Dear Parents and Caregivers

How wonderful! Our school community raised $5,500 in the Virtues Walk-a-thon. Thank you so much to everyone who helped to raise this amount. These funds will enable us to purchase the remaining Virtues pavers so that we are able to complete a lasting legacy in the Virtues Walk. While we are awaiting quotes for the piazza there is still time to purchase a paver if you have not yet done so. We need about 50 more pavers to complete the first phase of the piazza. Please remember that you can put as many names as can fit on each paver. There does not need to be one paver per child. Some people have a family paver. If you know any old scholars please ask them to buy a paver. If you can recommend any good paving companies please drop me a note and leave the information at the front office and include a contact to act as a referee.

The school drop-off zone mostly works well and we can improve the function with your help in the following:

- Instruct your child to move to the waiting spot near the canteen tree as soon as possible if you are going to collect your child after school. Some children want to play and the parent is clogging up the drop-off zone while waiting.
- Arrive before 3:20pm as we do not like children to wait by themselves.
- Allow your child to enter your car safely by not allowing them to enter your car when you are waiting behind the angle parks as this is too dangerous for little ones who may not be visible to other drivers.
- Honour the 2 minute wait time. Be prepared to do a lap of the block if your child is not present.
- Move to the front of the line before allowing your child to enter your car to keep the flow moving.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Following in this newsletter is extremely important information about cyber safety. Recently three members of the leadership team attended a conference presented by Michael Carr-Gregg who addressed three areas: mental health issues for young people, boys issues and cyber safety. Our ICT Coordinator, Steph Burton, has written this article for you and I strongly encourage you to use the information she supplies.

Finally, thank you to grandparents and parents willing to brave the cold tomorrow to visit for Bookweek. As rain and 12°C is predicted, classroom visiting will most probably replace the outside parade.

Kind regards

Vicki Stokes

The Musical Evening was a great success with a wonderful time had by all who participated. Well done everybody!


Please Note:
School Closure Day
Monday 8 September

Term 3 Week 5
20 August 2008

Dates to Remember

Thursday 21 August
Grandparent's Day

Friday 22 August
Casual Clothes Day

Wednesday 27 August
Computer Competition

Wednesday 3 September
Festival Of Learning

Monday 8 September
School Closure Day

Casual Clothes Day

Don't forget casual clothes day this Friday 22 August. The purpose of the day is to raise money for the Cancer Council. Please bring a gold coin donation and remember to dress casually!


Virtues of the Week

Week 6: Courtesy
Week 5: Trust
Dear Parents and Caregivers

Michael Carr-Gregg has in recent years become a household name in Australia, primarily for his appearances on ‘Sunrise’ as a psychologist and parent advisor. He has written a number of manuals around adolescents and his books are user friendly with practical, common sense approaches to dealing with the issues of parenting teens. Members of the leadership team recently attended a conference hosted by Michael Carr-Gregg with one session focusing on ‘Cybersafety’ information. Michael is an excellent speaker and all aspects of this day resonated with me in my roles as an educator, ICT leader in our school and as a parent. If you ever get the opportunity to attend a parent session, I strongly urge you to go along.

American promoter of online education Marc Prensky (www.marcprensky.com) coined the term ‘digital natives’ to describe today’s youth, who have always experienced ubiquitous access to digital media. Michael Carr-Gregg has taken Prensky’s idea of digital natives/digital migrants (parents) and uses the analogy, likening the internet and technological advances in communication tools as a place called ‘Cyberia’. Carr-Gregg describes our experiences as adults in Cyberia, like newly arrived migrants, grappling with a new language, culture and different ways of knowing and doing; whereas our children are natives or early settlers to ‘Cyberia’ and are familiar with the language and cultural practices. They are experts from the point of view of the migrant (us), all knowing and all doing. The tables have been turned on parents and we are in a most vulnerable position. The internet is the single biggest transformation of communication since the development of the printing press by Gutenberg.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported that during the twelve months to April 2003, 1 693 300 young Australians aged 5-14 years accessed the internet. This included 90 per cent of 14 year olds and 21 per cent of 5 year olds. Sixty-one per cent of those who accessed the internet at home did so more than once a week, and 14 per cent did so every day. The percentages are sure to be higher now, as is the overall annual figure of child users. Further, of those participating in daily internet use, 70 per cent were aged 12-14, followed by those aged 9-11 (23 per cent) and 5-8 (7 per cent). There are also a lot of Kindergarten aged children wandering around Cyberia.

There are a considerable number of documented cases where children and teenagers have been persuaded to meet with online ‘friends’ which have had traumatic and upsetting outcomes. 1 out of 5 girls in the US are approached by online predators and half of young people with internet access will encounter bullying online.

So what do we do as parents and educators? Well, Michael Carr-Gregg’s message is quite clear, if we want our children to be safe we need to be better equipped to deal with the nasties that can occur while our children are using the internet.

Six most popular activities for young people are:

1. Chatting on MSN
2. Text messaging
3. Social networking - Facebook, My Space, Bebo etc.
4. Downloading music, movies, games etc. peer to peer sites, e.g. Limewire
5. Online games e.g. second life, Runescape etc.
6. Surfing the net for entertainment

At this stage users on the internet are mostly lawless and with no boundaries. However, in the meantime while governments try to catch up, as parents and educators it is fundamentally our business to be alert to the dangers and face this great public health challenge.

Michael Carr-Gregg’s “4 Key top tips for computer / internet use:"

NEVER allow a computer in a child’s bedroom

Negotiate an online contract - www.fosi.org/resources/parents/familycontract/

Use a filter FREE from: www.netalert.net.au Or www.kpwebprotection.com/ (time control filter - can lock users out of MSN / MySpace after allocated time)

Monitor and supervise children’s use of the internet (shoulder surf).

Children see access to the internet as their right; it is a privilege and as parents we need to reclaim the power of the household computer. Kids are at risk online, they think online is private, they lack judgement and are (naturally) impulsive and as parents we are ignorant to the dangers and have been frozen out. Carr-Gregg says we are currently 5 years behind trends in the US, so as such we have time to become prepared, educated and implement appropriate safety measures for online use for our children. Great cybersafety begins at home, so see below for many great resources available to cybersmart your family.

Source: www.michaelcarr-gregg.com.au

Resources: Destroying Avalon by Kate McCaffrey; Fremantle Press - book about cyberbullying

www.nettysworld.com.au - Netty’s World - Online cyberactivity to educate 2 - 7 year olds. The concept of five forget-me-nots (Be Nice, Get Help, Think Again, Stay Safe and Secure and Protect What’s Private) appear in the adventures and these collectively form the Internet safety messages young children should remember when using the Internet.

www.cyberquoll.com.au - CyberQuoll is designed for primary school students and support materials have been developed for teachers and parents to use to help educate students about Internet safety.

www.netalert.net.au - NetAlert is part of the Australian Government’s ongoing commitment to providing a safe online environment for all families, especially children.

www.myspace.com/ParentCare - ParentCare Beta is a free, simple software tool designed to help parents safeguard their teens. With ParentCare Beta, parents can determine if their teen has a MySpace profile and validate the age, user name, and location listed by the teen. The ParentCare Beta software is designed to bolster MySpace’s special safety protections for community members under 18 and give parents useful information to start a conversation about online safety.

Steph Burton, ICT Coordinator
NEW SCHOOL BAGS

At Last!!!
The new school bags have arrived. These may be purchased from the uniform shop at a cost of $30.00.

Please be advised that the Uniform Shop’s opening hours are:
MONDAY AFTERNOON 2.45 - 3.30
FRIDAY MORNING 8.25 - 9.30

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Trinity Gardens Tennis Club are inviting interested players to come along to their open day on -
Sunday 24th August
Juniors 9am - Seniors 12pm
Teams are forming now for Junior Friday night, Junior Saturday morning and Senior Saturday afternoon times. For more information and to book your spot please call Pete Winkler on: 8364 6977.

MUSIC NEWS

Amanda Just, our violin teacher will no longer be able to conduct violin lessons at our school due to family reasons. Our new teacher will Sarah Bradley who is participating as the instrumental teacher in the Steiner Class 3/4 Music Trial. Please contact the school for Sarah’s contact details if your child would like to learn the violin at school.

We sincerely thank Amanda for her commitment and wonderful work at our school over the past few years. Thankyou Amanda

FAMILY FUN FAIR

Family Fun Fair
Trinity Gardens School
November 1 2008

This week’s stall donation drive is for Sporting Goods

Please leave donations at the front office.

The committee will also gladly accept donations of …. Tools and Hardware, Bric a’ Brac, Furniture, Baby Goods, Plants, Clothes, Books and Music/Multimedia. (No electrical goods please.)
A very big thank-you to everyone who has already left goods at the office. Your donations are very much appreciated.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

How many books have you read? The Premier’s Reading Challenge is coming to an end in just over 2 weeks time. You need to have finished reading and completed your ‘student reading records’ by Friday 5 September. Well done to all those students who have already completed the challenge and good luck to those who are nearly there!

Please hand your reading records to your class teacher by Friday 5 September.
Lila D’Antuoni, Resource Centre

NETBALL ENROLMENTS

Interested in playing netball?
St Peters Netball Club needs players for the summer season. If you are between 7 and 15 years of age you can register by phoning -
Mick Mansfield on: 8332 7291 or Mrs Lloyd on: 8362 4808

Registrations need to be in by Thursday 28 August, so be quick!

FABRIC DYEING

24 August - 1pm to 4pm
Come along and create beautiful clothes in the fabric of your choice to use for seasonal tables, play clothes for children etc. Places are limited. To book and for enquiries please call Rachelle on: 8362 2459.

CANTEEN MEAL DEAL - TUESDAY 26 AUGUST

On Tuesday 26 August a canteen meal deal will replace normal lunch orders - No other lunch orders will be available on this day. Deal for week 6, term 3:

Trinity Treats Burger
(chicken fillet in a long roll with lettuce and mayo)

OR

Vege Burger
(vegetarian pattie with lettuce and mayo in a long roll)

Chocolate Brownie

Water

All for only $6.00

I would like to order a Burger (please circle your choice), Chocolate Brownie and a bottle of water for only $6.00

Name................................................................................................................................................ Room..........................

Amount enclosed........................................
**WORDS OF WISDOM ~ UPFRONT**

“The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.”

Walt Disney, entertainment pioneer

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**GRANDPARENT’S DAY**

**THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST**

As part of our Bookweek Celebrations we would like to invite grandparents to come and visit our school on Thursday morning. All children will be asked to dress up and if the weather is kind to us and it is not raining there will be a parade at 9am in the quadrangle. Following the parade, grandparents are invited to visit their grandchild’s classroom until 10:00am then morning tea will be held in the Resource Centre. A Book stall will be set up where grandparents can choose to buy and donate a book to the Library with a special bookplate inside recognising their kind donation. If it is raining, students may still come dressed up (remember to bring your school clothes too!). We are looking forward to sharing this wonderful morning with grandparents.

Please check the notice board in the quadrangle on your arrival.

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**ELC LEARNING**

**Sorting and grouping families**

**Planting a tree**

**Making Llamas from Peru**

**Telling stories with our puppets**

**Studying where our internal organs are**

**Making dinner using red & green dot food**

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**VIRTUES OF THE WEEK**

**Week 6 - Courtesy**

Courtesy is being polite and having good manners. It is a gracious way of speaking and acting which gives others a feeling of being valued and respected. It is greeting others with respect. Being courteous shows other people that you respect them and care about them.

**Week 7 - Trust**

Trust is believing in someone or something. It is having confidence that the right thing will happen without trying to control it or make it happen. Sometimes it is hard to trust when life brings painful experiences. Trust is being sure, down deep, that there is some good in everything that happens.

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**IT’S HAT TIME!**

Our SunSmart policy has now recommenced and hat wearing is now a compulsory requirement.

Please remind your children of the ‘no hat, no outdoor play' policy!

We thank you for your support.

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**SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES**

2009 School of Languages curriculum offerings are now available for year 7 students who may be interested in enrolling at year 8 level for 2009.

The School of Languages is a specialist Government school which provides languages education to more than 1300 students.

Our students are drawn from 130 Government, Independent and Catholic schools. In addition we have a significant number of adult re-entry students.

For more information please contact the Deputy Principal Karmen Petric on ph: 8301 4800 or explore online: www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au

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**OSHC NEWS**

You’ll be pleased to know that OSHC now has electronic credit card and EFTPOS available!

Bookings for Before School Care and After School Care are available and may be made by contacting Edwina, our OSHC Director on 83326901.

An enrolment form needs to be completed before children can attend.

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**AFTER SCHOOL MARKET**

Wednesday 10 September

BBQ sizzle, espresso coffee, milkshakes, cupcakes, biscuits, honey, craft, toys, tasty treats and more!

Stallholders please book at the front office.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY KITGUM**

Thank you for all your support in achieving our goal of 6,500 birthday presents for the children of Kitgum, Northern Uganda. When we gave them their presents it was lovely to be able to tell them that students from schools in Adelaide, South Australia had assisted us in giving them their birthday gifts.

Our mission has been accomplished. For more details and photos please refer to our website: www.birthdayboxes4kitgum.com

Lyn Cridde - on behalf of the Birthday Boxes for Kitgum team.