



4 October 2011

Dear Parents

**Ingredients**

- 120 boys (small)
- 9 boys (large)
- 60 average sized tents
- Food and sweets (enough to feed a small army)
- Plenty of excitement
- A couple of buses

**Icing**

- Water
- Reeds
- Mud

**Method**

Make sure to separate all electronic equipment. Gently load all of the boys into the buses. Add the food, tents and sweets. Transport for about 30 minutes until they are ready to disembark. Remove from the vehicles. Allow to stand until tents have risen. Fold in the water, reeds and mud. Sit back and enjoy!

The Camp-out and Sponsored Walk was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. As is the norm, the Grade 4-7s enjoyed their Friday night outing at Table Farm. It was a stunning evening, made more so by the fact that the recent rains have filled up the dam. The vegetation is green and lush – a very different scenario from this time last year. Saturday's walk was incredibly scenic and the earlier starting time ensured that most of the walking took place in cooler conditions. My heartfelt thanks go to all involved. So far R36 926 has been raised. Please remember, if you have not already done so, to keep the sponsorship coming in.

I do wish to extend my sincerest apologies for the mix up with the Pre-Primary and Junior Primary starting time, as well as for any inconvenience that this may have caused. On occasion, with events such as these, the odd gremlin does creep in. I am not one to make excuses and the fault lies squarely on my shoulders. We have noted this and will ensure that this does not reoccur in 2012.

On the housekeeping side of things, could I appeal to all parents who bring their dogs onto the property to please, if they are not properly trained, make sure that they are on a leash. More importantly, as this really is a health hazard, to pick up their mess. Fairlawn is not only a playground for our littlies but it is also home to our boarders. We love the dogs, but not what they leave behind! Your co-operation here would be appreciated.

We end off our athletics season this Friday with our annual Inter-house Sports Day. We look forward to an exciting day's competition as the three Houses battle for honours. Participation is the order of the day and every pupil will be afforded an opportunity to participate in one or more of the events. Our school team recently participated in the Graeme Triangular. We were placed second overall with Timothy Bloem setting a new 100m record. Well done to him and to the team for their sterling efforts.

Our U11A cricket team, as well as our junior orchestra, are both away on tour at the moment. The cricketers have travelled to Knysna to participate in a pre-season festival while our orchestra will perform several concerts in the Cradock area. We wish both of these touring parties every success in their respective endeavours. The above, once again, highlights our holistic approach to our extra curricular programme where a fantastic balance between sport and culture is attained.

Well done to Melusi Mtshali who has received a wild card to play in the upcoming National Tennis Tournament in Bloemfontein this weekend. Also to Scott Cuthbert who will be participating in the Platinum Spring Main Draw. It is fantastic to see our boys pit themselves against the best in the country. We are all behind you and know that you will do us proud!

A thought to end off with (with thanks to Linene Neilson). If the whole school community; learners, parents and educators were to take a quiz and the last question was, "What is the first name of the lady who cleans the school?" How many of us would make the grade?

In our daily lives we meet many people, all of them significant. They deserve our attention and care, a simple smile, greeting or word of thanks.

This brings to mind the story of a four year old boy who calmly watched the transition of his dog as he was euthanized. As the adults pondered out aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives, the little boy piped up. "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life – like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right? Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long." (Today Magazine June 2007)

Let this be encouragement from our small ones, to soak up the positives in life and sift out the negatives. As the year nears its end and people are stressed and tired, why don't we act out a heart full of gratitude by living simply, loving generously, caring deeply and speaking kindly?! Be an example to your children.

Make someone smile today. **IT'S COOL TO BE KIND!**

*Marc*

## Junior Prep News

This is the last week of Athletics practices. On Friday it is our Annual Sports Day and all parents are most welcome to join us and enjoy supporting all these budding young athletes. Children come to school by 7h30 dressed in sports clothes, tracksuits and their sports shoes. The teachers will walk them up to Fairlawn by 8h00 when the games begin. At the end of the day, once we have packed up and put our chairs back in the classrooms, the children may go home – approximately 13h00.

Next week we will continue the afternoon programme with more summer sports and clubs. The children will be given a programme to take home in their homework diaries.

Children may wear bandanas to school on Wednesday 12 October in support of cancer-patients during this national campaign.

# Pre-Primary News



Last week's visit to the Coelacanth – the “dinosaur fish” at SAIAB was a fitting way to end off our dinosaur theme. Despite the blustery weather, we enjoyed a picnic on the lawns behind the Drostdy Arch.

We are so impressed at how many of our little people walked the Sponsored Walk on Saturday. Even if some didn't make the whole 5 km, the important thing is that they started out with enthusiasm! There was unfortunately some confusion about the starting time, but generous doses of goodwill and understanding won through & in the end a good time was had by all!

Don't forget the Pre-primary race at Sports Day on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 11:30, if you would like to come and watch. Please don't attach any importance to this event, as it is just a fun activity. Children of this age don't respond well to competition and it's more important to take part than it is to win. We all get prizes at the end!

**Bandana Day** (12<sup>th</sup> October) – please refer to your Community Outreach letter. The bandanas (for children only) are on sale at the Pre-primary.

Take your children on a Shape Walk. Discuss the shapes you see on the way – from triangles, rectangles and squares, to spheres, cylinders, pyramids and cubes. You'll be surprised at how many they know!



**Dino Fever!**

## SPORTS RESULTS

### Squash vs Graeme - 28 September

Prep lost 8-13

### Squash vs SAC6 - 28 September

Prep lost 1-15

## 'AROUND THE WORLD'

	<p>Friday 28 October Memory Hall</p> <p>Please contact Jenny Gopal on 082 780 3633 or jenny@gopal.co.za for info, or if you would like to help in any way.</p>	

## UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

### Tuesday 4 October (3)

U11 Cricket Tour

- 13:00 Junior Orchestra Tour returns
- 14:00 Shot Put finals (Open/U13/U12)
- 14:00 High Jump heats (U11/U10)
- 15:00 1500m finals (Open/U13/U12/U11/U10)

### Wed 5 October (4)

- 14:00 Baton Relay practice
- 14:30 Shuttle Relay finals (non-baton runners)
- 15:00 Round-the-Block finals (Top Field)
- 17:30 U11 Cricket Tour returns

### Thursday 6 October (5)

- 14:00 Cross Country finals
- 15:00 Final Baton Relay practice
- 17:00 Cricket Coaches' meeting (Clubhouse)

### Friday 7 October (6)

- 08:30 JP and SP Sports Day
- 11:30 Pre-Primary race at Sports Day

### Saturday 8 October

#### **Duty Master - Mr James Cripps (Cell: 071 671 9820)**

- 15:00 Gandhi Walk (Gr 4-7 boarders)  
(Contact Mahesh Gopal 082 569 1151 for information)

### Sunday 9 October

- 18:30 Evening Prayers – Duty Master (Memory Hall)

### Monday 10 October (7)

#### **Balloon Week commences (SAC)**

- 07:30 Grade 7.2 NS Excursion
- 14:00 Cricket and Tennis seasons commence

### Tuesday 11 October (tbc)

- 07:30 Grade 7.1 NS Excursion
- 14:00 Tennis vs Kingswood U13C (SAP) U13D (KC)
- 17:00 Cricket Coaches' Clinic (Clubhouse)

### Wednesday 12 October (tbc)

- 08:30 DSG Prize Giving
- 14:00 SAC Prize Giving

### Thursday 13 October (tbc)

- 08:00 DSG & SAC Relay Sports Day
- 12:00 Half-term

### Friday 14 October

#### **Duty Master - Mr Zane Plescia (Cell: 072 018 3878)**

Saturday 15 October Half-term

Sunday 16 October Half-term

Monday 17 October Half-term

17:00 Boarders return in Full Blues

## Changes to the Calendar

Please check the calendar & newsletter before phoning the office for info.

## DATES TO DIARISE

- 28 October JP Production and Feast
- 28 October 'Around the World' Evening
- 20 November Christmas Carnival
- 27 November Carol Service
- 5 December Feast for Grade 7s and their parents

## Graeme College Triangular



**Congratulations to Tim Bloem who broke 2 Athletics records last week. 100m record at the Graeme College Triangular meeting and the School record for 400m in the final heat, in the run-up to athletics day.**



## Mayor visits Grade 4s



## Marimbas play at the Port Alfred Braai Festival



## Sponsored Walk

