



Penryn College Preparatory School



SMS your comments, concerns, suggestions to 0739268215
(please note that this is for sms' **only** – phone calls will not be responded to)

Dear Parents,

Included in this newsletter please find:

- Grade 4 Technology.
- Security presentation.
- Measles inoculation.
- Tuesday assessment period.
- Recycling depot.
- Use of electronic media.
- Winter uniform.
- Grade R excursion.
- Grade 5 excursion.
- My School Card.
- 2011 term dates.
- Upcoming matches and last week's sport results.
- General Knowledge Quiz.

From the Headmaster:

Thank you to the many families who filled the chapel on Sunday for a very meaningful Family Service. My special thanks to David and Rhetta Curle who made it all happen!

The **Grade 4's** made some very creative pouches during **Technology** this week and I was pleased to have the best shown to me in my office.



Kindly note that the **Security presentation** mentioned in last week's newsletter has been postponed by a few days as Hi-Tech is in the process of putting together an audio-visual show for the presentation to the Prep School. I shall advise you of the new date as soon as I receive it.

While on the topic of postponements, we were notified this morning that the Health Department in the region has run short of **measles** inoculation medication. While I am sure that the children are relieved, we have been assured that the department will advise us as soon as they have new stocks.

On matters **academic**, we have decided to lengthen the **assessment period** on a Tuesday to one hour, to allow the children the best opportunity to show what they have learned under slightly less rushed circumstances. Also, as mentioned last term, the staff has been meeting regularly to evaluate our **assessment policy** in the school. We do believe that it is important to stretch our students and to set more specific goals for improvement. As you may have read in the national press, the OBE system is currently under review – we too are constantly looking at what aspects of the system are integral to our teaching and what areas could be tweaked to provide the best possible educational experience at Penryn Prep School. You will probably notice a small change on the cover sheets of your child's tests, most specifically a move towards a 1-7 rating system and also a mark. At the same time, there will be a rubric which will cover performance in the various parts of the test – this so that pupils can

see areas where they are proficient and also areas which need attention. I do hope that the new system will encourage excellence and a pursuit of improvement where this is needed.

Kindly note that the school is in the process of moving the **Recycling Depot** to a more suitable position inside the grounds. There will thus be no recycling accepted in the short term until this facility has been completed.

With the concerns over **cyber-bullying and the abuse of electronic media** by children and certain adults, parents may be interested to find out more about a new product soon to be launched in South Africa. You may find out more about it on www.mymobilewatchdog.co.za.

Winter uniform (ie tracksuit pants and fleecy top/jersey) may be worn from when children return after the long weekend.

I heard recently about what sounds like a really interesting television programme starting on SABC 2 this Sunday at 21h00, titled '**A Country Imagined**'. It is described as 'an unusual and rewarding journey through South Africa as it explores the landscapes that have inspired artists, writers, musicians and dancers for centuries'. One slot in the series will focus on our region.

I have attached **two articles** which you may find interesting. Both are from the Association of Australian Heads and I believe both make for interesting reading – one on parenting boys and one on girls. I do hope that they are food for thought for all our parents in the tricky tight-rope walk of parenting.

The **Grade R** classes had a very interesting **excursion** to Mataffin Dairy Farm this morning, where they were able to see practically what they had learned about in recent lessons. The **Grade 5** classes also had a fun day at Kaapschehoop, where much fun was had by all. The measure of enjoyment of both trips will no doubt be in the amount of mud on clothes and shoes which will accompany the children home today – sorry moms!

Finally, the Grade 7D class won this week's prize for the most number of swipes of '**My School Cards**' – well done to Mrs Drake and her class and to all the rest, keep swiping!

What a busy newsletter! Thank you, parents, for taking the time to read through it all and have a restful (long) weekend.

Neil Malherbe
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2011 Term Dates

	Penryn College	Inland government schools
Term 1	18 January to 18 March inclusive	12 January to 25 March inclusive
Term 2	5 April to 1 July inclusive	11 April to 24 June inclusive
Easter break	22 April to 2 May inclusive	
Youth Day break	16 June to 19 June inclusive	
Term 3	26 July to 23 September inclusive	18 July to 30 September inclusive
Women's Day break	6 August to 9 August inclusive	
Term 4	11 October to 7 December inclusive	10 October to 9 December inclusive

From the Acting Head of the Foundation Phase:

Another busy week has flown by with much action and many activities going on!

In Gr R and 00 they have been very busy learning about cows, making cows and milkshakes and today the Gr R's were privileged to go on a BIG bus to the Mataffin Dairy. Some of the Grade Twos and Grade Threes played their first netball and soccer matches of the season. In Grade 1, a theme called 'In the garden' is being done, whilst the Grade 2's and 3's are learning about the World Cup Soccer and other countries.

Health Matters:

1. As winter approaches, please may we ask you to keep your child at home if he or she is ill, Often children come to school sick and then infect the others. I know that as a working parent it is inconvenient when your child gets sick, but we ask you to be considerate to others.
2. Please check your child's hair for lice and don't send your child to school until all lice and nits (the eggs) are dead and combed out.

If anyone has spare headphones lying around at home that could be used for a computer, please could you leave them with Leigh in the preschool office. This would really be appreciated.

Keep well and drive carefully if you are travelling! Enjoy the mini break!

Sally Wakefield
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From the Sports Office:

This term will see the girls' tennis championships being played. Entry forms have been collected and the draw is taking place. Girls will be informed when they are playing. The matches will be scheduled for Wednesday afternoons.

The extra mural timetable is progressing well. The boys had their second round of matches this week while the girls had their first netball matches yesterday. The Grade 2 girls and boys stole the show on their respective match days. There is no greater heart for the game than the young ones playing for the first time in front of mommy and daddy! Thank you to all the parents who took the time to support their children - they really do love you being there as proved by the secret waves and smiles that are commonly shared between your child and yourself! Priceless, I'm sure you agree.

Final arrangements are being made for our annual trip to St. Stithian's coming up in two weeks. Final teams will be announced next week and letters will be sent with all further information.

Despite the holidays, we will have normal sport next week with boys playing matches on Wednesday and girls playing netball on Thursday.

Wednesday Penryn vs Hazyview
U/10
U/11
Mixed U/10 and U/11
Open A
Internal match Open vs Open

Thursday Penryn vs Kings School
U/11 Home
U/12 Away
Open Away

Results from this week's matches:

Football vs Kings School:

Open A	2 – 0	u/11	4 – 0	u/10	1 – 0	u/9	0 – 0
u/8	3 – 0						

Netball vs Riverview Prep:

Open	6 – 12	u/11	12 – 3	u/10	1 – 4	u/9	3 – 1
u/8	5 – 1						

Allison Williams
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General Knowledge:

This week's questions:

1. Which planet in our solar system is the only named after a goddess?
2. How many legs does a fly have?
3. Who painted the "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper"?
4. A funny looking bicycle with one big wheel and one small wheel was named after two coins. What is this bicycle called?
5. Who are Bafana Bafana's opponents in the opening match of the 2010 World Cup?

Answers from 16 April:

1. Approximately 500 litres of milk a day.
2. Fynbos.
3. 2.8m a day.
4. 12000 years old. A Redwood in USA.
5. Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, India. It covers an area the size of a soccer field.

A pair of glasses was left in the Chapel after the Family Service last Sunday. They can be collected at reception.