



Littlehampton Primary School NEWSLETTER

Week 4 Term 2 May, 2010

DIARY DATES

Pyjama/Casual Day
Friday 14th May
Gold coin donation
for Chanra



Hot Dog Day
Wednesday 19th
May

Finance Committee
Meeting
Wednesday 2nd June
at 6pm

Governing Council
Meeting
Monday 7th June
At 7pm



Disco
Wednesday 23rd
June

Student Free Day
Thursday 24th June

Fantastic Facilities- How Things Have Changed

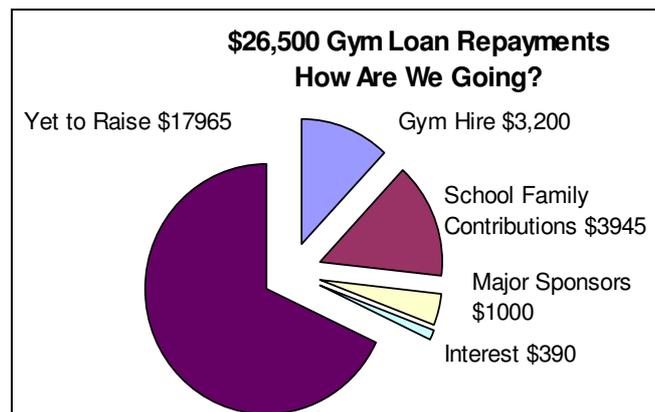
Two and a half years ago I took David Jolliffe, the Regional Director on a school tour. There were a number of buildings which we discussed with concern. The Preschool, was clearly inadequate for our needs. The old wooden transportable building affectionately known as the Purple Palace was riddled with white ants and wood rot, the roof leaked, and urgently needed a paint, both inside and out. The library was clearly inadequate with insufficient room for a whole class to sit at tables and work. We spent considerable time discussing what could be done about these facilities. This week I took David Jolliffe on another tour of the school. We visited our new Preschool, Library and double classroom building, and discussed the architectural plans for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Dining Room and the refurbishment of front office and PACA room. How times have changed! Thanks to a SA capital works grant, and the Economic Stimulus Package, in the next weeks and months we will move into our new buildings, and the facilities for our students will be second to none.



We still need to do our part!- Gymnasium Building Levy

Thanks to the foresight of our Governing Council and their hard work over many years, our facilities include a Gymnasium which still has that **WOW** factor! Parents, teachers, students and community, all find the gymnasium exactly right for our needs, be it for school assemblies, Footsteps Dance, Active After School Programs or the forthcoming Parents & Friends disco.

We rely on each family to make a \$100 contribution to the Gymnasium Building Fund to avoid cuts to the children's learning program. As the graph below shows, we still have a long way to go. While we get there in the end, you can see why there are some tense moments for our Finance Committee and Governing Council Treasurer.



Reminder! Voluntary Building Levy contributions

due! Thank-you to the families who have already made their \$100 Building Fund contribution. We remind parents that to take advantage of this as a tax deduction in this financial year, the \$100 payment will need to be made by the end of June.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Hot Dog Day is Wednesday 19th May – Week 5
Last day to order your hot dogs is Friday 14th May-
Week 4. If there is no money with your order the
order will NOT be filled. We are asking families
from Mrs. Hutten, Mr Munt and Mr Douglas' classes
to supply cakes. These will sell at lunch time for 50
cents each. All left over cakes are returned to the
classes that donated them.
Thankyou for your support,
Parents & Friends Team.

STUDENT FORUMS

Recently, some parents approached me to ask for
some information on Student Forums. Student
Forums were introduced three years ago as an
alternative to SRC. Our goal was to ensure
greater participation - all students from Year1
classes up are involved in the forums. (In
comparison, SRC involved only a small number
and it was often the same students each year.)
The Student Forums are a thriving student-led
and managed programme which involves and
benefits all. The groups are led by Year 6/7
students with assistance from an adult mentor.
Each forum has a range of students from across
the school. The groups have about 20 members
and meet most Thursdays from 10.20 to 11.00.
Staff decide on the specific forums each year. For
2010, we have 13 groups. They are:

- Drama
- Celebrations
- Smiley Team
- WOW (wipe out waste)
- Fundraising
- Foyer Displays
- Indoor Games
- Yard Saviours
- Knitting for Charity
- Lunchtime Sports
- Litter Free Lunches
- Lunchtime Activities
- Cool Fun for Young Ones

Year 6/7 students wrote letters of application to
be forum leaders. All other students were able to
rank their first 5 forum choices. Student forum
leaders call on the interests and opinions of their
group of students to decide the directions the
group will take. It is also an excellent opportunity
for students to get to know students and teachers

from other year levels, which strengthens the
community feel of the school.

Forum leaders regularly speak at whole school
assembly to advertise activities that are coming
up around the school. They also advertise by
posters and in the school newsletter. *Sara
Weston, Leader Student Forums*

DON'T MISS PYJAMA DAY TOMMORROW

COME IN YOUR PJS - GOLD COIN
DONATION for Chanra

PJs must be decent... prize for most creative
PJs in each class!
From fundraising forum

BOOK CLUB

If you order Book Club items you must put your name
on the order form. If you are missing an order from
March please see the office. There is an outstanding
order with no name.

Birdwood Primary Farm Day

Sunday 23rd May 2010.
10am – 4.00pm at Mt Crawford
(Follow the signs from Gumeracha or Williamstown)
Admission Adults \$7.00 Children FREE

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Including Others-Tom Harvey, Zak Peaston,
Louella Selby.

Being Trustworthy- Ayden Westcott,
Hunter Boudet-Wilson, Amy Mackay

A Positive Attitude- Anders Hall, Isabel Provis,
Cameo Selby, Jack Bills, Isaac Formston-Crilly,
Lockie Formston, Mitchell Hawke, Mollie Jarman

Achievement- Zac Lambe,

Kindness- Darcy Hutchinson

Respect- Caitlun Payne

Valuing Others- Travis Lane

NAPLAN CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS

Congratulations to all our Year 3, 5 and 7 students for
the calm and considered way they undertook their
NAPLAN tests this week. We're confident they did
their best!



Frequently Asked questions about the Gymnasium Building Levy.

The Building fund is voluntary, right? Yes the Governing Council has made it Voluntary. This is because they are thinking of Littlehampton families. By making it voluntary, it gains tax deductible status. Governing Councils have the option of making a building levy compulsory, (as has Heathfield High School) but by doing this we would lose tax deductible status. **Voluntary, it may be, but we rely on every family to contribute.**

200 families x \$100 = \$20,000.

But I'm a School Card holder, does this apply to me? Yes! ...but at a reduced rate. Governing Council has approved a \$70 per annum levy for school card holders. We are relying on you too!

I think the Government should pay for school buildings- Well, many people would agree, but that's not the way it works. By everyone pitching in we have a gym, while other schools, where people aren't prepared to contribute, don't. Would you really want to give up this wonderful facility for our children?

Some schools are getting gymnasiums built for them under the BER funding. Yes, they are. Because we already have a gymnasium, we are able to use the funding to build a new Library Resource Centre, a much needed facility for our school.

How are we going so far this year? So far, 38 families have paid the voluntary levy. This comes to a total of \$3945, and is just one family less than at the same time last year.

I really can't afford it... I'm having difficulty making ends meet. We are making an effort to keep costs for excursions and performances to a minimum for this year, to minimize extra costs to families. We are also happy to take payment in installments, a practice many families find helps with the family budget.

What will happen if we can't raise \$26,500 this year? The money will be deducted from our school account anyway. Our school will have to cut back on spending in areas which provide learning programs for our children, curriculum resources such as library books, computers, and maths equipment, or cut staff.

How will my donation be acknowledged?

Early in term 3 a special issue of our school newsletter will acknowledge all donations and donors. This is an important way of acknowledging what our families have put in, and celebrating how we are going.

Donations of more than \$250 will be listed on our sponsorship board in the gym.

I've donated, but I'd rather my name not be printed in the newsletter, is that ok? Yes, simply include a written note to this effect when you make your donation, and your donation will be listed anonymously.

DROUGHT RELIEF available again this year!

The school has just been informed that once again in 2010 \$10,000 will be given to the school for drought relief. In line with our policy last year, this will be used to subsidise one major whole school performance or student workshop per year. This means that families can expect to pay at least \$50 less per child for costs of excursions and performances. Gymnastics workshops, (R-5) anti bullying performance (R-7), Footsteps Dance (Yr 6/7), Maths Fun Workshop R-7 and End of Year Swimming R-7 will be funded from Drought Relief. The remainder of the money will be used for textbooks. The Finance Committee will make out a more detailed budget at the next meeting.

This should help to make donations to the Building Fund more affordable.



Our Gym continues to impress, thanks to your building contributions!
Thank you,
Littlehampton School & Preschool Families.

Australian Schools Competitions

The competitions are conducted through the University of New South Wales Educational Testing Centre, and are for Primary students from Years 3 to Year 7 in Science, Writing, Spelling, Mathematics and English. The competitions provide opportunities for students to be assessed in an external testing situation and are also used to recognise and reward achievement. Students can enter any number of competitions, however, entry fees must be lodged by the due date (see below). If your child is interested in an extra challenge, then this is a great opportunity. The dates for the competitions are:

Competition	Sitting Date	Year Level	Entry Fee
Science	Wednesday, 9 June	3 – 7	\$6.60 (includes GST)
Mathematics	Wednesday, 17 August	3 – 7	\$6.60 (includes GST)
Spelling	Tuesday, 22 June	3 – 7	\$8.80 (includes GST)
Writing	Tuesday, 22 June	3 – 7	\$15.40 (includes GST)
English	Tuesday, 3 August	3 – 7	\$6.60 (includes GST)

<p>Aims of the Australian Schools Competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an opportunity for all students to gain a measure of their achievement in an external assessment • Monitor individual progress • Recognise and reward achievement <p>Provide students, parents and teachers with a comprehensive analysis of student performance.</p>	<p>Writing</p> <p>The writing competition is hand marked and assesses the use of pronouns, conjunctions and tense, sentence structure, syntax, spelling and punctuation.</p>
<p>Science</p> <p>Skills covered include observation, reading and interpreting information, prediction, conclusion, experimental design, reasoning and critical thinking.</p>	<p>English</p> <p>Includes questions of vocabulary, language usage, reading comprehension and document and data analysis.</p>
<p>Spelling</p> <p>Is a hand marked test, and aims to provide detailed diagnostic information on student performance in spelling.</p>	<p>Mathematics</p> <p>Test the skills of estimation, calculation, investigation and interpretation analysis & comparison.</p>

If you would like further information, please see your child's teacher or Jenny Lewis (Principal). Please complete the reply slip on the response sheet and return it, with the entry fee per competition by the due date. Cheques should be made payable to Littlehampton Primary School.

NB. Entries Close: Wednesday, 17 May, 2010 *Late payments will not be accepted*



Australian Schools Competitions Payment due Wednesday 17 May – At Front Office

Student's Name _____ Year Level _____ Class _____

Competitions: (Please tick)

Science \$6.60 Writing \$15.40 Spelling \$8.80 Mathematics \$6.60 English \$6.60

Please find \$ _____ enclosed- Cheques made payable to Littlehampton Primary School.

Signature: _____