



Littlehampton Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Week 4 Term 4, 2010

Diary Dates



Pizza & Iceblock day
9th November



Scarecrow Day
Sunday
November 14th
3pm



New Buildings
Official opening
Friday 26th
November



Remembrance Day
11/11/10



Bandana Day
Friday 12th
November
\$4

Is Our School Bushfire Ready?

Last year a new system of fire warning, the Code Red Catastrophic warning system was introduced. This edition of the newsletter is dedicated to providing you with information about how bushfire ready our school is, and to provide families with information about what will happen in the event of a Code Red Catastrophic Day, or when fires may impact on our school in other circumstances.

1. Level of Bushfire Risk for Our School

Our school has been identified as at **Moderate** risk of bushfire. It is not on the list of schools that will automatically close on Code Red Catastrophic Days because this applies to schools at High, Very High or Extreme risk of bushfire. However, there could be days when we will be directed to close if a decision is made to close all the sites in the Hills region.

2. How will parents know if the school will be closed?

Even on days when the radio reports that it is a day of Code Red Catastrophic weather conditions, our school will remain open, unless you hear a message from the school. The school will give you a message in three ways:

1. If we know with advance warning we will send you a letter with your children the day before (realistically, it is unlikely that we will be given sufficient notice to do this.) You will be sent a text message to your mobile phone. The school has installed a ZAPITS text messaging system which enables us to send a message from any on-line computer. You will receive a message which reads:

1. "We have been notified by DECS and by the CFS to close the school on (day and date). No student is to attend school. Parents please activate your family bushfire plans".

2. A message will be left on the school answering machine which gives the same information as above. (There may be situations where we are unable to record the message on the answering machine, due to difficulty in staff accessing school in the event of a fire.)

2. The Red school closed signs will be placed on the fence at the front of the school and the preschool (see photos).

3. As the fire season starts, DECS places a list of schools to be closed on their website: www.decs.sa.gov.au. This list was published on the day OSHC services were closed in January this year.

We are currently updating our ZAPITS records, and if you have enrolled your child at our school or preschool since the beginning of the year, you should receive a text message to your mobile in the next two weeks.

Parents Responsibility

It is parent's responsibility to provide up to date information on mobile phone numbers. If your mobile phone number has changed since the beginning of the year, please let us know.

What happens if I drop my child at school, and the school is closed?

Staff will not be at school on days when the school is closed. It is my duty as principal to ensure that a staff member who lives locally comes to the school if it is safe to do so. They will bring any children into the school, ring their parents or emergency contacts and ask that their children be collected. Children and staff cannot remain at school.

What happens about OSHC (Before School hours care and After School Hours Care will not operate on a day when the school has been directed to close because of Code Red Catastrophic Fire



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Code Red Catastrophic Days- Cont

conditions. Vacation Care will operate unless we have been directed to close the OSHC service on a day of Code Red Catastrophic Fire conditions. I have asked Kathryn Schultz to ensure that there are two staff members on site at all times when we are open on Code Red Catastrophic Days.

3. What will I do with my kids if the school is closed on Code Red Catastrophic Fire Days? Many families in the Adelaide Hills have bushfire action plans. It is essential all families who live in bushfire prone areas have a bushfire action plan and that part of the plan needs to address what action will be taken when children's school or preschool is closed. This needs to be decided now. There is an obvious range of possibilities including staying with a parent at home or at work; local arrangements with neighbours or friends; or taking the child for a day trip to the city, where there is a low fire risk are possibilities.

4. BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

Bushfires also happen on days which are not of Code Red Catastrophic Risk. What is our School's Bushfire Plan? (Note a day of total fire ban is not the same thing as a Code Red Catastrophic day).

Recently we practiced our Bushfire Emergency Plans, to ensure we are well prepared in the case of an emergency.

Level 1 On a total fire ban day, staff are reminded of our bushfire plan. Excursions are cancelled. Classroom rolls are kept ready, and front office personnel are given the task of listening to the radio, to monitor for fire alerts. At all levels of alert, teachers' primary responsibility is to keep children calm.

Level 2 If a fire threatens our immediate area. At this stage, we keep children in their classrooms, cancel any specialist lessons and ensure the children have drink bottles filled with water. The teacher checks that all windows and doors are closed, and removes flammable materials (eg paintings hung on walls and on wires around the room.) At this stage we would expect that it would be smoky and unpleasant outside, and parents may begin to come and collect children (as happened last year). Parents must sign children out at the front office, so we can keep a record of who has left.

Level 3 If the fire front is threatening the school. At this stage children take their drink bottles, and move to their bushfire ready building. We have two, the main administration building, and Molly Meils building (Preschool and Rms 13 – 16 children move to the main building). When the fire front passes, they lie on the floor. After the fire front passes we would wait to be advised by police/CFS of the next steps to follow, and ring the DECS Hills district office (In Mt Barker) to update them on our situation, and gain instructions.. Often the school is the safest place in a community, and parents are invited to come in and shelter with teachers and children if they would like to do so.

Schools that have experienced emergencies state that the

biggest problem is with communication. Parents are unable to contact the school by phone, and school mobiles are used to keep in contact with emergency services. People will turn up to collect children, and staff may not know who they are, or if the parents have given permission. For that reason on the consent form sent home last year, we asked.. "in the case of bushfire, are you likely to delegate to another person to collect your children?" Parents were asked to indicate, *Yes, I may delegate* or *No under no circumstances*. We will still try to contact you first, however this gives us some guidance if contact is not possible. Once again, we are hopeful that we will not need to use Level 3 procedures. We did get to Level 2 when there was a grass fire in Balhannah in 2008.



Samaritan's Purse- Shoeboxes Report from Student fundraising Forum

A big thankyou to our school families. So far we have 73 boxes that have been donated by school families for "Operation Christmas Child". This has included many whole boxes which have been put together by children or families. We have been overwhelmed by the support of our school families for this project, which so captures the hearts of the children in our school. We know that some children bought items from their pocket money. There have also been cash donations which will be delivered with the shoeboxes this week.

Next Fundraiser- Bandana Day- Friday 12 Nov

The fundraising forum likes to support charities which impact on our school families, as well as international projects. For our final activity for 2010, Forum members will join Ian Zinchiri in selling bandanas for Canteen... which supports teenagers with Cancer. Students may bring \$4.00 to purchase a bandana on Friday 12 November.

Pizza & Iceblock Day

Pizza and Iceblock day is Tuesday 9th November. All orders **MUST** be received by Friday 5th November or you will miss out. Ice blocks will be available for 50cents at the gym at lunch time. Maximum of 2 iceblocks per person.

2nd Hand Uniforms

2nd hand uniforms will be available before and after assembly on Thursday 18th November from 10am outside the gym. They will also be available to purchase after school outside the front office. If you have any school uniform items you no longer need please drop them into the front office before the 18th November.

Congratulations



Congratulations to Ben Gregory who made the Hills SAPSASA Cricket team. They are playing in Adelaide this week. Well done and good luck Ben.

Year 7 French Award

Each year, the Alliance Française awards a prize to the Best Year 7 for each school. This year, the award went to Emma Bowden (Rm 8). Emma is extremely enthusiastic about learning French and shows a high level of confidence when speaking French. The award was presented at a special awards night, held at St Peter's College on Monday 18th October..

Félicitations Emma!



Congratulations to Ben Lucas who has made the State Under 17 team for softball and will be travelling to West Beach in January for the competition. Best of luck Ben.

Swimming Fun Day—Monday 6th December

Once again, our school will be travelling to Mt Barker Pool for a Swimming picnic day on Monday, 6th of December. This day is a celebration for our Littlehampton students. Parents are welcome to join us. Please note, while it is appropriate for parents to bring their toddlers, it is not appropriate for school age children to be there who are not enrolled at our school. This includes older brothers and sisters who may be at high school, and primary school students who are enrolled at another school. Last year there were some issues with sunburn. Students will be required to wear a t-shirt at all times, including in the pool. Staff are looking at other strategies to ensure sun safety.



SAPSASA Cross Country

On Thursday 21st October 45 athletes and 6 helpers walked to Anembo Park to participate in SAPSASA cross country. In very warm conditions they all performed well and all completed the course. Littlehampton did very well coming 3rd overall and getting a 1st in under 10 boys. Congratulations to Jack Wilson, Dylan Hopgood, Bailey Hough and Josh Thompson and all the under 10 boys. We came 2nd in the under 13 boys. Well done and congratulations to Alex Keast, Ben Gregory, Ben Lucas, Michael Stafford and all the under 13 boys. In the girls under 10s congratulations to Madison Cribb, Georgina Calderwood, Zoe Marshall and Ella Lawson and all the other under 10 girls. The helpers— Celeste, Raschelle, Amy, Jennifer, Scott and Erik did a great job. Congratulations to all those people who participated.



PRINCIPALS AWARDS

Congratulations to Keaton Riddle who was inadvertently omitted from our list of students who received achievement awards for achieving in the top band of NAPLAN tests in one or more areas.

Kindness— Sarah Porter, Manon LeDeunff, Caitlin Melville, Peta Clemments, Noah Collingwood, Hannah Gaborit, Jonathan Liebelt, Conrad Jeitner, Bradley Sandford, Alex Keast, Amy Mackay, Scott Porter, Ben Lucas, Natasha Lancaster, Alex Bakker, Jarrah Taylor, Madison Cribb, Sheridan Achurch, Poppy Samwell, Nyah Gaff, Louise Grzybala

A Positive Attitude— Amber Nash, Emily Allen, Emily Thompson, Bryce Colotti, Paige Lambe, Lilah Hogben, Ethan Neale, Maria Henke, Caity Glatsonbury, Henry Hincks, Tijana DeLacy, Taylah Collingwood, Forrest Joshua-Stomski

Respect— Thomas Wilmont, Liam Wilson, Karli Roberts, Ayden Wilmott, Troy Parker-Boers

Fairness— Ryder Taylor

Including Others— Harry Thomas, Jarrah Taylor, Sarah Westerholm, Samuel Bakker, Chloe Kupzynski

Being Trustworthy— Manon LeDeunff, Jessamie Rowe, William Gourlay, Zachary Hart

Achievement— Keaton Riddle, Mitchell Streng

Community Notices

We have been asked to advertise the following. If you would like more information it is available at the front office.

*Glenunga International High School are having school tours. To book into a tour check out their web site for dates.

www.gihs.sa.edu.au Open Day dates for 2011 will be on the web site soon.

*Mt Barker District Show Spring Garden Competition 2010. Entries close 10 Nov 2010. Judging 13th Nov 2010.

*Hills Garden and Environmental Expo. At Uraidla on 14/11/10

*Kids Taekwondo. Enquiries 0412 909 500 or 0400 833 979.

*Mt Barker Christmas Pageant. Saturday 4th December. If you would like to participate see the front office for dates & times.

Scarecrow Day November 14

This week your child will bring you an individual invitation to our scarecrow day, a fun-filled day for the school community. Parents are invited to come with your family and friends, and create a scarecrow for our new garden.

1500 Start

1515 - 1530 - Scarecrow Fashion Parade

1545 - 1700 - Scarecrow Building

1700 - 1730 - Judging

1745 Winners announced

1800 Official end of Day

- Most materials and tools and some pre-loved items will be provided, but each family is also asked to bring one shopping bag of materials to share.
- Bring your own picnic tea and drinks. Last year we all enjoyed ending the day together and getting to know others in the school community
- Great prizes for kids and families, including movie passes, gift vouchers and give-aways.
- Class prize for the best class scarecrow! Get some of your classmates together and organise one of your parents to help you on the day.
- Children are invited to dress up for our scarecrow fashion parade.



Remember our great scarecrows from last year?
Bride & Groom? Cyclists?
Pots 'n pans?
You can do even better, and this year we will keep them!



Official Opening of our New Buildings Friday November 26

At a special assembly on Friday afternoon, 26th November, Jay Weatherill, Minister of Education will officially open our new Preschool, new library, double classroom and refurbishment.

Preschool parents will receive a special invitation, and we hope as many of you as possible can come with your preschoolers, as we would like your children to present a musical item to special guests in the Preschool grounds.

We would like to know which other parents would like to join us, as we will need to ensure we have enough chairs for the assembly, and also provide enough afternoon tea when the buildings are open. For your information, here is a draft outline of the opening event.

- 2:15 p.m. Classes, parents and invited guests gather in the gymnasium for the special assembly
- 2:30 p.m. Open ceremony commences with musical items and speeches
- 2:45 p.m. Preschool children & parents move out to the preschool, one class moves to library, remainder of school moves back to classrooms for dismissal
- 3:00 Invited guests move to Library, where Jay Weatherill declares the new library, double classroom and refurbishment open
- 3:10 Invited guests move to Preschool where children present a short item, and Jay Weatherill unveils a plaque to open the preschool.
- 3:20 Afternoon tea for invited guests, Preschool parents and other parents is served in Preschool and Preschool car park.
- 3:45 Tour of new buildings for invited guests

If you are a school parent, and would like to attend this opening event, please send back the following response sheet by Friday November 12.

Thankyou



Thankyou The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Mt Barker Ward Helping Hands for their huge effort in our grounds over the weekend.

Thankyou to the Rowan, Riddle, Gerrard and Hockin families

INVITATION TO ATTEND GOVERNING COUNCIL, Monday 29 Nov, 7:30 p.m. SCHOOL FEES 2010

Our school families will find attached to this newsletter the proposed Materials and Service Charges for 2010. Finance Committee has recommended that the fees be increased next year by \$5.00. This is less than the CPI, which for 2010 was 2.4%, (\$7.50). The proposed fee increase will be discussed and voted on during the first 15 minutes of our next Governing Council meeting, on Monday, 29 November at 7:30 p.m. and interested parents are welcome to attend the early part of this meeting, or may address their opinion to the Governing Council in writing.

I/we would like to attend the official opening for the new buildings on Friday November 26th.

Name: _____

Child's class: _____

Number attending: _____

Please return to the front office by
Friday 12th November