

From the Principal Tim Farrell

9 September, 2009

**Preparatory Year (2010) Open Day 8 and 10 September**

A fun program including morning session, outdoor play, a school tour and morning tea will be on offer to our Prep 2010 students and parents tomorrow (10 September) from 9 – 11am. If your child was born between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2005, make sure you enrol him/her into our Prep classes as soon as possible to ensure placement for next year. Yesterday's Prep Open day was very successful with many kindy children and their parents joining in with all activities organised by our talented Prep teachers and teacher aides.

**Swim Club 2009/2010 Season Sign On**

If you would like to become a member of the Virginia State School Swim Club, an opportunity exists for sign on this Friday 11 September from 3pm – 5pm and Saturday 12 September from 9am – 12pm at the school pool. Our Club offers squad training, learn to swim and stroke correction during the week and Friday evenings from 6:30pm, Club Night. We employ qualified instructors and aim to improve every child's ability as a competent and confident swimmer. An investment of \$10 000 has been made to improve water quality in our pool with the purchase of a Dolphin automatic pool cleaner, Pooltest Photometer and Aquarius Pool Controller.

**Nundah Fest - Sunday 13 September**

Our junior choir (all Year 2, 3 and 4 students) will be performing at the Nundah Festival this Sunday 13 September from 9.30-9.50am. Singers have been requested to meet Mrs McLennan and Miss Stevens at the main stage no later than 9.15am. Our P&C Association will also run a "Knock em Down" stall at the festival and have asked for donations to be returned to school in the brown paper bags provided to families last week. Donations including lollies, chocolates, poppers etc would be most appreciated. If you are able to spare some time and work at the Knock em Down stall, please inform our office staff.

**An important message for parents and carers about bullying issues**

In this time of heightened awareness of violence in schools, I would like to reassure all parents and carers that our school takes a tough stance on bullying. We do not tolerate any form of violence or harassment. It is our number one priority that every student feels safe in our supportive school environment. I have reminded all students that bullying behaviour is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at this school. I ask that parents and carers take some time this week to speak with their children about bullying and to remind them of the importance of treating others with fairness, dignity and respect.

If you believe your child is being bullied or may be involved in bullying another student, I also urge you to contact your child's teacher or me to discuss the ways we can help to address this behaviour. Virginia State School takes very seriously its responsibility to keep our students safe and to ensure our school community is free from bullying, harassment and violence.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING  
IN THE MONTH OF:****September**

10<sup>th</sup> Prep Open  
Day 9-11am  
14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Junior Music  
Camp  
16<sup>th</sup> -Disco  
-P&C Meeting  
18<sup>th</sup> Last day of  
term

**October**

5<sup>th</sup> School  
resumes  
19<sup>th</sup> Pupil Free Day  
22<sup>nd</sup> Music Count  
us in  
2.15 Music  
Tour  
Performance

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**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

*Need more parent helpers for the Senior Disco. Thanks to those who have offered*



**DISCO**  
**Wednesday 16 September 2009**  
**Prep- Year 4 (4.30-6.00pm)**  
**Year 5-7 (6.30-8.00pm)**

**COME IN YOUR BEST**  
**"DISCO GEAR"**  
**Tickets: \$5**



**(On sale outside office before school -from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September)**  
**Dagwood Dog- \$2.00**  
**Popper - \$1.00**  
**Water – \$1.00**

**Support Camp Quality**

CQ is a volunteer organisation that provides a free week-long camping experience and year-round support program for children with cancer

*CQ believes in bringing optimism and happiness to the lives of children and families affected by cancer through fun therapy*

Student Council  
 Free Dress Day  
**Friday 18 September**

**Bring a Gold Coin**



**Spelling and Writing International Competitions and Assessment for Schools [ICAS]**

Earlier this year, Years 3 to 7 students participated in the Australian Spelling and Australian Writing Competitions run by the Educational Testing Centre at the University of New South Wales.

Of the 28 students who participated in the **Spelling Competition**, 1 gained a High Distinction [top 1% of the state], 5 gained a Distinction [top 10% in the state] and 6 gained Credit Awards. The students who received assembly awards are listed below.

Congratulations to:  
**High Distinction:** Darius Khan  
**Distinction:** Lucy Florence, Sanju Weerasuriya, James Farrell, Sydney Lee-Lo, James Semmens  
**Credit:** Mar cayla Agli, Jordan Albassit, Tom Farrell, Jack Hedley-Smith, Emilio North, Emily Margerison

Of the 16 students who participated in the **Writing Competition**, 1 gained a Credit Award. The students who received assembly awards are listed below.

Congratulations to:  
**Credit:** Emily Margerison

Certificates for all participants were presented on assembly on Friday 4 September.

**SENIOR BADGE 2010**



Awarded to Year 6 students

- Congratulations to:*  
 Odette Swanson  
 Sarah Payne  
 Eden Hugo  
 Kate Thiedecke  
 Jordyn Battersby  
 Emma Crawford  
 Robert Lutton  
 James Farrell  
 Kaitlin Cameron  
 Chloe Clement

These students receive their badges on Friday's assembly

Lorelle Holcroft  
 A/Deputy Principal

1. After eating time, tidy your area and wait for the whistle to sound before forwarding off to play
2. Place lunch boxes into your class basket.
3. Verandahs remain out of bounds during lunch breaks
4. Place all rubbish into the bins provided.
5. Bikes and scooters must be walked while in school grounds and locked in the bike racks.
6. Students arriving before 8.30am must either report to Before School Care or remain quietly under F Block until the bell sounds at 8.30am

**Rule Reminders**

**SAFETY ALERT- UPDATE**

Further to our report in the last Informer with regards to a man photographing children please note the following updated information:

- It is possible that the man may have a female with him in the car
- The male and female were seen at Ascot in a silver sedan
- The male is reported to be an older man with grey hair.
- He always wears a cowboy hat
- He has been seen in a black ute, white and silver sedans.
- For information or if you have questions please call 36321280. You may have to leave a message as this line is not always attended.
- If you sight the person or need the police to attend please call 07 33646464.

School Banking for Students  
 If you are interested in managing the process of school banking for students (Commonwealth Bank), please see Mr Farrell for details. Training will be provided by the CBA, Virginia.

**MUSIC NEWS**

**Nundah Festival**  
 Our junior choir (all Year 2, 3 and 4 students) will be performing at the Nundah Festival on Sunday 13 September at 9.30-9.50am. Students are required to wear their BLUE and GOLD school uniform with black shoes and white ankle socks (girls)/ grey school socks (boys). Second hand black shoes are available for your child to borrow. Just pop in with your child before the festival and find a pair that fits! Please meet Mrs McLennan and Miss Stevens at the main stage (middle of Nundah Village) no later than 9.15am.

**Junior Music Camp**  
 The Junior Music Camp will be held from Monday 14 Sep-Thursday 17 September at the Old Museum Building. We are very proud to say that 16 of our students have been invited to attend this annual event.

**Music Count Us In**  
 On Thursday 22 October, we are joining together with thousands of other schools around Australia to sing a special song composed by Jon Foreman called "Music is Everything". This special day is to raise awareness of the importance of music education in every child's life and coming from a School of Excellence in Music, it is important that we support this fantastic initiative. The lyrics and music can be viewed on our school website from next week. My aim is to have as many adults, parents, grandparents, students and community members join us on the day to sing the song. Our theme is "MUSIC" (of course!) and we will be adding lots of black and white colours and musical things to our clothes and hair. So please keep this date free and come and sing with us?

**Music Tour Performance**  
 Why not stick around for our 2.15pm School tour performance on the same day Thursday 22 October as our musicians try out their hard efforts in their first public performance before we head off on our music tour (November 3-5). Players will need to bring their formal band uniform to change into before the performance.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Parents and carers! Please remind students that all library books have to be returned next week. It might be a good idea to check student bags and bedrooms for any "stray" books with a Virginia SS barcode. Student borrowing will resume in the first week of next term. Thank you  
 Robyn Gale and Dawn Baigrie

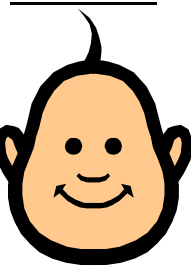
**REMINDER**

Please use "Stuck On You" for your labelling needs and help us raise funds to improve resources at our school. Simply place orders at: [www.stuckonyou.biz](http://www.stuckonyou.biz) (mention Virginia State School) or phone 1800 645 849 (mention Virginia State School). Brochures are available at the office and uniform shop or check out products online at: [www.stuckonyou.biz](http://www.stuckonyou.biz). Any queries contact Leanne on 0447710726.

**WELCOMING THE BABIES TO OUR COMMUNITY CEREMONY**

Mr Wayne Swan invites you to the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Welcoming our Babies to our Community Ceremony. This will be held on Sunday 11 October from 9-11am at Kidspace, Seventh Brigade Park Chermanside. This promises to be a fun family day with free entertainment, specialist advice, gifts, prizes and an official certificate for the newest members of the community.

We invite all local families with babies up to 18months old to register to take part in the ceremony. Other members of the community are invited to join in the celebration on the day. Registration forms are available from the school office.



**SJAFC PRESENTATION DAY AND COMMUNITY EVENT**

Saturday 19 September from noon to 6pm. Member, Guests and Community are welcome. Rides Stalls, Food, Drinks and Entertainment. Ride passes \$20.00 per child on the day. Must purchase an armband for the rides. For ride ticket purchase or to book a stall call Kym on 0433 403 225 or David 0427 711 836 or 36052420.

**VSSSC – Swim Club News**

E: [vsssc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:vsssc@optusnet.com.au) W: [www.virginiass.eq.edu.au](http://www.virginiass.eq.edu.au)  
**Sign on Days – Membership / LTS / Squad / Friday Night Club** (held at the pool on both days)  
 Friday 11 Sept 3pm - 5pm  
 Saturday 12 Sept 9am - 12noon

There is a working bee and sausage sizzle on Saturday. A general clean-up of the pool area, so please come along and lend a hand. The Quartermaster will have togs, shirts, caps and goggles for sale/order on both days. Planning for the upcoming season is reliant upon Sign On Days, so if you are returning or new to Swimming Club, please come along to help us plan a smooth season for everyone. This is particularly important for Learn to Swim Classes.

**Sponsored Swimmer**

The club is once again asking for applications for a squad level swimmer to receive free tuition, togs and club shirt for the season. Application forms are available in the school office. The sponsored swimmer must attend Virginia State School and commit to squad training, Friday Nights and be available for Carnivals.

**Under 4's Swimming**

The club is asking for expressions of interest for young swimmers to start classes for the little ones. Our coaching staff this season is qualified in Under 4's swimming and if we have enough interest, we can start classes. Please send an email to the club if this may interest you.

**Fundraiser**

The Virginia State School Swimming Club is having a 'goggle' fundraiser. The club will earn 50% of all orders placed before Thursday 31 December. If you could send your orders back to the office via the classroom, we can save on postage and your goods will be delivered to the classroom. This is a great opportunity to get your children's goggles for the upcoming swimming season and help out your school club at the same time. Order forms have been sent home with today's Informer.

**SANDGATE DISTRICT STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Thank you to all those families that have submitted enrolment applications for Year 8 in 2010.**

**We are now organizing our class numbers for next year so if any families would like an enrolment pack please collect it from our office at 41 Braun Street Deagon or phone Lisa Wagner on 3869 9888**

**Enrolment forms need to be returned by Friday 11 September 2009.**