Dear Parents and Caregivers

Today the Prime Minister’s formal apology to members of the Stolen Generations and their families is an historic event in Australia’s history. At Trinity Gardens School we marked the event with a special assembly and the raising of the Aboriginal flag. Under the guidance of their teacher, children had the opportunity to view the telecast of the apology. Appropriate to their age, teachers helped children understand the background to, and the significance of, the apology.

The policies of the past (pre1900 – 1972) produced the stolen generations and brought with them thousands of Aboriginal people who were deprived of their families and missed the love of their mothers, as well as being denied an understanding of their rich cultural heritage. They also produced neverending grief to the parents of these children. During the period of the Stolen Generations as many as 100,000 children were separated from their families. The damage of the past can never be erased but it can help to show the world the truth, and with education people can prevent this happening again.

Our Pancake breakfast was an enjoyable and fun event thanks to wonderful support from our school community. Thank you to everyone who sent in pancake mix or toppings. We had enough for everyone! There’s no doubt that we now have a team of expert mixers, pourers and flippers who can almost cope with the supply and demand. We made well over 1,000 pancakes. Many thanks to all who assisted on the day.

Staff reported that they really enjoyed meeting and sharing class news with those parents who were able to attend Acquaintance Night. Each class or group has produced its vision statement and code of conduct. These are displayed in both classrooms and the Front Office and are well worth reading. Our students are engaging in deep thinking and have made commitments to their learning for 2008.

The Drop-Off Zone is beginning to work. The traffic control officer visits frequently and will book people who do not follow the rules or who double park. If you are planning to collect your child at the end of the day, please ask your child to move quickly to the waiting area as you cannot remain in the zone for longer than 2 minutes. Please always move to the front of the zone to allow the flow to be maintained and never leave your car. Teachers are on duty after school to assist the flow of the zone.

The latch on the gate next to the canteen is to be changed and lowered so that it can be reached by everyone. Where possible the angle parks also act as a drop off zone or quick drop off/pick up area.

The start of the year is an appropriate time to remind families of attendance protocols. Every lateness and absence from school is recorded with a reason. You can help by calling the school, at any time, and leaving a message on the answering machine if your child is absent. Thankfully, almost all students arrive at school to begin their learning when the bell goes. Unfortunately there are some who are frequently late. This is unacceptable as it is unfair to students who are disadvantaged because their peers have started learning when they arrive. Lateness is also disruptive to the students who were on time and to the teacher whilst trying to catch up the late-comer.

Virtues of the Week

Week 3 : Responsibility
Week 4 : Purposefulness
If you need to take a family holiday during term time the protocol is to write to the principal requesting permission for your child to take leave from school. You will be supported, however the school needs evidence for the attendance audit. The Principal can approve up to 4 weeks leave. Any time over 4 weeks requires permission from the Director of School Operations who requires at least 4 weeks notification prior to departure.

Do you have a spare hour or two? We are looking to set up a Friends of the Resource Centre team. There are quite a few little jobs in the RC of an ongoing nature, such as book repairs, that you could help with. If you can help please leave your contact details at the Front Office or with Lila DÂntuoni, our teacher librarian.

Our Canteen is very proud of its implementation of the Right Bite strategy. Check out the next meal deal as detailed in this newsletter. Sushi, yum! Have you visited the canteen lately? It’s been painted and decorated and looks ‘very fab’. A new menu is currently being prepared. If you have any suggestions or requests to improve the service, or comments about what works well and is popular with your children, please put these in writing to the Canteen Committee. We still need some emergency workers to call on when a regular worker can’t make their commitment. If you can help out please let us know. Every time a Canteen Volunteer provides service their name goes into a draw to win a food basket once per term. Be in it to win!

A reminder that toys, small or large, gadgets, gadgets, electronic games, iPods, MP3 players, Tamagotchis and Nintendos and the like are not to be brought to school. Their safety cannot be guaranteed and they lead to competition between children. Any mobile phones that are brought to school need to be signed in to the Front Office on arrival to school where they are locked away and then collected at the end of the day. Parents or caregivers will always be called if there is any concern about your child that arises during the day.

Finally, some good news. Our new classrooms are due for handover on 10 March and our youngest students are enjoying the relocated play equipment. The cover should go over the sandpit today with the swing seats being changed over too. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Vicki Stokes
Principal

OSHC NEWS

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 OSHC.

MUSIC NEWS

Piano, violin and guitar lessons are available at school for students from Years 2 to 7.

For guitar lessons, please contact Ray Smith on 0401 032 783.

Contact numbers for piano and violin teachers are available from the Front Office.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you are interested in receiving your newsletter by email, please send an email to our editor at: rachel.neale@trinitygps.sa.edu

to let her know.

That way we get your correct email address and you can receive future newsletters electronically. If you choose to receive your newsletter electronically, please tell your child and their teacher that there is no longer any need for them to collect a hard copy.

VIRTUES OF THE WEEK

Week 3 - Responsibility
Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is a sign of growing up.

Week 4 - Purposefulness
Being purposeful is being sure of what you are doing and why you are doing it. It is having a clear focus and concentrating your mind and your efforts so that something good will happen. A purposeful person makes things happen rather than just waiting for them to happen.

Sports News

Cricket News:
Thank you to all those students who expressed an interest in playing cricket in a school team. We have nominated a Year 4/5 and a Kanga cricket team in the competition. John Edwards has kindly volunteered to coach our Year 4/5 team while Teresa Mingoa will act as team manager for our Kanga cricket team. Teresa would really welcome assistance from other parents in terms of assisting the children with their Kanga cricket.

Unfortunately we do not have enough interested players to have a Year 6/7 cricket team this term. Both our nominated teams will play on Saturday mornings and as soon as a programme becomes available it will be sent home.

Dates for the matches are as follows:
Week 3 Sat Feb 16 (or Fri Feb 15 for Junior Division 2)
Week 4 Sat Feb 23
Week 5 Sat Mar 1
Week 6 Sat Mar 8
Week 7 Sat Mar 15
Week 8 Sat Mar 22 - no games due to Easter
Week 9 Sat Mar 29
Week 10 Sat Apr 5
Week 11 Sat Apr 12 - no games, school holidays

We hope all children and parents have a wonderful time at cricket this term.

Basketball News:
We have nominated our basketball teams at the Campbelltown Leisure Centre and as soon as the timetables become available they will be sent home.

Matches begin next week and registration forms and uniform fee notices will be sent home by the end of this week.

Thank you to all the children who have expressed their interest in playing basketball in a school team. Thank you also to those people who have volunteered to act as coaches.

We hope all basketballers and their parents have an exciting and rewarding time at basketball in 2008.
GO GREEN WITH THE CANTEEN

We have all heard the experts recommend the five serves of vegetables and two serves of fruit per day. For many of us it is a struggle to meet these targets for our children. Make it easy on yourself by giving your child as many serves as possible during the school day. The canteen is always stocked to help you make this possible every day.

A low fat, cheese salad sandwich / wrap with a cup of fruit salad or a piece of fruit for lunch gives your child:
1/3 daily carbohydrate needs
1/2 daily calcium needs
1/4 daily protein needs
1-2 serves of vegetables
1 serve of fruit

A lunch such as this contains no unnecessary fat, sugar or other additives. Combine this with a cup of sliced vegetables mid-morning and a piece of fruit with yoghurt and cheese at Recess, to keep your child going until lunch time, making every mouthful count.

With fewer sweet and salty snack foods during the day, energy levels stay higher for productive learning and children’s tastebuds develop a new appreciation for fresh, healthy food.

Check out these and other green Right Bite options prepared fresh daily on the current canteen menu.

As a token of appreciation to our valued volunteers, every time a canteen volunteer provides service, their name will go into a draw to win a food basket once per term. These baskets are to be donated by Firle Fresh Fruiters who supply our canteen with its fresh fruit and vegetables. Be in it to win!

Canteen Committee

CANTENE MEAL DEAL - TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY

On Tuesday 19 February a canteen meal deal will replace normal lunch orders.

NO OTHER LUNCH ORDERS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY.

We will be providing a special lunch consisting of 3 Sushis, Salad, a Fruit Yoghurt tub and Water for $6.00.

These lunches need to be pre-ordered. If you would like to participate, please fill out the form below and return it to the canteen by Monday 18 February.

I would like to order (a total of 3 from the varieties below):

- [ ] Ham & Egg
- [ ] Vegetarian
- [ ] Chicken
- [ ] Tuna

Plus a salad, a fruit yoghurt tub and a bottle of water for $6.00

Name: .......................................................... Class: ..............................

Amount enclosed: ................................

SOCER NEWS

Any interested parents are invited to the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Eastern Zone Primary School’s Soccer association.

When: Monday 17 March 2008 5:00pm
Where: Music Room
Stradbroke Primary School
Koonga Ave, Rostrevor

Soccer team nomination forms for the 2008 Season will be sent out in early March. More details will be available later this term.

ACCIDENT COVER

StudentCover accident insurance is now available from EBM Insurance Broker at a cost of $25.00 per student per year. The policy is only available by visiting www.studentcover.com.au and applying online. Full details are provided and you should read the Product Disclosure Statement before making an application. The School does not make any recommendation in relation to this insurance.

SORRY! FROM RM4W
CHEERLEADING

Who: 7-15yr olds
When: Tuesday Evenings
   5.30pm-6.30pm
Where: TTG TAFE YMCA
   100 Smart Rd
   Modbury   SA
Cost: $ 75.00 per term
Contact: Andrea on 82072709 or
        0413284690

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The State Government is in the process of upgrading and consolidating SA’s public dental infrastructure to ensure that it complies with revised standards for clients and staff.

As part of this process, it has been decided that the School Dental Service clinic at the East Adelaide Primary School will be closed and amalgamated with our clinics at the Magill, Campbelltown and Linden Park Primary Schools. The closure will occur in March 2008.

For children who currently travel to the East Adelaide clinic, it will simply be a matter of traveling to an alternate clinic close by.

Further information about the transition will be provided to all parents when a firm closure date has been determined.

Sassy Sparkle

children’s parties

Dance Disco Dancing
Fairy Fiasco Cool Games
Slumber Sensation Pretty Makeovers
Pirate Party Groovy Music
• High School Musical Awesome Prizes

Ph.(08)71296158 www.sassysparkle.com.au

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