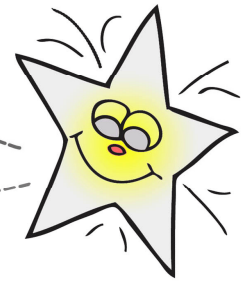


WYNBERG GIRLS' JUNIOR SCHOOL



Educating to expect excellence



NEWSLETTER #19 8 Nov



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MySchool

As another busy school year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers from the SUCCESS Centre who willingly spend time, one on one, with little ladies who benefit from 'one on one' input.

Your dedication and contribution has been invaluable to our girls. Final assessments are around the corner so we will end sessions on Wednesday 16 November 2011.

Next year, the SUCCESS Centre will be undergoing some changes as we link with [help2read](http://www.help2read.org), which is a child literacy organization that operates in primary schools. They also rely on a volunteer workforce.

They provide all resources and training and ask only that you commit to at least 1hr per week for one year.

For more information, visit the help2read website www.help2read.org or contact

Taryn Hawke: tarbuy@wgjs.co.za

"Make a change. Become a volunteer reading helper and improve a child's life forever."

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Staff On The Move

Congratulations to the following staff who are embarking on new horizons in 2012:

Mrs Harrison has been awarded a grant to complete her studies for her doctorate and will be studying full time in 2012

Ms Amanda Steel will be joining a private practice

Mrs Candice Brand is going to teach Gr R at Reddam House, Constantia

Miss Pam Cuyler is going to teach boys at Rondebosch Boys' Junior

Mrs Karen Burger will be going to teach Gr 1's at Sweet Valley Primary School.

Mrs Tersa Harley who stepped in for 6 months will be playing full time mom.

We are very grateful for the years of caring that these teachers have given to WGJS.

All appointments for 2012 will be announced once confirmation is received from the WCED, after 30 November.

Additional Aftercare GR 4 – 7

A concern that has been noted, is the need to ensure that our girls are safe in the afternoons. It is alarming how many girls simply wait in the playground, wander down Aliwal Road or wait in the High School grounds. Also of concern is the number of girls who wait for older siblings.

We are very grateful for the wonderful care that Mr Mbengelele provides but he is not able to provide a babysitting service for girls who sit and wait. All Grade R to 2 pupils who wait for older siblings or additional extra-murals must be booked in to Aftercare.

In order to provide a better service in 2012, Carol Barnard will continue to provide aftercare facilities for grade R – 3 in a more age specific structure, while the Grade 4 – 7's will now be managed by WGJS in a classroom in the main school building. Homework will be managed by both Aftercare facilities.

Fees for both aftercare facilities will be the same. Application forms for full and part time care are available on request from the office. Please complete these before year end to reserve your place.

The free homework opportunity in the library for girls waiting for lifts will continue from Monday to Thursday from 14h30—15h30 as before.

Music Department

Music application forms are available at the reception for next year.

There are music lessons available in piano, violin, saxophone, clarinet, flute, recorder and guitar. There is a waiting list so it's important if you'd like your daughter to do music, that you get the application form in as soon as possible.

Refurbishing your office?

Should you decide to revamp your office or your study and have shelves that you no longer need, please consider donating these items to the Sports Department. We are desperately looking for shelving for the Gym store room.

Please contact the office should you be able to help us.

News from the Library

We wish Sabrina Otto and her team all the best for the "Family Reading Challenge" which is being held on Wednesday 9th November at SACS Junior.

All library books must be handed in by Friday – and all outstanding fines paid too. The annual stocktaking commences on Monday 21 November. Please ensure that your daughter is a member of a public library.

Henry D. Thoreau wrote : "Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations."

Verification Forms

Having recently integrated our computer software from one programme to another, certain information may have been incorrectly transferred. Please check and complete all the information outstanding on the forms and return for capturing.

Achievements

Congratulations to Raniya Khan, in Grade 4. She ran the Old Mutual 5km Fun Run, coming 13th out of 2000 entrants in just 38 minutes.

My School / Woolworths 6km Fun Run

A group of learners and staff represented the school in the Annual Fun Run on Sunday 6th November. The WGJS "team" finished with race well within the cut off time and were presented with a medal and a very welcome refreshment at the end.



Congratulations to all the girls who participated in the gala at Springfield on Friday afternoon.

Our teams all had outstanding performances and we are very proud of you all.

From the Principal's Pen

"We are no longer focusing on how to raise good children, but we are obsessed with trying to be good parents."

This quote really got me thinking this week. I trust it does you too.



As I observe myself and other parents around me, I see many of us feeling tired, stressed, worried or quietly (and guiltily) resentful of all we think we have to do to be good parents. We take the blame or find others to blame if our children are not behaving, progressing or achieving rather than putting the responsibility on the child.

At what age do we expect them to start taking responsibility for their achievements and happiness?

Over the past few weeks I have met with many families in the enrollment process and have been particularly impressed by 'family ideas' .

One family has a Thursday dinner evening which is planned for before sundown. There is no TV, resulting in time to chat around a candlelit dinner table.

Another family has head of table evening – with one family member responsible as head of table for the evening – decide on what's for supper, lay the table, ask each member how their day was, and then clean up afterwards.

Other ideas:-

Once a month having a "garden morning" - the whole family working together in the garden, or Having a "no TV" night.

I am certain that these traditions will be continued in the homes of these children for generations to come, with positive results.

What traditions or routines do you have that are worth looking forward to?

Some or all of the following may be ways to reinvigorate your experience of parenting:

- ◆ Working as much as you really want to in a job you really like;
- ◆ Spending as much time with your children as you really want to;
- ◆ Playing games, reading books and watching films with them that you can also enjoy;
- ◆ Finding ways to integrate a hobby / exercise / activity into your life, instead of giving it up once you have children;
- ◆ Making family outings and activities about your enjoyment as much as theirs;
- ◆ Sharing your interests and loves with your children.

The suggestions above will certainly be of benefit to you. Even if, as a family, they are introduced slowly until they become a regular occurrence.

Warm regards,

Dee Cawcutt

Principal