



# Chatter



No. 1

Our Fortnightly Newsletter

21 January 2010

## DEAR PARENTS

**We start the year on a sad note. Our sincere thoughts and prayers are extended to Belinda, Mark, Amy and Andrew Bray on the tragic loss of their oldest son/ brother, Oliver.**

**WELCOME BACK** and we wish that the very best of life comes to you all in 2010. **Special welcome to new pupils and their families.**

**NOTE:** It is 9:45 Monday morning 18.1.2010 - the start of the school year. I have just gone walk about and there is **not a single tear in the entire school.** This includes the Play School. Well done, Mums, Dads and Teachers – I am very proud of our children.

### We welcome our new staff:

Ann Couzens	Head JP
Darren Price Moor	Sports Co-Ordinator
Amy Giles	Grade 1 teacher
Reneë Bruning	Grade 4 teacher
Christine Thomson	JP Secretary
Sbonele Tshange	Ground Support staff

### Back from maternity leave:

Debbie Wicht	Librarian
Amy Weehuizen	Grade 000 teacher
Claire Fuller	Grade 2 teacher

## TIMETABLE

The provisional calendar for the first two weeks of the first term of 2010 can be viewed on the schools website or you can pop into Reception for a copy. The calendar for the whole term will be available by the end of the second week.

## OPEN DOOR POLICY

It is natural for children to go through an adjustment phase in a new school and we shall endeavour to assist the children to settle. Parents, I can assure you that very few children take longer than two weeks to settle. Please feel free to contact Paula Algar (Head of Pre-School), Ann Couzens (Head of JP), Graeme Waite (Deputy Head), Chris Taylor (Deputy Head of SP) or myself should you have any concerns. A reminder that Management is available to address any issues or concerns and we welcome parents to come in and see us as it is our desire that Umhlanga College continues to be a **world-class South African School**. The car park doesn't solve any problems!

## BURSARS OFFICE

For those parents paying school fees by monthly debit order; please be advised that the transaction will be debited to your bank account on **Friday 29th of January**. Please be advised that with effect from 1 July 2010 the acceptance fee for any new children will increase to R2,000.

## WEEK ONE

DATE	EVENT	SPORT
MON 18.1.2010	STAGGERED INTAKE PRE-SCHOOL	U9 & U10 CRICKET TRIALS 2-3PM U11 CRICKET TRIALS 3-4PM
TUES 19.1.2010		
WED 20.1.2010		OPEN CRICKET TRIALS 2-3.30PM
THUR 21.1.2010	GRADE R-3 PARENTS HOMEWORK INFORMATION 5.30PM	
FRI 22.1.2010		U10A CRICKET VS GLENASHLEY (A) 1.30-4PM U11 CRICKET VS GLENASHLEY (A) DAY/NIGHT 4-8.30PM
SAT 23.1.2010		1 <sup>ST</sup> XI CRICKET VS GLENASHLEY 8.00AM-2.00PM

## WEEK TWO

DATE	EVENT	SPORT
MON 25.1.2010		
TUES 26.1.2010	STAGGERED INTAKE PRE-SCHOOL	
WED 27.1.2010	SP PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING 5.30PM	
THUR 28.1.2010	GRADE 7 LEADERSHIP CAMP AT UC – SLEEPOVER	
FRI 29.1.2010	GRADE 7 LEADERSHIP CAMP CONTINUES	
SAT 30.1.2010		U10, U11 & 1 <sup>ST</sup> XI CRICKET VS CHELSEA 8.00AM-2.00PM

**PLEASE NOTE SP PREP WILL NO LONGER TAKE PLACE ON A MONDAY.** However, from 2010, all SP children who don't have sport and are not collected at 14h00, will have the opportunity to do Prep until 15h30 from Monday – Thursday each week.

## PLEASE DIARISE:

GRADE 4 EXCURSION	22-23 APRIL 2010
GRADE 5 & 6 EXCURSION	21-23 APRIL 2010
GRADE 7 EXCURSION	19-21 APRIL 2010

## UNIFORM

Every parent should have received a handbook and the staff will go through all the school rules with the children on the first day of school. **Parents are requested to please support us with regard to our Code of Conduct, dress code and all other rules.**

At the beginning of the year girls often forget to remove their studs, please ensure that they do not come to school with any form of jewellery, except a watch.

## GRADE 7 2009

After several functions to bid our 2009 Grade 7 pupils farewell I would like again to express **our very best wishes** to them for their high school years. I was very proud of the mature and dignified way they conducted themselves at the end of last year.

### THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO:

**RACHEL MURCIA** (7B), for the donation of clothes for Blackburn.

**PRE SCHOOL TREE** – Our big tree in the Pre School Playground had to be **removed due to severe storm damage**. We are very sad that we have lost this beautiful tree but our children's safety is paramount.

**THE FARM HOUSE CAFÉ** – Work continued during part of the holiday and I am pleased to inform you that the Farmhouse Café will soon be **operational again**.



**OUR TENT IN THE SP** – We can no longer use the tent due to storm damage and the building of **our school hall is now an urgent issue** we must all address. I welcome any input from parents on achieving this goal. The school will benefit enormously if we are able to achieve this soonest.

## RECYCLING REPORT

MATERIALS SORTED	3RD TERM	4TH TERM
PAPER	109 BAGS	174 BAGS
PLASTIC	80 BAGS	75 BAGS
CANS	25 BAGS	22 BAGS
TETRA PAK	15 BAGS	12 BAGS
GLASS	862 KG	1090 KG
CARDBOARD		326 KG

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

**DUZI – UC parents paddle for Sunflower Fund – Robin and Richard Wigget** are paddling the **Duzi** to raise funds for the Sunflower Fund. Please contact Robin, on 0824460086, if you would like to sponsor or make a donation.

Regrettably there has been a **delay** on the delivery of the netting for our new **cricket nets**, despite them having been ordered last year. As soon as they arrive, they will be installed.

**SPORTS BAGS** – Anyone wanting to order sports/trolley cooler bags for this year please contact **Lizelle Blair (084 353 6715)**. Cut off date for orders Wednesday 27.1.2010.

**FOR SALE:** Second hand Grade 4 girl's uniform items (age size 10-11). Some as new, e.g. tracksuit, rash vest. Please call **Sarah on 031 561 5708/ 084 4971661**.

**WE ENCOURAGE ALL OUR NEW PARENTS** to obtain a **MAKRO and MYSCHOOL card**. These can be applied for online at [www.makro.co.za](http://www.makro.co.za) and [www.MySchool.co.za](http://www.MySchool.co.za). This is a wonderful way to raise funds for our school.



As at October 2009 Umhlanga College was **listed top of the participating schools register for the most funds raised for their school** – in October alone we raised R4,538.14!

Thank you to the following families who have been so conscientious in swiping their MySchool cards and have been listed as having **the most number of transactions** registered (Note to Dads - not amount spent!):

**Donkin family, Devitt family, Scott family, Karon family, Tostee family, Garvey family, Corbett family, Tweedy family, Michau and Akal families.**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

**NOMFUNDVO DLAMINI**, (Grade 7 2009), who was examined in Grade 1 Theory of Music by The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and **passed with distinction** in 2009.

Well done, Nomfundvo!

Term	Opens	Closes
First Term	18 January	26 March
Second Term	12 April	09 June
Third Term	13 July	23 September
Fourth Term	04 October	03 December

**MARGO REID**

*Happy New*  
**2010**