



Achievements for 2008

Throughout this year the school community has been involved in many programs, events and activities. I have compiled a list of some of these achievements. It certainly was a huge year!

WHOLE SCHOOL SUCCESSES:

- The collection of 940 pairs of shoes for needy people through the 'Kids off the Kerb' program.
- A large donation of Christmas food and goodies for the Salvation Army to distribute.
- First year of the four year Sustainable School of Victoria Strategic Plan.
- Employment of Jill our School Chaplain using a Federal 3 year grant.
- Magnificent example of Teamwork exhibited by the whole school community in emptying the front portables and other rooms as we relocated grades into the new classrooms.
- Ongoing support for our World Vision child, Silvio. (G for Generosity Day).
- Increased opportunities provided to assist with the Pre School to School transition process.
- A very successful Walk For Technology Day.
- An educational Cultural Diversity Day.
- An extremely successful Spring Fair. The most financially successful in the history of the school.
- Various Junior School Council fundraising activities including Canteen Bandana Day and the Starlight Foundation Day.
- Six successful Community Action Teams (CATS) in Grades 5/6 which involved the students looking at issues within the wider community.
- The Welfare Values Unit, developed at Greenhills, is listed on DEECD's website for other schools to view and implement.
- Accredited as a 'Kids – Go for your Life' School. (More details & explanation in 2009).

INDIVIDUAL SUCCESSES:

- Mitchell Graham played in the winning Victorian team at the National Primary School softball competition in Sydney.
- Thomas De Bias represented Victoria in athletic competitions at the Primary School Pacific Games in Canberra.
- Mr James Penson, a valued staff member, was awarded Victoria's Most Outstanding Primary School Teacher of the Year Award for 2008.
- Two students, Jesse McKinnon and Clare Watts received bicycles as part of the Bicycle Victoria's Student Leadership Awards.
- The Steve Herbert Award was presented to James Clark and Tiffany Baumgartner.
- Academic Awards were presented to Luke Sutherland and Chelsea Christelow.
- School Council Core Values Awards were presented to SamSwitkowski and Romy Schoenheimer.

ACADEMIC SUCCESSES:

- Participation in the Grade 3/4 GATEWAYS Team Challenge Competition – Highly commended in Zone Final.
- Participation in the Grade 5/6 GATEWAYS Team Challenge Competition – Zone & State Winners.
- 2008 Maths Olympiad (Maths Enrichment & Extension Group – National event) – 30 students participated - 20 were ranked in the top 25% of students and 13 in the top 10%. Greenhills Maths Olympiad Team was in the top 10% nationally (7th in Victoria.)
- Very successful NAPLAN (replaced AIM) results for Grades 3 and 5.
- Successful introduction of the Mathletics program across the whole school.
- Two grades were recognised nationally for their results during the Mathletics Challenge during Literacy & Numeracy Week.
- Students were successful in the "24 Maths Challenge" Regional Heats.

SPORTING SUCCESSES:

Participated in -

- District, Zone and State Cross Country Carnivals.
- District, Zone and Regional Swimming Carnivals.
- District, Zone and Regional Athletics Carnivals.
- The Boys Basketball team, Girls Volleyball team and the Football team are District Premiers.
- Boys Basketball team won the Primary Schools State Championship- out of 1,850 schools.
- Boys and Mixed Hoop Time Basketball Competition - State Finalist.
- Regional Kanga 8's Cricket competition – Boys.
- Regional Kanga 8's Cricket competition – Girls.
- Hockey 7's, Regional Golf, Regional Lacrosse and District Tennis competitions.
- District and Zone trials for Football, Soccer, Netball, Softball, Basketball and Netball Round Robins.

PERFORMING ARTS SUCCESSES:

- Recital Choir Tour involving Torquay Primary School and Geelong Grammar.
- Participated in Choral@Montsalvat, Boroondara Eisteddfod, State Schools Spectacular, Diamond Valley Choral Festival, Greenhills Music Festival, Nillumbik Choral Festival, Spring Fair, Greensborough Plaza Christmas presentation and Leith Park Retirement Village.
- Wakakirri Heat – Grades 3 / 4 - 7 gold and 3 silver out of 10 plus a Sustainability Award.
- Wakakirri Division 1 State Finals at Melbourne Town Hall - Winners plus Public Speaking Award. Props were made by the students.

SPECIAL EVENTS / PROGRAMS

- Grade 4 visits to local Pre Schools for reading and socialising activities.
- Science Week Activity - Go Green For Frogs.
- House Events - Sports Day, Swimming Carnival, Trivia Challenge.
- A Greenhills Staff Team competed in the Victorian Teachers Games.
- Grade 1/2 Movie Creations for the ACMI Film Competition on 'Australia.'
- Student participation in an extension program about film making at St Helena Secondary School.
- Many successful fundraising events and activities conducted by the very active Parent Association.

READING / LIBRARY SUCCESSES:

- Premier's Reading Challenge – 133 students completed.

FACILITIES / UPGRADES:

- Moving into our fabulous new building – at last! The fences were all removed this week.
- Installing Interactive Whiteboards to many of our classrooms
- The installation of a 125,000 litre water tank to capture water off the hall roof to be used to water ovals.
- Enhanced computer and associated skills and opportunities for all students.
- Successful Federal Government Grant application to install \$50,000 of solar panels on the school roof in 2009.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2009:

- Final completion of Stage 1 Building Project.
- Next level of Sustainability initiatives – decreasing the use of water, gas and electricity, minimising rubbish and increasing the biodiversity of the grounds.
- Further opportunities for the Pre School to School Transition process.
- Increased number of laptops for student use.
- Making submissions for funding for Stage Two of the building program.

Thank you to all students, staff and parents for your individual and group contributions towards making 2008 a wonderful and successful year at Greenhills.

Greenhills is G.R.E.A.T!