



OAKHURST NEWS

Newsletter 06 / 2010
Tuesday, 23 March 2010

Dear Parents

It was very encouraging to have such wonderful parental support at our annual sports day. Once again, we didn't get the weather quite right but I still feel it was preferable to the extreme heat we had last year.

Thank you for being such good sports and for joining your daughters in the fun family races.

I am delighted to tell you that we will be receiving an award for our Literacy and Numeracy achievements in 2009. Unfortunately this award ceremony is on Thursday night – the same night as the Sunset Concert at Oakhurst. I am very disappointed that I'll miss the Sunset Concert but I shall proudly accept the award at the ceremony on behalf of all your exceptional daughters! Please accept my apologies for not being at the concert.

SUNSET CONCERT

Our guest musicians are the Sans Souci Jazz Cats, the Westerford High School Band, and some of our own music teachers. The concert will be held in the hall Quad and will start promptly at 6pm and will continue until 8pm. Please bring along your picnic supper, chairs and/or blankets and join us for a relaxing evening. Pancakes and hot drinks will be on sale. As usual there will be limited parking available in the school grounds. The tickets are on sale from Mrs Wilkinson in the office at R30 for adults and R10 for children. Tickets will also be available on Thursday night.

The school bands are performing for us at no cost as the proceeds of this event will be put towards extending our own music department. I know you will give them the Oakhurst support we have become accustomed to.

MEASLES VACCINE

Last week I sent home a letter from the Dept of Health regarding the measles vaccine being offered to children at school. The situation is serious, and I have been asked to encourage all parents to consider this as a matter of importance. Juliet Wood, an Oakhurst parent and medical doctor, has offered to administer the injections to our girls. She will be assisted by another Oakhurst parent, Margie von Zeil, a pharmacist with the Dept of Health. You can be assured that your daughter will be in good hands. Please return the consent form to school as soon as possible. I have not yet been informed by the Dept of Health of the exact date that the vaccinations will be done. I shall let you know as soon as I am given that information.

FUNDRAISING

We have still not received all the money due from the Big Splash but Mrs Bradley has calculated what we have managed to raise so far this year.

Buy a Brick	R19 690
Valentine's Day civvies	R1059
Big Splash	R54 679
Chicken Burgers on Sports Day	R2355
Pick n Pay slips	R10 000
TOTAL	R87 783

Thank you very much – this is as a result of the support that we have had from our Oakhurst families. We hope to be able to add a few thousand rand more to this amount after the Sunset Concert. The barometer in the entrance hall is creeping up slowly and we are now just over half way to our goal of R650 000.

OAKHURST DEVELOPMENT TRUST

This year there has been an increase in the number of families contributing to the Oakhurst Development Trust as parents have realised the tax benefits involved - we are very grateful to all those families.

The trustees have agreed to fund the tarring of the car park in the front of the school. This is a project that had been earmarked by the trust as part of the centenary developments in 2006. Due to a lack of funds, the project was not started at that time. The area becomes messy and muddy during winter and it is unpleasant and unsafe to walk or drive on.

Even though our fund raising efforts this year are focused on the extension to the hall, the campus still needs to be maintained and kept in good order. In an old building like ours, it means that we are constantly repairing, replacing and revamping.

It is through your generous contributions to the trust that we are able to undertake this project. It will be done during the upcoming school holidays so as to cause as little disruption as possible. Please pop in and have a look at the completed project next term.

MEET THE TEACHERS

This will take place on Tuesday 13 April and Thursday 15 April. Grade 3-7 teachers will meet with parents in the school hall and Gr1 and 2 parents will meet the teachers in their classrooms. Teachers have a tight schedule and I ask that you arrive punctually for your meetings so as to avoid running over time.

REPORTS

You will receive your daughter's first report for 2010 this week. You may keep the report and any other letters and notices that are sent home in the report folder. Please sign **the folder** as proof of receipt of the report and send **the folder** back to school in the same envelope.

Areas of concern will be discussed with you at the parent meetings next term.

WINTER SPORT PROGRAMME

Please study the programme carefully and return the reply slip once your daughter has made her choice of extra mural activity for the winter terms. May I remind you that we enter teams into leagues on the strength of the commitment we get from the girls. If they choose to participate in a particular extra-mural activity, they need to see the whole season through. It is embarrassing for us when we commit Oakhurst to a league and then cannot field a side because the girls drop out during the season.

Please also note the changed venue for hockey practices and matches.

TERM TWO

Next term is a short one and we will need to fit all our usual second term activities into fewer weeks. It also promises to be an exciting one as our country prepares to host the soccer world cup. We have a few activities planned at school that we hope will generate some excitement and be of educational value at the same time.

Please diarise Saturday, 29 May – Mums and daughters breakfast.

EARLY CLOSING

School will close at 11:00 on Friday for all girls. We re-open on Monday 12 April. School will close at 13:00 on the first day of term to allow staff planning meetings to take place.

To those families celebrating Easter and Passover, may it be a time of renewal and blessings.

Have a wonderful holiday!

Jenny van Velden
Principal

OAKHURST NEWS

WHEN YOU THOUGHT I WASN'T LOOKING

A message every adult should read because children are watching you and doing as you do, not as you say.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you make my favourite cake for me, and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking I heard you say a prayer, and I knew that there is a God I could always talk to, and I learned to trust in Him.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it, and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good, and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw tears come from your eyes, and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw that you cared, and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking I looked at you and wanted to say, 'Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking'

In March the grade 4's went on an outing to Seal Island. We all went on a lovely boat!
We all went to see the funny seals!
We were all travelling with our teachers and our school friends.
It was really fun, we saw lots of seals!
At the end of the journey we got chip rolls and coke. The journey was really fun and the breeze was cool and fresh! I would like to go on the boat again. It was the best boat ride I have ever been on!
Thank you to all the moms and dads that lifted and helped on the outing!

Annie Williams

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