



OAKHURST NEWS

Newsletter 04 / 2010
Tuesday, 23 February 2010

Dear Parents

Murphy was hovering around again last week at the time of our Interhouse gala. The only day of that week when the rain fell! It had to be Murphy's law.

Thank you to those parents who took the time off to spend the morning at the gala. Despite the weather, the girls had great fun.

SAFE HOUSE PROJECT

Thank you to those families who have offered their homes as 'safe houses' for the Oakhurst girls and the Rondebosch Prep boys. I'll keep you updated once we have liaised with the Prep school.

BLANK GREETING CARDS

We are still selling packs of 5 blank greeting cards and envelopes with a beautiful sketch of the school on the front. They are R30 per pack (only R6 per card) and are available in the front office. We also have a few Oakhurst history books available at R70 each.

TRAFFIC AROUND THE SCHOOL

Every morning, and on a Friday at 13:00, we open the gate in Lancaster Road (behind the school) to alleviate some of the congestion in the front of the school. This is a very narrow road and we therefore have to use it as a 'stop and drop' zone.

Please would you drive past the school to the turning zone just past our swimming pool, then turn your car around and pull over on the Oakhurst side of the road. There are a few parents who are stopping right outside the school gate, having crossed the flow of traffic, and are blocking the road for other cars.

Please consider other road users as well as our neighbours.

OAKHURST OUTREACH

In the last newsletter I mentioned the care boxes that our girls will be packing this Friday for the victims of crime at the Rondebosch police station. Thank you so much to those parents who sent various items to us to pack in these boxes. I have no doubt that your generosity and thoughtfulness will be appreciated by the recipients.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

Many of the high schools in our area are currently having open days. These are of particular interest to the Grade 7 parents and girls.

Please take note of the following times:

Westerford (learners)	22 – 24 Feb	15:30 – 17:30
Parents	2 March	18:00
Springfield Convent	3 March	9:00 – 13:00
Rustenburg (girls to wear school uniform)	8 March	16:00
San Souci	4 March	17:00 – 19:00
	6 March	9:00 – 11:00

The girls going to the Springfield open day may only leave Oakhurst at first break so that they are able to be at school for their Maths lesson in the morning.

Please make sure that you apply to more than one high school. Most applications close early in March.

OAKHURST APPLICATIONS FOR 2011

Applications for entry into Grade 1 in 2011 will close on 24 March. All siblings must submit application forms. Please remind friends and family as well.

GARDEN

You will have noticed the activity taking place in the garden at the pedestrian entrance to the school. The garden is being revamped as it had become overgrown and unattractive. The revamp will create a welcoming and attractive entrance to Oakhurst. It has been funded by the proceeds from your recycling efforts in 2009. THANK YOU.

BIG SPLASH

On Saturday we will all be at school to take part in the Big Splash. Here is another reminder of the specific times that the girls will be swimming.

Gr7	9:00 – 9:30
Gr6	9:30 – 10:00
Gr5	10:00 – 10:30
Gr4	10:30 – 11:00
	The Oakhurst Hippos will make an appearance
Gr3	11:00 – 11:30
Gr2	11:30 – 12:00
Gr1	12:00 – 12:30

Girls must please be at school 15 minutes before they are scheduled to swim.

All girls must wear a swimming cap.

There will be plenty for everybody to eat and drink, so please join us before and after your daughter swims to enjoy the food and the fun.

SUNSET CONCERT

On **Thursday, 25 March** we will be having a sunset concert on the lawn at Oakhurst from 18:00 to 20:00. The Westerford High School band will be entertaining us as well as a few surprise performers. This is the evening before school closes for the first term. More details will follow with regard to tickets for the concert. Please diarise the date and try to join us for what promises to be a relaxing evening in good company with great entertainment.

PICK N PAY SLIPS

We are well over half way, and we have 10 weeks left. Thank you for your wonderful support of this project. Unfortunately, we are only allowed to collect slips to the value of R 1 million – we could probably have reached R 1.5 million easily. What an easy way to make R10 000. Thank you Oakhurst parents, friends and families.

TEACHERS MAKE EVERY OTHER CAREER POSSIBLE

Once again, teachers and Principals have been the focus of media reports over the past few weeks. Last week a teacher arrived at a school in Cape Town at 9:30, in her slippers! This does not happen at Oakhurst, but we are all unfortunately 'tarred with the same brush' and as educators we sadly see and feel the degradation of our incredibly important profession on a daily basis. I invite you to read the article on the back of this newsletter. It is a gentle reminder of just how important those people are in whose hands your child's future lie. At Oakhurst, WE CARE. See you on Saturday.

Thought for the day

No one gets out of this world alive, so the time to live, learn, care, share, celebrate, and love is now.

Leo Buscaglia



Jenny van Velden
Principal

OAKHURST NEWS

The Value of the Teacher

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life.

One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?"

To stress his point he said to another guest; "You're a teacher, Barbara. Be honest. What do you make?"

Barbara, who had a reputation for honest and frankness replied, "You want to know what I make?"

(She paused for a second, then began)

"Well I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make a C+ feel like the Congressional medal of Honor winner. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents CAN'T make them sit for 5 without an ipod, game cube or movie rental.

You want to know what I make.

(She paused again and looked at each and every person at the table)

- I make kids wonder.
- I make them question.
- I make them apologise and mean it.
- I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions.
- I teach them to write and then I make them write. Keyboarding isn't everything.
- I make them read, read, read.
- I make them show all their work in math. They use their God given brain, not the man-made calculator.
- I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know about English while preserving their unique cultural identity.
- I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe.
- Finally, I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard, and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life.

(Barbara paused one last time and then continued.)

- Then when people try to judge me by what I make, with me knowing money isn't everything. I can hold my head up high and pay no attention because they are ignorant.

You want to know what I make.

I MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

What do you make Mr CEO?

"Puppy Socialisation
Classes
Adult Training Classes
Behaviour Consultations
Tel: 072 79 79 533
Dog Dynamics
www.dogdynamics.co.za"

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