



SENIOR PREP

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27 July 2017

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

DID YOU
KNOW



Thinking at St Peter's

Research has shown, time and again, that businesses and organisations encouraging the most effective thinking techniques are generally more successful than their competitors.

St Peter's:

- has been teaching thinking techniques for over 20 years (since 1995) intentionally teaching techniques to improve decision-making, curbing the effect of the emotion, improving problem-solving and creativity
- uses a combination of techniques including de Bono CoRT skills and Thinking Maps (David Hyerle)
- was one of only two schools visited by Dr de Bono on his two visits to South Africa
- was recognised as the first Thinking School in Africa and possibly the southern hemisphere by the University of Exeter in 2014
- produced the first trainers in thinking skills, accredited by Thinking Schools South Africa (TSSA)
- has integrated thinking techniques across this curriculum and in management

Questions for the Rector:

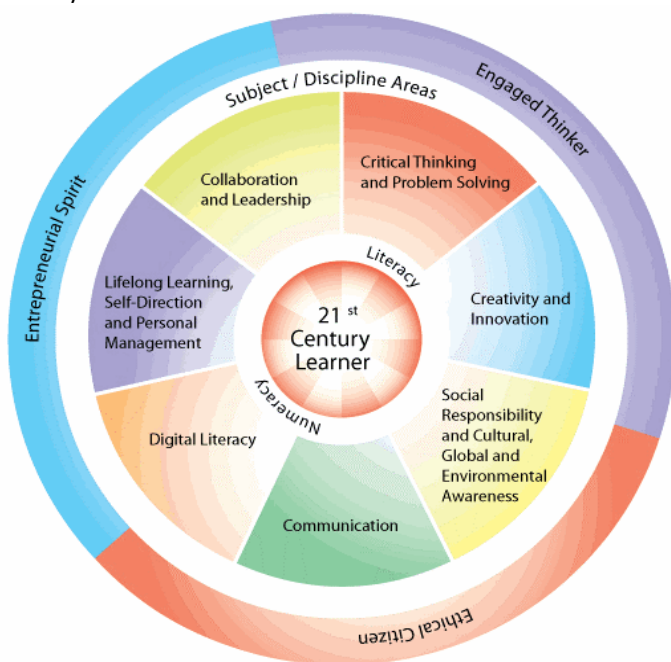
If anyone wishes any further information on any topic, please feel free to contact me at school or at groyce@stpeters.co.za or dradloff@stpeters.co.za

Greg Royce

FROM THE HEADMASTER

If you use the JP car park you will have seen that the Dodson Hall upgrade has begun. This upgrade will include the moving of the entrance to the Reception Lawn side of the hall and a general brightening up of the hall using aluminium windows and doors. A reception deck is also included on the plans. This means that the hall will be out of use for the next two to three months and so alternative arrangements have been made for assemblies and other gatherings. In addition, access to our Reception will be restricted to the pathway nearest to the Middle School or from the Lettie Bell Lawn side; other access points will be within the building site. We look forward to hosting functions in the revamped Dodson Hall towards the end of the year.

My favourite weeks at the school are those in which we offer the Flexible Learning Programme (FLP). This programme is based on the pedagogy of the children adopting autonomy of choice, work rate and assessment for their own work as they follow a research and creative pathway towards the solution of a "Big Question." The methodology builds not only the creativity I spoke about last week, but also demands practical work throughout and the grit needed to complete a project successfully. There is a plethora of information available on the skills needed for the 21st century. The following diagram, which I have pulled from a google search, illustrates what people generally think of when we talk about 21st Century Skills.



https://www.google.co.za/search?q=21st+century+skills&saf e=strict&rlz=1C2GGRV_enUS751US751&tbm=isch&tbo=u&s ource=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjOiJrYiqLVAhVqlsAKHfSHB q8Q7AkIlgE&biw=1280&bih=695&dpr=1.5#imgsrc=vleFVih4T kNe6M:

I believe that the FLP programmes that the children are completing this week address all of these competencies in a relevant and age-appropriate manner. The following comments have been gathered from the boys as they completed this week's programme:

"The FLP gets more exciting every time...."

"I'm trying to work out what will happen if the air pressure gets too low..."

"What would have happened in South Africa if they hadn't caught the guys at Lilliesleaf...?"

A selection of photos from this week's activities follows:



Rob Macaulay

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Lizelle Nel

Lizelle started working in the St Peter's Accounts Department in June 2015, as a Creditors Clerk. She came to us from Curro Aurora School in Sundowner, Roodepoort.

Lizelle is married to Quinton and has a son, Kevin, in Matric this year. She is a supportive mum and often watches him play sport. Lizelle thrives on exercise - she works out in the gym and does Boot Camp in her spare time. She also loves to travel and visit new places with her family.

She absolutely loves her job and St Peter's Schools.



ISIZULU CULTURAL TOUR – JUNE 2017

The objective of this tour was to have an authentic experience of what it means to be an AmaZulu. Not only did this tour exceed my expectations, but I would have to admit that I learnt so much, even though I am UmZulu!

The boys got to walk, sleep, talk (as far as possible) in the way that the Zulus do. I was amazed that within a night they were transformed into Zulu farm boys who touched cow dung, ate under the lamp light and glow of the fire and did not complain that it was not bright enough! They learnt how the sustainability of running the farm was reliant on each and every family member.

We were shown how cow dung can be turned into biogas for fuel. This convinced us that this homestead was fully sustainable on very little resources.

We also learnt about the importance of the Nguni cattle (the indigenous Zulu cattle). Absolutely everything that the cows have to offer, from the skins for clothing and bedding to the various parts of the meat. They are used in celebration, in mourning and as a symbol of wealth. Basically everything has a reason and every practice has a meaningful purpose.

The boys were captivated by the many interesting activities, amongst which included spear throwing, milking a cow, bracelet making, using clay to make a traditional calabash and stick fighting.

Siphiwe Mulaudzi (isiZulu Teacher)



SUNSET CAROLS MARKET

The St Peter's Foundation invites you to participate in the 2017 St Peter's School Christmas Market to be held on Saturday, 2 December!

This is a wonderful opportunity to sell your goodies. This market has grown in popularity each year. The market is held prior to the St Peter's Sunset Carols, which in the past has attracted over 2 500 people. To secure your stall or for further info please email carols@stpeters.co.za

ALADDIN

Last week, Thursday and Friday evening, saw the performance of the Main School Production, Aladdin.

There were rehearsals for much of this term and all the hard work paid off in a simply outstanding production. The cast were enchanting with their wonderful singing, dancing and acting. They transported us into the world of Aladdin, complete with the "genie" appearing out of his lamp, a mysterious "magical carpet" which literally transported Aladdin from one scene to the next, and the piece de resistance, a life-like elephant, which made even the big "kids" jaws drop!

A huge congratulations to all the staff and the boys involved. Aladdin was a real treat!



FORTHCOMING WEEK

Saturday	29/07/2017	29/07/2017			Football vs WHPS
Monday	31/07/2017	31/07/2017			Hockey Commences
Monday	31/07/2017	31/07/2017	14:00:00	19:00:00	Parent Consultations
Tuesday	01/08/2017	01/08/2017	08:00:00	09:30:00	National Olympiad exam for Grade 6 and 7
Tuesday	01/08/2017	01/08/2017	14:00:00	19:00:00	Parent Consultations
Wednesday	02/08/2017	02/08/2017			Week 23 of Additional Learning Programme
Wednesday	02/08/2017	02/08/2017	12:00:00	13:00:00	Choir
Wednesday	02/08/2017	02/08/2017			Inter-House Hockey
Thursday	03/08/2017	03/08/2017	07:30:00		General Assembly
Thursday	03/08/2017	03/08/2017	08:00:00	10:00:00	Women's Day Celebration
Thursday	03/08/2017	03/08/2017			Tennis vs St John's
Friday	04/08/2017	04/08/2017	10:00:00		Eucharist
Friday	04/08/2017	04/08/2017	11:00:00		End of Term

PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY SPORTS NOTICE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION AND NEWS ON SPORTS FIXTURES AND VENUES
PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS IS WEDNESDAY, 17:00