



The Westwood WEB

Monday, 28th March 2011
Week 11, Term 1.

From the Head of School

As we draw near to the end of first term there are a few reminders for parents of students attending WIS, as well as a few notices of upcoming events in Term 2.

Reminders:

- ◆ School Tuition: 50% of second term tuition is due by the end of this term (15th April); the remaining balance is due at the commencement of the second term.
- ◆ Parents Forum: is set for 5th April (see notice below).
- ◆ Parents interested in sitting on a Council Committee as a consultative member may indicate interest to the Head of School.
- ◆ We have an active PTA and encourage all parents to do their part in supporting the Parent Teachers' Association.

Notices:

- ◆ Westwood will be hosting an "Open House" on the 2nd June (more information to come)
- ◆ We anticipate that our "Security Upgrade Project" (Wall and Lighting) will be completed by the end of April. We appreciate your patience during the construction period.
- ◆ A survey is forthcoming to all parents of WIS before the end of term, we would appreciate your completion and return.

We appreciate your feedback and encourage you to drop into the office at any time. However, we remind you that if you have a complaint you must approach the individual regarding your concern first.

Parent Forum

You are cordially invited to attend a Parent Forum on **5th April at 1800h** in the **school library**. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- ◆ Share progress on the Strategic Plan 2009-2010
- ◆ Communicate the current Strategic Plan 2011-2013
- ◆ To solicit input into the development of a "Value Proposition" for the school

The WIS Council is committed to open and transparent communication. The overall strategic intent is to develop a statement that summarizes the unique benefits Westwood offers its stakeholders. Your input as parents in the development of the value proposition is appreciated.

We hope to see you there!

Phyllis HILDEBRANDT

From the Deputy Head of School

Conferences at the end of Term 1

Student-Led Conferences will be held on **Wednesday, April 6**, for students from **Reception to Year 6**, and on **Tuesday, April 5**, for students in **Years 7 and 8**. Students have already begun preparing for these important conferences and are in the process of selecting work that best displays their learning.

Although the teachers will be present in the classroom to offer guidance, the students will be conducting the conferences with their parents and discussing various aspects of their learning with them. At WIS we view this as an extremely positive opportunity for these students to emphasize their strengths, acknowledge their weaknesses, and, with you in attendance, set goals and plan for their approach to the next term. Please make every effort to be part of this conference. This is an opportunity to open up or improve lines of communication with your child about his/her education. We strongly encourage parents to play an active role in this conferencing process.

Three-way conferences for students from Years 9 – 13 will be held on **Wednesday, April 13**.

More details regarding these conferences will follow shortly.

Assemblies at WIS

Assemblies at WIS give students a chance to demonstrate their understanding of what they are learning by sharing it with the school community. Assemblies feature individual or class performances such as plays, choral verse, songs, readings, music pieces and, on occasion, external performers/companies. Awards are often presented and announcements made of general interest/concern. Topics of interest may also be discussed, national holidays or religious holy days acknowledged. Of particular note is the fact that many of the presentations are **student-initiated** and **need not be polished presentations**.

Stars One and All

Differentiation is an educational term that is used a lot these days. It means adjusting the programme to fit the student. It means providing opportunities and challenges for the wide variety of learning styles and levels in every classroom. It means providing opportunity for student voice and choice. These considerations are important-even critical - for the learning and development of each child.

Differentiation also means providing each member of the learning community the opportunity to shine. Our recent secondary Athletics day, as well as the inter-schools swimming gala, were good examples of this. In the coming week on Wednesday 30th March, our **Westwood's Got Talent** also allows our students to take centre stage and experience a moment of fame.

Amanda WILLIAMS

Blood Donation Day



On the 6th of April 2011, the school will hold a blood donation day. The National Blood Transfusion Centre will be present. We urge everybody above 16 (students, teacher and parents) to donate blood.

Botswana needs 40 000 units of blood but only receives 22 000 so every drop makes a difference.

Every donor will receive a packet of cookies and 440ml Coke, Sprite or Fanta after donating blood.

For further information, contact Fabian_Zimmermann@gmx.net.

To Be Or Not To Be

Upcoming Events

The school community is invited to attend the following presentation:

- ◆ IB1 and 1B2 Career talk: Glamorgan University, Wales, 8th April at 0715h in School Library.

Work Place Attachment: 12-14 April

I would like to thank the parents who have returned the work placement permission slips. The students are now working on their placements with the help of the Student Services Team.

FYI: IB2 Parents

Open Days/ Campus Visits:

For those IB2 students who visit South Africa often, it is a good idea to take the opportunity to visit a University campus as this gives the student a holistic understanding of what is expected of them at university level and allows them to visit the different faculties and to see their

course offerings. Up-coming open days:

UCT:21 May

UP: 16 April

University of Stellenbosch: 29 July

Karuna DATTA-BHATNAGAR

Please Note:

The Afternoon Activity programme will come to an end this week (01/04). I wish to thank all the students who took part in the activities.

Beth PROCTOR

Community Outreach

This past Saturday (26/03) our student-driven social soccer initiative received donations from;

- ◆ Incredible Connection - 15 balls
- ◆ Knight Frank International - small goal posts and 7 balls
- ◆ The family of Daniel Hill - First Aid kit
- ◆ Ludo Issartelle - 4 soccer balls, 4 bags and 4 T-shirts for the coaches.

We would like to thank the donors for their generosity.

Le kamoso bagaetsho!

Glenda MOKOKWE

Southern Botswana Cricket Tournament

(25th March)

Seven schools took part in this competition which took place at both Westwood and Maru-A-Pula schools. Westwood won its section of the tournament and went through to the finals in a dramatic super over bowl out thanks to the accuracy of Jan.

In the early part of the tournament there were outstanding performances from Matt who took another brilliant catch in the deep and Robin engineered a good run-out. Robin, Matt and Jan all bowled well and there was a solid batting performance from Craig.

Westwood unfortunately lost in the final against Maru-A-Pula. They did not hold on to important catches. Matt once again bowled well in the final except for his last over which was expensive. Marius and Craig both batted well but the tem could not reach MAP's total. Westwood did well to reach the final and ended in second place.

Zane LANG