.

There is great excitement with the launch of the Readathon and a much loved evening of Twilight Tales with yummy hot chocolate. We are looking forward to dressing up as book characters early next month. Our new theme is squirrels and we are learning some interesting facts about these rodents!

#### **Grade 2**

In a few weeks time we will be investigating money. Please make your children aware of the value of different coins and let them count out change, play

shopping games with them and let them get used to handling money. 'Creepy Crawlies' is our new theme. Please send along any interesting books, information or posters that we could use.

#### **Grade 3**

As September approaches, Grade 3 will be starting to put together their 'Spring Show' which we will take to the elderly residents of Plumstead Rusoord on **Friday 18 September**. Parents will receive more details about this in due course. All Grade 3 parents, grandparents and special friends will be invited to come and share our Spring Show in the school hall with us on **Tuesday 22 September** from 08:30 – 09:00. Please diarise this special date.

### **FUNDANI ISIXHOSA NATHI (LEARN XHOSA WITH US)**

#### **Ekhaya (at home)**

Khawusule itafile/isitovu (Please wipe the table/stove)  
Khawubeke izitya ekhabhathini (Please put the dishes in the cupboard)

### **LOST PROPERTY**

It has been one year since we implemented the R5-00 to charity for collection of lost property items and the "clearance sales". In this time we have collected an amazing R2 836.52 split between St Luke's Hospice, Cart Horse Association, Friends Day Centre and SARDA. Whilst it is fantastic that SVPS has generously supported those charities, it is a sad indication that children do not come to look for their items for over two weeks (which is when it goes in to the cupboard and the "fine" is imposed) and that many items are not labeled at all, making their return to owners near to impossible. If a child looks for their lost item and it turns up, it is returned with no penalty. Labeled items are left for 2 weeks before being placed in the cupboard and notices being given to the child. Three notices are sent out and, if the items are not claimed in that time, they are cleared to the second hand shop for resale. Unlabelled items are left in the grey baskets for up to 3 weeks before being cleared over to the second hand shop. If you have any queries, please contact **Marion on 0825543438.**

### **MY SCHOOL CARD COMPETITION**

Would you like a chance to win a trip for 4 to beautiful Ireland?

How to stand a chance of winning:

1. Register for the competition online ([www.myschool.co.za](http://www.myschool.co.za)) or via phone (0860 100 445)
2. Swipe your MySchool card at three or more of the partner stores (see notice board for details) during August and September 09.
3. All MySchool supporters that qualify go into the draw.
4. Participants must be able to travel before 30 January 2010.

Kind regards

Mr I G Ryan  
Headmaster