



St Cyprian's School-in-the-Woods

20 January 2010

Dear "Woods" Parents and Guardians

Picnic, picnic, picnic – 3rd time lucky... and oh what a glorious evening. Thank you to all the parents who joined us after so many date changes! Although I had to leave early to attend a SAHISA dinner I could see it was going to be fabulous.

Thank you too, to the parents who attended the Rene Raff talk, it was most informative, enlightening and quite challenging too. I am prepared to set up talks for parents once a term so if there is anybody in particular you would like to hear please let me know. We could also alternate times and maybe try a morning slot if that would suit parents too.

Parking and Security.

Although we try and use the same Security Guards during the week there are occasions when the guards will be required to rotate, meaning we may have guards who are new to us. The new security guards are still learning the ropes and Ms De Klerk and Mr Parenzee are overseeing this process. Along with the Red Alert Security Officer on duty, Mr Harold Horn they have some requests.

- PLEASE be patient in the parking area.
- Please DO NOT shout at the guards or swear at them; I have had several reports from the guards of verbal abuse from parents. This kind of behaviour is certainly not a good example for our children.
- In the same vein, if any parent has experienced inappropriate language or attitude from the guards please ask for their name and report to me.
- Although we want our parents to spend as much time as possible at school with their children this can cause the parking area to be very congested. If you are going to be staying for a while please try and park on the slab to ensure the free flow of traffic through the grounds.
- Please do not park in staff parking or block their motor vehicles.

Toys and Sticker Books:

I really do sound like a nag!! Please do not send toys or sticker books to school. I do understand the social skills which develop through negotiating and trading stickers etc but the drama that comes with it at this age can be quite traumatic. Most importantly for me, home toys and sticker books are often a distraction and prevent children from becoming fully engaged in classroom activities or discussion. If an item is brought to school for Show and Tell e.g. Teddy Bears, Unicorns, "My little Pony" etc please make sure it is clearly marked.

Raffle

We are planning a raffle for the week 8-12 March. Every family from Grade 000-Grde 3 will receive 15 tickets to sell. We have 3 fantastic prizes. We plan to do this raffle in one short, sharp, burst and the funds raised will go to the Creating Future Leaders Campaign. More details to follow.

MySchool Card

Win a Gift Hamper with our Back2School Swipe Competition! Visit Woolworths Gardens between 1 February and 28 February. Swipe your MySchool card with every purchase to raise funds for our school. The supporter with the most SWIPE transactions will win!!!

Include your Name and School on your till-slip, and deposit it in the MySchool box in-store. Terms: This competition is open to MySchool supporters of St Cyprians School and Herzlia Highlands Primary School only. In-Store draw on 1 March 2010. **Happy swiping!**

“Points to ponder”

The following 5 “points to ponder” were taken from a workshop run by Derek Jackson called **“Discipline without anger or tears.”**

- Praise is the most effective, but least used method of discipline.
- Boundaries give predictability which gives children a sense of security.
- Children are as disobedient as we allow them to be.
- Respect for people and possessions needs to be instilled.
- Always speak honestly, to your children, if there is something you do not want them to hear or ask questions about, do not speak about it in front of them.

Dates to Diarise for the next 2 weeks

<u>February</u>	Time	Event	Venue
Tues 16th		Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)	Classrooms
Wed 17th		NO CHAPEL – Ash Wednesday Blessing during the morning	Woods
	18h00	Phonological Awareness Workshop Grade R Parents	Main School Hall
Fri 19th		Woods Puppet Show	Woods
Thurs 25th		PTA meeting (for those interested)	Voorkamer
Fri 26th		Dress-up and Donate Day	Woods

Kind Regards

Mandy

Mandy Webb

HEAD: School-in-the-Woods

