



Happy Valley School

VOLUME 13– 5th August 2004

Week 3 .. Term 3

News letter

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OUR STUDENTS “STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE”

CONGRATULATIONS LAUREN AND AMELIA

Many parents know that Happy Valley School offers testing opportunities to students through the University of NSW - Australasian Schools Competitions, for a fee. The competitions now attract more than one and a half million entries each year and have expanded in range and levels to test English (Years 3-12), Science (Years 3-12), Writing (Years 3-12), Computer Skills (Years 3-12) and Mathematics (Years 3-12) (Australasian Schools Mathematics Assessment).

As yet the final results have not been fully communicated, however we have been informed that Lauren Hammond has been awarded a medal for scoring the highest mark in her year level (Year 5) in South Australia for the 2004 Australasian Schools English Competition. This means that Lauren is in the 100th percentile. The engraved medal is currently being struck and will be awarded later this term. This is not the first time Lauren has achieved such excellence for in 2003 she received the same award as a Year 4.

In addition congratulations also go to Amelia Jutilane-Maynard for Amelia was in the 99th percentile from entrants from across South Australia. Although not receiving a medal, Amelia receives a High Distinction Certificate. Congratulations to you both!

CONGRATULATIONS DENI

Denis Varnhagen is one of just 14 girls to make the under 12 State Soccer team and will compete in the national championships in Sydney in the coming week. “It will be really good to play against really hard girls”. I’m really looking forward to it – I love a challenge”. “I like all the room you have to run around with field sports”. says Deni. Have a great time in Sydney Deni!

LITERACY & NUMERACY TEST NEXT WEEK

Just a reminder that the South Australian Literacy and Numeracy Test (LaN) for years 3, 5 and 7 will occur next week. Prior to the LaN test, the Years 3’s and 5’s will have an opportunity to have a ‘practice test’ as part of their preparation for next week.

The dates are;

- Year 3, 5 and 7 Literacy Component – Wednesday 11th August
- Year 3, 5 and 7 Numeracy Component – Thursday 12th August



If you consider that undertaking such a testing process would adversely affect your child, you may apply in writing to the Principal for a formal exemption.

WRITING FOR OUR CHILDREN

If you have ever been interested in how children’s books are written and where the inspiration comes from, this session is for you!!

Amanda Graham, a local author of children’s books including ‘Arthur’ and ‘Picasso’ amongst others, will be presenting an information session covering the following;

- How she got into writing and illustrating
- How she gets her ideas
- Taking the group on a journey through one of her books
- Her work as a writer on educational subjects
- Answering general questions people may have.

Amanda will also have a selection of her books with her.

Where :- The Resource Centre, Happy Valley School

When :- Tuesday 31st August 2004

Between:- 7pm and 9pm

Please return the tear-off slip by Friday 13th August 2004 advising if you will be attending and how many.

DRUG STRATEGY

With Our Eyes Open A Whole School Drug Strategy

Our school is embarking on a program to develop a Whole School Drug Strategy for our school. All schools are required to have a strategy in place by the end of next year. Many schools have already begun. We have formed a Core Team Leaders Group (CTLG) made up of parents, students, community representatives and staff to lead the development and implementation of our school's strategy. The CTLG will be trained and supported throughout the process by the Department of Education and Children's Services Drug Strategy Team.

Our Core Team Leaders Group includes the following parents: Bob Fauser, Jenny Finan, Peter Keizer and Kristina Spackman and the following students: Thomas Dennert, Jacinta Thurston, Kristi Snares and Travis Kreslin.



We thank these parents and students for volunteering to be part of the CTLG.

The Whole School Drug Strategy will increase the protective factors while reducing the risk factors for all. The four focus areas are:

School Environment

Promoting student resilience and a sense of belonging
Clearly identified roles for all members of the school community
Student and staff well-being
Positive relationships between: students, parents, staff and the wider community

Policies and Procedures

Student well-being is paramount
Procedures for incident management
Medication management
Review and develop consistent school based guidelines
Whole school community involvement

Partnerships with parents, students, community and state agencies and services

Support for students and school communities
Information for parents, students and staff
Professional Development
Closer links with local agency partners

Curriculum

Drug Education R-12
Professional Development for teachers
Personal Development programs
Website reference
Peer Education programs
Complementary programs to enhance curriculum

Core Team Members, will attend and participate in workshops and meetings, contribute to decision-making and work with others to develop and promote the implementation of the Whole School Drug Strategy. Team members assist in keeping staff and members of the wider school community informed about the activities of the Core Team.

If you would like more information about the Whole School Drug Strategy, or your role in it, check the website at: www.drugstrategy.central.sa.edu.au or contact Doug MacLean (Core Team Leader) at the school on 8381 7166.

PROGRAM ACHIEVE – THE 11 HABITS OF THE MIND

As you may be aware Happy Valley has introduced a positive self-esteem program called *Program Achieve*. This is based on 11 habits of the mind. A habit of the mind is an automatic tendency of a person to think in a certain way. By thinking that way, the person experiences certain feelings, which lead to behaviour and achievement. Children who operate successfully under the four foundations; Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along and Confidence also have many positive habits of the mind which help them fulfil their potential for learning.

Each of the 4 foundations have habits of the mind associated with them. The following are extracts from the "You Can Do It!" manual of Program Achieve.

These foundations are,

CONFIDENCE

- **Accepting Myself** – Not thinking badly about myself when I make a mistake
- **Taking Risks** – Thinking it's good to try something new even though I might not be able to do it
- **Being Independent** – Thinking it's important to try new activities and to speak up even if my classmates don't agree with me

PERSISTENCE

- **I Can Do It** – Thinking that I'm more likely to be successful than I am to fail
- **Giving Effort** – Thinking that the harder I try the more successful I will be, knowing that success is not caused by external factors (luck, ease of the task) but internal factors such as effort.
- **Working Tough** – Thinking that in order to be successful in the future, I sometimes have to do things that are not easy or fun in the present.

ORGANISATION

- **Setting Goals** – Thinking that setting a goal can help me be more successful at a task
- **Planning My Time** – Thinking about how long it will take me to do my school work and planning enough time to get it done.

GETTING ALONG

- **Being Tolerant of Others** – Accepting that everyone acts unfairly towards others some of the time and not making overall judgements of people's character based on their differences in behaviour
- **Thinking First** – Thinking when someone treats me badly I need to think about different ways I can react, the consequences of each and the impact of my actions on the other person's feelings
- **Playing by the Rules** – Thinking that by following important school and home rules, I will live in a better world where everyone's rights are protected

Teachers have committed themselves to the program and will continue to re-acquaint students with the foundations of self-esteem and positive relationship building among themselves and relating to others.

WHY SEXUALITY EDUCATION?

Does your child have access to TV?, Video Player?, Radio?, Magazines?, Friends? If the answer is YES to any of these, then your child is receiving an Education in Sexuality. BUT IS IT THE TYPE OF EDUCATION/INFORMATION you want them to have?

Parent/Caregivers are the best source of information for our young people because they are a constant in the young person's life. School lessons are great and a necessity. Have your children told you, recently, what they've learnt at school in the Sexuality Education lessons?

Do you think you can talk with your child/children as much as you would like about their personal development?

Family Life provides a forum that is comfortable where you can give your undivided attention to your child/ren. It is a time when with the leadership of a sensitive educator you can enhance your child/ren's learning experience, and add to their positive attitudes toward sexuality, the miracle of life and their own changing bodies.

Family Life will be visiting your school soon.
WHY NOT GIVE *Family Life* A TRY

Some comments from participants:

"I was so tired this afternoon I didn't really want to come out. My child persisted and here we are. I'm so glad we came, we've decided to stay on to both sessions."

"My child didn't want to come along but I thought I would like her to. She's enjoyed it so much she's really glad she came."

"I've brought my older kids along and got so much out of it that I've brought along my youngest."

Family Life SA Programme

For

Children with their parents/caregivers

At

Happy Valley School

Date: Tuesday, August 24th, 2004

Time: 6.45 p.m.

Cost

Full Programme (2 sessions)

\$15/Family (School Card holders \$11) GST incl.

Part Programme (1 session)

\$11/Family (School Card holders \$9) GST incl.

PAY AT THE DOOR

We carry a wide range of books which will be available for purchase on the night.

<http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/family/>

INTRODUCING OUR NEW NEIGHBOUR

I'd like to introduce your new neighbour, Bethsalem Care, and to apologise for any disruption our construction may be causing to the parents and students of Happy Valley Primary. We hope that, when it's complete, you will agree that it's all been in a good cause. One thing I think I can promise you is, that when it's all finished you'll hardly know we are there! While there's always lots of activity INSIDE an aged care home, we're usually very quiet neighbours.

Bethsalem Care currently has 34 residents at our existing home at Glynde. Most of these residents will be moving to Happy Valley when the first half of our new home opens soon. The current date we are hoping for – to move residents into the home, as well as all our staff, - is **31st August**. Since this is still not a firm date, I will keep your principal informed so that he can publish it in this newsletter.



On the day of the move, there would normally be a lot of extra cars on site, over and above the usual tradespeople – staff members, family members etc. But we are

trying to make special arrangements to provide alternative parking away from the site for most of these. The majority of our movements will be after 9.00 am and before 2.30 pm, so we should be able to minimise the impact on parents in your usual drop-off zone.

The first half of our development will accommodate 47 residents. The home will then grow to accommodate 90 residents when the second half of the development is completed during December. Shortly after, we hope that all

of the construction sheds will be gone, and the landscaping finished before Christmas – weather permitting, of course.

We look forward to developing good relations between Happy Valley Primary and Bethsalem Care, and to seeing your children's happy faces in our home now and then.



Jay Miles, CEO

Editor's Comment

We have had a number of very positive discussions with the people from Bethsalem Care in the past months. Together we have shared an enthusiasm for sharing opportunities for both our students and the residents. Over time we trust we can develop a number of positive initiatives and programs, which bring together the wisdom, time, and wealth of life experiences of the Bethsalem Care residents and staff, with the vitality of young people and the resources and facilities of Happy Valley School. We will keep you informed as things progress.

We would ask that we endeavour to make alternative arrangements for date for their main move in on Tuesday, **31st August**. If this date changes I will inform you in a separate specific note with the new time or arrangements.

S.A. POLICE DEPT. MESSAGE

The following should be noted when parking at the front of the school.

1. OSHC – parents collecting their children from OSHC are not to park facing the wrong way - \$60.00 fine
2. Driving up on to the footpath \$60.00 fine plus parking on the footpath a further \$60.00 fine.

CAR BOOT AND CRAFT STALLS

Happy Valley School, Education Road will be holding a Car boot and Craft Stall at the school on Sunday 22nd August from 10.00am till 2.00 pm.

We have a few sites still available for cars, trailers or craft stalls (in the Hall). Please contact Sandie through the school on ph. 83817166 to book your sites or for more details.

Why don't you have an early spring clean and clean out all your cupboards now so when spring gets here you can sit back and enjoy the warmer weather. Come make a little money for the show or put aside for Christmas.

AUSKICK

Auskick training session with Port Power players on Wednesday 11th August from 4.30 until 5.30pm. There will also be a sausage sizzle. I will pass on more details once I receive them.

Jenny Brown – Coordinator

SUPPORTING MATHEMATICS IN YOUNG LEARNERS

How can you support your child's numeracy development?

Many everyday situations involve mathematics. Confidence and a positive attitude are crucial. Help your child to enjoy and learn about maths by encouraging them to talk and answer their questions. You can encourage your child to notice patterns, shapes, size, order and numbers at home and in the world around them.

When talking about maths with your child:

Pause — wait a few seconds if the child is unsure. Allow some time for them to think about what they are doing.

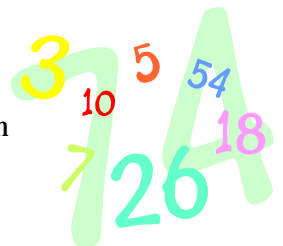
Prompt them to look closer and have a go

- “Tell me about ...”
- “What do you know about ...”
- “Show me how ...”

Praise and encourage. Help them work it out by telling them about the mathematics involved.

Look for, and involve your child in the everyday use of maths:

- counting out money for lunch orders or shopping
- counting groups of objects
- on the television and the internet
- measuring ingredients when cooking
- planning events using a calendar
- estimating the timing and length of car trips
- giving and following directions
- sorting laundry, toys, buttons
- using diaries and calendars.



Talk about what happens:

- at different times of the day
- on each day of the week
- during each month of the year.

Use calculators to play around with numbers and to check answers – Can you make 12? Let's count by 2s.

Do jigsaw puzzles, use LEGO and other materials to build towers and other structures. Draw these structures.

Practise counting backwards and forwards, starting at different numbers.

Play games such as Snakes and Ladders, Monopoly, card games, draughts and dominoes.

Talk about the element of chance in your child's life – It might rain today.

SPORTS NEWS

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to Sam Wright, Nick Bauer and Matt Perry who have made it into the South Adelaide Under 13 Development Squad. They travelled to Melbourne during the first week of the July school holidays. They played against Diamond Valley where the team achieved good results and learned new skills. Well done!



PARENT CLUB NEWS

FATHERS DAY STALL The Parent Club will be holding a FATHERS DAY STALL on Wednesday 1st September at 9.00am for the Junior Primary children. Notices will go out to these classes in the next few weeks regarding this.

SCHOOL PHOTOS will be held on 10th November 2004.

UNIFORM ROOM HOURS are

Wednesday 3.00 -3.30pm and

Friday 8.30 – 9.30am

If you need to order uniforms, order forms are available at the front office.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th August at 9.00am in the Long Room. Hope to see you there.

Sharon Kreslin – Secretary

KOOKABURRA CAFÉ

TUESDAY SPECIAL ONLY – for a trial period to see how they sell. May be put on the regular menu.

Spring Rolls 3 for \$1.60

Fish Fingers 2 for \$1.00

Fish Burger Roll with lettuce, mayo or tartare sauce \$2.20

Hot Chips will be available in a fortnight. Very low fat, oven heated (not deep fried). Approved as healthy food item.

- Hot Milo 70c
- Hot Noodles 70c
- Hot Baked Bean Toasty \$1.40

Please do not send play money or foreign coins with lunch orders and check newsletter for any price changes.

ROSTER

Mon. 9th Aug

Tues. 10th Aug

Wed. 11th Aug

Thur. 12th Aug

Rachael McBride

Frid. 13th Aug

Mon. 16th Aug

Tues. 17th Aug

Katrina Allen

Wed. 18th Aug

Thur. 19th Aug

Frid. 20th Aug

Julie Day

Please consider putting your name down for one of the days above.

Regards, Helen King.

COMMUNITY NEWS

AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR – October School Holiday Program Ph. 8271 1622 for more information.

MARION CITY BAND – Currently recruiting. Ph. 0412 866 737 or 0419 897 419 for more information.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS PEE-WEE ASSOC. – Boys and girls 10 – 12 years of age. Ph. 8186 1802 or 0405 595 360 for more information.

NOARLUNGA BOWL extends an invitation to all students under 18 to join the Noarlunga Juniors for a free come and try. If you are interested, just come to Noarlunga Bowl on a Saturday morning at 9.15 am. There's no charge for your first three games and includes free use of bowling balls and free shoe hire.

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WRITING FOR CHILDREN

(Please return to the front office by Friday 13th August)

I will be attending the presentation by Amanda Graham on Tuesday 31st August from 7pm – 9pm in the Resource Centre.

Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Eldest Child's Name: _____

Class Teacher: _____