



NUMBER 1

"School Talk"

Summerhill's Weekly Newsletter



25 JANUARY 2017



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the first of three wonderful terms at Summerhill 2017! The students are shiny eyed and rested after their holiday and champing at the bit to get "stuck in". Parents are also a tad relieved that school has now begun and routines are the new order of the day.

Please take note of the following:

MPACT recycling competition:

Our annual paper recycling competition begins on 1st February. Summerhill has won this competition two years in a row and we would like to make this our lucky third time! Please send in your paper recycling. Heart to Heart badges are also up for grabs as a reward for the effort.

Students arriving at school in the morning:

Please be aware that students must be dropped at the gate by Forrest Hall and be allowed to make their way down to the classrooms. We request that parents do not accompany their children down to the classrooms and to please not catch the teachers as they attempt to get the day started. The teachers only have a ten minute registration with their students in which they need to fulfil a number of admin requirements. Should you have questions for the teacher, it is best to email then the teacher can respond when she is available.

Please could you assist us and the every growing pile of lost property. All uniform must be marked clearly. It is a great pity to see unmarked, brand new uniform arriving at the lost property.

Summerhill School is a member and registered with the following of three renowned and specialised affiliations and education departments:

- GDE (Gauteng Education Department)
- ISASA (Independent Schools Association of South Africa).
- IEB (Independent Examinations Board)
- Cambridge International qualification



Clare Locker B.Ed. (Wits)

Executive Principal

Email: clare@summerhill-school.co.za



FROM THE DESK OF THE VICE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school! We are off to a great start:

1. Registration Day went well with important admin out of the way. Parents got to meet register and staff teachers. Please see communicator for updated teacher contact information. You may email teachers with your queries, suggestions or feedback.
2. Learning How to Learn Courses. The seniors have just completed these and the children have had a good start to the year with useful knowledge to assist with their studies. The course for parents is on February the 11th. All welcome
3. Textbooks and Workbooks. Thank you to all parents for ordering these in advance. Teachers have assisted students with covering their workbooks. Kindly assist your child with covering of textbooks.
4. Diaries and Communication Books. Students have been issued with a communication book (Junior Prep) and a Summerhill Diary (Senior Prep). It is essential to check and sign these daily to keep abreast of homework and other important notices. Being involved in the process is essential to create the correct atmosphere and foster a successful partnership with our teachers.
5. Academic Lesson and Cycle Test Timetables. These have been pasted in student diaries. It is imperative that students are taught at an early age to plan and organise their revision schedules ahead of time, in conjunction with their extra-mural programme, to ensure success.
6. Extra Lesson Programme. The extra lesson programme is offered to Grade 3- 7 students in core subjects only. It is not a compulsory lesson and parents are welcome to consider programmes outside the school. Usually cycle test results or feedback from the subject teacher will indicate whether extra support is needed. It is important for parents to give written communication to the subject teacher confirming attendance for the extra lesson. The subject teacher will inform the extra- lesson tutor of what remedial teaching needs to be covered. Extra lessons have no cost. Please refer to the extra lesson schedule on the communicator for further detail.
7. Parent Information Evening Grade 1 and 4 only.
The Grade 1's have entered the first year of Junior Prep the Grade 4's have entered the first year of Senior Prep. Information Evenings will be held to address any concerns and offer support to parents. Seeing that the Grade 4's write cycle tests and exams this year, the school has enlisted the services of Study Fit to equip our students with effective study skills.
Grade 4 Parent Information Evening-Wednesday 25 January
Grade 1 Parent Information Evening-Thursday 26 January
Both meetings commence at 6pm in Forest Hall.

We wish you a successful and rewarding partnership in education

Warmest regards,

Janessa Rajeev

Email: janessa@summerhill-school.co.za

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!

4th January Teresa Oates – Library

5th January Nomvula Madela – Reception

9th January Rosina Mashasha – Support

22nd January Innocent Sambo – Grounds



Nursery Corner

Dear Parents,

A **BIG WELCOME** back to our existing parents and a special welcome to all our new parents. May you enjoy our school as much as we enjoy teaching in it!!

MEET-THE-TEACHER

Thank you for the excellent turnout at our Meet-the-Teacher Evening. This year we introduced you to our Remedial Team; Michelle Martel, Lauren Ferraris' team, Robyn Hays and our in house Academic support teacher, Rhona. Screening forms will be sent out this week for the Grade 00 and Grade 0 classes.

PAID EXTRA-MURALS

This week all our children tried out the paid extra-mural activities we have on offer at Summerhill. Karate, Ballet, Eco-Warriors, Pottery, Little Kickers. Please remember they are still very little and in this case 'less-is-more'. They will want to do everything!! Please note Young Engineers starts in Grade One only.

FIRST PTA AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

Saturday morning, the 28th of January, will see the start to our PTA and Class Representatives meetings for the year. All class moms are required to attend as well the class teachers. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee with us.

A WARM WELCOME TO BUZZI BODIES AND THE ECO-WARRIORS TEAM.



Silver Dolphins in action at Buzzi Bodies



Henny Penny and her chicks in the living classroom.

Kind regards,
Sonya Toet
Nursery School Principal
sonya@summerhill-school.co.za

SPORTS CORNER

Dear Parents

Welcome back sport fans. Term 1 is jam packed with exciting extra-murals. We start the year off with cricket, softball, tennis and swimming.

On our cultural side we have Chess, Drama, Public Speaking, Computer Club and the ever popular Art Club. Please refer to the Communicator for the sports and cultural extra-mural timetables.

Parents are always welcome to join us at all our sporting endeavours here and around Johannesburg. Please check below for upcoming fixtures.

Upcoming fixtures

- *U10 Cricket vs Michael Mount (Home), 30 January*
- *U11 Cricket vs Michael Mount (Home), 31 January*
- *Open A Cricket vs Christchurch (Away), 1 February*
- *Open B Cricket vs Christchurch (Home), 1 February*
- *U9 Cricket vs Summit (Away), 2 February*
- *Junior Softball vs Carlswald House, 2 February*
- *Senior Boy's Tennis vs Redhill, 2 February*
- *Swimming Gala @ St. Martins High, 3 February*



Yours in sport,
David Bolton
Sports coordinator
david@summerhill-school.co.za



Welcome to 2017.....and a new school year at Summerhill!



Summer - The time of the year when parents realize just how grossly underpaid teachers actually are.

January is an awesome time of year!!
As staff at a school we have the joy of:

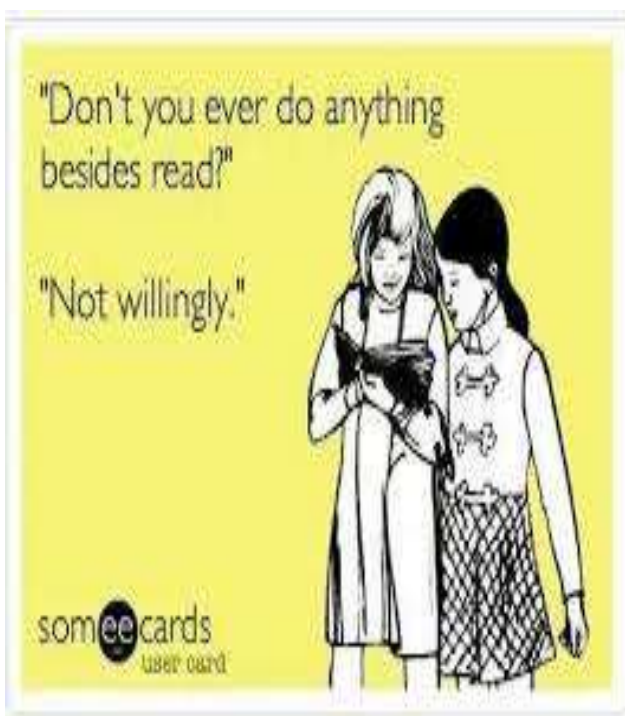
1. Being amused at the look of sheer and utter relief on the faces of all the Mommies dropping off students
2. Taking mental bets on which parents were the most eager to go back to work and are the quickest out of the school gate
3. Feeling little arms unexpectedly hug you,, and when you look down, seeing an angelic, upturned face sincerely stating:

I MISSED YOU SOOOO MUCH!!

RETURN 2016 BOOKS THIS WEEK FOR WRITE-OFF OF FINES!

Books not in by Monday 30 January 2017

will be billed out at a MINIMUM rate of R150 per book.
(FINE OF R50 and replacement fee of minimum R100)



Reading makes life easier on the most basic of levels, like:

1. Push or Pull instruction on doors
2. Using a menu to choose meals
3. Shopping / comparing prices
4. Understanding / using road signage
5. Cooking instructions on food
6. Doing at home hair colouring
7. Reading manuals for technology for when the kids are away...
8. Reading school Newsletters!