

# Newsletter to Parents

## STANFORD MERTHYR INFANTS SCHOOL

Striving for Excellence

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Week 8 Term 1

15th March 2011



Date	Next fortnight's activities
22nd March	Playgroup SMIS 9.30-11.00am
23rd March	Book Club orders due back to school Understanding Best Start 2.00pm
30th March	3 Way Conference K/1P
31st March	3 Way Conference KH
1st April	3 Way Conference 1/2S

**Baker, Baker**

KH Luke Dietrich  
K/1P Declyn Bean  
1/2S Kaitlin Moyle

**No peanut products are to be used**

**Dear Families and Friends of Stanford Merthyr**  
Congratulations everyone for your efforts on Crazy Hair Day. We saw some very creative fashions and the Kids Councillors were able to raise \$107 to support the Leukaemia foundation. This is another example of the great community spirit our school has to support charities that the students feel are important.



On Friday all students received the Parent information and observation sheets for their child's 3 way conference. Please return the observation sheet to your class teacher, as it is important feedback from the parents perspective, to help the class teacher when negotiating your child's goals. The 3 way conferences have been

very valuable in strengthening the partnership between school and home in working towards the common goal of student achievement. From surveys we did last year for National Partnership, the students, teachers and parents all regarded the 3 way conferences as a valuable way to communicate. If you haven't received your child's forms please see Wendy at the office.

I would like to welcome the Saxelby family to our school. Lachlan in Kinder and Jarred in Year 2 had their first day yesterday and by the looks on their faces yesterday afternoon had a great start. Last week I received an email from Emma Davies, that we have included in this newsletter.

Our gardens are looking fantastic. Thank you to Mr Harmes and Mr Jennings for setting up our garden so the grass doesn't grow through it. I know the students and staff spent the first couple of weeks after the holidays just getting on top of the grass. A special thank you to Robyn Griffiths who is coming in and working with students to prepare our gardens and resurrect plants that have been neglected. It is very rewarding spending time in the garden with the children. Their enthusiasm and interest is amazing. We welcome anyone who has any time to spare and an interest in gardening to come along and join in the fun learning experiences.



Thinking of selling or leasing your property? Don't forget to contact Renee at Sylvester Real Estate in Kurri Kurri. For every house Renee sells she will donate money to our school.

I have had a request that we need more vegetable and fruit scraps for our magnificent compost bin. There will be a purple bucket as you come in the front gate, especially for families to bring their scraps along for us.

On Monday afternoon we have special interest groups. The students are loving the opportunities they have been given from working with clay, wood, sewing and cooking. I tasted the cooking yesterday with homemade pasta and a sauce that had vegetables from our garden, delicious!



These are intensive workshops and we were hoping to have any parents, grandparents or neighbours who are able to help us at 2.00pm on a Monday afternoon. Please see your child's teacher if you can help or know of anyone who maybe able to help. You may have an interest or a hobby that you think students would enjoy learning about. We would love to hear from you to further enrich the program.

Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21st March each year. It's a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity and give people the opportunity to celebrate what makes each Australian unique and share what we have in common. The continuing message for Harmony Day in 2011 is that **Everyone Belongs**, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It's a time to reflect on where Australia has come

from, recognising the traditional owners of this land. It's also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect - celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live. Over the years, Harmony Day has grown in popularity as Australians have made the day their own. Students are encouraged to wear the Harmony Day colour, orange, with their uniform on this day, as a reminder that 'everyone belongs'.

Coming up on the **5th April** we will be having another Morning at Stanford Merthyr. We are inviting parents and friends to come into their child's classroom and spend the morning working with us. We will end the session with a family bar-beque to support the Harmony Day message that everyone belongs. Even though this is an official invitation, we love to have parents come and work in the classes at anytime. If you can make it please let your child's teacher know by filling in the attached form.

We had a P&C meeting last Friday morning. It was wonderful to work with the parents and hear their thoughts and commitment to the school. There is a lot coming up so please read the P&C information in the newsletters or look on the noticeboard under the cola for further updates.

- The class fruit break roster has worked well and we are looking for volunteers in KH . Anyone who can help on a Thursday morning to cut up fruit and vegetables please write their name on the roster.
- We are also taking part in a fundraiser where by buying a box of mixed fruit or vegetables or both, the school receives \$5 for every box sold. We need to have at least 5 orders to participate in the program. Our first delivery will be this Wednesday. We will have the orders on show so that you can see what is available. The feedback the P&C received from parents who had previously participated in this program was very positive. We can only try and thank you

to the P&C for your organisation to support the school in fundraising.

- The State elections are being held on the 26th March and our school is a voting place. The P&C are organising a barbeque and cake stall to be operating at the school for part of the day. This is always a very profitable fundraiser and we are looking for volunteers who would be able to do a short shift on the stall.
- We are looking for more parents to be part of the fundraising committee as the more parents we have makes it more effective and less of a work load for all involved.

On the weekend of 26th March The Nostalgia Festival is happening once again. Our boys dance group have been invited to participate in the opening ceremony . A note will be given shortly with more information.

On Wednesday and Thursday I will be attending a Principal Conference but as usual I will be leaving the school in excellent hands.

### **Peanut Butter**

I would like to remind everyone that due to having a boy at school that has an allergy to peanuts, could you please not send peanut butter to school on your child's lunch.

### **Kindergarten Photos**

The kindergarten photo The Maitland Mercury took a couple of weeks ago will be published in The Mercury on Wednesday 23rd march.

### **Congratulations**

We would like to congratulate Mrs Jennie Capstick on her achievement of 40 years teaching. We are very lucky to have her on staff, to share in her wealth of knowledge!



Have a wonderful week!

### **Thought of the week**

Individually we are one drop, but together we are an ocean.

Kathryn Duncan  
Principal



### **P & C News**

One of our new kinder mums Jackie Dietrich has looked into getting a company to deliver fruit and veg straight to our school. There are 4 types of boxes you can order (see flyer attached) and \$5.00 from each box brought goes to our school. We need a minimum of 5 boxes each week for them to deliver. The orders must be in and paid for by **Monday 3.00pm** for the order to be delivered on Wednesday. If you are interested, please see the office to place your order.

### **Election Day and Nostalgia Festival**

We are not doing the Nostalgia Festival this year as there was a mix up with the organisers, so instead we thought we would sell Bacon and Egg Rolls, cans of drink, and cakes and slices at our school on election day, since voting is taking place here. We are asking for donations of cakes and slices for the day and we will have a roster on the notice board for volunteers to work on the day which is **Saturday 26th march**. Even if you can only spare an hour we would be very grateful.

### **Minutes from the Meeting**

Our last meeting was on Friday and from that we have decided to put a copy of the minutes up on the noticeboard for anybody who is interested that could not attend the meeting.

### **Easter**

The fundraising committee have decided not to sell chocolates this year for Easter, but we are still doing an Easter Raffle, so we are asking everybody to donate an egg so we can put together the prizes.

Our next meeting will be held on 13th May 2011.

P & C Committee



# ZumbAtomic®



## WHAT IS ZumbAtomic®?

ZumbAtomic is a series of specially designed classes for children ages 4-12 years.

Through dance, exercise and music, ZumbAtomic encourages children to develop healthy lifestyles.

Classes last from 45-60 minutes and include multi-cultural rhythm, body movement, games and performance.



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TEAMWORK

PRIDE



GAIL RICHARDS  
0401 463 440  
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Qualified Children's Services Teacher,  
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STARTING  
SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 10.30AM  
KURRI  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
\$7 PER CLASS

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## An email from Emma Davies

**From:** emma daves [emmadavies2004@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 February 2011 5:13 PM  
**To:** School, Stanmerthi-p  
**Subject:** ATTENTION- Mrs Duncan

dear mrs duncan

i am writing to you now so that you have my email address. Mum helped me make one this afternoon so that i can keep in touch with all my wonderful friends at stanford merthyr school.

this afternoon was the best farewell anyone could ask for. it makes us all as a family very sad to have to say good bye to such a beautiful and wonderful school but our tears are also that of joy as i know i am very loved and will never be forgotten.

i will miss all of you so so much but as mum says i am off to new and exciting things she also says that change is a good thing.

so it is with a heart full of sadness and excitement that i am not saying good bye but am saying see you later.

mum says that i can send as many emails and pictures as i like so i am sending a picture now that mum took of Libbia and i this morning so that you can hang it on your wall.

she also says she will take some more on monday and i can send them as well but after school bye for now

your friend Emma Davies

ps thank you for the card i am going to hang it on my wall.



# \$5 goes to SMIS for every box sold!

## KEEP YOUR FAMILY HEALTHY, BUY YOUR BOX TODAY!

Purchase your seasonal fruit and vegetables through the Fruit and Vegie Drive and raise money for the school!

- Fresh local produce
- Delivered directly to the school
- Great recipe ideas
- Keep your family on track to eating two fruit and five vegies a day
- Four boxes to choose from

-  Small fruit and vegie box \$22
-  Large fruit and vegie box \$32
-  Fruit only box \$27
-  Vegie only box \$27



[www.fruitandvegiedrive.com.au](http://www.fruitandvegiedrive.com.au)



DELIVERY DAY:

Wednesday

TO MAKE AN ORDER CONTACT:

Office -

An initiative of



Morning at Stanford Merthyr  
Tuesday 5th April 2011

☐ I will attending the morning at SMIS on 5th April.

No of people attending to help in the classroom

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_





## Kebabs



Kebabs can be eaten straight off the BBQ or grill, with a tossed salad. They are great for a Sunday lunch or quick dinner during the week. Kebabs make great lunch box food - eat them hot or cold wrapped in pita bread with shredded lettuce (don't forget to pull out the stick before you eat them). Makes 10 kebabs.

**Ingredients**  
440 g can of unsweetened pineapple pieces  
2 tablespoons salt-reduced soy sauce  
1 clove garlic, crushed

**Utensils**  
10 wooden or steel skewers  
Shallow dish  
Mixing bowls  
Strainer  
Chopping board and knife  
Measuring spoons  
Grill or BBQ  
Can opener



.....now eat and enjoy!

For more exciting recipes that are healthy, easy to make and a great way to get the kids involved, talk to Mr Ping and he can organise it.

Happy Eating!!

Mr Ping

## What's so Easy??

We are back in the swing of another year and we are slowly burning off the tasty treats that we consumed over Christmas. So what's to eat I hear you say? Well it gives me great pleasure to let you in on a little secret.... Eating healthy doesn't have to be boring!! Why not grab the kids, head into the kitchen and start cooking up a storm ☺.

## Universal Stir Fry



**Ingredients**  
Colourful and crunchy, these vegetables can be served with any meat or fish. This recipe uses chicken. Makes 4 serves.  
500 g chicken breast  
1 tablespoon soy sauce  
1 tablespoon fresh ginger, grated or crushed  
1 bunch broccoli  
1 cup fresh mushrooms  
1 red capsicum  
1 teaspoon cornflour  
½ cup of water  
1 tablespoon oil (optional)

**Utensils**  
Chopping board and knife  
Wok or larger frypan  
Measuring cups and spoons  
Mixing Bowls  
Cup





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE WHO HAVE CELEBRATED A BIRTHDAY !



**Aryan McLean**  
**Mitchell Patterson**  
**Mia Brady**

**1/2S**  
**KH**  
**KH**

**05/03/11**  
**07/03/11**  
**08/03/11**

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS;**  
*At the assembly on Friday 11th March 2011  
these children all received awards.*

1/2S	K/1P	KH
<b>Kaitlin Moyle</b> Using great friends of 10 strategies	<b>Jesse King</b> Ordering red and green blocks	<b>Jackson Ferry</b> Recognising dot patterns
<b>Bella Hilton</b> Excellent reading strategies	<b>Riley Chapple</b> Crisp pointing and confident reading voice	<b>Abby Stauffer</b> Outstanding effort in writing
<b>Makayla Patterson</b> Persistence in completing her work	<b>Aura Atkinson</b> Always using 5 L's	<b>Brayden Ling</b> Settling into school routines
<b>Johannes Basedow</b> Getting Along	<b>Liam Bailey</b> Persistence	<b>Cooper Fox</b> Confidence
<p align="center"><b>READING AWARDS</b> <b>BRONZE</b></p> <p>Callen Ingham      Brock Allaway      Kaitlin Moyle      Rylee Norris      Jai Langman  Emma Ellis      Madison Todhunter      Daniel Sherlock      Hunter Williams      Marty Williams  Tiah Cornell-Taggart</p>		
<p><b>PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS (Five Awards)</b> Aiden Blishen Cuneo</p>		

