



Principal: Sigrid Erdt

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German School News

Parents Committee AGM

Firstly many thanks must go to the many parents who turned up for the Parents breakfast and stayed to participate in the AGM. Your contributions and participation is always welcome.

Secondly, many more thanks go to the outgoing President **Frank Ruhl**, Vice President **Michael Mack**, Treasurer **Glenister Lamont**, and Secretary **Peter Ross**. Their invaluable work over many years has helped maintain the school's excellence and viability.

Thirdly congratulations (commiserations?) go to the newly elected Office Bearers, who will form the core of the Committee this year:

President: Michelle Springall
Vice President: Brigid Soames
Treasurer: Ralph Niesen
Cashier: Ann Kemeny
Secretary: Jocelyn Ng

General Committee members:

Frank Ruhl
Michael Mack
Kim Sue Hendry
Sriasih Zackor
Thorsten Zackor
Fouli Christmann
Glenister Lamont
Axel Leonhart
Carol Rollmann
Margit Gallagher
Barbara Swift-Tykocinski
Carmen Dawuda
Doris Niesen-Baruta (Social Events Coordinator)
Michael Gibson (Newsletter)

Fever Pitch

The World Cup (held in Germany this year) is being used by the school to help bring the German language alive. With this in mind, the School has organized an excursion to the Goethe Institute's Weltsprache Fußball - Planet Football exhibition on 13th May.

In addition, the Association of German Teachers Victoria (AGTV), the Goethe Institute, and the

Alemannia Soccer Club of Richmond is organizing a soccer Family Day - German Football Festival on 21st May this year.

(A separate flyer is attached for these events.)

This event is also being promoted by the Network of Australian Teachers of German, whose Fussball 2006 website promotes the teaching of German with soccer. www.ausdaf.edu.au/fussball2006

Principals Report

The following Report by Sigrid Erdt formed the core of the reporting at the AGM.

The first term of the new School year for 2006 has already passed. It has been a short term of only six weeks to accommodate the Commonwealth Games.

Upon reflection our students and teachers can be proud of last year's achievements. There were some major enjoyable events in 2005. In term two we visited the **Melbourne Museum**. In August the state final of the **poetry competition** was held. Congratulations to all our students who put a lot of work into learning and reciting their poems, a special mention to those who won prizes. One of our students received the first prize in the state final for the third consecutive years.

The **open day** on the 10th of September was very successful. The children sang and performed and our "little ones sang "Schnappy" with great enthusiasm.

Our Finale was the **Christmas concert** at the Austrian Club in Heidelberg. A high standard was achieved in all performances. Unfortunately St. Nikolaus turned ill a day before and was unable to please the children to hand out the presents as he has done for eight years. Somehow we overcame this problem and in the end the children were delighted.

The Christmas concert and the Open Day present imported opportunities to meet with families and friends to share the sense of community which is essential to a small school like ours.



Now we are looking forward to an exciting and challenging school year in 2006

Welcome to all the new parents and students. I would like to provide you with a brief outline of our school's structure. The lessons start at 9 am and finish at 11.30 am. There is a recess of 15 minutes. We have 3 junior classes and 4 classes at higher levels (CSF levels 3,4,5,and 6) The class sizes are small with a maximum of 12 students, which is essential. in creating a friendly teaching and learning environment. Seven teachers conduct the respective classes and two teacher aids assist the junior classes. The teachers are qualified and native speakers. They are very dedicated and have years of experience.

Last year Birgit Matwijiw who taught our senior class for a number of years resigned.

Rita Bergin kindly offered to be our relieving teacher until a replacement for Birgit could be found. Frau Bergin is highly qualified has a lot of experience and knows our school only too well since she has been a former principal. A new teacher has now been installed. Maria Wenzel will take up her position in term two. Rita will still remain our emergency teacher.

Last year 70 students were enrolled at our school. At the end of the year some students left us, but with new enrolments this year the number of students has slightly increased.

In 2005 the teachers attended the **State Conference** in Geelong, the **Ethnic School Conference** and took part in **four workshops** conducted by Roma Schultz the German language adviser from the AGTV.

In 2006 a new curriculum **VELS** (Vic. essential learning standard) will be introduced to all mainstream schools.

On the 17th of February we attended an afternoon work shop at the Goethe Institut.

"German across the curriculum and VELS.
"LOTE" does not have to implement VELS before 2007, but it is advisable to introduce the new curriculum in advance. Ethnic Schools will be required to assess and report on LOTE using VELS by 2008.

On the 14th of March Michiko and I took part in a PS course **"Planning VELS LOTE Units"** conducted by the Ethnic School Association. The emphasis is on intercultural and integrated learning.

Fußballfieber.

Die Fußball Weltmeisterschaft will be held in June 2006 in Berlin.

To prepare our students for the exhibition the teachers attended a seminar entitled "Weltsprache Fußball" at the Goethe Institut on the 3rd of March, and the excursion on 13th May is explained on the attached flyer.

Together with the German Language Association we are planning to **promote the Saturday Schools at the Family Day** : German Football Festival held on Sunday the 21st of May 2006 at the Alemannia Richmond Soccer Club. (See also the attached flyer)

Due to excellent financial management I was able to buy some new **teaching and learning materials.** (thanks Glenister) In term two text and workbooks will be introduced in Leni's class , Michiko's. my class and The parents have already purchased them for their children.

I have enjoyed working with the Parents' Committee and would like to thank each of its members for their assistance and cooperation. I would also like to thank my colleagues for their commitment and their enthusiastic support in running the school. Last but not least, I would like to thank the parent helpers who have generously provided their time to assist in many significant ways.

School Fees

...are now due. Please See Ann Kemeny.

Important Dates:

Goethe Inst. Excursion:	Sat. 13 May
Family Fun Football Day:	Sat. 21 May
Germany v Costa Rica:	Sat. 10 June (2am)
Australia v Japan:	Tue. 13 June (12am)
France v Switzerland:	Wed. 14 June (2am)
Germany v Poland:	Thurs. 15 June (5am)
Last Day of Term 2:	Sat. 17 June
Togo v Switzerland:	Mon. 19 June (12am)
Brazil v Australia:	Mon. 19 June (2am)
Ecuador v Germany:	Wed. 21 June (12am)
Switzerland v S. Korea:	Sat. 23 June (5am)
Croatia v Australia:	Fri. 23 June (5am)