

**“AIM HIGH”**

**Issue 5  
March 4<sup>th</sup> 2009**

### Inside this issue

- 1 Principal Column
- 2 School News
- 3 Student of the Week

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#### Term Dates for 2009

2<sup>nd</sup> Feb – 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
20<sup>th</sup> April – 26<sup>th</sup> June  
13 July – 18<sup>th</sup> September  
5<sup>th</sup> October – 18<sup>th</sup> December

#### Dates to remember:

March 9<sup>th</sup> Labour Day Holiday  
March 24<sup>th</sup> FUN RUN  
March 19<sup>th</sup> ‘Helping Children to Learn’ Info session  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> Last Day Term 1  
May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> MIDDLE UNIT CAMP  
July 29<sup>th</sup> Middle/ Senior Aths

#### JUNIOR EXPO

Parents and members of their extended families are invited to attend the Junior Expo which will be held **TONIGHT (Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 6-7pm)** in the four Junior classrooms in the main building. This will be an opportunity for students to explain how they go about their learning to their parents with the assistance of the Junior Unit teachers. Many of the resources will be on display and families are invited to play some games with their children and to look through their books to see the great start to the year that they have made already. Junior Unit teachers will be on hand to talk with parents and explain how the students learn.

#### NETBOOK TRIAL

All Year 5 students in the Barwon South Western Region will be taking part in a 3 year trial program that enables each student to have a personal laptop computer called a Netbook. Parents pay \$52 a year for the use of the computer and at the end of the trial, ownership of the computer is transferred to the student.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students who have had a range of experiences to develop and extend their understanding of using computer technology for their learning. This trial program will give these students greater access to computers, both at home and at school.

For our year 6 students, who are not involved in the trial, there will be greater access to the 24 Mac laptops and the 20 desktop PC computers that are used in the SLU.

To make this trial a success, we need the involvement of all parties – students, staff and parents. It is **vital** that all parents attend the briefing **TONIGHT (Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 7-8pm)** in the SLU where the program will be outlined, insurance issues explained, payment details given, the Acceptable use explained and a commitment to the program sought.

Parents will be required to sign an agreement and to support their children to help ensure that this trial program provides them with first class learning opportunities.

#### PARENT HELPERS

We are always grateful for the assistance many parents offer in helping in the classrooms. To provide parents with some background knowledge of how children learn and how you can best help them with their learning, both at school and at home, you are invited to attend a parent program – *Helping Children To Learn* on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 9-11am** in the staffroom. Morning tea provided.

Chris Eddy

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**I would like to attend the program, *Helping Children to Learn*, on 19<sup>th</sup> March 9-11am.**

**NAME:**

**CHILD’S GRADE:**

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

<b>PREP B</b>	<b>Connor</b>	<b>For always trying his best and being a good friend to everyone in Prep B. Well done, Connor!</b>
<b>PREP C</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>For her persistence and focus in writing. Well done, Georgia!</b>
<b>PREP F</b>	<b>Zak</b>	<b>For being a great friend to everyone in Prep F and always trying his best. Well done, Zak!</b>
<b>PREP H</b>	<b>Edward</b>	<b>For being so organised in the morning and for being a brave writer. Great job, Edward!</b>
<b>JUNIOR B</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>For working really hard on her letters and doing a great job during writing</b>
<b>JUNIOR H</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>For showing enthusiasm towards his writing and contributing terrific writing ideas</b>
<b>JUNIOR L</b>	<b>Corey</b>	<b>For being such a happy and helpful member of the class</b>
<b>JUNIOR N</b>	<b>Georgie</b>	<b>For working really hard at stretching her words out to hear all the sounds</b>
<b>JUNIOR R</b>	<b>Holly</b>	<b>For being a cheerful, positive student</b>
<b>JUNIOR S</b>	<b>Zoe</b>	<b>For the fantastic discovery of 2D and 3D shapes around our school</b>
<b>JUNIOR T</b>	<b>Harry</b>	<b>For always contributing to class discussion and helping others</b>
<b>JUNIOR W</b>	<b>Sheldon</b>	<b>For using his knowledge of THRASS when reading</b>
<b>MIDDLE A</b>	<b>Roth</b>	<b>For great work on his writing and reading all term</b>
<b>MIDDLE J</b>	<b>Jonty</b>	<b>For his terrific contributions in the Life Ed van. Well done!</b>
<b>MIDDLE L</b>	<b>Liam</b>	<b>For showing persistence during his learning centres this week</b>
<b>MIDDLE M</b>	<b>Peri</b>	<b>For being a focused and responsible learner. Keep it up Peri!</b>
<b>MIDDLE R</b>	<b>Ruby</b>	<b>For continuing to make new friends. Keep it up!</b>
<b>MIDDLE S</b>	<b>Hayden</b>	<b>For his excellent efforts in maths when working with number lines</b>
<b>MIDDLE W</b>	<b>Kristen</b>	<b>For always being willing to help others in the grade and for her great sense of humour.</b>
<b>SENIOR B</b>	<b>Keely</b>	<b>For her fantastic story ideas, beautiful presentation and always making the most of her writing lessons</b>
<b>SENIOR C</b>	<b>Joel</b>	<b>For working independently and accomplishing all his tasks</b>
<b>SENIOR H</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>For persisting with his Base project in independent time!</b>
<b>SENIOR J</b>	<b>Megan</b>	<b>For exceptional work completing her times tables tests and on her base project</b>
<b>SENIOR K</b>	<b>Will</b>	<b>For showing real confidence in his parent conference and a passion for nailing his times tables tests!</b>
<b>SENIOR W</b>	<b>Zac</b>	<b>For outstanding effort in all workshops and overall fantastic attitude</b>

## CASUAL DRESS DAY

Casual dress day is upon us again! This term we are raising money to help support Cystic Fibrosis.

Cystic Fibrosis is the most common life threatening, recessive genetic condition affecting Australian children. At present there is no cure for CF, but the faulty gene has been identified and doctors and scientists are working to find ways of repairing or replacing it. By us raising money, we are helping to support this research.

### Theme of this term is **CRAZY HAIR!**

We want to see your hair looking as crazy as possible.

Date – **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Theme – Crazy Hair

Who – Cystic Fibrosis

**Congratulations Lachlan and 'Gem'** on your recent success at the Geelong Grammar Interschool Equestrian Challenge. They won ribbons in Dressage and Show Jumping events.

## NEW AUTISM WEBSITE

Parents and carers of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will benefit from a new information website created as part of the \$190 million *Helping Children with Autism* package. The website is the culmination of eight months of development and research by the Raising Children Network, a consortium of three organisations with a proven track record in child development, research and information delivery.

The *Helping Children with Autism* package includes several other initiatives:

- Autism Advisors in every state and territory;
- Dedicated playgroups for children with an ASD or ASD like symptoms;
- Workshops for families or carers of children with ASD;
- Changes to Medicare items which will assist access to early intervention treatment; and
- Workshops for teachers through the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The ASD website can be found at <http://raisingchildren.net.au/autism>



**DO NOT WALK THROUGH THE STAFF CARPARK** at the front of the school due to cars moving in and out- it is unsafe for children.

## PREMIER'S ACTIVE FAMILIES CHALLENGE

Register for the Premier's Active Families Challenge and you will receive 15 free family visits to YMCA and 15 per cent off at Rebel Sport stores. Complete 30 minutes of activity a day for 30 days between 8 March and 19 April for the chance to win some fantastic prizes!

It's easy, fun, free and a great way to be healthy and active with your family. As a registered participant you'll get ideas on fun things to do, tips on getting healthier and more active, events to get involved in and a chance to win prizes.

[http://www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/hav/articles.nsf/docs/Premiers\\_Active\\_Families\\_Challenge?open](http://www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/hav/articles.nsf/docs/Premiers_Active_Families_Challenge?open)

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2009

Our school will have the opportunity to send some of our Leaders to a Conference on Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>. They will join with other Leaders from 22 other local schools and we would like to express our appreciation to the Rotary Club of Highton for making this event affordable for all the students from across our Network of Schools.

If you ever get the opportunity to support their activities, please consider it.

McHarry's Bus Lines have also contributed support and we appreciate this greatly.



## OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

# **WARNING**

The number of students being cared for in the Out of School Hours Care program is growing.

It is vital that the correct number of staff are on duty to care for these children.

Therefore we need to know exactly how many students will be attending each day. If you have a regular booking and your child is absent from school, you **MUST** notify the school to remove their booking for that day. You will be charged for the full session if this is not done.

If you just use the program on a casual basis, you need to make sure that you have booked your child into the program by 9am. We cannot cater for children who have not been booked in – parents will be called to collect their children.

To make their service work effectively for everyone, we need to make sure that we keep clear lines of communication open.

Accounts are issued fortnightly and parents are asked to collect their account from the pigeonholes near the co-ordinator's desk. Payments should be completed fortnightly.

## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The Reading Challenge is now open and all students are encouraged to take the challenge to read the required number of books (30 in prep-2; 15 in Years 3-6) by **31<sup>st</sup> August**.

Congratulations to **Daniel** from the SLU who is the first student to complete the Reading Challenge. Daniel wasted no time in starting the Challenge and has already completed reading his 15 books.

Congratulations also to **Penelope** and **Megan** who also completed the Reading Challenge in record breaking time!



The **Premier's Reading Challenge** has now begun. All students have been registered.

You can log on to the Challenge to record the books you have read.

The website is at [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc)

Students log on with the first 3 letters of their last name and the first 3 letters of their first name

eg Tom Jones would log on with jontom

The password is bellaire1

Check the books that are on the Challenge list – many of these are in our library with a sticker on them to show they are on the list.

Keep a list of the books and the authors and, if possible, enter them on the website.

Parents should sign this list of books to validate that they have been read and then bring the list to Ms Eddy or Mrs Harvey.

A parent permission form to have your child's printed in The Age will be sent home.

Keep reading!



### Notice of Meeting

#### **CHIP**

#### **Family Support Group Geelong**

#### **(Children of High Intellectual Potential)**

To be Held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.30pm  
at Highton Primary School, Roslyn Road, Highton.

Interested parents are invited to attend a meeting to vote to establish an incorporated association called "CHIP Family Support Group Geelong Inc." and to:

- Authorise a person to apply for incorporation of the association ( "the public officer")
  - Approve the proposed statement of purposes of the association;
  - Approve the proposed rules of the association;
  - Nominate for membership of the association;
- Elect office bearers for the committee of membership (President, Secretary/Vice President, Treasurer) and two ordinary committee members; and
- Approve the Entrance fees and Annual fees to be charged by the incorporated body. (Proposed fees for membership - Entrance fee: \$10.00 (once off) Annual fee: \$20.00 per family per annum.)

Further information regarding the meeting is available from

Dr Sandra Lea-Wood telephone 0407320 043.

Hope you can come along to help set up a new body to support families with children of high intellectual potential in Geelong. RSVP would be really helpful to

[kingsleys@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kingsleys@optusnet.com.au) by 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform Shop will be opened every Monday from 8.45am – 9.15am and every Friday from 3.15pm – 3.45pm.