

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Our Book Week Dress Up Day last Tuesday was a fantastic success. I wish to thank all our parents who took the time to help their sons and daughters into a costume. All up we had approximately 200 students take part, which is by far our best participation rate to date. I was also very pleased to see how well our staff supported the day, with many teachers and student teachers coming as book characters. Mr Swales came as a musketeer and I dressed as a butler but got some interesting responses from our students. One thought I was the 'Ken Groom' for Barbie, and another said James Bond, but my favourite was from a young fellow in our ECDP who got a bit mixed up and thought I was 'Strange Bond'.

It has been a long time coming but we have finally received a starting date for our Hall and Library as part of the Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution Programme. Work will commence next Monday, 7 September. Initially this will mean the erection of safety fencing, installation of temporary buildings and toilets for the workforce and some trenching and other preliminary works. Although the finished buildings will be tremendous assets to the school, there will be plenty of inconvenience and interruption to normal operations over the course of the construction which is set to run right through 2009 and into early 2010. Monday will see a fence in place right across the front of the school from the middle of 'B' Block to Handford Road, completely enclosing the grassed area. Fences will also go up between the toilets and 'F' Block around the library site. Entry to our ovals will then be via the back of 'F' Block where the playground is. So as not to interrupt parent car park traffic, an access way will be constructed at the very front of the car park to divert builder's vehicles into the fenced area for the hall. Traffic access to the library area will be from the oval side. I can assure all parents that the contractors 'Hutchinsons' have parent, child and staff safety as their number one concern in this process and have taken every step to ensure that their work site is safe for all. However, it will be a long few months as we impatiently await our new buildings.

Our Term 3 School Dance is coming up next week on Thursday evening. As usual, it is being held at the North Brisbane Salvation Army Church on Roghan Road. Mrs Tompkins is busy organising the details and more information about the specifics of the night will be coming home later this week. Whatever happens, I know it will be a fun time for all concerned.

Yesterday we hosted our second group of Australian Catholic University (ACU) students in our Indigenous Garden. The students come to be immersed in the native vegetation and to listen to our Year 5 Tour Guides telling them how the plants were used by the local indigenous community in days gone by. Not only is this a great opportunity for learning for the ACU visitors but it is also a fantastic chance for our Year 5s to use their language skills in a real life situation. Reports from the first group last week were very positive and I expect to hear more of the same from the second group. My thanks go to Mrs Goodberg and Mrs Rigby for the organisational work they put in to make these visits successful.

Don't forget that our Walking Wheeling Wednesday Big Breakfast is tomorrow morning starting at 8am, and Parent-Teacher Interview Evening is next Monday, 7 September.



Mark Fisher
Principal

Families who play board games are winners

Cheryl Critchley, Herald Sun, August 19, 2009
FAMILIES that play board games together improve their social, educational and life skills, new research has found. Playing board games at least weekly helped improve the children's concentration, social interaction and co-operation with siblings. It also boosted their patience, concentration, teamwork, sharing, social interaction, communication, sportsmanship, critical thinking skills, maths and spelling. OMD Insights got 125 families around the nation with children aged 5 to 12 to down the Nintendo and play board games at least once a week for a month. Family relationships improved and parents were amazed children did not need to be glued to the TV. Time-poor parents whose kids usually spent too much time on computer and console games vowed to continue the ritual and noticed themselves becoming more patient and organised. "Putting a family games night on to the agenda each week definitely strengthens family bonds with comments such as 'It really strengthened our family unit' typical of many," the study found.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

If any parents would like to speak to me during the parent/teacher interviews on Monday afternoon, I'll be available between 4pm and 6pm. To arrange an interview time, please email me at steveu@su-chaplain.com or leave a message with the school admin and I'll contact you.

FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Our ZEBRA School Dance is on Thursday 10 September and it will be our last dance for the year.



It is a black and white theme so wear any combination of black and white clothes. Food order forms will come home on Wednesday 2 September.



FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Happy Father's Day to all the dads and granddads of our school. We hope you all have a great day with your families.



*A father is someone we look up to
no matter how tall we are*

FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Week – many thanks to all the students, parents, teachers, staff and student-teachers for making our Book Week dress-up day such a success! It was a marvellous sight on Assembly and the variety of book characters and costumes on display was wonderful! Thank you also to all the students who entered our various competitions. The last of our competition winners will receive their certificates on Assembly tomorrow.



Our **Gold Star Reading Club** break-up (for those who joined at the Zillmere Library) was last Friday afternoon and it was great to see so many students from our school there! The students enjoyed the break-up party and the delicious afternoon tea. Our final number of participants was 52, our best total to date.

Bookclub Issue 6 has been ordered and will arrive back at school within one to two weeks. Orders will then be delivered to students unless previous arrangements have been made to hold orders for parents.

Kind regards

Theresa McArdle
Librarian

P & C NEWS

Dear Parents and Guardians
Last week, Mr Fisher was going to announce the winning class for the 5c and 10c fundraiser but the office ladies were very busy and ran out of time to do the final calculations. So instead, Mr Fisher will reveal the winner this week and the end



result will be publicised in the Newsletter next week. We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraiser.

Remember to bring in all sold raffle tickets and money as soon as you can.

This Wednesday, we are holding a barbecue breakfast from 8am. Bacon and egg sandwiches are only \$2 each so come along and grab a tasty brekkie before school.



On Thursday and Friday there is going to be a Father's Day Stall from 8am in front of the Tuckshop. Come along and buy something for that special person in your life. Don't forget Father's Day is this Sunday.



Have a great week
Therese Peachey
P&C President

SUNCORP WALLABIES RUGBY TOURNAMENT

It was a very hot day for Rugby Union on Friday 21 August but 4D and 4T tried their hardest. The Boomers took out the other teams to get in the grand final, also the Taigum Taipans. The referees, Harlim, Zion, Gemma, and the helpers would like to thank all the teams for a great Union game. The referees would like to congratulate the winning team, Boomers, also the man of the match, Dejzha Barry.

Harlim Nikorima, Zion Matthes & Ethan Key



SANDGATE DISTRICT STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Thank you to all those families who have submitted enrolment applications for Year 8 in 2010.

We are now organizing our class numbers for next year so if any families would like an enrolment pack please collect one from the office at

41 Braun Street Deagon or
phone Lisa Wagner on 3869 9888

Enrolment forms need to be returned by Friday
11 September 2009.

SCHOOL BANKING

There will be no school banking for six weeks from Thursday 10 September.